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Men to box in Bouts for Bangladesh



TIM SULLIVAN/Observer

Senior Nate "The Closer" Barbera, left, practices with senior Chris Nanovic in preparation for Bengal Bouts, which begins today.

By MEGHAN WONS
News Writer

The tradition of strong bodies fighting "that weak bodies may be nourished" continues tonight with the first punches thrown in Notre Dame's famous Bengal Bouts.

"Guys who are fighting tomorrow want to come in to work up a little bit of a sweat," senior captain and Notre Dame Boxing Club president Andrew McGill said at an informal practice Tuesday.

Working up a little sweat is well worth the nearly \$80,000 the more than 200 men — a record number — hope to donate to the Holy Cross Missions in Bangladesh this year.

By Tuesday afternoon, McGill

said, approximately \$100,560 had already been raised from tickets, advertising and merchandise — a very promising figure, but one that does not reflect any deductions taken for expenses. He said last year's expenses were approximately \$42,000.

At practice Tuesday afternoon, the steady beat of songs like "Air Force One" echoed the sounds of fists hitting the punching bags. The boxers rotated in and out of a practice ring, some jumping rope while others hit the floor for pushups and sit ups.

Senior and third-year Boxing Club member Nate "The Closer" Barbera was keeping loose at practice Tuesday and will enter the ring for his first

see BOUTS/page 6

NDASK applauds report

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

The American Bar Association's (ABA) release of a report calling for Indiana to impose a moratorium on executions less than six months after the creation of Notre Dame Against State Killing (NDASK) might be "divine providence," said co-organizer Will McAuliffe.

The student group formed last fall to impose a moratorium on the death penalty in Indiana — and on Tuesday it came a step closer to that goal. The ABA released its report urging the state to halt executions until changes can be made to improve the administration of death penalty cases.

McAuliffe, who is also an Observer columnist, called the findings of the report a "stepping stone" to ending use of the death penalty.

The Indiana Death Penalty Assessment Team, a panel working under the guidance of the ABA, reviewed Indiana's death penalty system for nearly two years. Indiana is the fifth state to be assessed under ABA's Death Penalty Moratorium Implementation Project.

The seven members of the panel — including former Indiana Gov. Joe Kernan, an adjunct professor in Notre Dame's political science department, and Indiana Sen. John

see NDASK/page 4

Donnelly shares views on election, Congress

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

For Democratic Congressman Joseph Donnelly, representing the citizens of Indiana's 2nd District is "the privilege of a lifetime."

Speaking to professor Robert Schmuhl's American Political Life class Tuesday, Donnelly highlighted his experiences blazing the campaign trail to his recent election as congressman, beating out incumbent Republican Chris Chocola.

But since taking office, Donnelly's focus has shifted from gaining votes to giving his vote. He recently backed the non-binding resolution that the House of Representatives passed

in opposition to President Bush's plan to deploy additional troops in Iraq.

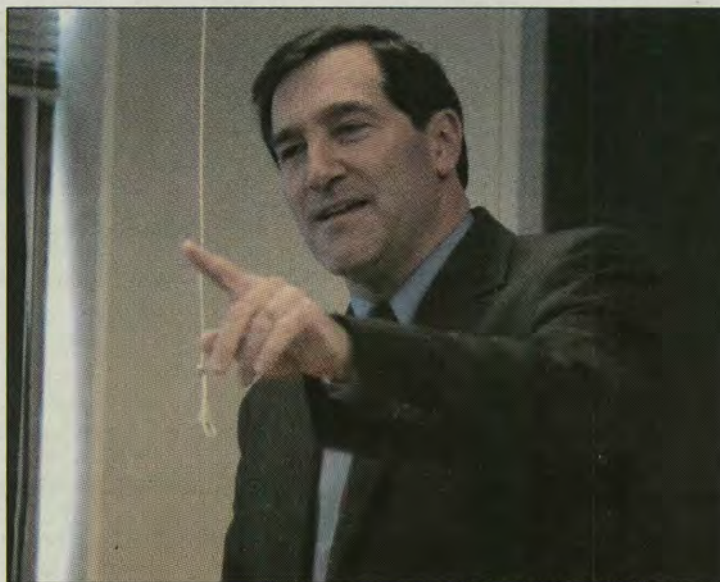
Donnelly said he gave a lot of thought to the decision by talking to war veterans, meeting with the Michiana Peace and Justice Coalition and attending a White House briefing on the war in Iraq.

"At some point the Iraqis have to stand up ... and decide that they don't want any more death and destruction. There is a solution to Iraq — it will be tricky to get there," Donnelly said. "The Iraqis have to want their country to succeed."

And one thing that helps Donnelly succeed is Notre Dame, his alma mater.

Each day, the philosophy he

see DONNELLY/page 4



CHRISTIAN SAGARDIA/The Observer

Indiana Congressman Joseph Donnelly speaks to an American Studies class on political life in O'Shaughnessy Tuesday.

University prepares for Lent with Masses

By JOHN-PAUL WITT
News Writer

Tuesday's Mardi Gras festivities will die down today as the campus welcomes the solemnity of Ash Wednesday, the first day of the season of Lent. For Notre Dame's Catholic students, this heralds a time of penance and reflection, preparing the University community to celebrate the Easter season.

Today many students, like senior Terence Merritt, choose to attend Mass and receive ashes on their forehead with their closest friends — members of their dorms.

"I'll go to Mass in Siegfried because I enjoy celebrating my faith in community with

my friends," Merritt said.

Members of Notre Dame's Protestant and non-Christian communities are also welcome to participate in the Lenten season and to attend services in community with Catholic students.

"Although I'm not Catholic, I'll attend dorm Mass on Ash Wednesday so I can be in community with my brothers in the dorm," sophomore Jonathan Poelhuis said.

However, students like junior Mike Kasalo find the University's focus on Lent, and the signs posted in dorms reminding students that today is a "day of fasting and abstinence," unnecessary.

"I plan to skip Mass and go out drinking," Kasalo said. "I

see LENT/page 6

STUDENT GOVERNMENTS

BOG, COR build relationships

By KATIE KOHLER and
SONIA RAO
News Writers

In a meeting more symbolic than groundbreaking, two prominent student legislative groups — Notre Dame's Council of Representatives (COR) and Saint Mary's Board of Governance (BOG) — met Tuesday at Saint Mary's in a meeting scheduled by student body presidents Lizzi Shappell and Susan Mellduff a few months ago.

Leaders from both schools brought up the Feb. 13 Viewpoint column by Jonathan Klingler that criti-



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Student body president Lizzi Shappell, center, talks to a group of COR and BOG members in the College's student center Tuesday.

see MEETING/page 8

INSIDE COLUMN

On Lent and Britney's sons

Lent starts today, and that's fantastic. Lent marks the end of the ordinary time and sets the stage for Holy Week. Lent reminds us of Christ's ability to resist temptation in the desert. Lent encourages us to follow His lead and be resolute in our faith and our commitment to righteousness. Lent is important. Lent is sublime. Lent is my great failure as a Catholic.

Marcela Berrios

Assistant News Editor

Yes, my friends and readers, I admit in public in my 21 years on this planet I have never given up anything for Lent — and what's even worse, I'm not freaking out about it.

Maybe I'm just telling myself what I want to hear, but I think I really do believe there have to be better ways to prove my devotion than renouncing candy, booze or Facebook.

As a mere formality, though, every year I have vowed to give something up only to break my promise within the first week. One year it was Coke, another one it was anything that had chocolate in it and my freshman year here it was Facebook — and keep in mind this was Facebook before you could create albums. If I tried that little stunt today, I doubt I would make it through Ash Wednesday Mass before checking who's on my "Recently Updated" profiles list.

A friend who shall remain anonymous tried giving up sex with her boyfriend one year — but they indulged on Sundays since technically they're not included in the 40-day count. They really indulged on Sundays. It was everything but sublime.

At any rate, I don't think I've learned much from my attempts to give up anything, and my faith certainly didn't grow from hearing my friend's stories every Monday. I really don't see how I will become a better Catholic these days if one day I do succeed in renouncing something I like.

The closest I came was the year I tried giving up on chocolate bars — although not chocolate cookies or chocolate cake or hot chocolate. But then I realized my new motivation to stay away from the candy was the realization that I was losing weight, so I broke my promise because I didn't think it was true to the Lenten purpose anymore anyway — and because I went to the movies and I felt like eating some Reese's instead of popcorn.

Call me weak if you want. Call me cynical even, because I do think Christ has more important things to deal with than my snack selection. There are wars raging and hungry children and neglected old people and a bald Britney Spears in this world — and I think our mission as Catholics is to help them. So let me just throw this out there. This Lenten season, do something nice for someone, and if it's somebody you don't like, even better. That's way more Christian than treating sweets and Facebook like they're the anti-Christ. Ask the ugly girl out to the SYR or look into adopting the Spears-Federline boys. Spread the love. That's what Jesus would do.

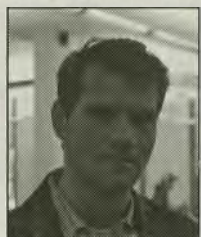
Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu

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

CORRECTIONS

Due to a reporting error in the Feb. 21 edition of The Observer, the sports article "Golic, Jr. commits to 2012 class" incorrectly listed Northwest Catholic High School as being in West Hartford, Conn. It is actually in New Haven, Conn. The Observer regrets this error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOU GIVING UP FOR LENT?



Andy Houser

senior Alumni

"Killing terrorists."



Charlotte Low

junior Walsh

"Thumper ... PSYCH!"



John Strong

junior Alumni

"Getting misquoted by The Observer."



Krystie Traudt

sophomore Welsh Family

"Things that are unhealthy: ice cream, candy, boys."



Michael Lutkus

junior O'Neill

"I'm giving up soda."



CHRISTIAN SAGARDIA/The Observer

Sophomore Angela Comana, left, and senior Theresa Polowski sell Girl Scout cookies in LaFortune Tuesday as part of a partnership with a Girl Scout chapter in South Bend. Cookie sales will be today from 3 p.m. to 6 and Thursday from 2 p.m. to 4 in LaFortune.

IN BRIEF

Today marks the beginning of the Lenten season for Christians. Mass will be celebrated at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at 11:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

As part of the Foreign Film Series, "Milagros: Made in Mexico" will be shown tonight at 7 in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium. The film is preceded by a reception with Mexican cuisine at 6 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center Great Hall.

The movie "Heading South" will be shown Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center auditorium. The showing is sponsored by the Haiti Working Group as part of Haiti Awareness Week.

The Career Center is holding an informational session about careers in writing or media communications Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the Notre Dame Room on the 2nd floor of LaFortune.

Stations of the Cross will be held in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at 7:15 p.m. Friday. Stations will be held at the Basilica each Friday during Lent.

The Fenians, an Irish band, will perform at Legends Friday at 10 p.m. to celebrate an early St. Patrick's Day.

Notre Dame men's ice hockey will play Ferris State at 7:35 p.m. Friday and at 7:05 p.m. Saturday at the Joyce Center.

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

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

OFFBEAT

Neb. woman accused of window smashing

LINCOLN, Neb. — Lincoln police said a 50-year-old woman was charged Tuesday with child abuse and criminal mischief after having her 12-year-old granddaughter drive her to her niece's house, where the grandma broke five windows.

A neighbor told police that Vickie Britton picked up a chair from the front yard of a duplex Monday night and used it to smash five windows, causing about \$400 in damage, said Lincoln Police spokeswoman Katherine Finnell.

Finnell said police arrested Britton when she came

back to the neighborhood more than an hour later. Police found Britton drunk and belligerent in the car with the 12-year-old behind the wheel, Finnell said.

Police have referred the granddaughter to the Lancaster County Attorney's office to determine whether any juvenile charges will be filed for driving without a license.

Man sues IBM over adult chat room firing

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. — A man who was fired by IBM for visiting an adult chat room at work is suing the company for \$5 million, claiming he is an Internet

addict who deserves treatment and sympathy rather than dismissal.

James Pacenza, 58, of Montgomery, says he visits chat rooms to treat traumatic stress incurred in 1969 when he saw his best friend killed during an Army patrol in Vietnam.

In papers filed in federal court in White Plains, Pacenza said the stress caused him to become "a sex addict, and with the development of the Internet, an Internet addict." He claimed protection under the American with Disabilities Act.

TODAY

TONIGHT

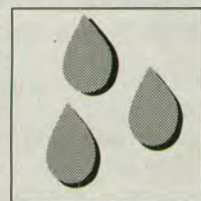
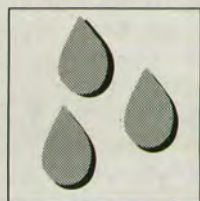
THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

LOCAL WEATHER



HIGH	32	HIGH	25	HIGH	35	HIGH	37	HIGH	40	HIGH	50
LOW	25	LOW	18	LOW	22	LOW	32	LOW	37	LOW	25

Atlanta 66 / 51 Boston 41 / 32 Chicago 39 / 23 Denver 50 / 24 Houston 76 / 58 Los Angeles 66 / 51 Minneapolis 42 / 24 New York 46 / 34 Philadelphia 46 / 34 Phoenix 73 / 47 Seattle 46 / 36 St. Louis 56 / 33 Tampa 76 / 57 Washington 51 / 36

College named School of the Year for residences

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

With the tagline "I want S'more SMC," 10 Saint Mary's students presented a 17-page bid to the Indiana Residence Hall Organization to win the IRHO School of the Year award this past weekend at Ball State University.

"It's a pretty cool prize," Residence Hall Association (RHA) president Amy Dardinger said. "It's a [recognition] of everything we've done [this past year] like selling out the all school formal, creating Dance Marathon and winning a national award [for Dance Marathon]."

The IRHO is comprised of 12 Indiana colleges and helps facilitate the communication of ideas between schools around the state.

Saint Mary's was the only school to apply for the award this year, but all 12 IRHO schools were eligible to apply.

"They only give [awards] to schools that deserve them," Dardinger said. "If only one school applies and they don't deserve it [or they get disqualified for not following the rules of the organization] they just won't hand it out that year."

The award, while given out by an organization that Saint Mary's RHA works with, is not limited to recognizing those on RHA, Dardinger said.

"It compliments all Saint Mary's students because it shows how well the Saint Mary's community works together," she said. "[RHA] is successful because students want to participate."

"It compliments all Saint Mary's students because it shows how well the Saint Mary's community works together."

Amy Dardinger
RHA president

She cited the success of this year's all-school formal, which sold out all 800 tickets within a week and a half — one of the major ways students participated in campus events.

"People were almost scalping tickets," Dardinger said jokingly.

Saint Mary's has been involved in the IRHO for more than 10 years. The last time it won an award — also for School of the Year — was during the 2003-2004 school year.

While many students were not aware of the award on Tuesday, they were excited to hear the good news.

"That's really cool," sophomore Angela Siler said. "I feel that we deserved the recognition, and I'm glad that they saw fit to give it to us."

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SMC to drop landlines

Students to rely on cell phones, calling cards, officials say

By AMANDA SHROPSHIRE
News Writer

Students returning to campus next fall will have to find other ways to call family and friends due to a decision that administrators say is an effort to make College spending more efficient — no more landline phones in dorm rooms.

As of June 15, Saint Mary's will remove all phones from student rooms and will instead offer other phone services to students on campus.

"I've never used a landline phone. In fact, when teachers ask for my number, I give them my cell."

Jeanie Clement
junior

The student body was notified of the changes by e-mail Monday. Vice President for Student Affairs Karen Johnson wrote that the change stems from two years of research, which shows usage of residence hall phones has declined to nearly nothing.

The decline in usage has put a financial drain on Saint Mary's, and the decision should have minimal impact on students, said Melanie McDonald, director of media relations at the

College.

"Saint Mary's is responding to the behavior of students. Saint Mary's used to turn a profit on long distance phone calls years ago and now that revenue is like 300,000 dollars every year in the red," McDonald said. "So that tells you that people aren't using the phones in their rooms for

long distance calls."

Since students aren't making those phone calls, she said, there is no revenue.

But the College's decision isn't revolutionary, McDonald said. With the increase in cell

phone usage, many other colleges and universities — Notre Dame included — have successfully made this change without overly impacting the students.

However, news of the switch generated mixed feelings among students.

Sophomore Katherine Bernest said she uses her room phone everyday to talk to her mother in order to save cell phone minutes.

"I'm against [removing the landlines] but I can understand why the College

is doing it," Bernest said. "However, it will still be an inconvenience."

For those students without cell phones, the College will keep landline phones on each floor of the residence halls and at the hall front desks.

For those who have cell phones, the removal is less of an issue.

"I've never used my landline phone. In fact, when teachers ask for my number, I give them my cell," junior Jeanie Clement said.

The College will also offer long distance phone cards in the campus bookstore and will work with service providers to ensure excellent reception throughout campus.

For other students with cell phones, the number will be required to be registered with the College.

McDonald said she has not yet received any complaints about the switch and emphasized that the decision was made based on student behavior.

"The impact will be minimal — if it was going to be a big impact that would affect the students negatively then the College wouldn't make the decision," McDonald said.

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NDASK

continued from page 1

Broden, D-South Bend — listed 12 changes Indiana should make to its death penalty system to make it fair and accurate.

The changes, which NDASK endorsed, included requiring law enforcement agencies to record all interrogations, banning the execution of defendants with severe mental illnesses and requiring that biological evidence is preserved the entire time the defendant is imprisoned.

NDASK co-organizer Andrea Laidman said the debate about the use of death penalty is just starting to take place nationally and is now taking root in the Midwest, specifically Indiana.

"I think the reason that we started NDASK was because no one was talking about the issue on campus and across the state as a whole," Laidman said.

But with the speaker series NDASK sponsored in the fall — which included Kernan and Broden — and now with the release of this report, Laidman and McAuliffe hope people will start talking about the death penalty.

"I think one of the biggest things to come out of this is it adds a lot to the discussion in terms of resources, in terms of numbers and in terms of policy recommendation," McAuliffe

said. "Now there's this one big, overarching resource of over 300 pages for people in the state of Indiana to use in discussion."

But the ABA report is only a recommendation, not an actual policy. The next step in the process, McAuliffe said, is either for Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels to order a moratorium or for the legislature to pass one.

A recent statewide survey conducted for the ABA makes those two options seem hopeful, McAuliffe said. The survey showed a majority of voters favor a temporary halt to executions in Indiana while the system is studied.

"When you have 61 percent of people supporting a moratorium like that — it's a very political topic," he said.

And so it makes sense for the governor or the legislature to impose a moratorium, McAuliffe said, since a clear majority backs it.

"Worst case scenario — for us at least — is after two years of looking at it, they say well, actually it does work and here's why ... and then they resume the death penalty," he said.

But McAuliffe said he is confident that once people study death penalty cases in which mistakes have been made, they will oppose it. Americans don't want a judicial system that puts people to death unfairly, he said.

"We think that people who take a step back ... and aren't under the ticking clock a specific case provides, are able to

really look at [the death penalty] and see that it doesn't work," McAuliffe said.

McAuliffe and Laidman said they hope the report will bring more media coverage to this issue. The report also adds a

"layer of legitimacy" to NDASK's work this year, Laidman said.

The group's plans for the rest of spring semester include building a statewide network to address the death penalty issue, starting a victim's families out-

reach committee and coordinating an academic conference in April with experts on the death penalty from across the country.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

Donnelly

continued from page 1

follows is not about politics or campaigning or voting — it's "God. Country. Notre Dame," he said.

