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Bengal Bouts tickets on sale, fights to begin Feb. 15

Annual boxing tournament trying to raise money for Holy Cross missions in Bangladesh amidst bad economy

By LAURA MCCRYSTAL
News Writer

With a Feb. 15 preliminary round on the horizon, tickets went on sale for the 79th annual Bengal Bouts last week.

Bengal Bouts is a boxing event that raises money for the Holy Cross missions in Bangladesh.

This year's Bengal Bouts team has almost 300 members, according to senior president Mark Weber.

The novice boxers began training before fall break and have been practicing since the beginning of spring semester, he said. The practices run for two hours, six days per week and consist of conditioning plus five to 10 spars with other boxers.

"To make it through [the training] is really a rite of

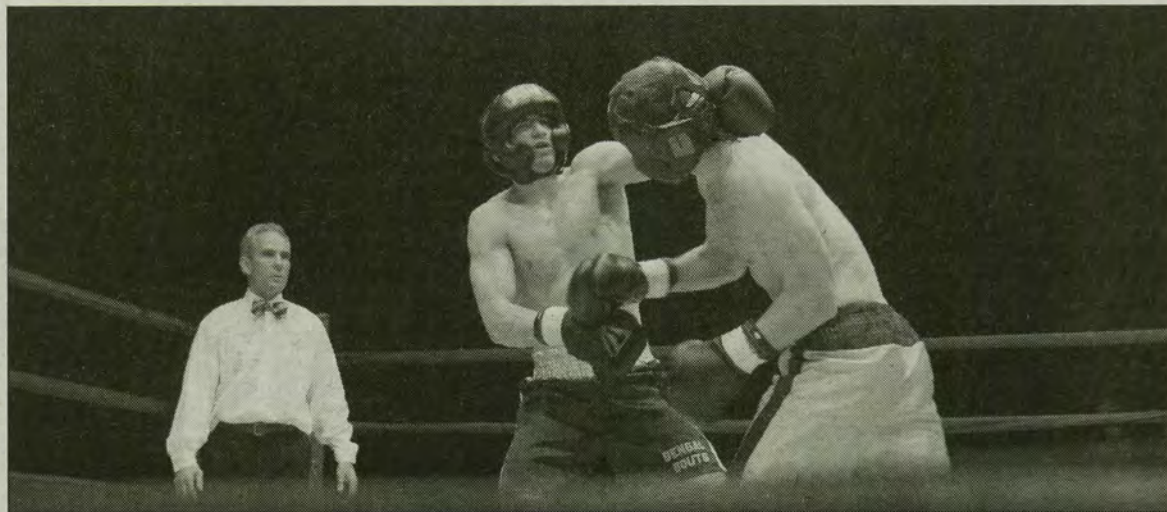
passage," Weber said.

The pairings for the preliminary round will be posted late next week, after the boxers are divided into 12 to 14 different weight classes and matched with their competitors based on their sparring records, he said.

The box office estimated selling 3,300 all-session and final round tickets as of Monday afternoon. The box office sells all-session and individual round tickets, but each boxer also sells all-session tickets, making it difficult to estimate total ticket sales, a representative from the box office said.

Weber said that the boxing club also hopes to sell tickets in the dining halls at the end of the week.

Bengal Bouts raised \$50,000 last year for the Holy Cross missions in Bangladesh, but that



WU YUE/The Observer

Boxers compete in last year's Bengal Bouts tournament. This year's competition will begin Feb. 15. Tickets are now on sale.

fundraising goal has become more difficult to meet for this year's tournament, Weber said.

"The economy's hitting us

pretty hard," he said.

Businesses that have traditionally bought advertisements for the tournament have decided not to do so this

year because of the economic downturn, Weber said.

But Weber said that Bengal

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Parking lot snow causes confusion for students, police

By LIZ HARTER
Saint Mary's Editor

It happens every year at Saint Mary's. Large amounts of lake effect snow continuously dumping on the South Bend area covers parking lots making it almost impossible to see the painted lines designating parking spaces.

When this happens, some students deal with the inability to see where one space ends and another begins by leaving a wide berth between their car and the next. Some squeeze into smaller spaces.

And some park in spaces that won't be there when the

snow melts.

While this happens in most parking lots on campus, it is most noticeable in Regina parking lot, next to Regina Hall. Here, cars stretch the length of the parking lot where, when the ground is not covered with snow, there is a path between two groups of parking spots.

This path, and an area near the side entrance to the parking lot, are often blocked with cars as students try to park closer to their dorms.

"I don't think it's a bad thing that people want to park closer to the dorms when it is very cold outside," senior and Regina resident

Lindsey Appelquist said.

She admitted to parking illegally in the lot for a day, but did not get ticketed, something which she attributes to the cold weather.

"I think that security does not ticket if it is very cold outside, but if it isn't, they are right on it with the ticketing," she said.

However, the lack of organized parking spaces inconveniences some who park or try to park in the lot.

Senior Deanna Molosky checked the lot to see if there was a spot open after returning to campus last week. She pulled into the side entrance of the lot and made the cir-

cuit around the student spots. When she got to the end she noticed that there were a couple of cars parked at the end of the row, where there is normally space for a car to pull through to exit the lot.

"You can tell the parking spots would usually be lined [where they were parked]," she said. "There was a space between the snow bank and the parked car, but not enough for my car to go through. I would have hit my car and theirs."

There was no room to turn her car around so Molosky was forced to back her car down the row and around the corner just to leave the park-

ing lot.

"It's a convenience to park in Regina, but there are all those other people on campus who walk in the cold, [the people parked illegally] should do the same," she said. "It's a safety hazard and it makes the grounds [crew] work that much harder plowing around the cars. It's a hassle and it's unsafe."

Dave Garipey, director of the Department of Safety and Security at Saint Mary's, said security routinely checks the parking lots and write citations, but it is harder to do so in the winter months.

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CLC discusses off-campus task force

Council also debates possible implementation of Good Samaritan policy

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

The Campus Life Council (CLC) continued discussing the possibility of creating a new task force that would focus on the issues of off-campus students and the possible implementation of the Good Samaritan policy at its meeting Monday.

Student body president Bob Reish said Fr. Mark Poorman, Vice President of Student Affairs, formed a committee to discuss Notre Dame's sexual assault policy, so CLC no longer needs to focus on it.

"That still leaves room for the

off-campus issue and possibility looking through the Good Samaritan policy," Reish said.

A Good Samaritan policy would protect students who have been drinking from getting in trouble if they try to get help for an intoxicated friend who is hurt or sick.

Another issue the CLC discussed was the disconnect between the University and off-campus students, and the lack of clarity on what kind of responsibility off-campus students and the University have towards each other.

"Something that we noticed is that once students make the choice to move off campus, the University feels that that is your

decision ... and you can be as involved or uninvolved as you want to be," said Meg MacCaughy, Student Union Board manager. "There is a disconnect that would be really important to fix so that the university doesn't feel that once you leave, that's it."

Fr. Pete McCormick, rector of Keough Hall, said he doesn't intend on ignoring or leaving out off-campus students, but that much of dorm life does not apply to them anymore.

"I'm respecting their autonomy once they leave the dorm," he said. "It's not out of a sense of spite."

see CLC/page 3

Saint Mary's to host weekend conference

By SARAH MAYER
News Writer

Saint Mary's students may notice an influx of guests on campus this weekend as the College hosts 115 students from other colleges and universities for the Indiana Residence Hall Organization Conference this weekend, senior Katie McInerney said at Monday's Board of Governance (BOG) meeting.

McInerney, a resident advisor in McCandless Hall, presented a co-sponsorship asking BOG to help supplement costs of the conference.

"Based on the economy and other situations, we are having issues," she said. "The problem is, at other schools, college students come and sleep on the floor. Since we are an all women's college they would not let us have boys and girls together on the floor and they told us we had to house them in a hotel."

While the hotel fees were incorporated into the price the delegates are paying to come, the College is trying to keep the costs as low as possible so every student can attend, she said.

see BOG/page 3

INSIDE COLUMN

Lamenting a laptop

Laptops. Fun, fantastic, internet producing machines that make our lives easier. We can watch Mamma Mia on DVD, listen to that great new song by Miley Cyrus and even get a paper done (after receiving that absolutely necessary extension). Sadly these fabulous activities have disappeared from my daily life because my brilliant servant, my 12" PowerBook G4, finally gave up on me after four years of faithful service.

Szymon Ryzner

It was spontaneous albeit somewhat expected. My little silver friend had fallen spectacularly a few months back and had a few dents on his metallic exterior. Last week though, the screen became gray, filled with horizontal lines of various colors, and it kindly requested that I shut it down, and send it off on a burning pyre.

Instead of having my computer at my side to service my every curiosity I was thrown into a dark mysterious abyss filled with no answers to any questions: Did Katie finally friend me on facebook? Who was that one guy in that one movie, you know with the hair? What is the average life expectancy of a tortoise? The facts that I would look up and immediately forget were gone from my life, with no substitute for "the google." I was once again unsatisfied in my search for trivial knowledge.

I don't mind that I lost all of my photographs, my music, and everything that I had written in my undergraduate years of college. The lack of backing up my creations was my fault and the data will be recoverable at some point in the near future. For my expansive 500 gigabyte external hard drive this is no doubt an existential crisis. I am simply saddened by the loss of my computer, nay, my companion.

I lost more than just time and productivity, I lost an inanimate object that had been there for me for years. We spent a semester abroad, traveling to various countries. It was there for me when people said that PCs were better than Macs. It was also a great space heater when my off-campus house was completely devoid of heat.

Of course, it had no idea that anything was going on, it was just a series of circuits, but in that respect aren't we all? Perhaps an outrageous original price or a frequent recharging are required, but you'll never hear your monitor complain. Only in their untimely death are electronics despised, so why not celebrate their service?

I recommend that everyone take the time to thank the cell phones, televisions, and computers that provide valuable services year after year without asking for anything in return.

Actually I think I'll just replace my computer and not make a big deal out of it. Darn thing cost me a fortune.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Szymon Ryzner at sryzner@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE SUPER BOWL COMMERCIAL?



Claire Brosnihan
sophomore
PE

"I watched the 'Puppy Bowl' during commercial breaks. Seriously."



Gary Nijak
senior
Knott

"The one where they hit the koala. Because hitting small animals is awesome."



Meghan Kibbe
freshman
LeMans

"The Doritos one, because that's what I do with my snowglobes too."



Sean O'Boyle
sophomore
Keough

"The E-Trade talking baby commercial, because talking babies are crazy."



Shannon Coyle
sophomore
Lewis

"The Polamalu commercial, because I love his hair."



Associate professor of Communication Design at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston displayed this slide during a lecture at the Snite Museum of Art Tuesday.

OFFBEAT

Man in wheelchair allegedly snatches purse

COLUMBUS, Ga. — Columbus police arrested a man in a wheelchair after he allegedly stole a woman's purse early Saturday and then spit in an officer's face. Police said a 51-year-old man approached a 49-year-old woman who was reclining on a couch in the lobby of their apartment building with her brown purse beside her. Police said the man took the purse and tried to get away but the woman yelled at him to return the purse and it was recovered. The man got into an elevator and went to his room but was arrested for robbery a short time later.

Two officers took the man to a medical center for treatment. Police said the man then insulted the weight of one officer and then cursed and spit in his face. The man was charged with obstruction of an officer and was released from the Muscogee County Jail later that day.

Stabbing officers a family affair

SEVERN, Md. — Anne Arundel County Police said a man and his parents assaulted and tried to stab officers when they responded to a report of the family arguing.

Police said a 20-year-old son and his parents were arguing in a car around 11 a.m. Sunday.

When officers approached the car, police said the son assaulted the officers. After police arrested him and two more officers arrived, police said the father pulled out a butcher knife and tried to stab an officer.

Police drew their weapons and the father laid the knife down. But police said the mother tried to grab the knife before assaulting the fourth officer.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

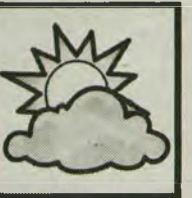
A debate entitled "Separation of Church and State" will be held today in room C-103 of the Hesburgh Center at 4 p.m. Mark Lilla, Professor of Humanities (Columbia) and author of The Stillborn God: Religion, Politics, and the Modern West, and Daniel Philpott, Associate Professor of Political Science (Notre Dame) will debate important issues of religion, politics and their intersection.

The Saint Mary's justice education program is sponsoring a lecture series offering a variety of perspectives on human rights. The first lecture in the series will be a panel discussion to be held on today at 7 p.m. in Stapleton Lounge in LeMans Hall. Four human rights activists will share their experiences working on behalf of those in need around the world.

Keenan Hall's annual comedy show "The Keenan Revue" will take place Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7p.m. in the O'Laughlin Auditorium at Saint Mary's College.

L.A. Theatre Works presents "The Great Tennessee Monkey Trial" Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Decio Mainstage Theatre of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The play is based on original transcripts of the famous 1925 Tennessee v. John Scopes "Monkey Trial," which challenged the newly passed Tennessee legislature's "Butler Act" banning the teaching of evolution in the state's public schools. Purchase tickets online, visit or call the Ticket Office at 574-631-2800.

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

LOCAL WEATHER	TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
						
	HIGH 21	HIGH 11	HIGH 18	HIGH 27	HIGH 34	HIGH 42
	LOW 8	LOW 0	LOW 72	LOW 21	LOW 31	LOW 31

Boxing

continued from page 1

Bouts is making an effort to go beyond simply raising money for the Holy Cross missions. This past summer, he and four other boxers traveled to Bangladesh to visit the missions for the first time in Bengal Bouts' history.

"Instead of just sending money over there, we're trying to form relationships with the people and learn from them."

Mark Weber
senior president

During the two-week trip, the boxers visited the missions, worked on a documentary film with a professional camera crew, and paved the way for a new International Summer Service Learning Program (ISSLP)

through the Center for Social Concerns.

The new ISSLP will send Notre Dame boxers to Bangladesh each summer, creating a more personal relationship between the boxing tournament and the missions that it supports. The documentary film will be released in the fall of 2009, Weber said.

"Our money is earmarked to fund educational initiatives in tribal villages," he said. "Instead of just sending money over there, we're trying to form relationships with the people and learn from them."

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccryst@nd.edu



The Observer file photo

Participants compete in last year's Bengal Bouts boxing tournament. Money raised will go toward helping missions in Bangladesh.

Parking

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Security will also tow vehicles that are considered traffic hazards or chronic violators.

"We run into this particular problem every winter when the lots become snow-covered and the parking spaces are not clearly visible," he said. "During warmer weather, when the lines are visible, it is much easier to enforce parking rules."

If students see a parking violation they would like Security to address, however, Garipey said they can call the Security department at 574-284-5000.

Contact Liz Harter at charte01@saintmarys.edu

BOG

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The co-sponsorship also asked for funds to help offset the costs of the programs for the conference and a movie being shown Friday night.