After graduating from the University in 1977 with a bachelor's degree in government and then from the Law School in 1981, Donnelly said he never planned on a career in politics.

"I helped on various campaigns at different times and had not envisioned running for the U.S. House," he said.

But once he decided to run, Donnelly took a "grassroots" approach to his campaign, meaning he put a lot of attention into securing votes from people in his district — something he did by meeting as many 2nd District citizens as possible.

"It was about looking people in the eye and asking them for their vote," he said.

But one area that was not so fun for Donnelly was raising finances, which is a huge focus in running for political office.

"The money involved in campaign finance is destroying this country. My best re-election technique is to do my job right," he said.

And his job is one he fought hard for. In what he called a "grueling endeavor," Donnelly worked from 6 a.m. to midnight, six to seven days a week up until the last possible moment in the election.

"The polls closed at six o'clock ... and I stayed until 6:30 p.m. shaking people's hands because I didn't want to think later that I should have worked harder," Donnelly said. "Don't ever underestimate persistence."

While persistence may have been one factor contributing to Donnelly's election, he noted the change in "political climate" as another.

He said many Republicans in Indiana were unhappy with the war in Iraq during his cam-

paign. Another help, he said, was the string of negative campaign commercials started by Chocola actually proved helpful to Donnelly's campaign.

"Those commercials got people to recognize me. In a strange way [Chocola's] commercials were helping my campaign — he was spending money on commercials that were helping me," Donnelly said.

On election day, after all the work, Donnelly defeated his opponent by just eight points. Now that he's an insider, Donnelly said he's learned most people in Congress are just "trying to help their constituents and their country."

"The great thing about Washington is that there are about twenty crazy people on the Republican and Democratic sides, and the other ... people are just trying to work together to get things done," Donnelly said.

Though the media often focuses on "the loudest people in Congress," Donnelly said there are many people "in the middle" working hard every day who are not portrayed nearly as often.

Whether or not he is in the spotlight, Donnelly said he believes in a moderate national budget and strong defense as part of the "Blue Dog Democrats" group, a moderate to conservative group of Democrats in Congress.

Donnelly works on three different committees in Congress addressing financial services, veterans' affairs and agricultural issues.

But sticking to his Indiana roots, Donnelly is also working on a farming bill — nearly 80 percent of his district, after all, is agricultural land.

"We're working closely with farmers on a new farm bill to make sure that it works for farmers in the Midwest," he said.

Contact Becky Hogan at rhogan2@nd.edu

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Candidates may be nominated by faculty, staff, or fellow students.

For a nomination form, please visit our website at:

<http://osa.nd.edu>

Nominations are due by Friday, March 2, 2007.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Iran willing to negotiate on nukes

VIENNA, Austria — Iran's chief nuclear envoy said Tuesday his country wants to negotiate over its uranium enrichment program, on the eve of a U.N. Security Council deadline that carries the threat of harsher sanctions. But the country's hard-line president said Iran will halt enrichment only if Western nations do the same.

Sanctions could be triggered by a report from Mohamed El Baradei, the head of the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency, to his agency's 35 board-member nations, expected Wednesday. That report is expected to say Iran has expanded enrichment activities instead of freezing them.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, speaking to a crowd of thousands in Iran, said his country was ready to stop its enrichment program, but only if Western nations do the same — something the United States and others with similar programs are unlikely to even consider.

Train explosion threatens security

NEW DELHI — Two men were allowed to jump from a Pakistan-bound train shortly before it erupted in flames and killed 68 people, officials said Tuesday, releasing sketches of the men and raising questions about security along the India-Pakistan rail link.

The search for suspects came as Pakistan's foreign minister arrived in India saying the attack made peace talks between the longtime rivals even more urgent.

The two suspects, whose identities were not known, boarded the train when it left New Delhi on Sunday but quickly began arguing with the conductor, insisting they were on the wrong train. They were allowed to jump from the train as it slowed down about 15 minutes before the crude bombs detonated, setting off the fires, said Sharad Kumar, a senior police official.

NATIONAL NEWS

New Orleans celebrates Mardi Gras

NEW ORLEANS — Thousands of hurricane-weary residents joined with rowdy visitors for Fat Tuesday, taking a break from rebuilding New Orleans to put on wild costumes and celebrate the second Mardi Gras since Katrina.

John Ferguson, who is still rebuilding his house almost 18 months after the storm, said of the celebration: "We never needed it more."

"I work all day at my job, then I work all night and all weekend on my house. I just want to eat, drink and have fun today," Ferguson said.

Many spectators spent the day along the parade routes or in the French Quarter, where the first Mardi Gras parade of the day was staged by the 1,250-member Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club, a predominantly black group that wears grass skirts and blackface makeup in parody of stereotypes from the early 1900s, when it was founded.

Bush: Spy system must still improve

WASHINGTON — President Bush instructed the nation's new spy chief to focus on finding more recruits with the language skills and cultural background to collect information on al-Qaida and other terrorist groups.

During a swearing-in ceremony Tuesday at Bolling Air Force Base outside Washington for retired Vice Adm. Mike McConnell as the second director of national intelligence, Bush said the intelligence community still needs significant improvements more than five years after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

LOCAL NEWS

Long-lost painting found at museum

GARY — A painting discovered at an Indianapolis museum is among scores of art works once owned by the city and its schools that have disappeared, including some by Monet and Rembrandt, officials say.

A resident who has worked for years trying to find out what happened to the lost art said he hopes the recovery of "Landing the Fish Boat" by Frank V. Dudley helps solve the mystery.

The painting was donated to the city in 1957 shortly after Dudley's death, according to a newspaper photograph published that year. But the city no longer has the painting.

IRAQ

Crackdown not halting bombings

Iraqi death toll since Sunday climbs above 100 after gas tanker, funeral attacked

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A hidden bomb ripped through a tanker carrying chlorine gas Tuesday, killing nine people and filling hospital beds with more than 150 wheezing and frightened villagers after noxious plumes covered homes and schools north of Baghdad.

The attack was part of a string of blasts — including a suicide bomber who killed seven mourners at a funeral — that further rattled officials marking the first week of a major security crackdown seeking to calm the blood-soaked city. U.S. forces, meanwhile, called in airstrikes during intense clashes against insurgents in strongholds northwest of Baghdad.

With the death toll in the Baghdad area climbing above 100 since Sunday, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki tried to court some rare upbeat publicity with an even rarer event — leaving his heavily guarded quarters for a visit to the city's streets and markets.

The fanfare of the security plan's launch Feb. 14 has been swept aside by a steady roll of attacks, most blamed on Sunni extremists targeting the majority Shiites. Many Sunnis believe they are being sidelined by al-Maliki's government and under growing threat from Shiite militias, which the prime minister refuses to confront.

The bombing of the tanker took place near Taji, 12 miles northwest of Baghdad. A military spokesman, Brig. Gen. Qassim Moussawi, said a bomb was planted under the tanker, but it was not known whether it had a timer or was remotely detonated. His remarks contradicted earlier reports that a roadside bomb blew up the truck.

Hospitals were soon flooded with terrified people — including many children — complaining of breathing problems, vomiting and stinging eyes. Most of the people treated were released



An Iraqi army soldier controls traffic at a vehicle checkpoint Tuesday in Baghdad. A car bomb and a suicide attack left at least 11 dead in the city.

after several hours and there was no apparent life-threatening cases, hospital officials said.

Chlorine gas in low exposure irritates the respiratory system, eyes and skin. Higher levels can lead to accumulation of fluid in the lungs and other symptoms, and death is possible with heavy exposure, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Authorities were left questioning whether the bombing could signal a new tactic by militants to try to spread greater panic with chemical fallout.

The attacks in the capital began during the busy morning rush for goods and fuel.

A car rigged with explo-

sives tore through a line of vehicles at a gas station in the Sadiyah district in southwestern Baghdad. At least six people were killed and 14 wounded, police said. The neighborhood is mixed between Shiites and a Sunni minority.

Later, a suicide attacker drove a bomb-laden car into a vegetable market near a Shiite enclave in southern Baghdad. At least five people were killed and seven injured, police said. The same market in the mostly Sunni Dora district was targeted last month by three car bombs that killed 10 people.

The suicide blast at the funeral came after the mourners filled a tent in a mostly Shiite district of east-

ern Baghdad. The attacker, wearing a belt packed with explosives, also left 15 people wounded.

Outside Baghdad, U.S. forces pressed attacks against suspected Sunni insurgents.

Helicopter gunships were called in during fierce battles around Ramadi, about 70 miles west of Baghdad, police and witnesses said.

In areas around Buhruz, about 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, U.S. warplanes strafed a neighborhood and leveled a palm tree grove during a daylong battle with Sunni factions firing mortars and rocket-propelled grenades, according to an Associated Press reporter traveling with the unit.

Guantanamo detainees can't file suit

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a victory for President Bush, a divided federal appeals court ruled Tuesday that Guantanamo Bay detainees cannot use the U.S. court system to challenge their indefinite imprisonment. A Supreme Court appeal was promised.

The 2-1 decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit dismisses hundreds of cases filed by foreign-born detainees in federal court and also threatens to strip away court access to millions of lawful permanent residents currently in the United States.

It upholds a key provision of the

Military Commissions Act, which Bush pushed through Congress last year to set up a Defense Department system to prosecute terrorism suspects. Now, detainees must prove to three-officer military panels that they don't pose a terror threat.

Democrats newly in charge of Congress promised legislation aimed at giving detainees legal rights. Attorneys for detainees said they would appeal Tuesday's ruling to the Supreme Court.

"We're disappointed," said Shayana Kadidal of the Center for Constitutional Rights. "The bottom line is that according to two of the federal judges, the president can do

whatever he wants without any legal limitations as long as he does it offshore."

The two judges voting with the White House — Judge A. Raymond Randolph and Judge David B. Sentelle — were appointed by Republicans. Reagan appointed Sentelle, and the first President Bush appointed Randolph. The dissenter, Judge Judith W. Rogers, was appointed by Clinton.

White House deputy press secretary Dana Perino called the decision "a significant win" for the administration and said the Military Commissions Act provides "sufficient and fair access to courts for these detainees."

Lent

continued from page 1

don't think this [season] should cut into my college experience."

Healthy Catholics are instructed to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent, as well to limit themselves to only one full meal and two small snacks on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

As a result, both dining halls do not serve meat on days when it is prohibited by the Catholic Church, although campus restaurants will serve meat.

Many Catholic and non-Catholic students complain about the lack of options in the dining hall on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent.

"It's absurd that the dining halls only serve fish, especially because [the fish] doesn't seem any different or better than what they normally serve," junior Matthew Detwiler said.

Still, other students find comfort in the fact that Notre Dame works hard to support Catholic practices.

"Since Notre Dame is a

Catholic institution, [the University has] the right not to serve meat," junior Shannon Morrison said. "When people decide to come to Notre Dame, they should realize that Catholic beliefs will even affect things like the dining hall menus."

One Notre Dame student group, the Knights of Columbus, plans to provide an alternative to dining hall dinners on Fridays. The Knights will sponsor a soup and bread dinner at the Knights' building on South Quad after Stations of the Cross in the Basilica at 7:15 p.m. during the

Fridays of Lent. In addition to dorm Masses today, there are Masses in the Basilica at 11:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. There will also be a distribution of ashes at 12:20 p.m. and 6 p.m. and a Mass at 9 p.m. in Regina Chapel at Saint Mary's.

Mass will be held at 12:30 p.m. in the chapel of the Mendoza College of Business.

Contact John-Paul Witt at jwt1@nd.edu

"Although I'm not Catholic, I'll attend dorm Mass on Ash Wednesday so I can be in community with my brothers in the dorm."

Jonathan Poelhuis
sophomore

Bouts

continued from page 1

Bengal Bouts fight tonight.

"I feel like I'm pretty ready; I feel like I've prepared myself as well as I could have," Barbera said. "I wrestled in high school and it's a lot like wrestling — you push yourself in boxing and wrestling more than any other sport I've ever played."

Such "pushing" began at Notre Dame in 1920, when boxing was first brought to the University by legendary football coach Knute Rockne, according to the Bengal Bouts Web site. Bengal Bouts was not established, however, until 1931 when Dominic "Nappy" Napolitano decided to give his boxers something really worth fighting for — the missions in Bangladesh.

Since Napolitano established Bengal Bouts as a fundraiser for the Holy Cross Missions, "the Bouts have become the largest contributor" to this cause, McGill said.

McGill said the work the Holy Cross brothers have done in Bangladesh includes running a university and several elementary and secondary schools, providing shelter and care for low-income families and building an orphanage, a hospital and a shelter for abused women.

"The Holy Cross Brothers are a huge presence in Bangladesh, and it's incredible how far the money we donate goes over there," McGill said.

The Bengal Bouts mission has been emphasized to the boxers this year, McGill said.

"I think we've been really successful fundraising because we really talked to the boxers about the Holy Cross Missions and what the Brothers do — we encouraged everyone to get involved," he said. "We told them that granted, you're down [in the gym] every day boxing, working hard and making some of your best friends ... but the real heart and soul of the program, it's a charity event."

That spirit of charity is evident in every aspect of the Bengal Bouts, from the money donated to the Missions to the countless volunteers who make the Bouts possible.

Two men, whom McGill described as the "heart and soul of the Bouts," are volunteer coaches Terry Johnson and Tom Suddes — both former boxers at Notre Dame.

McGill said Johnson, a Chicago attorney, is "basically the brains of the Bouts; he has run them for about 39 years." He said that Johnson comes up with the fundraising, works closely with the captains and is instrumental in organizing and shaping the Bouts.

"Suddes has been with the program for about 35 years," McGill said. "He comes to oversee practices and to the boxers. He's the face of Bengal Bouts."

Suddes, from Dublin, Ohio, commutes every week either just to show up for a practice or will bring his work with him and stay in South Bend for a few days so he can run several practices and work with the boxers, McGill said.

"Suddes leads one infamous practice where we do 1,000 pushups — and he does every one," McGill said.

McGill said he has a profound respect for Johnson, Suddes and all of the volunteer coaches and would love to stay involved with the Bouts and work with future presidents and captains after he graduates.

McGill is one of six senior cap-

tains this year. Steve Hansen, Stu Stypula, Dan Ward, Mike Hennig and Chris Calderone are the other five, chosen by last year's senior captains.

The three junior captains are Lawrence Sullivan, Hunter Land and Jesse Brawer.

"At the end of every year, the captains get together and look at who has the character to lead 200 guys in practice, to be role models for the novices but also to instruct them in their boxing and help them develop their skills," McGill said of the captain selection process.

This year's 200-some participants are more than the largest group in history, however. With eight returning champions and a number of returning finalists and semi-finalists, McGill said "it will probably be the most skill-filled boxing tournament" he's been a part of.

Freshman Jason Miller, whom McGill said has shown great dedication to the team, is participating tonight in his first fight. Although boxing is "kind of out of character" for him, he said, he heard a lot of students talking about it at the activity fair in the fall and thought it sounded like fun.

"I actually don't feel nervous at all," Miller said. "I feel really well prepared and I'm excited to get in the ring."

The preliminary rounds of the Bengal Bouts will be held tonight and tomorrow in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse beginning at 6:30. They are free and open to the public.

The quarterfinals will be held on Monday in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse at 6:30 p.m. The semifinals will be Feb. 28 in the Fieldhouse at 7:30 p.m. and the finals will be Mar. 3 in the Joyce Center Arena at 8 p.m. Tickets for the quarterfinals, semifinals and finals can be purchased at the door.

Contact Meghan Wons at mwons@nd.edu



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Write for News. Call 1-5323.

OIT Extends Help Desk Support Hours


Telephone Support on Sundays & Evenings

The OIT now provides telephone support for campus computer users until 10:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and between 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Sundays.

Phone 574-631-8111 or visit the Help Desk website at <http://oit.nd.edu/helpdesk>.

The new hours will remain in effect during the regular academic year when classes are in session.

Sun.	3 p.m. - 8 p.m. (NEW Telephone support only)
Mon. - Thurs.	8 a.m. - 10 p.m. (NEW telephone support only 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.)
	(Closed Wed. 12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.)
Friday	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday	Closed



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MARKET RECAP

Stocks
Dow Jones 12,786.64 +19.07

Up: 2,015 Same: 140 Down: 1,267 Composite Volume: 2,368,125,440

AMEX	2,150.77	-7.21
NASDAQ	2,513.04	+16.73
NYSE	9,453.93	+20.51
S&P 500	1,459.68	+4.14
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	17,937.74	-1.38
FTSE 100(London)	6,412.30	-32.10

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 100 TR (QQQQ)	-0.07	-0.03	44.68
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	+0.31	+0.31	146.04
SUN MICRO INC (SUNW)	+1.43	+0.09	6.38
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	+0.31	+0.09	28.83

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	-0.21	-0.010	4.680
13-WEEK BILL	+0.10	+0.005	5.035
30-YEAR BOND	-0.17	-0.008	4.780
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.24	-0.011	4.665

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl)	-1.32	58.07
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-11.80	661.00
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.55	101.50

Exchange Rates	
YEN	119.9400
EURO	0.7605
POUND	0.5114
CANADIAN \$	1.1707

IN BRIEF

FCC licenses prohibit radio merger

WASHINGTON — When the Federal Communications Commission auctioned off two exclusive licenses to create the satellite radio industry 10 years ago, it did not mince words on whether the competing providers could merge.

The agency said that one licensee will “not be permitted to acquire control” of the other. The clause was inserted to ensure “sufficient continuing competition” in the new business, it said.

But when dealing with the FCC, one should never say never.

“The FCC can undo anything it does,” said Andrew Schwartzman, president and CEO of the Media Access Project, a public interest law firm in Washington. “However, when you change course, you need a good reason to do it.”

On Monday, Washington D.C.-based XM Satellite Radio Inc. and New York City-based Sirius Satellite Radio Inc. announced a \$13 billion merger, not including debt.

The companies will have to gain approval from the Justice Department as well as the FCC. Justice typically goes first in satellite mergers. If it blocks the deal, it's game over. But Schwartzman said that is unlikely to happen.

JetBlue focuses on customer rights

NEW YORK — JetBlue Airways introduced a customer bill of rights on Tuesday that promises vouchers to fliers who experience delays, hoping the move wins back passengers after an operational meltdown damaged its brand and stock price.

Founder and chief executive David Neeleman described the crisis as “a huge bump in the road” but said JetBlue would move past it. He said he had no intention of resigning in the wake of the worst corporate mess in the airline's 7-year history. JetBlue's shares fell 66 cents, or 4.87 percent, to close at \$12.90 on the Nasdaq Stock Market Tuesday.

“I think I'm uniquely qualified to deal with these issues,” Neeleman said.

JetBlue said the first step in getting people to fly on the airline again was its introduction of a new customer bill of rights.

Tobacco death award dismissed

Supreme Court rules widow has no right to compensation for husband's death

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court threw out a \$79.5 million award that a jury had ordered a cigarette maker to pay to a smoker's widow, a ruling that could bode well for other businesses seeking stricter limits on big-dollar verdicts.

The 5-4 decision Tuesday was a victory for Altria Group Inc.'s Philip Morris USA, which contested an Oregon Supreme Court decision upholding the jury's verdict.