"The movie will be shown here on campus and everyone can go see it so it will benefit the entire campus," McNerney said.

After the co-sponsorship was passed, student body vice president Sarah Falvey talked about the Women Honoring Women banquet held in late February.

"The banquet is a really great way to honor women faculty and staff," Falvey said. "We already have received nine nominations and we are still accepting them until Feb. 17."

In other BOG news:

◆ Little Sib's Weekend will be Feb. 27-28, Residence Hall Association president Maura Clougherty said. Registration for the event has ended.

◆ Student Activities Board coordinator Michele Peterson announced that the movie

"Twilight" will be shown the afternoon of Feb. 21 in Vander Vennet Theater in the basement of the Student Center. Showings will be at 1:30, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, and 9:50. While the event is free, students will need tickets that will be distributed on Feb. 19.

◆ Women's Studies majors started a formal petition to make a Women's Studies class required under the General Education requirements, women's issues commissioner Becki Faunce said. Those involved people are going around the dorms with petitions and need 250 student signatures before they turn it in.

◆ Sophomore Parents Weekend will be Feb. 13-15, class of 2011 president Meg Griffin said. Over 250 parents are planning to attend.

◆ Class of 2009 president Jenny Antonelli said planning for commencement and Senior Week has begun. The annual Senior Lunch will be the Monday of Senior Week and all other activities will be planned around it.

Contact Sarah Mayer at smayer01@stmarys.edu

CLC

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Reish offered many questions that a task force dedicated to off-campus issues could answer, such as, "Where does the student go that has questions off campus? Is there a University role [in off-campus life]? What are off-campus students responsibilities to the University?"

Sister Denise Lyon, rector of Badin Hall, said she sees value in the University offering some involvement to off-campus students, because the University needs students to live off-campus since they do not have enough room to house all students.

"That was a big eye-opener to me in terms of my perspective on them. I think there is something to the University offering some sort of presence to them because if all the stu-

dents who lived off campus decided to live on campus, they couldn't," said Lyon.

Reish said he is going to move forward with the council and create an off-campus task force at the end of the discussion.

CLC also discussed looking further into the Good Samaritan policy, a policy on which the student representatives and the rectors had different views.

Student Senate representative Catherine Flynn said she has talked to some students who were afraid to get help for themselves or friends because they didn't want to get in trouble.

Carroll Hall rector Fr. Jim Lewis said he thinks students who do that are prioritizing not being punished over safety.

"It's saying, I want to make sure I'm covered before I help a student who is in distress," he said.

He said he is concerned that the policy ignored more fundamental issues.

"It's saying, I want to make sure I'm covered before I help a student who is in distress."

Jim Lewis
Carroll Hall rector

Military commander rejects comparison to Vietnam

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The top U.S. military officer cautioned Monday against comparing the Pentagon's renewed focus on Afghanistan to the Vietnam War, citing terrorism and a non-occupation strategy as "dramatic differences" between the two conflicts.

"Afghanistan is much more complex," said Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

He added: "I certainly recognize — and having been in Vietnam myself — that there are those who make comparisons. I would be pretty careful about that though, for lots of reasons."

Mullen's comments came as the Pentagon prepares to deploy an additional 15,000 Army and Marine troops to Afghanistan this spring and summer in the Obama administration's military campaign to shut down the Taliban and al-Qaida.

Ultimately, an estimated 60,000 U.S. troops could be

in Afghanistan over the next year as Obama starts ordering soldiers from Iraq. There are currently about 32,000 American troops in Afghanistan.

Speaking to a Washington meeting of the Reserve Officers Association, Mullen stopped short of predicting how long U.S. troops would remain in Afghanistan. He said the main difference between Afghanistan and Vietnam is that "we are not an occupying force."

"We have no intention of that," Mullen said. "There isn't any of the 42-plus countries who are there that have that intention. ... That said, we cannot send a message to the Afghan people that we are."

Chief among the concerns, Mullen said, is making sure Afghanistan never again becomes a safe haven for al-Qaida leaders who moved to lawless Pakistan tribal regions in the post-9/11 hunt for Osama bin Laden.

"We cannot accept that al-Qaida leadership which con-

tinues to plan against us every single day — and I mean us, here in America — to have that safe haven in Pakistan nor could resume one in Afghanistan," Mullen said.

Efforts to eliminate government corruption and develop the poor nation also marks a contrast between the U.S. mission in Afghanistan from Vietnam, Mullen said.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates met Monday with President Barack Obama, but White House spokesman Robert Gibbs would not say whether the two discussed troop levels in Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, the Pentagon released a long-awaited study Monday describing crumbling security and a peak in violence in Afghanistan in spring and summer of 2008.

Reacting to the study, House Armed Services Committee Chairman Ike Skelton, D-Mo., said in a statement that the situation in Afghanistan is troubling and will need more time and effort.

"The mission in Afghanistan

continues to be limited by shortfalls in both military and civilian resources," Skelton said. "The problems are manifold: too few trainers and mentors for the Afghan National Security Forces; pervasive corruption and a lack of leadership and human capital within the Government of Afghanistan; slow progress in economic reconstruction and in the counternarcotics fight; and the ongoing existence of insurgent safe havens along the border with Pakistan, one of the greatest challenges to long-term security in the region."

The quarterly status report, required by Congress, focused mostly on data available between April and September 2008 but included some year-end details, including:

◆ Between January and December 10, 2008, 132 U.S. personnel in Afghanistan died as the result of hostile action, up from 82 in 2007.

◆ The Afghan National Army Air Corps is beefing up its reconnaissance and gun-

ship fleets and added 27 new helicopters and cargo planes by the end of December.

◆ As of December, NATO had provided only 42 Operational Mentor Liaison Teams out of 103 promised to train the Afghan National Security Forces.

The shortfall of the teams impacts the training of the Afghan forces, the report noted.

◆ The annual Failed State Index, published by the Fund for Peace, showed worsening governance in Afghanistan between 2006 and 2008.

Mullen also said the global financial crisis is threatening U.S. security options abroad, forcing a delicate balance between national security and federal budget cuts.

"I am extremely concerned that in fact one of the outputs of this financial crisis will be an increase in instability," Mullen said.

He added: "Clearly, in listening to our new president, it's going to have an impact on the budgets in our government."

Patrol investigates quota allegations

Associated Press

SANTA ANA — The U.S. Border Patrol on Monday ordered an investigation of allegations by agents in Southern California that they were given arrest quotas and threatened with punishment if they failed to meet them.

Jeffrey Calhoun, El Centro's chief patrol agent, said he learned the patrol agent in charge of the agency's Riverside station some 100 miles north of the Mexican border gave agents numerical goals for how many suspected illegal immigrants they should arrest in January.

Calhoun says he has ordered a probe into whether agents were told they would be punished if they failed to meet this target.

"If there is some threatening behavior, we're not going to tolerate it," Calhoun said.

The probe comes after Border Patrol agents in Riverside said they were ordered to arrest at least 150 suspected illegal immigrants in January or faced having their work shifts changed.

No one has been suspended during the probe, said Richard Velez, an agency spokesman.

Calhoun said the agency does use goals to inspire agents, for example, by driving units to compete against each other, and often the measuring stick turns out to be number of arrests. But he said setting numeric targets was not common practice — nor one he would recommend.

"It would not be the normal method of refocusing work effort," he said.

Agents said the 150-arrest mandate for the station last month was a jump from targets set at the end of last year to make 100 arrests in each November and December.

"I don't know if there is a difference between goals and quotas if we have numbers," said Lombardo Amaya, president of Local 2554 of the National Border Patrol Council. "For this reason, I think numbers are out of place."

Amaya said Calhoun guaranteed that agents at the 15-person station would not be punished if they didn't make the target.

T.J. Bonner, president of the National Border Patrol Council — which represents close to 15,000 Border Patrol agents nationwide — said he wanted to see a fair and impartial investigation and appropriate punishment if the allegations were true.

Immigrant advocates said they worried such quotas could be driving agents to make arrests in heavily populated areas far from the border to keep up their numbers. Advocates have been sending monitors to day labor corners with video cameras to document the arrests and have called for a march on Saturday to protest the increased enforcement.

Emilio Amaya, executive director of the San Bernardino Community Service Center, questioned whether the Border Patrol might be bolstering efforts inland because of a recent decline in traffic across the Mexican border.

"They have been very visible," said Emilio Amaya, whose non-profit provides legal services to immigrants. "This was not an issue in the past."

Obama to nominate Sen. Gregg for Cabinet

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama plans to nominate Sen. Judd Gregg as commerce secretary on Tuesday, the White House confirmed on the eve of the announcement as the New Hampshire Republican disclosed an apparent deal that would keep his seat out of Democratic hands.

"I have made it clear to the Senate leadership on both sides of the aisle and to the governor that I would not leave the Senate if I felt my departure would cause a change in the makeup of the Senate," Gregg said Monday in a statement. The White House confirmed the Gregg choice on the condition of anonymity because the announcement had not yet been made.

New Hampshire Gov. John Lynch confirmed the "understanding," stopping just short of promising to appoint a Republican or an independent to serve out the remaining two years of Gregg's term.

The deal would give Obama his top choice for a team tasked with steering the nation out of recession. Republicans get to keep Gregg's seat for two more years, retaining the crucial 41 Senate seats they need to filibuster majority Democrats.

And Democrats, who control 56 seats and caucus with two independents, stand a better chance of flipping Gregg's seat into their ranks in two years by running a candidate against his rookie replacement or an empty seat than Gregg

himself.

The White House tried to stay out of the back and forth. But officials there did nothing to squelch the expectation that Gregg would be nominated to the post.

"Obviously, the president has great respect for Senator Gregg," White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said Monday. "I'm not going to get into personnel announcements before we are there."

Getting to a deal took days of negotiating after it became known last week that Obama was considering appointing the former Budget Committee chairman from New Hampshire to his Cabinet.

Gregg would become the third Republican in the Cabinet, if confirmed. The

others are Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood.

The deal spares Gregg blame for delivering Democrats complete control of the Senate and a re-election campaign in Democratic-leaning New Hampshire.

Lynch's agreement, meanwhile, shores up his bipartisan credentials at a time when he's confronting a decades-old budget crisis at home.

The Republican expected to be named to Gregg's seat is Bonnie Newman, who served as Gregg's chief of staff during his time in the House. Newman is a veteran of the Reagan White House. Under the deal, she would not run in the 2010 election.

Kent. officials rate FEMA's response to storm

Associated Press

EDDYVILLE, Ky. — In the first real test of the Obama administration's ability to respond to a disaster, Kentucky officials are giving the federal government good marks for its response to a deadly ice storm.

Yet more than 300,000 residents remained without power Monday and some areas had yet to see aid workers nearly a week after the storm, a fact not lost on some local authorities.

"We haven't seen FEMA. They haven't been here," said Jaime Green, a spokeswoman for the emergency operations center in Lyon County, about 95 miles northwest of Nashville, Tenn.

Federal authorities insisted they responded as soon as the state asked for help and promised to keep providing whatever aid was necessary.

FEMA has been under the microscope since the Bush administration's botched response to Hurricane Katrina in 2005, which Barack Obama and other Democrats made a favorite topic on the presidential campaign trail. FEMA was reorganized and strengthened after that, and it has avoided the onslaught

of negative feedback Katrina generated.

The agency hasn't been tested the same way it was after the hurricane, however.

Gov. Steve Beshear raised Kentucky's death toll to 24 on Monday, meaning the storm has been blamed in at least 55 deaths nationwide. And while it also knocked out power to more than a million customers from the Southern Plains to the East Coast, it's still considered a medium-sized disaster, the kind FEMA has traditionally been successful handling.

The Kentucky disaster will be closely watched, said Richard Sylves, professor of political science at the University of Delaware, particularly because Obama hasn't yet named the top FEMA officials, many of whom must go through Senate confirmation.

"If it's perceived not to be handled very well, or if there's a sense that there's insensitivity at the federal level to the plight of people suffering, I imagine the people President Obama has appointed to senior positions in FEMA will be grilled in their confirmation hearings," said Sylves, who has written four books on

federal disaster policy.

Beshear asked Obama for a disaster declaration to free up federal assistance Thursday, two days after the storm hit, and Obama issued it hours later. Trucks loaded with supplies began arriving at a staging area at Fort Campbell, Ky., on Friday morning, said Mary Hudak, a spokeswoman for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

On Saturday, Beshear ordered all of the state's Army National Guardsmen into action to distribute supplies, many of which came from FEMA.

Beshear has consistently praised Obama, a fellow Democrat, for the attention he's devoted to what Beshear calls the biggest natural disaster to hit his state.

"We have had tremendous and quick response from President Obama and his administration," Beshear said Monday. "I don't think any of our folks that have dealt with disasters before ever recall as quick a response as we got last Wednesday."

Trina Sheets, executive director of the National Emergency Management Association, based in Lexington, Ky., said that from what she's heard, FEMA's

response has been very good so far. Her group represents emergency management directors from all 50 states.

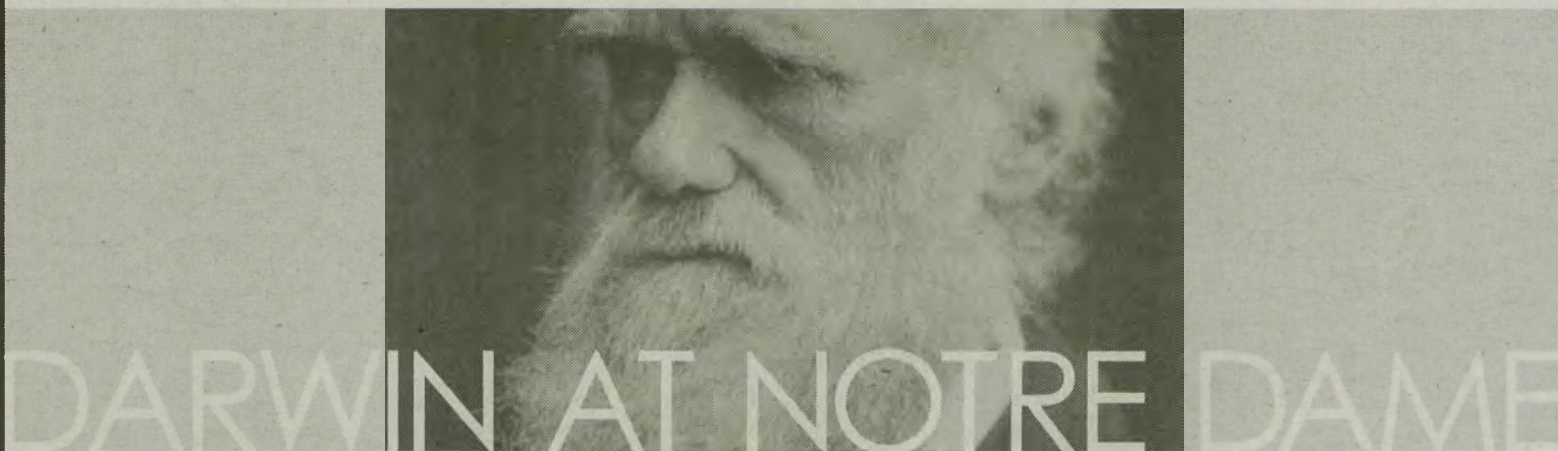
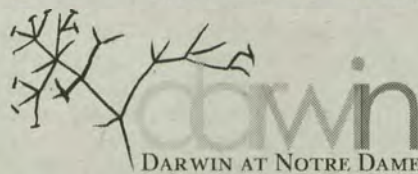
"The governor's declaration request for an emergency was turned around very, very quickly by FEMA and the White House," said Sheets, who just had her power restored Monday after four days without it. "And President Obama has spoken with the governor of Kentucky on several occasions throughout the event."