Yet the decision did not address a key argument made by Philip Morris and its supporters across a wide range of businesses — that the size of the award was unconstitutionally large. They had hoped the court would limit the amount that can be awarded in punitive damage cases.

Instead, Justice Stephen Breyer wrote in his majority opinion that the award to Mayola Williams could not stand because a jury may punish a defendant only for the harm done to the person who is suing, not to others whose cases were not before it.

“To permit punishment for injuring a nonparty victim would add a near standardless dimension to the punitive damages question,” Breyer said.

The company had argued that the jury was encouraged to punish Philip Morris for health problems suffered by every Oregonian who smoked its cigarettes.

Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Samuel Alito, Anthony Kennedy and David Souter, joined with Breyer.

Dissenting were Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Antonin Scalia, John Paul Stevens and Clarence Thomas. Ginsburg said



Widow Mayola Williams, whose husband Jesse Williams died of lung cancer, leaves the Supreme Court Oct. 31, 2006. The court threw out Williams's lawsuit Tuesday.

Tuesday's ruling made punitive damages law even more confusing.

Jesse Williams died of lung cancer in 1997 at the age of 67. He had smoked two packs a day of Philip Morris-made Marlboros for 45 years.

His widow argued that the jury award was appropriate because it punished Philip Morris for a decades-long “massive market-directed fraud” that misled people into thinking cigarettes were not dangerous or addictive.

She won compensatory

damages of \$800,000 and punitive damages of \$79.5 million — 97 times the compensatory damages — in the fraud lawsuit she filed against Philip Morris. A state court previously cut the compensatory award to \$500,000, which is unaffected by Tuesday's ruling.

The case now goes back to the Oregon high court, which could order a new trial, reduce the award or reinstate its decision.

Punitive damages are money intended to punish a defendant for bad behavior and deter repeti-

tion. Lawyers who defend companies against product-liability claims said Tuesday's ruling would help curtail large jury awards.

A jury will have to be told “that it cannot punish for conduct that may be directed to others. That's really the crucial part of this decision,” said Sheila Birnbaum, who won a punitive damages case in 2003 when the Supreme Court struck down a \$145 million verdict against State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co.

Merck ends lobby for HPV vaccine

Associated Press

TRENTON — Merck & Co., bowing to pressure from parents and medical groups, is immediately suspending its lobbying campaign to persuade state legislatures to mandate that adolescent girls get the company's new vaccine against cervical cancer as a requirement for school attendance.

The drug maker, which announced the change Tuesday, had been criticized for quietly funding the campaign, via a third party, to require 11- and 12-year-old girls get the three-dose vaccine in order to attend school.

Some had objected because the vaccine protects against a sexually transmitted disease, human papilloma virus, which causes cervical cancer. Vaccines mandated for

school attendance usually are for diseases easily spread through casual contact, such as measles and mumps.

“Our goal is about cervical cancer prevention and we want to reach as many females as possible with Gardasil,” Dr. Richard M. Haupt, Merck's medical director for vaccines, told The Associated Press.

“We're concerned that our role in supporting school requirements is a distraction from that goal, and as such have suspended our lobbying efforts,” Haupt said, adding the company will continue providing information about the vaccine if requested by government officials.

Merck launched Gardasil, the first vaccine to prevent cervical cancer, in June. It protects against the two virus strains that cause 70 percent of cervical cancer and two

strains that cause most genital warts.

Sales totaled \$235 million through the end of 2006, according to Merck.

Last month, the AP reported that Merck was channeling money for its state-mandate campaign through Women in Government, an advocacy group made up of female state legislators across the country.

Conservative groups opposed the campaign, saying it would encourage premarital sex, and parents' rights groups said it interfered with their control over their children.

Even two of the prominent medical groups that supported broad use of the vaccine, the American Academy of Pediatricians and the American Academy of Family Practitioners, questioned Merck's timing, Haupt said Tuesday.

Meeting

continued from page 1

cized the relationship between Saint Mary's and Notre Dame but quickly ended the discussion of the topic.

Shappell said the Student Senate University Relations committee at Notre Dame is now addressing the issue. Notre Dame senior Aly Baumgartner, the committee's chair, did not speak on the topic Tuesday.

Instead, the groups focused on describing the place of each group on its respective campus and in the larger picture of student government.

"COR is a microcosm of the larger Student Union consisting of presidents from all student organizations," Shappell said.

The meeting was informal and was used as a "meet and greet" to get to know how each other's systems work. McIlduff said.

"We are the main policy-making board on campus representing every major area of campus and campus groups," she said.

Saint Mary's student Alanna Cheifari, the tri-campus commissioner who sits on both COR and BOG on a weekly basis, directed the informal discussion and encouraged attendees to use one another as a resource.

"We hope we can bounce ideas off each other about student government and learn from one other," she

said.

The meeting was mandatory for BOG members, who had a strong showing with nearly all members present. Due to scheduling conflicts and other commitments, only eight representatives from COR attended the meeting.

Holy Cross student Deirdre O'Toole represented the third branch of the tri-campus relationship. She was the only Holy Cross representative present.

Saint Mary's junior Amy Dardinger, Residence Hall Association president, led an icebreaker activity to introduce members from each school.

Members from COR and BOG then paired with a counterpart from the other school. They were given the chance to discuss their positions at their school and compare their roles.

There were no serious implications of the meeting, but each student body president hopes to continue the tradition in the future.

Prior to the joint meeting, BOG met at 5:30 p.m. as part of its weekly schedule.

The group discussed the recent approval of the six-semester residency program. The program will begin with the freshman class of 2011 and requires them to live on campus through their junior year.

"We market ourselves as a residential college," Vice President of Student Affairs Karen Johnson said. "Most of our peer schools require eight semesters; we decided

to only require six." There will be certain exceptions for local residents, transfers and abroad students which have not yet been finalized.

BOG also invited Laurie Stickelmaier, the College's vice president of finance and administration, to discuss workers at Saint Mary's and the living wage — an issue discussed at last week's meeting.

Stickelmaier said Saint Mary's is working to improve wages for its workers, but it is an ongoing process.

"We are paying our workers as much as we can right now as an institution," she said.

Stickelmaier said the College has a three-year plan for college employees, which was already brought before the Board of Trustees and will "hopefully" appear on the budget in April.

"We are set to address the shortfall of wages at this time," she said. "It will take us three years, but to get our workers within ... 10 percent [of] median market wages in St. Joseph County, it will take us \$1 million."

Stickelmaier is confident that the Trustees will eventually approve this pending issue.

"The Board recognizes that this is an important issue and I feel strongly that the Board will approve this first phase of the three-year program."

Saint Mary's inability to pay its workers the median market wages stems from Notre Dame, Stickelmaier said.

"Notre Dame drives the



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer
Bryan Lowery, co-chair of Hall President's Council, locks arms with Saint Mary's president Susan McIlduff at the joint COR-BOG meeting Tuesday.

market," she said. "They have a much larger endowment than we do, so instead of focusing on getting our workers in the 50th percentile of wages, we have to focus on trying to get them in the 40th right now."

In other BOG news:

◆ Little Sibs Weekend will take place this weekend. Registration will take place from 2 p.m. to 4 Friday in the Student Center.

◆ The Diverse Students Leadership Conference will be held from March 1 to 3. All are welcome to attend. Students can register in the

atrium of the Student Center during dinner.

◆ On Mar. 24, the whole-school dance will be held from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. All proceeds will go to Riley Children's Hospital.

◆ Dance Marathon registration packets are now available in residence halls. The cost is \$12 and includes a T-shirt, three meals, snacks and a small donation to Riley Hospital. The marathon will take place on Apr. 20.

Contact Katie Kohler at kkohle01@saintmarys.edu and Sonia Rao at srao1@nd.edu

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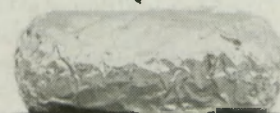
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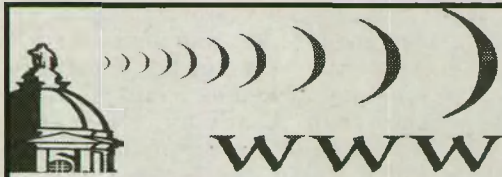
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EGYPT

New tombs discovered

Associated Press

SAQQARA — Archaeologists unveiled the tombs Tuesday of a pharaonic butler and a scribe that have been buried for more than 3,000 years — proof, they say, that Egypt's sands still have secrets to reveal.

Although archaeologists have been exploring Egypt intensively for more than 150 years, some estimate only one-third of what lies underground in Saqqara, site of the country's most ancient pyramid and burial site of kings, has been uncovered.

"The sands of Saqqara reveal lots of secrets," said Egypt's antiquities chief, Zahi Hawass, as he showed reporters a 4,000-year-old mud brick tomb that belonged to a scribe of divine records, Ka-Hay, and his wife.

The tomb, along with the butler's 3,350-year-old limestone grave and two painted coffins, were discovered earlier this year near the famous Step Pyramid of King Djoser — the oldest of Egypt's more than 90 pyramids.

Hawass said the three discoveries are just the tip of what remains undiscovered at Saqqara, which was the burial grounds for Memphis, the capital of Egypt's Old Kingdom.

In December, archaeologists in Saqqara discovered the mummified remains of a doctor who was buried along with surgical tools more than 4,000

years ago. Two months earlier, the graves of three royal dentists were discovered in Saqqara after the arrest of tomb raiders led archaeologists to the site.

Hawass said the mud brick tomb unveiled Tuesday, which also featured wooden statues and a door with intricate hieroglyphic carvings, "could enrich our knowledge about the people who actually surrounded the kings of Saqqara."

"It doesn't look great because it was built from mud brick and not built of limestone, but I really believe that this tomb is very important," said Hawass, who donned his signature Indiana Jones-style hat.

Three wooden statues also were found in the tomb. Two of them, each about 3 feet tall and depicting the scribe, were laid out on pieces of foam on the ground. One was missing a left arm. The third was not shown because it was in poor condition.

After Hawass presented the tomb, workers picked up the ancient statues, placed them in the back of a pickup truck — while tourists, surprised at the media commotion, quickly snapped photographs — and drove them to another building in the complex.

On the other side of the Step Pyramid, archaeologists then unveiled the second tomb, which belonged to a butler who died some 3,350 years ago.

Miracle baby stays in hospital

Associated Press

MIAMI — A girl born after just under 22 weeks in the womb — among the shortest gestation periods known for a live birth — will remain in a hospital a few extra days as a precaution, officials said Tuesday.

Amillia Sonja Taylor, born Oct. 24 after just under 22 weeks in the womb, had been expected to be sent home from Baptist Children's Hospital on Tuesday.

However, routine tests indicated she was vulnerable to infection, said Dr. Paul Fassbach, who has cared for the baby since shortly after she was born.

"She has been fine," Fassbach said, but doctors are being extra cautious "now that she's going into the world."

Doctors say Amillia is

among the few babies known to have survived after a gestation of fewer than 22 weeks. She was just 9 1/2 inches long and weighed less than 10 ounces when she was delivered by Caesarean section. Full-term births come after 37 to 40 weeks.

Amillia, the first child for Eddie and Sonja Taylor of Homestead, now weighs 4 1/2 pounds and is just over 15 1/2 inches long.

She has suffered respiratory and digestive problems, as well as a mild brain hemorrhage, but doctors believe the health concerns will not have major long-term effects.

Amillia was conceived in vitro and has been in an incubator since birth. She will continue to receive a small amount of supplemental oxygen even after she goes home.

She was delivered because her mother was suffering

from complications. Fassbach said that if doctors had known Amillia's real gestational age, they might not have intervened. He said he thought she was at least 23 weeks, and doctors were shocked when the Taylors' fertility specialist pinpointed the exact date of fertilization.

Fassbach cautioned against rushing to redefine the medical standards for fetus viability.

"We just don't know which 21- to 22-weekers are going to do well and which are not going to do well," he said. "I don't think we should change what we do, but it shows us we need to do more research and find out where our edge of viability is going to go."

Preterm births occur in about 12 percent of all pregnancies in the U.S., according to the National Institute of Health.

ENGLAND

Blair will announce Iraq timetable

Associated Press

LONDON — Prime Minister Tony Blair will announce on Wednesday a new timetable for the withdrawal of British troops from Iraq, with 1,500 to return home in several weeks, the BBC reported.

Blair will also tell the House of Commons during his regular weekly appearance that a total of about 3,000 British soldiers will have left southern Iraq by the end of 2007, if the security there is sufficient, the British Broadcasting Corp. said, quoting government officials who weren't further identified.

The announcement comes even as President Bush implements an increase of 21,000 more troops for Iraq.

But Blair said Sunday that Washington had not put pressure on London to maintain its troop numbers. The BBC said Blair was not expected to say when the rest of Britain's forces would leave Iraq. Britain currently has about 7,100 soldiers there.

Blair's Downing Street office refused to comment on the BBC report.

Blair and Bush talked by secure video link Tuesday morning, and Bush said Britain's troop cutbacks were "a sign of success" in Iraq.

"The president is grateful for the support of the British Forces in the past and into the future," U.S. National Security Council spokesman Gordon Johndroe said in Washington. "While the United Kingdom is maintaining a robust force in southern Iraq, we're pleased that conditions in Basra have improved sufficiently that they are able to transition more control to the Iraqis."

"The United States shares the same goal of turning responsibility over to the Iraqi Security Forces and reducing the number of American troops in Iraq," Johndroe said. "President Bush sees this as a sign of success and what is possible for us once we help the Iraqis deal with the sectarian violence in Baghdad."

"We want to bring our troops home as well," Johndroe said. "It's the model we want to emulate, to turn over more responsibilities to Iraqis and bring our troops home. That's the goal and always has been."

Blair said last month that he

would report to lawmakers on his future strategy in Iraq following the completion of Operation Sinbad, a joint British and Iraqi mission targeting police corruption and militia influence in the southern city of Basra.

On Sunday, Blair told the BBC that the operation was completed.

Foreign Secretary Margaret Beckett said in January that Operation Sinbad offered the prospect of a "turning point for Iraq, hopefully in the near future."

Treasury chief Gordon Brown, who is likely to succeed Blair by September, has said he hoped several thousand British soldiers would be withdrawn by December.

As recently as late last month, Blair rejected opposition calls to withdraw British troops by October, calling such a plan irresponsible.

"That would send the most disastrous signal to the people that we are fighting in Iraq. It's a policy that, whatever its superficial attractions may be, is actually deeply irresponsible," Blair said on Jan. 24 in the House of Commons.

Megachurches break barriers

Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Mass. — Sundays at the evangelical Grace Chapel megachurch look like the American ideal of race relations: African-American, Haitian, white, Chinese and Korean families sing along with a white, guitar-playing pastor.

U.S. churches rarely have this kind of ethnic mix. But that's changing. Researchers who study race and religion say Grace Chapel is among a vanguard of megachurches that are breaking down racial barriers in American Christianity, altering the long-segregated landscape of Sunday worship.

"Megachurches as a whole are significantly better than other congregations at holding together multiracial, multiethnic congregations," said Scott Thumma, an expert on megachurches and a professor at Hartford Seminary in Connecticut. "It's absolutely clear."

A study by Thumma and the

Leadership Network, a Dallas group that works with pioneering churches, found that minorities make up 20 percent or more of worshippers in nearly one-third of the nation's 1,200 megachurches. More than half of the megachurches say they are intentionally working to attract different ethnic groups, according to the 2005 study, part of a book that Thumma and network executive Dave Travis will publish in July.

The question now is whether the new diversity is just a fad or a permanent shift.

Although megachurches each draw at least 2,000 worshippers a week, they are a small percentage of the estimated 350,000 congregations across the United States. And leaders at Grace Chapel and other megachurches where whites remain the majority acknowledge enormous challenges in making minorities feel included so they'll stay for the long term.

Still, megachurches are trendsetters, and the change they've made is startling considering nearly all other American churches serve one ethnic group. Even churches with a large number of immigrants generally have separate English and non-English services. For black and white Christians, pre-Civil War church support for slavery and the general absence of white evangelicals from the civil rights movement continue to drive the two groups apart.

Most megachurches don't carry that historical burden; nearly all have been built since the 1970s and play down any ties to a denomination.

But that's not the main attraction. Researchers have found that whites and nonwhites join megachurches for the same reasons: great guitar-and-drum worship bands, strong programs for kids and a message of Bible-based self-betterment.

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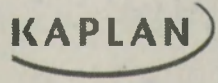
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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 10

Wednesday, February 21, 2007

THE OBSERVER

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Abolish the BIA

*"Let me be a free man,
free to travel, free to stop,
free to work, free to trade where I
choose,
free to choose my own teachers, free
to follow the religion
of my fathers,
free to talk, think
and act for myself
— and I will obey
every law or submit
to the penalty."*

Zach Einterz

Bullet Proof
Ideas

—Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce

Thanksgiving is not unique to America. Traditional celebrations of the autumnal harvest are celebrated in many cultures and countries. However, in America, Thanksgiving takes on a special meaning as we remember some of the first celebrants of Thanksgiving in the New World, the Pilgrims. Facing religious persecution in their homeland, the Pilgrims fled England and a tyrannical King James for the promise of the New World. Thus, Thanksgiving is not just a celebration of the year's harvest, but also a reminder of the promise of freedom in America.

At the same time that most Americans will be celebrating Thanksgiving, there will be a small group of citizens protesting at Plymouth Rock. Every year since 1970, American Indians and their supporters have been gathering at Plymouth Rock to observe their "National Day of Mourning." These Indians are the other half of the Thanksgiving story. While the European colonizers prospered freely and built our great country, the Indians suffered and died, often at the hands of our own government. I should not need to give a detailed history of American Indian abuses perpetuated by the United States people and its government. We all know the story. However, as if past atrocities were not enough, the federal government continues today to persecute Native Americans under the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

The BIA was created (indeed all existing government bureaucracies were created) because politicians in Washington believed that they knew what was best for a group of individuals. Originally organized under the War Department, the BIA was responsible for removing Indians from their homelands and placing them on unproductive reservations. Then the BIA created government schools where they sent Indian children to be "civilized." Civilized in this case means they were abused, forbidden to speak their native tongue, separated from family and purged of any native cultural education. Then the BIA overlooked traditional Indian views of communal property and divided reservation lands into individual plots. This was all purported to be in the Indians' best interest, because it would allow them to assimilate faster into the European way of life. The BIA continues to this day to unlawfully meddle in the affairs of American Indians. It gives federal recognition and gaming rights to some tribes while spurning others. It intervenes in the affairs of tribal governance and dictates tribal policies. It administers health and education programs which are woefully inadequate.

As with any government agency, the BIA is prone to corruption and mismanagement. After the allotment of reservation lands to individual Indians, many Indians placed their lands in a trust. The BIA was in charge on managing this land trust, contracting out mineral and resource rights to private companies. Many of these contracts heavily favored the corporations at the expense of the American Indian landowners. Furthermore, the funds from the sale of these rights have been incredibly mismanaged. In 1996, American Indian rights groups sued the Department of the Interior and the BIA. The case, Cobell vs. Kempthorne, claims that the BIA owes more than 13 billion dollars to the Indian trusts funds. According to Judge Royce

Lamberth, "The actions of Interior and Secretary Norton in this instance again demonstrate why the court continues to believe that Interior sets the gold standard for mismanagement of a government agency." The BIA is also a breeding ground for corruption. It was the competition for lucrative Indian gaming contracts that started Jack Abramoff on his road to infamy.