Sheets said she hadn't heard any complaints so far about the federal response.

"FEMA and the Kentucky National Guard are doing everything they can to get things back up and running," Sen. Jim Bunning said.

By Monday, FEMA officials were checking in on supply distribution points in some rural areas. FEMA official Don Daniel stopped by to ask emergency management officials in Grayson County, who had criticized FEMA's absence late last week, what they needed.

More generators, they told him, to keep essential services such as hospitals and water supplies running.



Join us to celebrate Charles Darwin's 200th birthday—and to kick off Darwin at Notre Dame, a series of events commemorating the 150th anniversary of *On the Origin of Species*.

Opening Reception Thursday February 5 @ 5:30 p.m.
upper lobby of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center



darwin.nd.edu

WORLD & NATION

Tuesday, February 3, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Pakistani gunman capture American

QUETTA, Pakistan — Gunmen seized an American U.N. worker as he rode to work Monday, shooting and killing his driver, U.N. and Pakistani authorities said. His Land Cruiser was found rammed against a wall, punctured by at least one bullet hole.

The United Nations expressed "extreme shock and dismay" at the rare attack in a region that has largely been spared the al-Qaida and Taliban insurgency wracking much of northwestern Pakistan.

The government called the abduction of John Solecki, head of the U.N. refugee office in the southwestern city of Quetta, a "dastardly terrorist act." But police said it was not clear whether Islamist militants, criminals seeking a ransom payment or members of a regional separatist group were responsible.

Badminton team to travel to Iran

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration is sending a women's badminton team to Iran this week as part of a broad bid to engage the Iranian people through educational and cultural exchanges, the State Department said Monday.

Amid a wide-ranging review of U.S. policy toward the Islamic Republic, the trip is the new administration's first foray into such exchanges that began while President George W. Bush was in the White House. Past exchanges have involved athletes from other sports, artists, academics and professionals.

The 12-member team — eight female players and four coaches and managers representing USA Badminton — will be in Tehran from Tuesday until Feb. 9 to participate in the Iran Fajr International Badminton Tournament, which begins on Friday, the State Department said in a statement.

NATIONAL NEWS

Sailors trained to ward off pirates

PORTLAND, Maine — With an alarming number of tankers and cargo ships getting hijacked on the high seas, the nation's maritime academies are offering more training to merchant seamen in how to fend off attacks from pirates armed not with cutlasses and flintlocks but automatic weapons and grenade launchers.

Colleges are teaching students to fishtail their vessels at high speed, drive off intruders with high-pressure water hoses and illuminate their decks with floodlights.

Mom of octuplets receives offers

LOS ANGELES — The mother of the longest-living octuplets in the U.S. is being deluged with offers for book deals, TV shows and other business proposals, but has not decided what she might do other than care for her children, her newly hired spokeswoman said Monday.

Hundreds of requests have been made since Nadya Suleman gave birth to six boys and two girls a week ago, said Joann Killeen, president of Killeen Furtney Group, a public relations company.

"She's the most sought after mom in the world right now," Killeen said. "Everyone wants to talk to her."

But Suleman, who remained hospitalized with her children Monday at Kaiser Permanente's Bellflower Medical Center, hasn't decided what she'll do next, Killeen said.

LOCAL NEWS

Man sentenced to 27 years in prison

CROWN POINT — A northwestern Indiana man has been sentenced to 27 years in prison for killing his former wife in 1990.

Fifty-two-year-old Rodney Boesel of Gary pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and to being a habitual offender last month and was sentenced Monday in a Lake County court.

He was arrested in 2007 after his daughter said he threatened to cut her throat "like he did my mother." Boesel later admitted that he placed Donna Boesel's body in a plastic bag and left it by the Kankakee River. Her decomposed body was found two years later.

Newest Cabinet member approved

Holder becomes first African-American attorney general in nation's history

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Eric Holder won Senate confirmation Monday as the nation's first African-American attorney general, after supporters from both parties touted his dream resume and easily overcame Republican concerns over his commitment to fight terrorism and his willingness to back the right to keep and bear arms.

The vote was 75-21.

Holder's chief supporter, Sen. Patrick Leahy, said the confirmation was a fulfillment of civil rights leader Martin Luther King's dream that everyone would be judged by the content of their character.

"Come on the right side of history," said Leahy, D-Vt., chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

Holder becomes the only black in President Barack Obama's Cabinet. Three other African-Americans were named to top administration positions, but are not Cabinet secretaries.

Holder was a federal prosecutor, judge and the No. 2 Justice Department official in the Clinton administration. Even his critics agreed that Holder was well-qualified, but they questioned his positions and independence.

The debate turned partisan in its first moments, when Leahy, expressed anger that a few Republicans demanded a pledge from Holder that he wouldn't prosecute intelligence agents who participated in harsh interrogations.

Leahy singled out Texas Republican John Cornyn as one who wanted to "turn a blind eye to possible law-breaking before investigating whether it occurred."

"No one should be seeking to trade a vote for such a pledge," Leahy said.

When Cornyn rose to announce his vote against Holder, he did not make such a demand. However, he accused the nominee of



AP

The senate confirmed President Barack Obama's latest cabinet nomination Monday afternoon. His nominee, Eric Holder, is the first African-American attorney general.

changing his once-supportive position — on the need to detain terrorism suspects without all the rights of the Geneva Convention — to one of harshly criticizing Bush administration's counterterrorism policies.

"His contrasting positions from 2002 to 2008 make me wonder if this is the same person," Cornyn said. "It makes me wonder what he truly believes."

Cornyn and Sen. Tom Coburn said Holder was hostile to the right of individuals to own guns, despite a Supreme Court ruling last June affirming the right to have weapons for self-defense in the home.

Holder said at his confirmation hearings: "I understand that the Supreme

Court has spoken." But he added that some restrictions on guns could still be legal.

Holder's confirmation will trigger reviews — and changes — to the most controversial Bush administration policies, from interrogation tactics to terrorism trials and warrantless surveillance.

Those are some of the known issues. Even Holder doesn't know what he'll find when he looks at secret memos in the Justice Department Office of Legal Counsel.

Holder also will have to rehabilitate a department that under President George W. Bush was criticized for injecting politics in hiring career officials and firings of U.S. attorneys. He'll have to

decide whether to prosecute Justice Department officials who may have violated the law in some of those policies and tactics.

Holder also could reverse Bush's orders to former aides not to testify before Congress on their private advise discussions on the U.S. attorney firings.

To the satisfaction of Democrats and consternation of some Republicans, Holder told his confirmation hearing, "Waterboarding is torture." The statement about an interrogation technique that simulates drowning was an important signal of a policy change from Bush's view that the tactic was legal and not torture.

ENGLAND

London shut down by snowstorm

Associated Press

LONDON — It was hardly a blizzard, but it still shut down the city that beat the Blitz.

The biggest snowfall to hit London in 18 years idled the city's trademark red buses and Underground trains Monday, stranded thousands of airline passengers, and raised the vexing question of why a predicted winter storm caught authorities so unprepared.

Transit officials had nearly a week to get ready, but they failed to keep things running normally in the capital, which was buried under more than four inches of snow overnight and another four inches in the afternoon.

Londoners who needed to get some-

where often found they couldn't — unless they were willing to walk for miles.

"There's no point in going to work today," said office worker Caroline Samuel, 36, after waiting for an Underground train that never arrived. "I'm going home."

All five of the capital's airports briefly shut down — with nearly 800 flights canceled throughout the day and thousands of passengers stranded. An international flight skidded off a taxiway at Heathrow, causing no injuries.

The city's extensive bus network was completely closed for most of the day and many trains simply didn't run.

Colossal traffic jams clogged roads because of fender benders and more

serious accidents.

London's Ambulance Service's operations director Richard Webber said the bad weather had put the department under severe pressure, adding that it will respond only to calls from people with life-threatening injuries or illnesses.

Some people strapped on cross-country skis to get around; others spent the day sledding with their kids. Problems extended to France and Ireland as well, with airports in both countries reporting numerous delays and cancellations and motorists facing icy hazards.

Mayor Boris Johnson conceded that London lacked the plows and other equipment — mostly because buying it is a gamble with big snowfalls so rare here.

Cold case investigation begins for Ramsey

Boulder police look into evidence and action taken after 6-year-old beauty pageant contestant was found dead

Associated Press

BOULDER, Colo. — The slaying of JonBenet Ramsey will be investigated as a cold case with all evidence and actions taken 12 years ago reviewed anew, the police chief said Monday as the department resumed a probe for which it had long been criticized.

Chief Mark Beckner said new technology gives investigators tools they didn't have a decade ago; the 6-year-old beauty pageant contestant was found bludgeoned and strangled in the basement of her Boulder home in 1996.

Police had transferred the probe to the district attorney's office six years ago amid criticism of how the case was handled.

"We'd love to solve this case

for JonBenet so she can rest in peace," Beckner said at a news conference announcing the shift.

Police will handle the investigation as a cold case, "reviewing everything that's been done, the evidence that's been collected, trying to determine where do we go from here," he said.

As a cold case, the investigation won't have a full team of detectives working around-the-clock, the chief said.

"It's going to be an as-we-can type of thing, or as needed," he said.

L. Lin Wood, an attorney for JonBenet's father, John Ramsey, called the announcement a "positive sign in terms of my hope that the Boulder Police Department will take not only a new review in terms of a cold case review, but that it will go in this time with an objective review."

Wood and Ramsey have been critical of previous police efforts, saying they unfairly focused on the family and ignored other evidence.

Patsy Ramsey, JonBenet's mother and John Ramsey's wife, died in 2006 after a long battle with cancer.

Beckner said he and newly elected District Attorney Stan Garnett agreed that police should lead the investigation again.

Beckner said he has invited veteran investigators from state and federal agencies to form an advisory task force on the case.

"We're bringing in people on this task force that are going to have a fresh perspective," he said. "(They're going to) look at this case, tell us what they think, challenge us, give us ideas."

The group will meet in the

next few weeks to review the evidence and identify additional testing that might be done.

At the news conference, Beckner said more than 140 people had already been investigated as potential suspects, but none could be definitively linked to the crime.

Garnett's predecessor, Mary Lacy, last year cleared JonBenet's family in the slaying, saying male DNA found on the girl's clothing almost certainly came from her killer, and that it didn't match anyone in the family.

Beckner informed John Ramsey of the change in the investigation in a letter. Wood said the letter gave no hint that police would back away from Lacy's decision to clear the family.

Lacy did not run for re-election because of term limits. She

told The Associated Press that returning the investigation to police was "a great idea."

"I think that time has resolved any issues that might have lingered, but also I think that Mark Beckner has done a very good job," she said.

Lacy said the reason her office took over the case in 2002 was that the Ramsey family had no confidence in the police. "It wasn't that they were incompetent," she said of the officers.

Lacy said she is "absolutely" hopeful the case will one day be resolved.

"I believe the DNA (that cleared the Ramsey family) is the most significant piece of evidence, and hopefully, as with some cold cases, there will eventually be a hit on it," she said.

Beckner said "that unknown DNA" will be a big part of the

Unusual procedure used to donate kidney

Doctors remove organ through vagina in 'easier than childbirth' operation to reduce pain, scarring and recovery time

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Surgeons removed a woman's kidney through her vagina so she could give it to her ailing niece, an unusual operation they hope will encourage others to donate because it reduces pain, scarring and recovery time.

Doctors at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine said donor Kimberly Johnson, 48, and her niece, Jennifer Gilbert, 23, were both doing well following operations Thursday.

"It was easier than childbirth," said Johnson, who has three children.

Transvaginal kidney removals have been done before to remove cancerous or nonfunctioning kidneys, and other diseased organs have also been removed through mouths and other orifices. Many donated kidneys are removed laparoscopically, through small keyhole incisions.

But hospital officials think this may be the first time a donor kidney was removed through the vagina.

The operation left three pea-size scars on the Lexington Park woman's abdomen, one hidden in her navel. Surgeons hope the procedure will lead more women to become donors, said Dr. Robert Montgomery, chief of the transplant division at Johns Hopkins, who led the team that performed the surgery.

Johnson said the operation was less painful than gall bladder surgery and she is recovering more quickly than

Gilbert's father, who gave his daughter a kidney 12 years ago.

Gilbert, of Baltimore, needed the first transplant because repeated infections had destroyed the kidneys she was born with. She needed the second after she began suffering chronic rejection.

Johnson, an assistant sales manager for a St. Mary's County newspaper, said she was able to get out of bed Thursday night, the same day the kidney was removed.

Quicker recovery and less pain are the key benefits of the new technique, said Montgomery and Dr. Anthony Kalloo, the director of the Division of Gastroenterology at Johns Hopkins and a pioneer of the method of using natural orifices for organ removal.

Kalloo said more than 300 such surgeries have been performed worldwide, mostly gall bladder and appendix removal through the mouth, anus and vagina. Kalloo said there has been some resistance in the medical community because of concerns, for example, that stomach acid could leak into the abdominal cavity in operations where organs were removed through the mouth.

Dr. Jihad Kaouk, a urologist and director of the Cleveland Clinic's Center for Laparoscopic and Robotic Surgery, is among those concerned about contamination. He was not involved in Johnson's surgery.

"There is the risk of infection having the kidney passing through a contaminated area and then going to another patient who is immunocompro-

mised," Kaouk said. "That is the concern we have and we would like to monitor the outcome in that regard."

In Johnson's case, Montgomery said a plastic bag placed into her abdominal cavity through a tiny incision protected the donated kidney from contamination by bacteria and other organisms in her vagina. Johnson was chosen because she has had a hysterectomy, which made the operation easier, but the procedure could be used without affecting women's ability to give birth, he said.

More than 78,000 people are on the national waiting list to receive kidneys from deceased donors. The need is increasing as diabetes and obesity rise, threatening to further lengthen a wait that can last years. In 2007, more than a third of the 16,629 kidneys transplanted in the U.S. came from living donors, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing.