So what has the American Indian gained from the corruption, mismanagement and "in-your-best-interest" government programs? American Indian suicide rates are 1.5 times the national average. Rates of poverty and unemployment are more than twice the national average. It is just a coincidence that poorest people in our nation are also subjected to the most government oversight? Certainly not. Freedom breeds prosperity. Rather than lifting American Indians out of poverty, the BIA has fostered it through years of corruption, mismanagement, and patronization.

As we commemorate Native American History Month next November, let us remember that the struggle for American Indian sovereignty is not over. Critics of the BIA are not few and far between, and many American Indians have called for the abolishment of the BIA. As long as there exists a Bureau of Indian Affairs, American Indians will remain poor, broken and without freedom. It is time to let American Indians rule themselves. Restore their property, their rights, and their sovereignty. Let them decide for themselves what is best for their people, their culture and their prosperity.

Zach Einterz is a junior majoring in economics and environmental sciences. He has turned to politics after giving up on an unsuccessful sports career. Contact Zach at zeinterz@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The best of us must sometimes eat our words."

J.K. Rowling
children's author

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In 'Loyal Daughters,' humor effective, necessary

In his Feb. 20 Letter to the Editor ("Loyal Daughters' humor detracts from true dialogue") Jon Buttaci argues that the play "Loyal Daughters" is "dangerous" because it uses humor to keep students from actually thinking about the ideas it presents. The first flaw in Buttaci's argument is that anyone who actually saw "Loyal Daughters" is aware that for ninety percent of the play, there was nothing to laugh about. The performance dealt seriously with heavy issues of sexual assault on Notre Dame's campus.

That said, let's go ahead and talk about that lighter 10 percent. Clearly, Buttaci seems to feel that we, as Notre Dame students, are sheep, incapable of laughing and thinking at the same time, and therefore we should not be allowed to view anything that may lead us astray by requiring individual thought. Buttaci's argument also denies the important power of humor to convey ideas in a thought-provoking manner. Humor, it would seem, can only be propaganda.

Contrary to Buttaci's narrow definition of the function of humor, playwrights and other authors throughout history have been using humor to pose serious questions and demand critical thought from their audiences. I will give one significant example: playwright Luigi Pirandello defined humor not as something that merely makes an audience laugh, but rather as something that evokes what he called a "sentimento del contrario," or a feeling that something is contrary to what it should be. The audience may laugh for a minute, but will then be forced to ponder whatever it is that is out of place. Something that is humorous, according to Pirandello, can actually be quite serious, even sad. The monologue that Buttaci discusses, called "Logic," is not only laugh-out-loud humorous. Sure, the audience laughed when actor Patrick Tighe stormed on to the stage waving Du Lac around. However, as a member of the "Loyal Daughters" cast, I can honestly say that I never once saw an audience that was still laughing when Tighe delivered his final line, in the form of a question, to the audience. So, with respect to Buttaci's argument, I challenge the thoughtful reader to take up the same question that Tighe posed to those who saw the performance: "Is this valid? Anyone?"

Mary Migliozi
 "senior"
 Pangborn Hall
 Feb. 20

Classics, 'Monologues' bring diversity

In Mary Elizabeth Walter's Letter to the Editor ("Dialogue is not dead," Feb. 20) she says that presenting material pertaining to subjects such as that, which is discussed in the Classics film festival and "The Vagina Monologues", is not necessary to facilitate discussions. I disagree with this claim.

Classics and the "Monologues" are necessary because they present alternative views from a point of view unbiased from the Catholic Church and it is necessary for students to understand these views. To oppose events such as Classics or the "Monologues" is to deny the fact that any alternative opinions exist on the subjects that these events attempt to address, which is a naive approach to the world. Yes, we go to a Catholic university, which promotes the teaching of the Church, but when we leave the "bubble" of Notre Dame, we will enter a world that contains and acknowledges many alternative views. The "Monologues" is an opportunity for people to communicate their alternative views. It is an effort to make people aware, especially in an environment like Notre Dame, that there is more than one answer to a question. People who believe in alternative views to the Church's teachings define truth differently.

The "Monologues" are performed because they provide insight into the personal experiences of real women, a point of view that cannot be discussed in an academic forum where no one has experienced first-hand the experiences being debated. We are so quick to form opinions today that we sometimes forget that we do not know everything. How can we debate a topic when we have no understanding of the subject?

When people go and attend the "Monologues," they are not going to be "sitting in a plush theatre," rather they are acknowledging that they may be able to understand alternative view to their own by listening to someone else's opinions. Whether these truths have validity, we must acknowledge their presence within our world, and this is their importance in facilitating the dialogue Walter claims already exists on campus.

College is a time in our lives to define who we are. We form our opinions independent from our parents for the first time and we begin to learn about different points of view. It seems nowadays that people are quick to form an opinion but they have no support to back it up. I challenge Walter and every other student on campus, regardless of your political, religious, or moral views to explore and learn from people who hold opposite opinions to your own because you might find that you could learn something from simply listening instead of always saying how you feel.

Ellen Rolfes
 freshman
 Pasquerilla East Hall
 Feb. 20

'Loyal Daughters': More than a play

Editor's note: The Observer respects the wishes of this letter writer to remain anonymous. As a policy, The Observer does not name victims of sexual assault.

In response to Jon Buttaci's Letter to the Editor ("Loyal Daughters' humor detracts from true dialogue," Feb. 20) and the ongoing dialogue about sexual assault on the Notre Dame campus, I would like to first and foremost ask Mr. Buttaci when was the last time he was personally sexually assaulted. Though I know that males can be victims of sexual assault just as women can be, I am going to jump out on a limb and assume that he hasn't been.

But I have.

It wasn't really something I was going to throw out there to the whole campus, but I think my story is important to this dialogue.

Last November I went to see "Loyal Daughters" with a large group of girls from my dorm, Breen-Phillips Hall. When I got into my seat and began looking at my program I immediately noticed a page which said something to the extent of "if this play brings up any painful memories that you need help dealing with there are people located all throughout the theater to help" and then it listed many ways sexual assault victims can get help on the Notre Dame campus. When I saw this disclaimer I knew that "Loyal Daughters" was going to be more than just a fun night at the theater for me.

During the show I was able to laugh and cry, but most importantly I was able to see myself in each scene in some way. After the play, a smaller group of girls including our two ARs and my RA went to Starbucks to discuss the play. During our conversation I began to tell my story for the very first time since it happened. I was able to actually talk about it. I was finally able to admit to myself that it had really happened. I'd spent four years pretending it hadn't.

"Loyal Daughters" was able to put me at ease through its humor while still being serious enough to help me come to an emotional and intellectual breakthrough in my life. Finally my mind and my heart could understand one another on this issue. I haven't seen "The Vagina

Monologues" in full, but the parts I have seen made me intensely uncomfortable; I'm not sure that I could cope with an entire viewing of such a graphic play. But precisely because "Loyal Daughters" employs humor, I was able to relax enough to get the real points it was trying to make.

"Loyal Daughters" helped me to change my life. I was finally able to talk to people about what had happened to me. I called some of my friends from home, who knew me at the time it happened, and broke a four year silence. They were shocked that I had been unable to tell them such an important thing, but glad they were finally able to offer me the support I'd needed for so long. Last week I interviewed with "Loyal Daughters and Sons" in an effort to contribute to the play which helped me so much. I offered my story to "Loyal Daughter and Sons" in hopes that I might in a small way be able to help someone like myself.

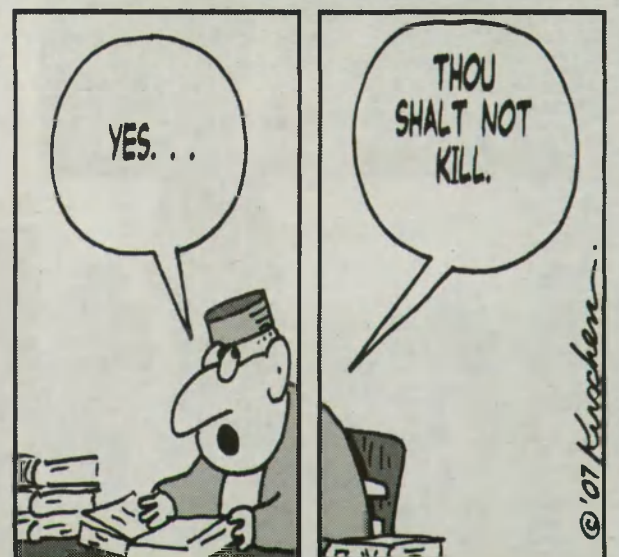
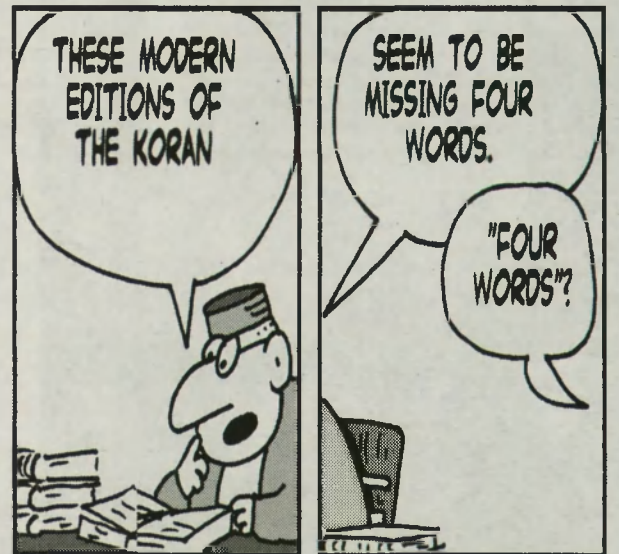
Yesterday, Monday, I went to my first counseling session at the CSC to discuss the deep issues in my life as a result of the violence against me, a step that I'd never have been able to take before "Loyal Daughters." These things may not seem monumental, but for me, they are all huge steps in the right direction.

Mr. Buttaci's insinuation that "Loyal Daughters" is useless tore me apart. Useless? For me it was the most useful play I've ever seen. Sexual assault victims struggle with the way their ability to choose was taken away from them. "Loyal Daughters" gave me my choice back. I choose to see "Loyal Daughters" and to offer it my full support. Mr. Buttaci is free to exercise his right to choose not to see the play, and his right to choose to aid the problem of sexual assault in any way he wants. I'll be sure to attend his play, or whatever venture he sponsors to advance the issue of sexual assault awareness. In fact, I look forward to it, but I won't hold my breath waiting for him to step up and actually do something.

Anonymous
 sophomore
 Breen-Phillips Hall
 Feb. 20

EDITORIAL CARTOON

Dry Bones THE NEW THEOLOGY



DryBonesBlog.com

BEST ACTOR

ODDS
8/1

Leonardo DiCaprio

ODDS
18/1

Ryan Gosling

ODDS
6/1

Peter O'Toole

ODDS
4/1

Will Smith

ODDS
1/9

Forest Whitaker



And the nominees are...



The 79th Annual

STORY BY BRI

The 79th Annual Academy Awards feature the most wide-open Best Picture race in years. In a pack that doesn't yet have a clear-cut front-runner, only "The Departed" and "Babel" have separated themselves enough to be considered favorites. In fact, the most-nominated film, "Dreamgirls" (with eight nominations), failed to even receive a Best Picture nom, despite having won the Golden Globe for Best Musical or Comedy.

The acting awards, however, are the polar opposite. All of them are essentially locked up, with heavy favorites in each of the four major categories.

The biggest storyline revolves around director Martin Scorsese, who has never won a Best Director statuette. His film, "The Departed," has a legitimate chance of winning Best Picture, which bodes well for the cinema legend. The Oscars are always an entertaining show, but this year promises to have more surprises and drama than usual.

Best Actress

Who will win: Helen Mirren, "The Queen"

Why she'll win: Mirren is one of the few locks in this year's Oscar race. Her pitch-perfect performance as Elizabeth II was the driving force behind one of the best-reviewed films of the year. If she were to lose, it would be nothing less than a stunning, almost inconceivable upset.

Who should win: Helen Mirren, "The Queen"

Why she should win: The Best Actress race is an odd mixture of old favorites (Meryl Streep? Judi Dench? Again?) and younger talent like Penelope Cruz and Kate Winslet. Both Streep and Judi Dench have already won, and it seems like Winslet and Cruz will have to wait until they are matched with better material. Mirren's performance is genuinely the best of the bunch, which makes her a shoo-in for the award.

Best Actor

Who will win: Forest Whitaker, "The Last King of Scotland"

Why he'll win: Another lock. It seems highly unlikely that Whitaker will lose, despite the fact that he's in a very deep and talented pool of actors. Surprisingly, this is Whitaker's first career nomination, and his brutal take on Ugandan dictator Idi Amin in "The Last King of Scotland" earned positive critical notices — it is generally considered Whitaker's best performance in an already long and distinguished career.

Who should win: Leonardo DiCaprio, "Blood

Diamond"

Why he should win: A few years ago I picked DiCaprio as my choice for Best Actor for "The Aviator," which was a pretty unpopular pick considering the actor's pedigree and resume.

Two years later, nobody's laughing.

DiCaprio gave a pair of fantastic performances this year, and while his paranoid turn in "The Departed" may have actually been the stronger of the two, he brings a lot of depth to "Blood Diamond." Unlike "The Departed," "Blood Diamond" is fully DiCaprio's movie, and he dominates every scene. We are witnessing the emergence of one of the great actors of our time.

Best Supporting Actress

Who will win: Jennifer Hudson, "Dreamgirls"

Why she'll win: Hudson already won the Golden Globe for Best Supporting Actress, and it seems that acting awards are going to be the consolation prizes for "Dreamgirls" (since the film itself failed to garner a Best Picture nomination). Hudson's brash performance as singer Effie Melody White went over extremely well with critics and audiences, and she will likely be rewarded for her effort.

Who should win: Abigail Breslin, "Little Miss Sunshine"

Why she should win: Breslin's sweet-natured, yet surprisingly mature performance is the heart and soul of "Little Miss Sunshine." All of 10 years old, Breslin is one of the youngest nominees ever, but her age belies the fact that she really is good in this year's Oscar sleeper.

Adriana Barraza was also fantastic as housekeeper Amelie in "Babel," and her performance deserves its accolades, but it's unlikely that anyone will be able to wrest the award away from Hudson.

Best Supporting Actor

Who will win: Eddie Murphy, "Dreamgirls"

Why he'll win: You've got to wonder if the backlash of "Norbit" will come back to haunt Murphy on Oscar night. Murphy's performance in "Dreamgirls" earned a ton of positive notices, including a Best Supporting Actor Golden Globe, and seemed to indicate that the SNL alum is ready to come into his own as a dramatic actor.

The Academy has definitely taken notice, despite ill-advised projects like "Norbit," which makes Murphy the frontrunner for the award.

Who should win: Mark Wahlberg, "The Departed"

Why he should win: Man, who would've

guessed that Marky great actor. Proving o matic turns in "I "Invincible" were no arguably the best "Departed" — no sma he's surrounded b Nicholson, Martin Sh and Alec Baldwin.

As the acidic Sta Wahlberg gets many and delivers them wit

Best Adapted Screen

What will win: "Ch Cuarón, Timothy J. Se Fergus and Hawk Ost

Why it will win: Co prize for the criminal Alfonso Cuarón's bril cautionary tale. Tara once quipped that screenplay award is consolation prize for "cool" film that can't the big one, and w "Children of Men" do quite fall into that ca ry, it's nonetheless a film that benefits fr written script.

"Children of Men" through visuals than t fact that the film is e one of its greatest stre

What should win: Monahan

Why it should wi chance that Monaha award, which would screenplay for "The profane and deep a while maintaining its great dialogue that a and it adapts "Infern effortlessly translating undertones.

Best Original Screen

What will win: "Bab

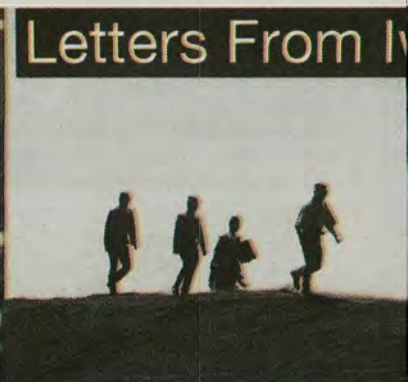
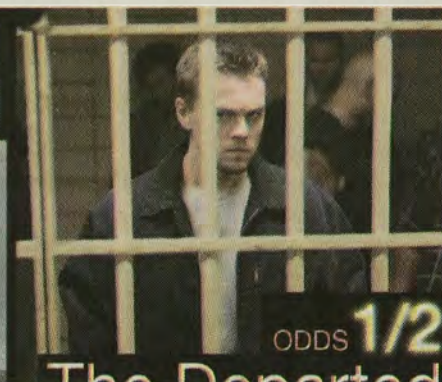
Why it will win: "E long line of films — year's Best Picture wi "Traffic" — that de through a twisting Arriaga's acute, sma the storylines quite w ness and linguistic d place in four different ety of languages) mak the clear favorite.

What should win: "I Iris Yamashita

All of [the acting awards] are essentially locked up, with heavy favorites in each of the four major categories.

ODDS courtesy of bodog.com

BEST PICTURE



Academy Awards

BEST ACTRESS



And the nominees are

AN DOXTADER

Mark would become a... and for all that dra... Boogie Nights" and... flukes, Wahlberg gives... performance in "The... feat considering that... the likes of Jack... en, Leonardo DiCaprio... of Sergeant Dignam... of the film's best lines... perfect sardonic wit.

lay... dren of Men," Alfonso... ton, David Arata, Mark

sider it the consolation... ack of nominations for... ant... ino... he... the... the... win... file... sn't... go... eat

n a concise and well-... ells more of its story... rough dialogue, but the... elegantly underwritten is... gths.

he Departed," William... There's a very real... will take home this... be a great sign. The... Departed" is as funny... Mamet or Tarantino... wn identity. It's got that... tors just love to chew... Affairs" with aplomb... the setting and cultural

ay... l," Guillermo Arriaga... "Babel" is the latest in a... list that includes last... ner "Crash" and 2000's... al with social issues... interwoven script... t screenplay balances... l, and his social aware-... versity (the film takes... countries, with a vari-... e his script for "Babel"...

Letters From Iwo Jima,"

Why it should win: It's extremely difficult to write a good war film. Developed from a story by Yamashita and Paul Haggis (who was nominated for "Million Dollar Baby" in 2004 and won for "Crash" in 2005), "Letters from Iwo Jima" is an elegant, elegiac look at the Japanese who fought and died in one of the Pacific Theater's bloodiest battles. The screenplay's nomination alone is justified by one scene, in which General Kuribayashi (Ken Watanabe) quietly listens to a radio transmission from the mainland.

Best Director

Who will win: Martin Scorsese, "The Departed"

Why he'll win: Is this the year Scorsese gets it done? Endlessly shafted, rarely rewarded, the 64-year-old director is nothing less than an American treasure, with a handful of stone-cold classics to his name ... and no Best Director Oscar.