Montgomery said the number of living donor transplants has tripled since laparoscopic removal debuted in 1995, providing an alternative to so-called "shark bite" abdominal incisions. He hopes advances such as the vaginal removal will continue the increase.

"We think she'll be probably back to her normal activities within a week or two," the transplant surgeon said. Recovery from laparoscopic surgery typically takes several weeks. "So, that greatly reduces the inconvenience of donating and we're hoping that will encourage more people to donate."



Kim Johnson, who donated a kidney to her niece four days earlier, poses for a portrait at a relative's home Monday.



Announcing the Year 2009 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 2009 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, March 6, 2009
Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship
Program in Italian Studies
343 O'Shaughnessy Hall
University of Notre Dame

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The Observer.

MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones **7,936.75** -64.11

Up: 1,637 Same: 107 Down: 2,122 Composite Volume: 1,490,254,962

AMEX	1,397.59	-22.84
NASDAQ	1,494.43	+18.01
NYSE	5,166.47	-29.32
S&P 500	825.44	-0.44
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	7,873.98	0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	4,077.78	-71.86

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
BK OF AMERICA (BAC)	-8.81	-0.58	6.00
SPDR S&P 500 (SPY)	-0.30	-0.25	82.58
CITIGROUP INC (C)	+2.82	+0.10	3.65
GEN ELECTRIC CO (GE)	-4.20	-0.51	11.62

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	-4.40	-0.125	2.719
13-WEEK BILL	+11.36	+0.030	0.250
30-YEAR BOND	-3.69	-0.133	3.470
5-YEAR NOTE	-6.67	-0.125	1.748

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-1.60	40.08
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-21.20	907.20
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-0.23	82.10

Exchange Rates

YEN	89.4600
EURO	1.2851
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.2458
BRITISH POUND	1.4279

IN BRIEF

Stock markets around the world slip

LONDON — World stock markets finished mostly lower Monday, with financial and energy stocks leading the way down as investors prepared for another week of poor earnings reports and gloomy economic data.

After Asian markets slipped, there was little appetite to buy in Europe as faith in a rapid turnaround in the global economy and corporate earnings faded. Britain's benchmark FTSE 100 ended down 1.7 percent at 4,077.78, while the German DAX dropped 1.5 percent at 4,271.04. France's CAC 40 shed 1.5 percent at 2,930.05.

On Wall Street, some buying in technology stocks lifted the Nasdaq composite, which rose 18.01, or 1.22 percent, to 1,494.43. But the Dow Jones industrial average 64.03, or 0.80 percent, to 7,936.83, hurt by sliding industrial, energy and financial stocks.

Republicans try to cut spending

WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans circulated a sweeping plan to drive down the cost of mortgages by expanding the federal government's role in the industry, officials said Monday night as debate opened on an economic stimulus bill at the top of President Barack Obama's agenda.

The emerging proposal also relies on a bigger and more widely available tax break for homebuyers than is now available, those officials added as Senate Republicans staked their claim to a different type of economic recovery measure than Democrats and the administration favor.

Democrats already are under pressure from moderates in their own party to scale back spending in the \$885 billion bill, and Obama met with party leaders at the White House late in the day to discuss strategy.

"What we can't do is let very modest differences get in the way of swift enactment of the legislation," Obama said several hours earlier as new layoffs rippled through the economy and the Commerce Department reported an unexpectedly large sixth straight drop in personal spending.

In the Capitol, Republicans said their goal was the change the bill, not to block it. "Nobody that I know of is trying to keep a package from passing," said Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the Republican leader.

Banks make it harder to obtain loans

Despite \$700 billion bailout, borrowers still finding it difficult to be approved

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Many banks have made it harder for borrowers to obtain all kinds of loans over the last three months despite a \$700 billion federal bailout program and a flurry of other bold moves to stem the worst financial crisis to hit the country since the 1930s.

The Federal Reserve in its quarterly survey of bank lending practices released Monday found large numbers of banks reporting tighter credit standards across a broad range of loan products — from credit cards and home mortgages to business loans.

Nearly 60 percent of banks responding to the survey said they had tightened lending standards on credit card and other consumer loans, about the same share as in the previous survey released in early November. And about 80 percent of domestic banks said they tightened lending standards on commercial real-estate loans, slightly less than the roughly 85 percent that reported doing so in the previous survey.

All told, though, the proportion of banks that "reported having tightened their lending policies on all major loan categories over the previous three months stayed very elevated," the Fed concluded.

Greg McBride, senior financial analyst at Bankrate.com, predicted that banks — whose lax lending standards for home mortgages contributed to the financial meltdown — won't be in any rush to loosen lending standards.

"Even when lenders come back to the marketplace and become willing to lend again, who they lend to is not going to change," McBride said. "The tighter qualification standards that we've been seeing are here to stay for



A quarterly survey released by the Federal Reserve Monday found that a significant number of banks reported tighter credit standards for borrowers.

the foreseeable future regardless of whether or not there is stress in the credit markets and a deep recession. Lenders won't go back to giving out credit like candy anytime soon."

The Fed survey was based on the responses of 51 domestic banks and 23 U.S. offices of foreign banks.

The findings come as the government has taken a series of unprecedented actions to bust through a debilitating credit clog and spur banks to lend more freely again.

Under the \$700 billion bailout program, enacted in early October, the government has pledged to

inject \$250 billion into banks in return for partial ownership. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner is exploring other ways to provide relief, including the possibility of buying rotten mortgages and other toxic assets now weighing down banks' balance sheets.

The Federal Reserve has slashed a key interest rate to record lows and rolled out radical programs to, among other things, provide cash loans to banks, buy mounds of short-term debt from companies, and purchase up to \$500 billion in mortgage-backed securities guaranteed by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac

and Ginnie Mae.

In its survey, the Fed said roughly 45 percent of banks raised the minimum-required credit scores on credit card accounts and other consumer loans.

The survey also found that domestic banks had reduced the size of existing credit lines for all major types of business and consumer customers.

For business customers, roughly 60 percent of banks reported a decrease in the limits on commercial construction lines of credit, and about 50 percent indicated a decrease in the limits extended to financial firms.

Consumers continue to cut spending

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Consumers slashed spending for an unprecedented sixth straight month in December, feeding the already painful recession as millions of households opted to save rather than buy.

The drop in consumer spending, the economy's key driver, means little help is in sight for struggling retailers, homebuilders and automakers.

The fallout spread Monday when Macy's Inc. announced it would cut 7,000 jobs, almost 4 percent of its work force, and take other belt-tightening measures to cope with the drop in sales.

"It is going to be hard to get the economy going again," said Nigel Gault, chief U.S. economist for IHS Global Insight of Lexington, Mass.

"We are very much reliant on whatever help the government can provide through the stimulus package and through the efforts of the Federal Reserve and the Treasury Department to help the financial system."

Personal consumption spending dropped 1 percent in December, a sixth consecutive decline that represented the longest stretch of weakness in a half-century of record keeping. Spending had declined 0.8 percent in November, even worse than first reported, the Commerce Department reported.

Separately, the Fed reported that banks were making it harder for borrowers to obtain all sorts of loans over the last three months despite the government's \$700 billion bailout program. Nearly 60 percent of banks responding to the Fed's new survey

said they had tightened lending standards on credit cards and other types of consumer loans.

Greg McBride, senior financial analyst at Bankrate.com, says banks — whose lax lending standards for home mortgages contributed to the financial meltdown — are in no rush to loosen lending standards.

"Even when lenders come back to the marketplace and become willing to lend again, who they lend to is not going to change," McBride said.

"Lenders won't go back to giving out credit like candy anytime soon."