This is the director who wasn't nominated for "Taxi Driver" (1976) and lost for "Raging Bull" (1980), "The Last Temptation of Christ" (1987), "Goodfellas" (1990), "Gangs of New York" (2002) and "The Aviator" (2004). You might've heard of a couple of those films.

It seems almost inconceivable that Mr. Martin Scorsese, possibly the greatest living director and no doubt one of the greatest of all time, will lose this year ... unless Clint Eastwood beats him again.

Who should win: Martin Scorsese, "The Departed"

Why he should win: There's something oddly comforting about the fact that Scorsese's never won. It makes for a long-running joke, and puts him in good company — Charlie Chaplin, Stanley Kubrick and Alfred Hitchcock never won for directing either.

Yet it seems pretty improbable that Scorsese will lose this year and rightfully so, since "The Departed" is an amazing picture. Scorsese has rarely directed with such verve and energy, which for him is saying a lot.

So take notice because this is the year, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences — you wouldn't just be throwing Scorsese a bone, you'd be rewarding him for his outstanding work on the year's best film.

Best Picture

What will win: "Babel"

Why it'll win: When was the last time that there was an Oscar race this wide-open? "Babel" is the default pick, if only because it won the Golden Globe for Best Picture. Yet, for perhaps the first time ever, every single film

that has been nominated has a legitimate chance of winning, including dark horse nominee "Little Miss Sunshine."

The race is essentially coming down to "Babel" vs. "The Departed," but the possibility of a split vote means any of the other three films could take home the top prize. "Babel" might win, but it will certainly be close enough to cause a lot of debate.

What should win: "The Departed"

Why it should win: Simply put, "The Departed" is an instant classic, shooting into the upper echelons of Scorsese's best work. As thrillingly entertaining as it is cinematically accomplished, "The Departed" is among the year's most unpretentious and engaging works.

"The Departed" doesn't have the aura of self-importance that surrounded films like "Babel" and "Dreamgirls." Therefore, it didn't make its mark and legitimize itself as an awards contender through marketing and snob appeal — it did it by being really good.

Oscar Oversights

◆ Despite leading the pack in total nominations with eight, "Dreamgirls" did not receive a Best Picture nod.

◆ Ken Watanabe failed to receive a nomination for his brilliant, compelling turn as General Kuribayashi in Clint Eastwood's "The Departed."

◆ Jack Nicholson, the most-nominated actor in Oscar history, failed to garner a nom for his work as Boston mobster Frank Costello in Martin Scorsese's "The Departed."

◆ Alfonso Cuarón's "Children of Men" received no major nominations outside of screenplay. Notable omissions were Cuarón for directing, Clive Owen for acting and a Best Picture nomination.

◆ "Casino Royale," the "reboot" of the James Bond franchise, received no major nominations, despite being a critical and commercial smash. Daniel Craig's fierce, charismatic performance went un-nominated.

◆ Neither of the 9/11 themed films (Paul Greengrass' "United 93" and Oliver Stone's "World Trade Center") received any major nominations.

◆ Sacha Baron Cohen, who won the Golden Globe for Best Actor, did not receive a nomination for "Borat!"

◆ Mel Gibson's "Apocalypto" received no major nominations.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtade@nd.edu

JEFF ALBERT | Observer Graphic



Letters From Iwo Jima

ODDS 5/1

ODDS 5/6



The Queen

ODDS 20/1



Penelope Cruz

ODDS 22/1

Judi Dench

ODDS 1/25

Helen Mirren

ODDS 15/1

Meryl Streep

ODDS 7/1

Cate Winslet



JEFF ALBERT/Observer Graphic

ACADEMY AWARDS HAVE LONG, RICH HISTORY

By **MARTY SCHROEDER**
Assistant Scene Editor

This year marks the 79th time the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will gather together to hand out the Academy Award of Merit — the iconic statuette given for Academy Awards, or Oscars.

This night of glitz and glam has its share of history and interesting trivia. For example, the 1941 Orson Welles epic that has come to be known as one of the greatest films ever made, "Citizen Kane," only won one Oscar — and for Best Screenplay at that. It lost out on the Best Motion Picture Oscar to a little-known film directed by John Ford — "How Green Was My Valley."

Needless to say, the Academy doesn't get it right every time, but its awards have come to be known as the apex of achievement for those involved in the motion picture industry.

But what about the star of the ceremony himself — Oscar himself? Where

does he come from, and why has he been dubbed Oscar?

The sword-wielding art-deco crusader was designed by Cedric Gibbons, sculpted in clay by George Stanley and then cast in tin and copper and plated in gold by Alex Smith. This is the chronicle of his birth and he has changed little except for the base of the statuette, which has been streamlined in recent years.

His name is something more of a mystery. Some claim Bette Davis named Oscar after her husband Harmon Oscar Nelson. Others say that the Academy's Executive Secretary, Margaret Herrick, after seeing the statue in 1931, said it reminded her of her uncle Oscar.

Whatever the actual story, the golden knight standing on the reel of film is one of the most highly prized awards in the entertainment industry.

Though Oscar himself stands in golden perfection, the awards ceremony — and the voting of the Academy members — is far from perfect. Many times

the Academy voters have made decisions that seem correct at the time but do not seem right years down the road — like choosing "Shakespeare in Love" over "Saving Private Ryan" in 1998.

Some of the more infamous gaffes have come in recent years. The 1992 award for Best Supporting Actress went to Marisa Tomei for her role in "My Cousin Vinny." Urban legend claims that presenter Jack Palance actually read the wrong name because Tomei was considered a long shot against the other four nominees.

Whatever the case, this example shows that not everyone is a lock, no matter what what the critics and so-called experts say.

Another incident involving acceptance speeches occurred in 2000 when Julia Roberts won her Best Actress Oscar for her role in "Erin Brockovich." When she got up to the microphone she seemed to thank everyone and their dog — forgetting, however, the real-life Erin Brockovich. This snub will go down as a lesson to

anyone composing an acceptance speech.

The Academy Awards are not quite the perfect dream that many budding actors and filmmakers might expect. In fact, there are a lot of politics and a lot of commercialism involved. Some movie studios push their films harder than others to get votes, which ultimately equals dollar signs (such as the infamous over-saturating market strategy known as the "Miramax Machine").

What can be counted on, however, is a night equally exciting for those obsessed with celebrity gossip and fashion as for those that just love movies ... despite the occasional gaffe in etiquette.

After all, nothing said "the classiest night on Earth" like playing the theme from "The Terminator" right after cinematographer Robert Richardson dedicated his Oscar for "The Aviator" to his recently deceased mother.

Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroe1@nd.edu

OSCAR'S DARK HORSES COULD TAKE THE LEAD

By **MICHELLE FORDICE**
Scene Writer

The Academy Awards are notorious for the inscrutability of their nomination process.

Somewhere between the 6,000 unnamed members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences receiving a ballot and a winner receiving a golden statuette, a list of nominees is formed and a winner chosen. But every year, there is a nomination that no one actually believes will win, no matter its cinematic worth — the dark horse.

Dark horse nominations are the movies and performances that, though excellent examples of filmmaking, don't seem to quite fit the typecast of an Oscar contender, and are a long shot to win.

Of course, the official qualifications to be nominated are deceptively simple. Best Picture nominees simply have to fulfill such requirements as have a running time over 40 minutes and be released in a commercial theatre for paid admission. But there is an unde-

efined standard which nominees are expected to fill to have a chance to win.

Dark horse candidates are fairly common. "Seabiscuit" for the 2003 Best Picture was one, as it stood up to movies such as "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" and "Mystic River." So were "Babe" in 1995 — against "Apollo 13," "The Postman (Il Postino)," and "Braveheart" — and "Quiz Show" in 1994 — against "Forrest Gump," "The Shawshank Redemption" and "Pulp Fiction."

None of the films were undeserving nominations, but they were unlikely to be Oscar winners. Generally, they didn't have the "seriousness" or the chance for historical longevity associated with Oscar Best Pictures.

The likelihood of there being a non-standard best picture nominee was high this year because so many contenders were still left in the running right before the nominations were announced.

Everything from "Apocalypto" to "Bobby" to "Pan's Labyrinth" was still considered a possibility. Even "Babel," which is now considered to have a shot, was not a sure thing.

The odds increased when "Dreamgirls" was left out of the best picture race, leaving an open spot behind it. Now, several of the other acclaimed nominees, such as "The Queen" and "The Departed," have a shot at the top prize.

The dark horse candidate for best picture this year is "Little Miss Sunshine," which has received considerable critical acclaim, gathering four Oscar nominations and two Golden Globe nods. It has gained popular support, managing to rank in the top three weekly box office winners, despite being an independent film with a relatively low \$8 million budget.

Still, it does not fit the typical Oscar persona.

While "Little Miss Sunshine" has dramatic elements, it is considered comedic satire, a genre that has never fared well at the Academy Awards. It is also the first feature film of Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris, so it cannot be carried by director prestige. Despite all of its merit, "Little Miss Sunshine" will probably never shed its film-festival roots.

Another dark horse for this year's Academy Awards is Ryan Gosling for best actor. Gosling was nominated for his portrayal of gifted high school teacher and cocaine addict Dan Dunne in "Half Nelson."

Since the film itself has not received much attention — in fact, it is Gosling's performance that has mostly put it on the radar — it will not carry him. Neither will Gosling's acting history; he is most known for "The Notebook" and "Remember the Titans," neither of which are Oscar-type movies.

Finally, up against names like Peter O'Toole, Forest Whitaker, and even Leonardo DiCaprio and Will Smith, Gosling does not have much of a chance. Despite his strong performance, Gosling is not actually seen as a contender this year.

As the 79th Academy Awards draw near, there aren't as many sure bets as in years past. Maybe this is the year that one of the dark horses will take the lead.

Contact Michelle Fordice at mfordice@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

"Seabiscuit" was 2003's dark horse Best Picture nominee, going up against the likes of "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" and "Mystic River."



Photo courtesy of filmplus.org

Orson Welles' "Citizen Kane," often considered the greatest film of all time, was famously overlooked at the 1941 Oscars. Its sole win was for Best Screenplay.

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13 Tzameti (2006)

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Directed by Géla Babluani

NR, 86 minutes

French language with English subtitles

35mm Print

Fri, Feb 23 at 7 pm and 10 pm

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A Documentary Film (2006)

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NBA

Detroit holds off a late Milwaukee run to win

Arenas scores 38 in win despite shooting a mediocre 12-for-24

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Chauncey Billups scored 19 as the Detroit Pistons held on to beat the Milwaukee Bucks 84-83 on Tuesday night.

Milwaukee's Charlie Bell scored on a driving layup to cut the Detroit lead to 1 with 30.9 seconds remaining. Rasheed Wallace then missed an off-balance jumper with the shot clock running out, giving the Bucks a shot at the victory with 7.1 seconds remaining.

Mo Williams inbounded the ball to Andrew Bogut. He gave it back to Williams, who drove the lane and missed a layup.

Detroit spoiled the return of Milwaukee star Michael Redd, who played for the first time since straining the patellar tendon in his left knee Jan. 5. Redd scored 17 in limited minutes for Milwaukee, shooting 7-for-18 from the field. Bell led Milwaukee with 22, and Ruben Patterson added 18.

Wallace scored 16 and added 11 rebounds for Detroit.

With the victory, the Pistons are 16-9 on the road this season — making them the only team in the Eastern Conference team with a winning road record.

The Pistons led by double digits for most of the first half, but Milwaukee went on a 9-0 run to cut their lead to 47-41 at halftime.

Washington 112 Minnesota 100

Trying his best to shoot himself out of a slump, Gilbert Arenas launched a few bricks and rattled a few home Tuesday night on his way to 38 points as the Washington Wizards beat the Minnesota Timberwolves.

Arenas, who has struggled with his jump shot all month, relied on layups and free throws for most of his points. He went 12-for-24 from the field and 13-for-15 from the line but made only 1 of 8 from 3-point range — including an air ball — and is 10-for-57 behind the arc over his last seven games.

Kevin Garnett led the Timberwolves with 26 points on 8-for-17 shooting and had 13 rebounds.

The Wizards led from start to finish in a game that had a low-energy first half, as if both teams were still recovering from All-Star weekend. The supporting casts had their moments: Second-year player Andray Blatche held his own

against Garnett and grabbed 12 rebounds, Washington's DeShawn Stevenson scored a season-high 23 points, Minnesota's Ricky Davis scored 15 of his 24 points in the second half, and rookie Randy Foye led a run that cut a 16-point lead to four in the third quarter.

Arenas restored the double-digit lead at the start of the fourth quarter with his best back-to-back shots of the night: his only made 3-pointer and a tough turnaround fadeaway. Otherwise, Agent Zero adjusted his game and driving to the basket, at one point passing up a jumper for a slalom-like drive through the paint for a layup.

The Timberwolves later had an 8-0 to cut the deficit to six with less than four minutes to play, but Stevenson drove for a layup and made a tough fadeaway to help the Wizards hold on.

Charlotte 104 New Orleans 100

Raymond Felton had 21 points and 11 assists and outplayed Chris Paul in a battle of second-year point guards to lead the Charlotte Bobcats to a win over the New Orleans Hornets on Tuesday night.

Felton, the fifth pick in the 2005 draft, scored nine points in the fourth quarter when the Bobcats pulled away in a bruising game that included a shoving match and five technical fouls.

Paul, the fourth pick in the draft and a former college opponent of Felton, had 20 points and seven assists, but the Hornets lost for only the fourth time in 13 games.

The Hornets led by one going into the fourth quarter, when Felton scored five quick points to put the Bobcats ahead. Matt Carroll's 3-pointer with just under 6 minutes left made it 89-84.

Just over a minute later, Felton blew by Paul and fed Gerald Wallace for a layup to complete a 7-0 run and put Charlotte ahead 98-90.

Jannero Pargo's 3-pointer with 31 seconds left cut the lead to 102-100, but Derek Anderson, in his first game back from an ankle injury, hit two free throws with 6 seconds left to put it away.

Wallace had 21 points and Emeka Okafor added 16 points and 15 rebounds for the Bobcats, who won their second straight game.

Desmond Mason scored 17 points, David West scored 16 and Tyson Chandler had 16 points and 20 rebounds for the Hornets, who lost despite a 47-36 rebounding edge.

It marked the third time the



San Antonio forward Tim Duncan swats away a shot from Denver's Nen during the first quarter of a 95-80 Spurs win Tuesday at the AT&T Center in San Antonio.

Hornets have returned to Charlotte since they left for New Orleans in 2002 after a bitter dispute over a new arena. With a complete turnover of the roster and coaching staff, only a handful of support staff members and broadcasters remain from the Charlotte team. And there was little buzz in the crowd over the Hornets' return until a mini-skirmish midway through the third quarter.

Jake Voskuhl fouled Paul on a drive to the basket and kept Paul's arm pinned to his side. Paul lunged at Voskuhl, then reached around and threw the ball at Voskuhl's shoulder. Chandler came over and pushed Voskuhl, and then Mason and Wallace started shoving. Adam Morrison and West ran into the scrum before the officials separated everyone.

Chicago 106, Atlanta 81

Chris Duhon scored 17 points and the Chicago Bulls held the Atlanta Hawks without a field goal in the third quarter in a victory Tuesday night.

It was the first time the Bulls held a team without a field goal in a quarter. They had held the Knicks to one basket in 1999.

Atlanta was outscored 28-8 in the third quarter and finished the period 0-for-16 from

the field.

Salim Stoudamire gave the Hawks their first basket of the second half on a three-point play with 10:34 left in the game.

Kirk Hinrich and Luol Deng added 16 points each for the Bulls, who won for just the second time in seven games.

Leading 48-43 at the half, the Bulls opened the third quarter by outscoring Atlanta 20-3. Hinrich made a 3 and Duhon's free throw put Chicago up 67-46 with 4:17 left in the third quarter.

The Bulls played much of the third quarter without Ben Gordon who suffered a left thigh bruise when he was fouled by Royal Ivey early in the quarter. Gordon never returned and finished with six points.

Joe Johnson, who came in the game averaging 25.1 points for the Hawks was held to nine points on 2-of-12 shooting.

Josh Childress scored 16 points to lead the Hawks, who shot 35.6 percent from the field.

Hinrich had 11 of his 16 points in the first half and Deng added 10.

P.J. Brown finished the game with 11 points and nine rebounds for Chicago and Malik Allen added 12 points off the bench.

San Antonio 95, Denver 80

Tony Parker scored 17 points to lead the San Antonio Spurs to a win over the Denver Nuggets on Tuesday night.

Not even the return of Allen Iverson could boost Denver. Iverson missed nine of the Nuggets' last 10 games before the All-Star break with a right ankle sprain. He scored nine points on Tuesday.

Manu Ginobili added 14 points and Tim Duncan had 12 during the Spurs' first home game since they went on a road trip, where they split their eight games.

Carmelo Anthony led Denver with 15 points, Nene had 13 and DerMarr Johnson had 11.

After trailing for most of the first, the Spurs took a 25-21 lead into the second quarter. Parker helped them extend the lead scoring 10 of his points in the quarter. San Antonio led 49-38 at the break.

The Spurs broke the game open in the third quarter outscoring the Nuggets 30-10. Anthony and Iverson were just a combined 1-for-10 in the quarter as Denver had nine turnovers.

The Nuggets rallied in the fourth, but it was too late as the Spurs improved to 36-18 on the season while Denver fell to .500 (26-26).

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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Way down to Kokomo

AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, February 21, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 17

NHL

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
New Jersey	36-17-6	78	6-3-1
Pittsburgh	32-18-9	73	8-1-1
NY Islanders	29-23-8	66	6-2-2
NY Rangers	29-25-5	63	5-4-1
Philadelphia	16-35-8	40	4-3-3

Eastern Conference, Northeast Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Buffalo	39-15-5	83	6-3-1
Ottawa	34-22-3	71	7-2-1
Montreal	30-25-6	66	2-7-1
Toronto	29-22-8	66	7-1-2
Boston	28-26-4	60	6-4-0

Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Tampa Bay	33-24-3	69	7-2-1
Atlanta	30-22-9	69	2-7-1
Carolina	30-24-7	67	4-5-1
Florida	23-26-11	57	5-4-1
Washington	23-27-9	55	3-5-2

Western Conference, Central Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Nashville	40-18-3	83	4-6-0
Detroit	38-16-6	82	8-2-0
St. Louis	25-26-9	59	5-4-1
Chicago	22-28-8	53	5-3-2
Columbus	23-31-5	51	4-6-0

Western Conference, Northwest Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Vancouver	34-21-4	72	7-2-1
Calgary	31-20-8	70	5-3-2
Minnesota	32-23-5	69	6-3-1
Edmonton	28-26-5	61	5-4-1
Colorado	28-27-4	60	4-6-0

Western Conference, Pacific Division

team	record	pts.	last 10
Anaheim	35-16-9	79	5-4-1
San Jose	36-22-1	73	3-6-1
Dallas	35-21-2	72	6-3-1
Phoenix	25-32-3	53	2-7-1
Los Angeles	20-31-10	50	3-3-4

NCAA Men's Tennis ITA Rankings

	team	points	prev.
1	Georgia	750	1
2	Ohio State	740	2
3	Virginia	729	4
4	Ole Miss	719	5
5	Baylor	710	8
6	UCLA	705	3
7	Illinois	692	6
8	Florida	678	7
9	NOTRE DAME	667	9
10	Pepperdine	661	10
11	Duke	649	12
12	Florida State	639	14
13	USC	632	15
14	Oklahoma State	617	16
15	Washington	612	17

around the dial

NCAA BASKETBALL

Boston College vs. Virginia Tech
7 p.m., ESPN

St. John's vs. Louisville
7 p.m., ESPN2

NBA

Heat vs. Rockets
9 p.m., ESPN

BOXING



Oscar De La Hoya, left, pushes Floyd Mayweather as they pose together during a news conference Tuesday announcing their upcoming fight for the junior welterweight championship in New York.

De La Hoya, Mayweather start tour

Associated Press

NEW YORK — It was Oscar De La Hoya's turn to take the podium, and he could hardly get a word in.

Floyd Mayweather Jr. was busy yelling back at rowdy fans, posing for pictures and doing everything he could to annoy De La Hoya.

It's The Golden Boy against the Pretty Boy, and, boy, what a scene it was.

"This guy has been under my skin for a while," De La Hoya said Tuesday at the Waldorf-Astoria. It was the first stop of an 11-city promo-

tional tour in advance of their highly anticipated super welterweight title fight on May 5 in Las Vegas.

"He's a little brat," De La Hoya added with a smile. "I'm going to teach him a lesson."

The trash talk flew, mostly from Mayweather's camp, throughout the press conference, which was marked by the type of lavish production music, lights and videos that's expected to accompany a fight with the slogan, "The World Awaits."

When De La Hoya (38-4, 30 knockouts) and Mayweather (37-0, 24 KOs) square off at the

MGM Grand for De La Hoya's title, the fight is expected to set pay-per-view records and be shown in a record 176 countries. It also sold out in three hours.

With a crowd of close to 200 media and several hundred more fans in attendance, a digital countdown board was displayed outside the press conference and huge promotional posters lined the walls.

Mayweather, looking to win a title in his fifth weight class, was the first to enter the huge ballroom to Queen's "Another One Bites The Dust." He strolled down the red car-

pet that led to the podium, stopping frequently to shake hands and pose for pictures soaking in the cheers and jeers.

He took off his brightly colored warmup jacket when he reached the podium, revealing a dark T-shirt. A few moments later, De La Hoya made his way in, wearing a sharp, black suit but not for long.

As soon as De La Hoya started walking, Mayweather whipped off his shirt and flexed for the crowd. When De La Hoya reached the podium, he took off his suit jacket and pulled his dress shirt out of his pants to expose his abs.

IN BRIEF

Gonzaga's Heytvelt charged with felony drug possession

SPOKANE, Wash. — Suspended Gonzaga center Josh Heytvelt is being charged with felony possession of a controlled substance following his Feb. 9 arrest, when police said they found hallucinogenic mushrooms in his car.

According to court documents released Tuesday, police found 33.2 grams — just over an ounce — of mushrooms inside a plastic ziplock bag in the back of the Chevrolet Blazer that Heytvelt was driving. Possession of any amount of illegal mushrooms is a Class C felony.

Heytvelt, 20, and teammate Theo Davis, 21, were arrested in Cheney on Feb. 9 and booked into Spokane County Jail. They were released the next day on their own recognizance.

Davis, a redshirt freshman who has not played because of injuries, will be referred to Cheney municipal court on a misdemeanor charge of marijuana possession.

Robredo, Ijubicic advance to second round in ABN Amro

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands — Second-seeded Tommy Robredo and third-seeded Ivan Ljubicic advanced to the second round of the ABN Amro on Tuesday.

Fourth-seeded Tomas Berdych, however, was knocked out after losing to Mikhail Youzhny of Russia 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-1.

Robredo beat Simone Bolelli of Italy 6-2, 6-2, while Ijubicic downed doubles partner Thiemo de Bakker of the Netherlands 7-5, 6-3.

Berdych became the first seeded player ousted from the tournament as Youzhny raced to a 5-0 lead in the third set.

Sixth-seeded David Ferrer of Spain overpowered Christophe Rochus of Belgium 6-3, 6-0, finding all corners of the court with strong shots.

Kristof Vliegen, who helped Belgium defeat Australia last week in the Davis Cup, beat Jarkko Nieminen of Finland 6-1, 6-4, and Florian Mayer of Germany beat Dominik Hrbaty of Slovenia 7-6 (5), 2-6, 7-5.

Cubs' Zambrano signs \$12.4 million, one-year deal

MESA, Ariz. — Carlos Zambrano and the Chicago Cubs agreed to a \$12.4 million, one-year contract Tuesday, avoiding salary arbitration by striking the deal just before their scheduled hearing.

Zambrano earned \$6.5 million last season while going 16-7 with a 3.41 ERA and 210 strikeouts. He asked for \$15.5 million in arbitration, while the Cubs countered at \$11,025,000 more than any player had been awarded.

Now, the sides can focus on trying to work out a multiyear contract, which would likely be in the five-year range.

Zambrano told WGN-TV last week that he would leave as a free agent after the season if the Cubs did not sign him to a long-term deal by opening day but he backed off those comments a few days later.

MLB

Jeter denies rift with teammate Rodriguez

Yankee captain does not discuss pair's off-field relationship

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Derek Jeter wouldn't discuss his off-the-field relationship with Alex Rodriguez. A-Rod, however, felt relieved to speak his mind.

As 64 New York Yankees players assembled on the field for the first time this year, the focus was on the withered friendship of their two biggest stars.

"I don't have a rift with Alex," Jeter said Tuesday, a day after Rodriguez finally acknowledged they no longer are the best of friends. "We go out there. We work together. This is our fourth year to be playing together. It's annoying to hear about it all the time."

Shortly after arriving at spring training on Monday, Rodriguez said it was time for him to stop pretending that his relationship with Jeter was as close as it was in the 1990s. The pair have drifted apart since Rodriguez made critical remarks in a 2001 Esquire article.

"That's as honest as I've been here since I've been here, the four years, and that part of it felt good," Rodriguez said Tuesday as he left Legends Field.

A-Rod's psyche has been subject to analysis by fans since he joined the Yankees before the 2004 season. While he's a two-time AL MVP, Jeter has four World Series rings.

Rodriguez felt a need to conform during his first three seasons in New York. He appears to be taking a different tack this year.

"I just found myself trying to say always the right things and trying not to screw up," he said. "And I think that came across for some people as very disingenuous and phony perhaps — those are the things you hear. If you're going to get chopped up into pieces, you might as well be as honest as you can and get ripped for it."

He thinks he'll be more at ease going forward.

"You get a little gun-shy, that's all," he said. "It all comes down to being yourself."

Sitting in virtually the same spot in the first-base dugout at Legends Field that Rodriguez occupied a day earlier, Jeter appeared uncomfortable discussing the topic.

"I don't see the relevance of it," he said. "It has no bearing on us playing baseball."

He doesn't comprehend the focus on their relationship.

"They see us on the field, if one person gives another one a look, it's a story," Jeter said. "If we're at opposite ends of the bench, people say it's a story."

Jeter spoke with Rodriguez in the clubhouse. He played catch with him on the field as they warmed up. But he refused to say how close he and Rodriguez are away from the ballpark.

"How would I characterize it? I would characterize it as it doesn't make a difference," Jeter said. "What we do away from the field, how much time we spend together, really

makes no difference when we're playing."

Coming up through the Yankees' organization and becoming a key component of the unit that won four World Series titles from 1996-2000, Jeter has worked hard to avoid discussing his private life.

"I understand my job is public, but your personal life is your personal life. Once you open that door, it doesn't stop," he said. "Away from the field, people want to keep tabs on how many times we go out to eat, things like that. That has no bearing on what we're trying to do."

Jeter was criticized by some last year for not voicing sufficient support for Rodriguez, who struggled at times during the regular season and was booed at Yankee Stadium.

"From Day 1 I've said I support Alex," he said. "The only thing I'm not going to do is tell the fans what to do. ... I don't

think it's my job to tell fans to boo or not to boo."

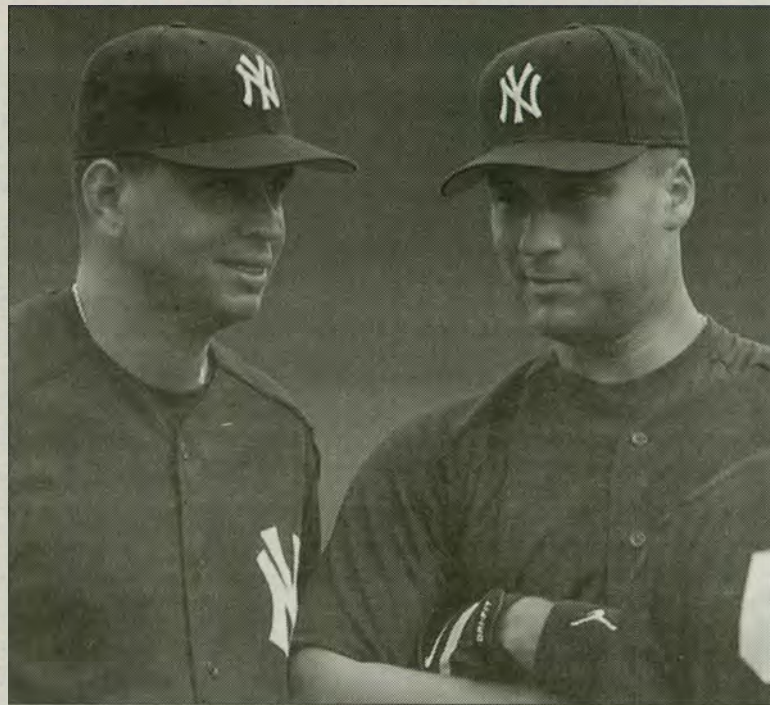
Yankees manager Joe Torre thought it was good for Rodriguez to air his issues early in spring training.

"Evidently, what Alex was talking about yesterday sort of made him feel better," Torre said. "Evidently, Alex said what he needed to say."

Bernie Williams was not among those who worked out. Torre has tried to persuade him to accept a minor league contract and called Williams again Sunday night, but Williams didn't return the call.

"Evidently, what I've said to him hasn't been enough for him," Torre said. "I know he was down when I talked to him."

Since winning their third straight World Series in 2000, the Yankees have fallen short each year. They were eliminated in the first round of the playoffs by Detroit last season.



New York captain Derek Jeter, right, denied Tuesday that his relationship with third baseman Alex Rodriguez was in bad shape. AP



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SMC BASKETBALL

Belles headed to semifinals

Hoopsters are one win from championship with win over Alma

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's made history Tuesday night, defeating Alma 66-54 to advance to the MIAA semifinals for the first time since joining the conference in 1998.

The third-seeded Belles and the sixth-seeded Scots played a very close first half in the first round of the M I A A Tournament, with neither team getting more than a seven-point advantage. The Belles closed the first half on a 14-7 run to take a 30-29 lead into the locker room.

Saint Mary's slowly began building that lead in the second half, pushing to 50-45 with 10:32 remaining. Alma was unable to make up the

deficit, and the Belles pulled away for the 12-point victory.

"It's been great to make it to the semifinals for the first time," Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. "Tonight was a great night with a lot of firsts."

In addition to the team's record-breaking trip to the semifinals, several Saint Mary's players broke individual records in the victory.

Sophomore forward Erin Newsom pulled down an MIAA Tournament-record 21 rebounds to go along with 14 points, her sixth double-double of the season.

Senior Bridget Lipke also set an MIAA Tournament record, dishing out 11 assists in an incredible performance.

Junior Alison Kessler led the Belles with 20 points, and in doing so set the Saint

Mary's single season scoring record. Kessler's 484 points so far this season surpassed the 12-year-old record of 476 set by Jennie Taubenheim.

Alma forward Ashley Matuzak led all scorers with 21 points, and junior Megan Hoblet added 15 points in the losing effort.

The Belles will travel to face second-seeded Hope in Holland, Mich. in the semifinals Thursday night. Saint Mary's faced Hope twice this season, struggling on the road in a 67-42 loss Nov. 28 but playing the Flying Dutchmen closer in a 79-71 home loss Saturday. Hope is currently ranked fifth in the nation among Div. III schools and is the defending MIAA champion.

"I think this win will give us some momentum," Henley said. "We showed we could play with them last game, and we hope to go on the road and get it done this time."

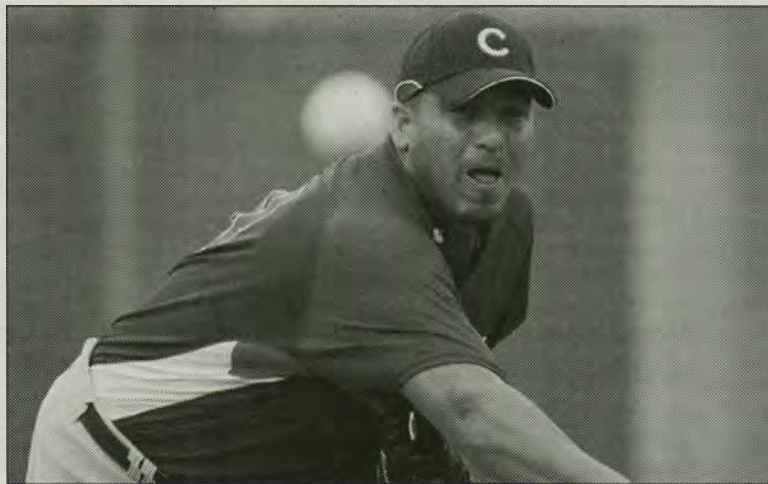
Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

"Tonight was a great night with a lot of firsts."

Jennifer Henley
Belles coach

MLB

Chicago ace Zambrano inks deal with Cubs



Cubs pitcher Carlos Zambrano throws a pitch during a spring training workout at the team's practice facility Monday.

Associated Press

MESA, Ariz. — Carlos Zambrano and the Chicago Cubs agreed to a \$12.4 million, one-year contract Tuesday, avoiding salary arbitration by striking the deal just before the scheduled hearing.

He would also earn bonuses for finishing among the top five in Cy Young Award voting, being named MVP of the World Series and League Championship Series, making the All-Star game, winning the Gold Glove and the Silver Slugger award.

Zambrano earned \$6.5 million last season while going 16-7 with a 3.41 ERA and 210 strikeouts. He asked for \$15.5 million in arbitration, while the Cubs countered at \$11,025,000 — more than any player has been awarded.

"I feel good, ready to go," Zambrano said. "I'm ready to lead this team to the championship, to win in this city. The fans deserve us to go to the playoffs and to win for the city of Chicago. I'm here for that."

The Cubs have not been to the playoffs since 2003, when they were within five outs of reaching the World Series. Their last arbitration hearing was with Mark Grace in 1993.

"Our track record is in order," general manager Jim Hendry said.

Barely. "There was no other case on the dockets at all like this," Hendry said. "From Day 1, when the filing numbers went in, it was like, 'Wow, this is a tough one.'"

The sides reached an agreement as they were walking to the room at the Phoenix hotel where the hearing was to be held. Now, they can focus on trying to work out a multiyear contract, which would likely be in the five-year range.

Zambrano told WGN-TV last week that he would leave as a free agent after the season if the Cubs didn't sign him to a long-term deal by opening day — but he backed off a few days later. He did, however, reiterate that he won't negotiate during the season and wants to be paid on the level of left-hander Barry Zito, who got a \$126 million, seven-year contract with San Francisco this offseason.

"I don't want to have a distraction during the season," Zambrano said. "But if something can happen after the season, why not?"

Hendry said, "He's always told me he wants to be here — first preference and probably

second preference. Why would (I), as a general manager, not want him on the ballclub. I don't think we'll be working on it tonight at dinner, but we're happy."

"I've known him since he was a kid and he's grown into a heck of a man."

A native of Venezuela, Zambrano signed with the Cubs as a non-drafted free agent in July 1997 and made his major league debut in 2001. The two-time All-Star is 64-42 with a 3.29 ERA.

"This is a good relationship between Jim Hendry and me," Zambrano said. "I think everybody's happy, as well."

Zambrano said Monday he was "85 to 90 percent" sure a deal would get done before the hearing.

Cubs manager Lou Piniella predicted there would be an agreement, too.

"I don't think the club needs that, and neither does the player," Piniella said Tuesday afternoon.

Piniella said he attended one hearing — when he was the New York Yankees' general manager in the late 1980s and third baseman Mike Pagliarulo went to arbitration — and it was a "rough process." Piniella didn't present any arguments; he just listened. But he did offer a compromise after the hearing.

"After it was over, I told him, 'We'll split this thing before the awards are made because I think you're not going to be pleased with the outcome,'" Piniella recalled. "He chose not to, and I was right. I felt a little uncomfortable in there, to be honest."

Hendry said there was "never any animosity" during negotiations and there wasn't going to be any because of the hearing.

"There wasn't going to be any tearing down of Carlos Zambrano because, first of all, he's our best pitcher," he said. "I've got nothing bad to say to him. All I want him to do is win more games than he won last year. ... The person who was going to present our case had been told by me that was the way it was going to be."

The Cubs committed nearly \$300 million to retain and bring in free agents before reaching an agreement with Zambrano. They re-signed third baseman Aramis Ramirez for \$75 million over five years, and signed outfielder Alfonso Soriano to an eight-year, \$136 million deal. They also brought in starting pitchers Ted Lilly and Jason Marquis.

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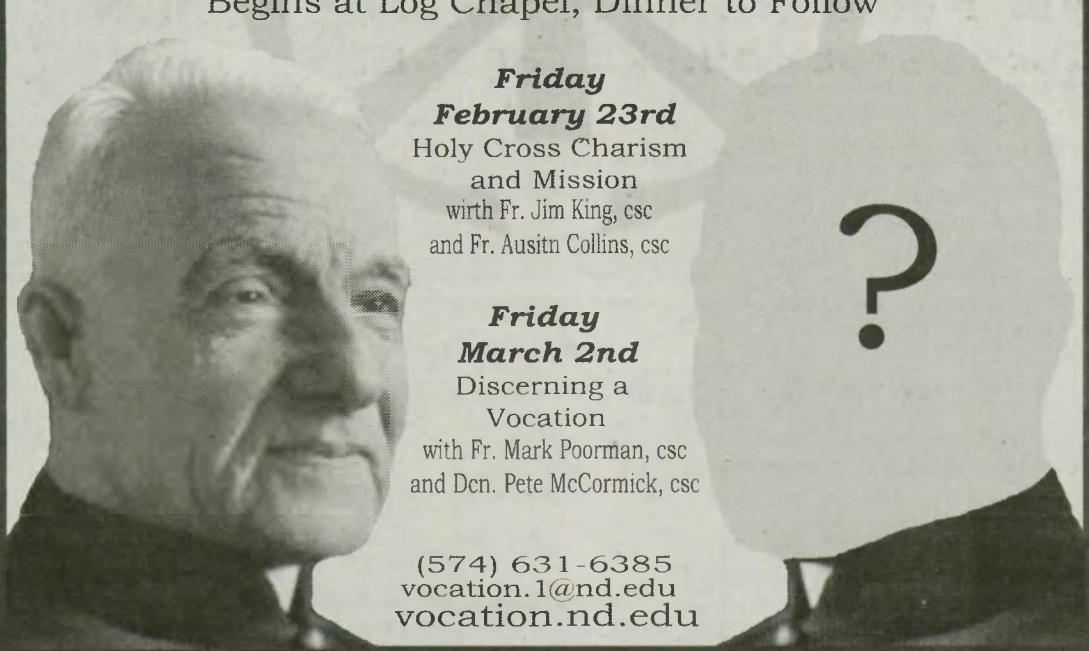
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NCAA BASKETBALL

Illinois guard charged with drunk driving

Police say sophomore Jamar Smith had a .17 BAC when he crashed

Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — University of Illinois basketball player Jamar Smith — charged Tuesday with drunk driving and leaving the scene of an accident — apparently believed the teammate in the passenger seat of his car had died, authorities said.

Smith, a sophomore guard, was driving a 1996 Lexus last Monday night when it struck a tree in heavy snow. He then drove the car a little more than a mile to the apartment complex where he lived.

Bystanders called 911 after seeing the badly damaged car in the parking lot, with Smith's passenger, teammate Brian Carlwell, still inside, Champaign County State's Attorney Julia Rietz said. A number of other team members were gathered at the apartment, Rietz said.

"It appears that Smith was distraught, as he believed Carlwell had died in the crash,"

Rietz said in a written statement.

Smith's blood-alcohol level was .176 after the crash, more than twice the legal limit of .08, Rietz said.

Rietz said university police investigating the accident found that Smith and Carlwell had been drinking tequila and beer with others at an apartment in his complex, and left just after 11 p.m.

Smith lost control of the Lexus — registered to his grandparents — which hit the tree on the passenger side, authorities said.

Carlwell, 19, suffered a severe concussion and spent four days at Carle Foundation Hospital Urbana before being released last Friday.

He was well enough to sit on the bench at Sunday's game against Northwestern at Assembly Hall, and could play in the postseason, coach Bruce Weber has said.

Smith, a sophomore guard, was taken to the same hospital by unidentified coaches and university police, Rietz said. He was treated for a minor concussion and released early the next morning.

Witnesses reported seeing the

Lexus pull into the apartment parking lot, then saw a tall man wearing University of Illinois sweat pants leave the car and enter the apartment building, leaving an unconscious Carlwell in the car, Rietz said. Shortly afterward, the tall man returned with a second man, then left and went back in the building, she said.

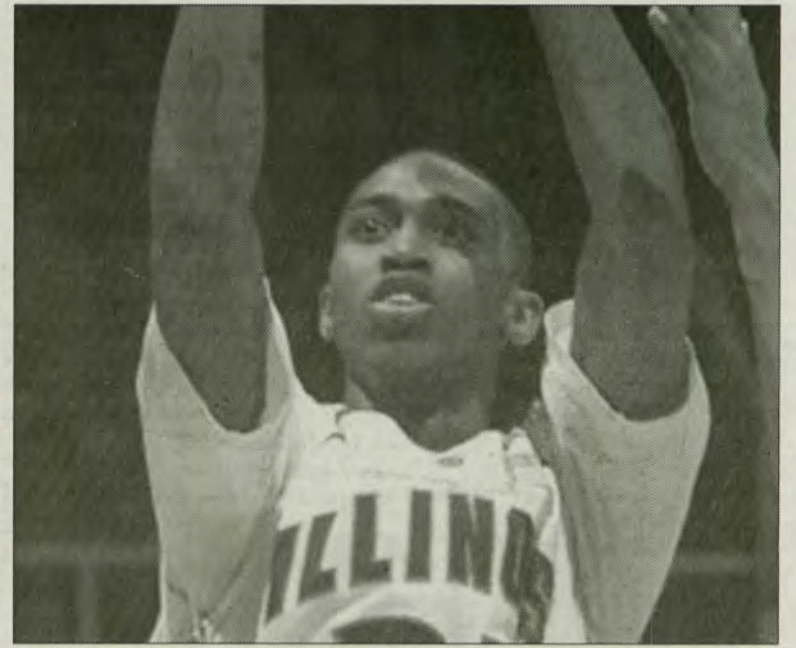
Smith was not in custody Tuesday, Rietz said. She said he is expected to appear in court at a date to be set.

Smith's attorney, Mark Lipton, was in court Tuesday and not available for comment, his office said.

Weber criticized his player in a written statement but said he is still part of the school's basketball program.

"This was a case of extremely poor judgment by Jamar," Weber said. "He remains a part of our family and needs us now more than ever."

Aggravated driving under the influence is a Class 4 felony that carries a sentence of up to 12 years in prison. Leaving the scene is a Class 3 felony and carries a sentence of up to five years in prison, Rietz said. Someone convicted of either



AP
Illinois guard Jamar Smith shoots during the Illini's 59-49 win over Minnesota Feb. 3. Smith was charged with a DUI Tuesday.

charge, though, could be placed on probation, she added.

Smith's only previous traffic infraction was a 2004 citation for failure to stop or signal a turn, according to the Illinois Secretary of State's office.

Weber said last week that

Smith would sit out the rest of the season, calling it a mutual agreement that would allow Smith to "focus all of his attention on the physical, emotional, academic and other related issues he will face in the coming weeks."

MLB

Bonds challenges U.S. grand jury

Slugger also hits five home runs in first batting practice

Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Barry Bonds had a pointed message for the grand jury: Go ahead, investigate me.

After arriving at spring training Tuesday, more fit than in recent years following a productive winter of conditioning, the slugger insisted he's unfazed by all his off-the-field issues and is ready to resume his pursuit of the home run record.

"Let them investigate. Let them, they've been doing it this long," Bonds said Tuesday after his first workout this year with the San Francisco Giants. "It doesn't weigh on me at all — at all. It's just you guys talking. It's just media conversation."

When Bonds showed up, he waved twice to the swarm of people waiting to see him make his entrance, then quickly headed into Scottsdale Stadium to get to work.

Noticeably absent were his two personal trainers, Greg Oliver and Harvey Shields, who no longer can be with the slugger at the ballpark. Bonds, who spent the weekend in Las Vegas for the NBA All-Star game, was flanked by his two publicists and a Major League Baseball security guard assigned to him.

He joked with new teammate Barry Zito in their corner space of the clubhouse, then the 42-year-old Bonds made his way through the room and greeted outfielder Jason Ellison, infielder Rich Aurilia and pitcher Matt Morris. Clubhouse staff soon came his way with new undershorts and hats.

Bonds took part in a team meeting before walking to the

field for the Giants' first full-squad workout — and he took a big bow for the horde of cameras. He re-emerged later in the morning to start his routine and waved his batting helmet to fans in the bleachers, carrying two bats in his right hand.

He shagged fly balls and hit five home runs in batting practice, including a shot to the berm in right-center on a fast-ball from No. 2 starter Matt Cain. That was enough to impress new skipper Bruce Bochy, who saw Bonds do his share of damage against his old team, the Padres. Bonds has hit more homers against San Diego than any other team.

"He's an incredible talent," Bochy said. "He showed it today on the first day."

Bonds was mostly business — with a little fun mixed in — once he got on the field.

He still could be indicted if a federal grand jury determines that he perjured himself when testifying in 2003 in the BALCO steroid distribution case that he hadn't knowingly taken performance-enhancing drugs. Bonds, who has long denied ever using steroids, said his level of concern about the investigation is "none."

Last month, the New York Daily News reported that Bonds failed an amphetamines test last season and then attributed it to a substance he took from teammate Mark Sweeney's locker. Bonds publicly apologized to Sweeney at the time, then stretched alongside him and Ray Durham on the first day of workouts.

"I did not blame Mark Sweeney," Bonds said Tuesday, noting he apologized only "because you guys just started talking about it and I just thought it was unfair for him to be accused of something that wasn't true."

Asked if he had failed an

amphetamines test, Bonds declined to comment. Also, he denied reports that he wasn't always available to pinch-hit last season.

"That's not true at all," said Bonds, who has language about behavior in his new contract. "I'm always available. I'm in uniform, so I'm always available."

As far as Bonds is concerned, all that is over with.

"I don't need to say anything to anybody," he said.

Bonds quickly ended his 12-minute interview in the dugout when the questions turned from baseball to his problems away from the field.

He begins his 22nd major league season, and 15th with San Francisco, needing only 22 home runs to break Hank Aaron's career record of 755. Bonds isn't about to make predictions, but said he won't stop once he catches Hammerin' Hank.

"I said I'm playing till I'm 100 — you guys get used to me," Bonds said.

Bonds and Zito had a little fun, coming out of the clubhouse at one point in matching black T-shirts with this orange writing on the back: "DON'T ASK ME ... ASK BARRY," each with an arrow that pointed at the other Barry. Zito, who threw to Bonds this winter at UCLA, stood on the left with his arrow aimed at Bonds.

"Hey, ya'll don't want to miss this," Bonds said to get everyone's attention.

New center fielder and leadoff man Dave Roberts knelt next to Bonds' folding chair to chat with the resting slugger between rounds of BP.

"It's going to be interesting to see how this shakes out," Roberts said about the hype. "We'd be naive not to think he's going to be a big part of this team."

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Weis

continued from page 24

ening internal bleeding and infection after his surgery. The trial, which featured testimony from Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, was entering its second week.

Spurlock consulted with both sets of lawyers and spoke individually to jurors after the

juror fell ill. One said he did not know if he could put the incident out of his mind in his deliberations.

"The fact that the doctors helped this juror and that the fact the other jurors saw them do that is something that would have to be in their minds," Mone said outside the courtroom.

But William Dailey Jr., the lawyer for the doctors, said in court he wanted the trial to go

on, saying a mistrial "would be terribly unfair to these doctors."

"They responded the way they were trained to do," he said. "They simply stood up and tried to help."

Dailey said he thought the case was going well.

"We were confident and were very optimistic there was going to be a good result and that there would be no negligence found," he said.

Mone said Weis wanted to move forward with the case, which could take months to reschedule.

"Mr. Weis is committed for this case to be tried to a conclusion," the lawyer said.



Photo courtesy livinglightnews.org

David Hanson, the father of Irish sophomore center Christian Hanson, starred as Jack Hanson in the 1977 film "Slap Shot."

Hanson

continued from page 24

old] on a road trip with one of my amateur teams when one of the dads popped it in," Hanson said. "I was flabbergasted to see my dad like that — he is normally such a quiet guy around the house."

Hanson's father, Dave, is most famous for playing the feisty and outspoken Jack Hanson in the film. Jack and his two misfit brothers — Steve and Jeff — come to the struggling Charleston Chiefs and turn the team around using their legendary unorthodox methods.

The character is based on the elder Hanson's professional career, which included time with the Detroit Red Wings, Minnesota North Stars and the WHA's Minnesota Fighting Saints. During his 10 years in the pros, Dave Hanson spent nearly as much time in the penalty box as on the ice. He collected more than 2,000 penalty minutes in his career.

"He actually had bonuses in his contract where if he led the team with penalty minutes he would get more money," Christian Hanson said.

The younger Hanson, who plays more of a balanced role for the Irish, has only racked up 18 penalty minutes so far this season. Although he may not exactly be a chip off the old block, Hanson did learn some irreplaceable lessons from his childhood spent in hockey locker rooms.

"I think I picked up the love of the game from always being around it," Hanson said.

After his fighting days were over, Dave Hanson became the general manager of the AHL's Albany River Rats, a position he held throughout Christian's upbringing.

The 6-foot-4 sophomore was raised on stories of his dad's career — like the time

he fought Bobby Hull, arguably the greatest left winger to ever lace up skates. While exchanging blows, the older Hanson got a hold of Hull's helmet and tore it off — taking his toupee with it.

"He threw it in the stands and the next year he got death threats from the fans in Winnipeg," Christian Hanson said.

Although he respects his father's style of play, Christian considers himself a two-way player — responsible for shutting down opponents and burying a few goals of his own. The sophomore had one goal and two assists in his rookie campaign and netted five more in the first half of this season.

He was sidelined for more than a month this season by mononucleosis. He missed eight games with the infection and returned to the Irish lineup last weekend for the CCHA-clinching win over Alaska. Prior to the trip to Fairbanks, the last game the younger Hanson skated in was Notre Dame's 4-1 win over Lake Superior State Jan. 13.

"It felt great to finally be back in the lineup," he said. "To be able to help the team out again felt great."

Hanson and his linemates wasted no time getting back in the swing of things. The trio put one past Nanook goaltender Wylie Rogers on their very first shift. The goal was eventually disallowed, but Hanson had his legs back under him.

His return was a welcome sight for head coach Jeff Jackson and the rest of the Notre Dame team. Just as the fictional Hanson brothers' arrival lifted the Chiefs to the top of their sport, the Irish hope the return of their own Hanson will help them keep their nine-game unbeaten streak alive against Ferris State in the last two games of the season this weekend.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

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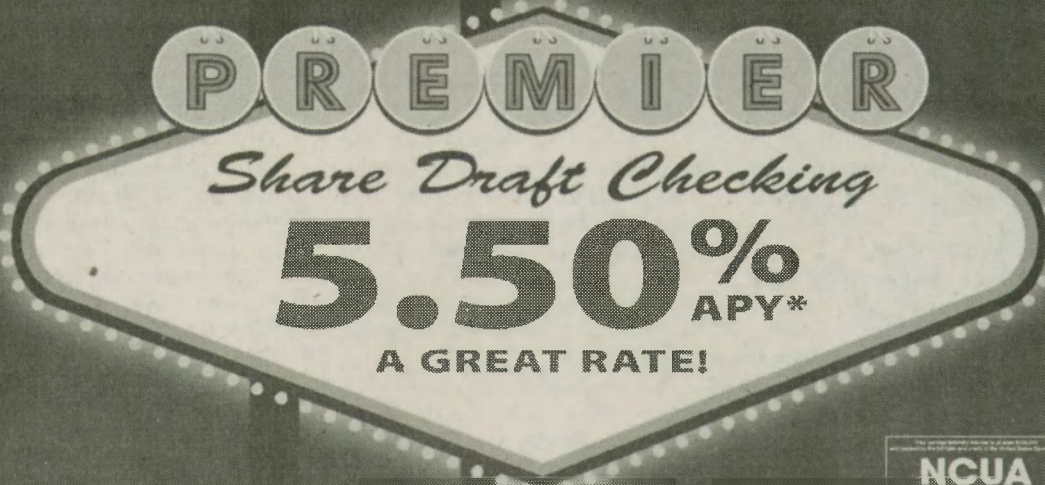
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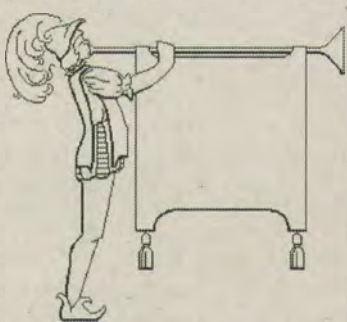
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Announcing the Year 2007 Annual Awards of the Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship

Thanks to a generous gift from the Albert Ravarino family, the Italian Studies Program is pleased to announce the year 2007 annual competition for travel in support of summer research and foreign study in Italy. Grants will be made in amounts not to exceed \$3,000, and will not normally cover all expenses. Notre Dame graduate and undergraduate students who are planning to pursue research or a formal program of summer study in Italy are invited to apply. Students must have completed at least one year of Italian language. The course work will normally be in Italian; will involve the study of Italian language, literature, and culture; and must be applicable to a student's degree program at the University of Notre Dame.

Recommended programs for foreign study include, but are not limited to: Loyola University in Rome, Boston University in Padua, UCLA in Pisa, Miami University in Urbino, Columbia University in Scandiano. Interested students are encouraged to consult the materials on Italian foreign study in the Department of Romance Languages, 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall.

Students are invited to submit a letter which should include:

- 1) an explanation of how the proposed research or foreign study will enhance their degree program at Notre Dame;
- 2) a personal statement indicating their background, interests, and long-term goals;
- 3) a description of the research project or the program they intend to follow;
- 4) a budget indicating the costs involved;
- 5) two letters of recommendation
- 6) a transcript showing all grades and courses completed
- 7) a list of other sources of funding (being sought or confirmed) for the same project (i.e. Office of International Studies, Nanovic Institute, etc.)

Application Deadline: Friday, February 23, 2007
Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship
Program in Italian Studies
343 O'Shaughnessy Hall
University of Notre Dame



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish senior guard Colin Falls looks for space in Notre Dame's 78-54 win over DePaul Tuesday at the Joyce Center.

Revenge

continued from page 24

"We were pissed," said Falls, who scored 19 points Tuesday. "I don't know how else to say it. That was our motivation."

The win was Notre Dame's school-record 17th straight at home this season. A win against Marquette Saturday at the Joyce Center would close out an undefeated home campaign for the Irish.

"This group deserves that," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "Hopefully we can get one more on Saturday."

DePaul shot just 34 percent for the game, including 2-for-19 from behind the three-point arc.

"We haven't played that good on defense in a while," Kurz said.

Notre Dame, on the other hand, shot 49 percent from the field and hit half of its 18 three-pointers.

The Irish jumped out to an early 8-1 lead, keyed by five points from Falls. The Blue Demons' first field goal came on a runner by Sammy Mejia with 16:40 left in the first half.

DePaul (16-12, 7-7) climbed back into the game, getting to within two at 8-6, but a 10-2 Irish run — including six points from senior guard Russell Carter — stretched Notre Dame's lead to 18-8 with 13:09 left in the game.

The Irish continued to build their lead, holding the Blue Demons scoreless for a six-minute period and going up 27-12 with six minutes remaining in

the half.

Notre Dame went on a four-minute scoreless streak of its own, but DePaul could only cut the lead by two points during the stretch.

"We defended well," Falls said. "Our defense won us this ball game."

A four-point play by Falls broke the funk and gave the Irish a 40-22 lead at the half.

After the half, DePaul switched to a full court press and cut the lead to 12 at 45-33, but an 11-2 Notre Dame run keyed by six points from freshman point guard Tory Jackson put the Irish up by 21 with 11 minutes to play. From there, Notre Dame cruised to an easy victory.

Jackson scored 13 points — 11 of them in the second half — and added six assists. He also led the team in rebounds with nine.

"He attacked and drove and got everybody confident again," Brey said.

Tuesday's victory moved the Irish into a tie with Marquette for fourth place in the conference. The top four teams get a bye in the Big East tournament.

The Irish and Marquette Golden Eagles got some help from Providence, which knocked off West Virginia 64-61 Tuesday night. The Mountaineers had been tied with Notre Dame and Marquette for fourth place.

Syracuse is currently a half game back at 8-5 in the Big East and plays the Friars Saturday.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

Jackson

continued from page 24

The Blue Demons, on a 7-0 run, cut Notre Dame's lead to 45-33 with 15:04 remaining and applied full court pressure looking for a steal.

The pressure did not faze Jackson. He took the inbound pass, dribbled through the defense and laid in two of his 13 points. He then scored on Notre Dame's next two possessions and grabbed a rebound on defense that resulted in a Zach Hillesland jump shot to bump the Irish lead to 18.

"I think that stretch where he scored six points in a row sealed the game," Irish guard Colin Falls said. "They were fighting back and he made plays. That's a freshman growing up."

Jackson finished with six assists and — despite his 5-foot-10 frame — a team-high nine rebounds.

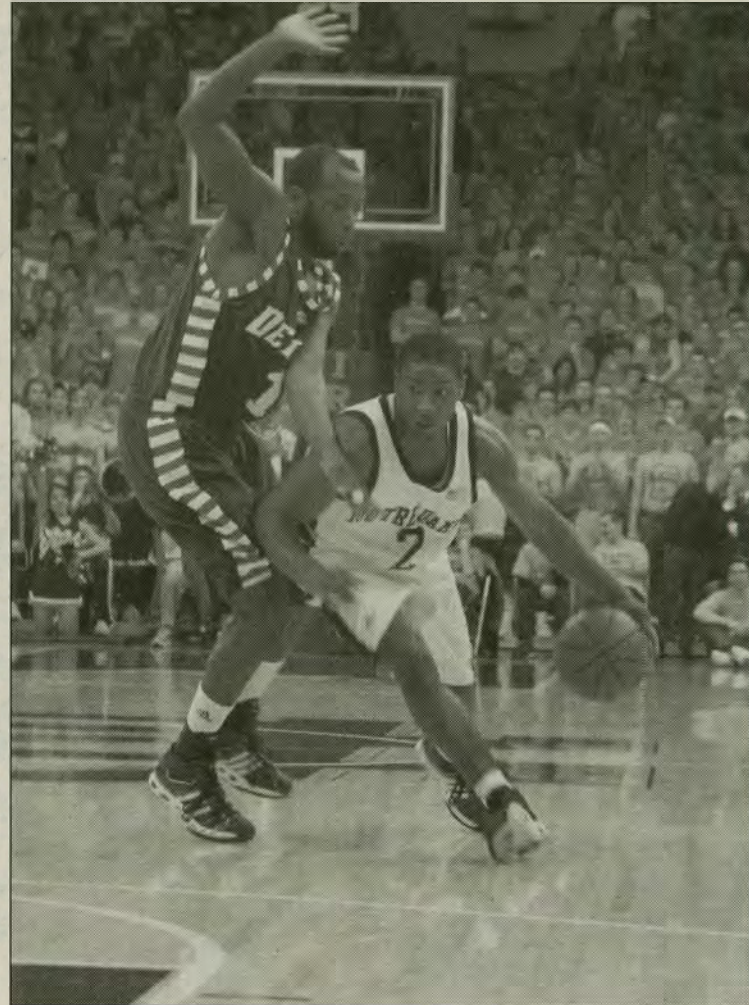
But if Jackson looked more motivated than usual on the floor, there was good reason. On the opposing bench sat Will Walker, whom Michigan chose to recruit instead of Jackson. Even though Walker chose DePaul over the Wolverines, Jackson carried the memory of someone saying he was not good enough into Tuesday night.

"We were recruited by Michigan and Michigan ditched me for him but he ditched Michigan for DePaul," Jackson said after the game. "I took it to offense, but you know, things happen. Like all summer, I played

against Will Walker during the summer circuit and a lot of people thought he was better than me.

"I came in here with an attitude. ... Once he got in I just felt that I knew I was a lot bigger than him so I got aggressive and took it to the rack a lot."

Jackson's progression this season shows he can play with the best in the Big East,



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish point guard Tory Jackson dribbles around DePaul's Jabari Currie in Notre Dame's 78-54 win Tuesday at the Joyce Center.

without a doubt.

His biggest impact has come on the defensive side of the ball.

When guard Kyle McAlarney was starting earlier in the year, Jackson came off the bench to provide a defensive spark. But after McAlarney's suspension, Jackson had to sharpen

his game on the other side of the ball and become the general of the offense.

His confidence in the face of defensive pressure is unwavering, and throughout the course of the season, he has grown more self-assured with his ability to put the ball in the basket.

Sure, he's missed layups and made a couple of turnovers, and he still needs

to work on his jumper, but these are growing pains. The confidence is there, and Tuesday night was a big step in refining that talent.

Even with Jackson's offensive responsibilities, Irish coach Mike Brey asked the point guard to shut down some of the best offensive players in the conference. Jackson answered the call and was especially effective against Villanova guard Scottie Reynolds in Notre Dame's 66-63 win Jan. 27, holding him to just 5-for-14 from the field.

With his talent for lockdown defense and ever-improving offense, Jackson will be one of the marquee players in the Big East in a few years.

Michigan should be kicking itself right now.

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

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu.

Hoyas

continued from page 24

from the inside."

Notre Dame will attempt to offset Georgetown's post play with center Melissa D'Amico, who averaged 13 points in her last two games after scoring only two total points in the three previous games.

"I'm really pleased with Mel. I didn't start her because of the small lineup at Villanova, and she responded really well," McGraw said.

D'Amico came off the bench and scored 15 points, then went on to score 11 against Providence. McGraw also noted that D'Amico's opportunities were limited.

"I think the thing about Mel is we're throwing her the ball a little bit more, and that's

been our problem all year," she said. "We just haven't looked to the post enough and used our post game as much as we could have."

Freshmen Erica Williamson will be another roadblock slowing the Hoyas' post play. She recorded 10 points, seven rebounds, a block and a steal against Providence. Georgetown's last win came in the final seconds against Villanova on Feb. 3.

The Hoyas are last in the Big East in defensive rebounding, with 23.5 per game, and are

second to last in points scored per game, at 58.3 per game. Notre Dame, by contrast, leads the Big East in free throw percentage, at 77 percent, and in steals, with 11.2 per game. They are second in the league with a +4.15 turnovers per game margin.

Notre Dame sits by itself in fourth place in the Big East, in position for a bye in the Big East tournament. McGraw sees positives in both getting the bye and playing a first-round game.

"I think you want to, just for the sake of the NCAA Tournament," she said. "You're letting people know that you're one of the top four teams in the league. But you have a chance to maybe get an extra win if you don't get the bye."

Last January Notre Dame edged past Georgetown 54-52 when Hoya senior guard Kate Carlin's three-point shot fell short.

"They gave us a lot of problems last year. We had a very difficult game with them out there," McGraw said. "We had a little bit of a lead and they had a shot to win it at the end of the game. It's a team that we are very focused on right now."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

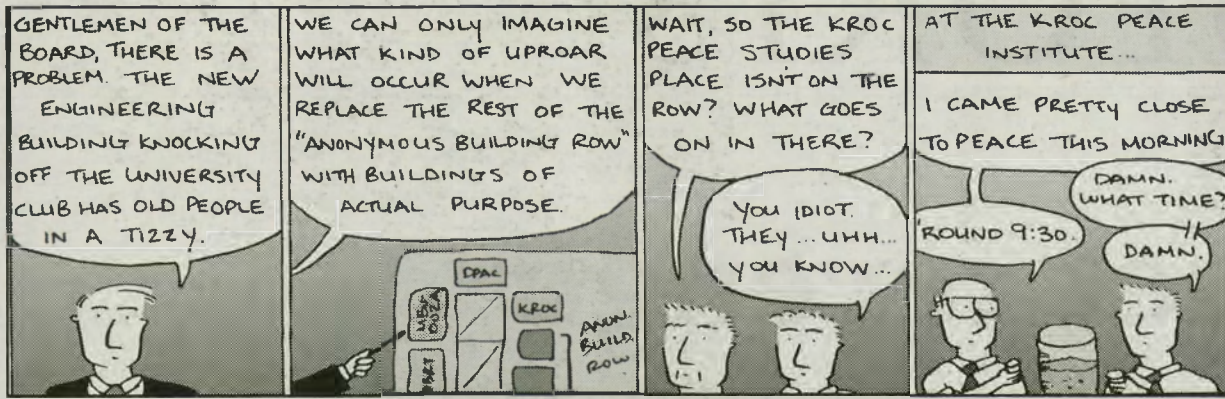


TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish guard Breona Gray shoots a three-pointer in Notre Dame's 64-55 win over Louisville Feb. 7 at the Joyce Center.

CROISSANTWORLD

ADAM FAIRHOLM



BLACK DOG

MICHAEL MIKUSKA



KALEIDOSCOPE McDANIELS

LIAM MORAN

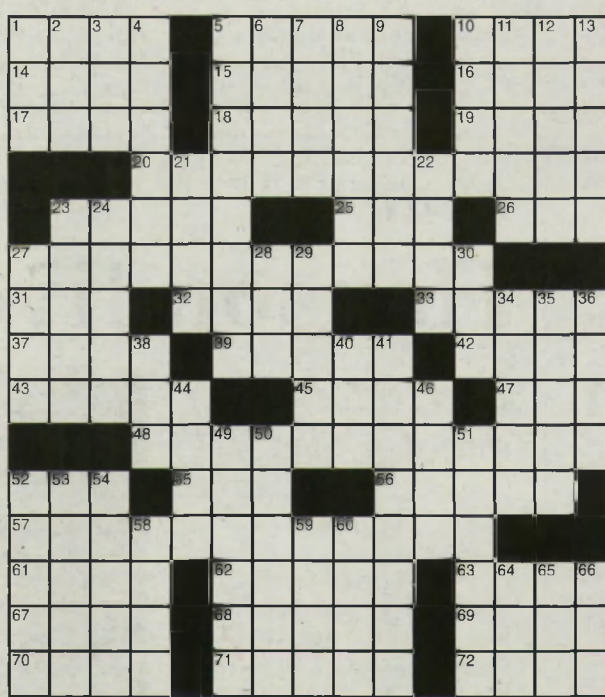
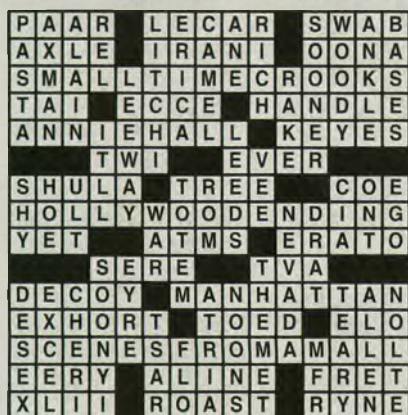
QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOU GIVING UP FOR LENT? (CONTINUED) with portraits and answers for Britney Spears, administrator, Fr. Brian McRichard, and Carrol Burke.

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS: 1 Plotting, 5 Some hospital procedures, 10 1993 standoff site, 14 Gung-ho feeling, 15 Pull on, 16 Skater Michelle, 17 Product with earbuds, 18 Put down, 19 Hindu royal, 20 Speaker of the quip starting at 27-Across, 23 Choreographer Twyla, 25 Suffix with meth-, 26 Tee follower?, 27 Quip, part 1, 31 Parisian pal, 32 Mount, 33 Beer blast garb, maybe, 37 Quip, part 2, 39 "The Fog of War" director, 42 Quip, part 3, 43 Grain bane, 45 Speaking freely, 47 Versatile wheels, for short, 48 Quip, part 4, 52 Metric wts., 55 Writer Santha Rama, 56 Hustler's game, 57 End of the quip spread, 61 Common shroud locale, 62 Shroud locale, 63 It has a warp, 67 Some palmtops, for short, 68 Circular seal, 69 Reason for an all-nighter, 70 Like a flea-market Gucci, probably, 71 Barcelona babes, 72 Largest lake in Australia.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



- DOWN: 1 AK-47 relative, 2 Zip, 3 "Way," literally, 4 Behind the times, 5 Run wild, 6 Die, for example, 7 Food thickener, 8 West Indies capital, 9 Bud holders?, 10 Sitcom station, 11 Inundated, 12 Vacationer's rental, 13 Cat-tails, 21 Sun, moon, etc., 22 Hook up, 23 Surgeon's target, 24 When doubled, a former National Zoo panda, 27 Green stone, 28 Compact, e.g., 29 Home of the Rubber Bowl, 30 Summer Games org., 34 Ill-fed, 35 "The Sopranos" restaurateur, 36 Appear to be, 38 Director Browning, 40 Not req., 41 Symbols of crowd psychology, 44 Famous Amos, 46 Noble element, 49 Home of Lafayette College, 50 Put in stitches, 51 "Sense and Sensibility" director, 52 Random House imprint, 53 Ingrid Bergman's last film "A Woman Called", 54 The turf in "surf and turf", 58 Get checkmated, 59 One of the Waltons, 60 A round of golf, informally, 64 Acne treatment brand, 65 Charon's tool, 66 Tussaud's title: Abbr.

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$34.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

Four jumble puzzles: UNSEE, KALNF, TIFELL, RAYPER. Each puzzle consists of a word with one letter circled and a grid of empty squares below it.

Answer here:



Yesterday's Jumbles: FEINT MINCE GAMBOL LARYNX Answer: Why Morn agreed to appear in the movie crowd scene - FOR "EXTRA" MONEY

FEBRUARY 21, 2007

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Brian Littrell, 31; Andrew Shue, 31; Cindy Crawford, 40; French Stewart, 42

Happy Birthday: Do what you feel passionate about. A change may be frightening but it can be the way you turn things around in your life. Not taking action will let what comes back to haunt you in the end. A promise made to you in the past will now be worth collecting. Your numbers are 5, 19, 24, 27, 33, 4

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Your financial future should be your concern. Check your bankbook and make sure that everything is in order. Start a new savings plan or put your cash into a high reward investment.***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Be attentive and affectionate. If you are neglectful or too busy to notice what the people in your life are up to, it will cause a chain reaction of personal problems. A lack of patience will be your downfall.**

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can make some worthwhile career moves if you position yourself to network or set up interviews today. The changes taking place will be positive. Be professional and add a little extra detail to everything you do and your income should improve.***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Work hard to develop a talent you enjoy and you can make extra cash. Travel or attending a seminar that interests you will enhance your own awareness and introduce you to people heading in the same direction. New relationships are likely.*****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You will have to be on your toes today. One mistake you may be doing unnecessary backtracking. Don't let anyone talk you into doing something that doesn't suit you. Follow your own path even if it does mean facing opposition.***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Spend time with people who will encourage you to follow through with your plans. Someone you meet will make a difference to the choices you make. Being receptive will lead to a partnership. Be open-minded.**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't hesitate to make a financial or career move. Money matters will improve if you are happy with what you are doing. End the cycle that has been causing you grief. Only you can stop the merry-go-round.**

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will feel pressured to change your direction and now is a perfect time to do so. The outcome of the alteration you make is overdue. Take a moment to enjoy spending time with people who can offer you a new slant on life.***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): It's time for a complete overhaul both at home and at work. Make your surroundings more comfortable and you will become more productive. You are likely to be called upon to take care of an older friend or a relative's problems.***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Partnerships will turn out to be a greater benefit than you imagined. Listen to what others have to say -- make your conclusions and take action. You are likely to have a captive audience because of your insightful ways.*****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Make your point and get on with things. Someone may lead you in the wrong direction or misinterpret what you are trying to convey; so be precise. Concentrate on what you can do alone. A clear mindset will lead to victory.***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll be receptive to new ideas so take time to talk to people who are in the know. Wasted opportunities will result in frustration and depression. Follow your heart when it comes to decisions that must be made.****

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, creative and impetuous. You are productive but need to learn your own limits. You think in big terms and are open and receptive to new methods and concepts.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultation

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Sweet revenge

Five score in double figures as Irish avenge Feb. 8 loss to DePaul

By CHRIS KHOREY
Associate Sports Editor

All five starters scored in double figures as Notre Dame earned its third win in six days with a 78-54 victory over DePaul Tuesday at the Joyce Center.

"We had so many guys play really well," Irish junior forward Rob Kurz said. "I think it was definitely one of our better efforts."

With the win, Notre Dame (21-6, 9-5 Big East) avenged its 67-66 last-second loss to the Blue Demons Feb. 8, a defeat senior guard Colin Falls called "the worst of [his] career."

see REVENGE/page 22



Irish sophomore forward Zach Hillesland looks to drive in Notre Dame's 78-54 win over DePaul Tuesday. The win was the third straight for the Irish, who remain tied for fourth in the Big East.

Point guard Jackson growing up as team improves around him

If Irish point guard Tory Jackson's performance in Notre Dame's 78-54 victory over DePaul is indicative of the future, then Irish fans



Chris Hine

Sports
Writer

have something to look forward to the next three years.

Just when the Blue Demons were getting back in the game Tuesday, "Action" Jackson took over and ended

DePaul's hopes of a comeback.

see JACKSON/page 22

FOOTBALL

Judge declares mistrial in Weis medical malpractice lawsuit

Associated Press

BOSTON — A judge declared a mistrial Tuesday in Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis' medical malpractice lawsuit after a juror collapsed and several doctors — including the two defendants — rushed to his aid.

The juror, an older man, began moaning as he listened to an expert testifying in

defense of Massachusetts General Hospital surgeons Charles Ferguson and Richard Hodin. Weis claims they botched his care after gastric bypass surgery in June 2002.

The judge immediately ordered the other jurors out of the courtroom, but some saw Ferguson, Hodin and other doctors who were in the courtroom rush to the collapsed juror's aid.

An attorney for Weis said it was with "great reluctance" that he ask for the mistrial in the case that was expected to go to the jury Wednesday.

"I cannot think of an instance there would be more reason than when a juror has this kind of incident," attorney Michael Mone said.

A lawyer for the doctors said a mistrial would be unfair to the surgeons, who had

rearranged their schedules to accommodate Weis, who is in the offseason for football.

Judge Charles Spurlock, however, agreed to grant a mistrial.

"The integrity of the court is more important than schedules," Spurlock said.

The juror collapsed while listening to the testimony of Dr. David Brooks, an expert who was saying the doctors acted

responsibly in their treatment of Weis.

Spectators were ordered out of the courtroom shortly after the man fell ill. He was taken away in an ambulance; his condition and identity were not immediately known.

Weis accuses Ferguson and Hodin of acting negligently by failing to recognize life-threat-

see WEIS/page 21

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Hoyas limp into JACC to face streaking Irish

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Riding a five-game win streak, Notre Dame welcomes struggling Georgetown — which has lost nine of its last 10 games — to the Joyce Center tonight at 7 p.m.

Notre Dame (18-8, 9-4 Big East) is 13-1 this season at home and faces a Georgetown team (12-14, 2-11 Big East) that is 1-6 in conference road games and second to last in the conference overall.

The biggest challenge for the Irish will be the inside play of the Hoyas and junior forward Kieraah Marlow, who leads the team with 16.2 points and 6.8 rebounds per game.

"Our game plan is still kind of undecided about how we're going to attack them," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said in her bi-monthly conference call. "But we certainly know they can shoot the ball from the perimeter as well as score

see HOYAS/page 22

HOCKEY

Hanson lives up to name

Irish center's father starred in 'Slap Shot'

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Any hockey player worth his weight in tin foil remembers the first time he watched George Roy Hill's "Slap Shot." For Irish center Christian Hanson, the moment was a little more significant than most.

"I was about 11 [years

see HANSON/page 21



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

Irish sophomore center Christian Hanson faces off in Notre Dame's 6-1 win over Minnesota State Oct. 12.

**SPORTS
AT A GLANCE**

MLB

Barry Bonds challenges the grand jury to investigate him as he reports to spring training.

page 20

NCAA BASKETBALL

Illinois guard Jamar Smith is charged with drunk driving and leaving the scene of an accident.

page 20

SMC BASKETBALL

**Saint Mary's 66
Alma 54**

The Belles advance to the MIAA semifinals for the first time.

page 19

MLB

Carlos Zambrano and the Cubs agree to a one-year, \$12.4 million contract.

page 19

NBA

**Pistons 84
Bucks 83**

Chauncey Billups scores 19 as Detroit holds off late Milwaukee run.

page 16

NBA

**Bobcats 104
Hornets 100**

Raymond Felton scores 21 points and adds 11 assists in Charlotte win.

page 16