Incomes, reflecting an accelerating tide of layoffs, fell for a third straight month in December. The 0.2 percent drop followed a 0.4 percent fall in November that was worse than initially reported, the Commerce Department reported.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Obama's new era of responsibility

During Barack Obama's lackluster inaugural address, he called upon all Americans to usher in "a new era of responsibility — a recognition, on the part of every American, that we have duties to ourselves, our nation, and the world, duties that we do not grudgingly accept but rather seize gladly, firm in the knowledge that there is nothing so satisfying to the spirit, so defining of our character, than giving our all to a difficult task."

His subsequent actions as president, however, do not ring true to these words.

Take, for instance, his decision to shut down the prison facilities at Guantanamo Bay within the next year. While liberals in America and radical Muslims throughout the world cheered, the question of what should be done with the detainees remains woefully unanswered.

"They're either going to be moved and tried in American courts, tried in military courts, or they're going to be sent back to their own countries," Vice President Joe Biden said.

Moving the detainees from one prison to another does nothing more than needlessly endanger Americans by bringing them within our nation's borders. It does not address the criticisms regarding the status of those prisoners who have yet to be charged with a crime, nor does it make explicit how long they will be held until they are tried. Releasing them in the US is out of the question, and the 60 detainees that the Pentagon has already cleared have not been accepted back into their home

countries, or any other nations for that matter. Who can blame them, since one man released in 2005 later killed 13 Iraqi soldiers in a suicide bombing and another who was deported to Saudi Arabia has become the deputy leader of a branch of al-Qaeda bordering Yemen.

One of the primary roles of government is to provide security for its citizens. In his zeal for protecting the "rights" of those who would kill themselves to harm innocent American men, women, and children, Obama has apparently neglected this vital responsibility.

Another area in which Obama conveniently forgets his own call for a new era involves his cabinet nominees. First there was the case of Timothy Geithner, now Obama's Treasury Secretary, who failed to pay over \$34,000 in federal taxes over several years until an audit by the IRS in 2006. Then last November Obama's vetting team found more unpaid taxes from 2001 and 2002, and again Geithner was forced to repay them.

Former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, Obama's pick for secretary of health and human services, has also run into trouble regarding tax payments. Reports have surfaced showing that he failed to pay over \$128,000 in taxes by neglecting to declare the use of a car and driver lent to Daschle by wealthy Democratic fundraiser Leo Hindery. Nor did he bother to report the \$83,000 in consulting income he earned in 2007. He did, however, claim nearly \$15,000 in charitable donations to organizations that do not qualify for deductions. Even more alarming is the fact that Daschle knew that he needed to correct his tax returns since June, but didn't bother to fix the matter until January, nearly a month after his nomination.

Now I understand why Democrats are always so eager to push for tax increases — they themselves don't actually pay for them! If Obama wants ordinary

Americans to take up the responsibility creed, he ought to hold his nominees to the same — if not higher — standards.

But the award for greatest lack of responsibility goes to Obama himself, for failing to uphold his campaign promise to govern in a bipartisan manner. From his very first day in office, Barack Obama began reaching out to Republicans by prohibiting the use of advanced interrogation techniques against captured terrorists, reversing the Bush administration's prohibition of funding organizations that promote and provide abortions overseas, passing the Lilly Ledbetter Act, and signing a series of pro-union executive orders. Most recently, he helped push the \$825 billion economic stimulus package through the House without a single Republican vote.

Even John McCain, the eternal maverick, is voicing opposition to the bill while criticizing Obama and his party for their failure to include Republican input in the drafting process. "The Republicans have not been brought in to the degree that we should be into these negotiations and discussions," he said last week, adding that no Republican proposal was incorporated into the legislation.

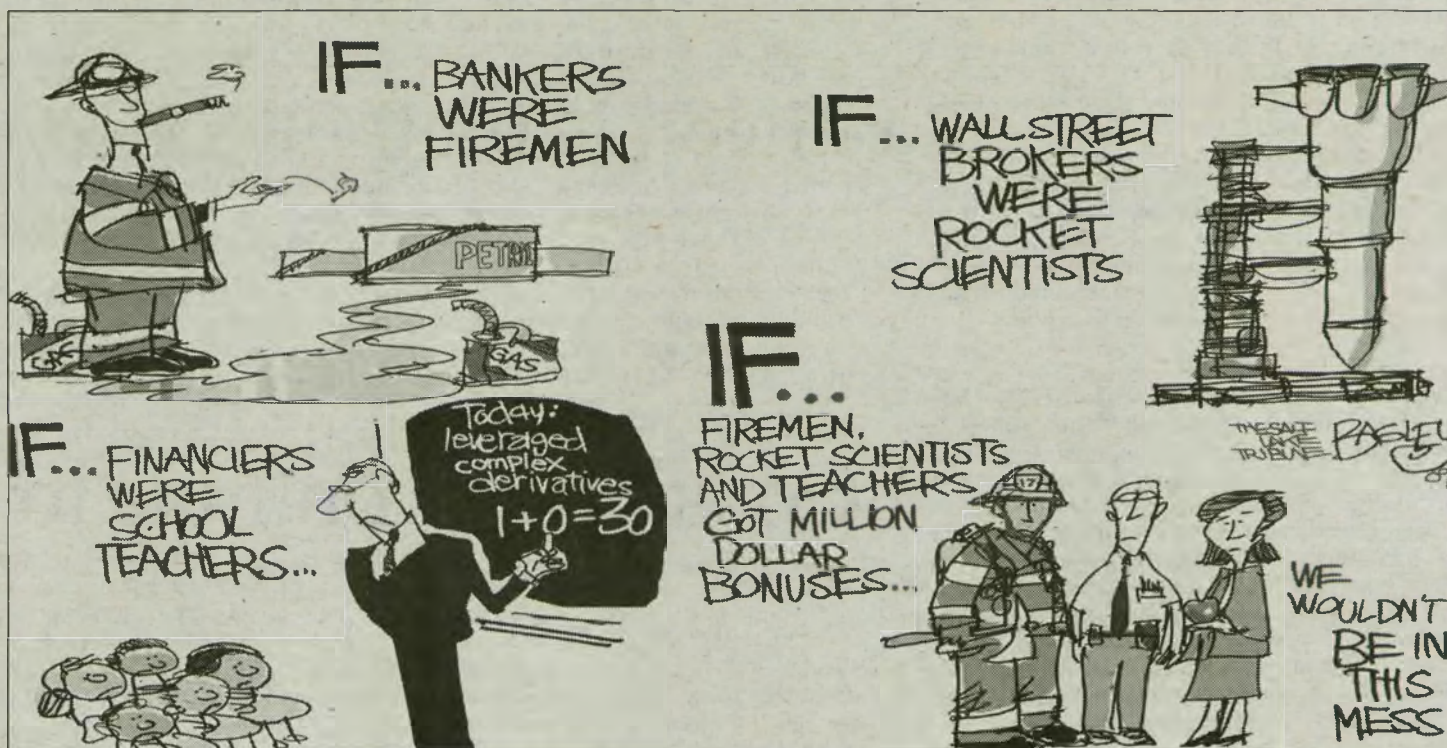
When Republican Congressman Eric Cantor voiced concerns over Obama's tax policy during a private meeting with Congressional Republicans and Democrats, the President ended the debate with a single phrase: "I won." After all the complaints about Bush's "my way or the highway" approach to governing, the Democrats appear to have embraced it wholeheartedly. At least Bush was bold enough to admit it.

So much for the era of responsibility.

Christie Pesavento is a junior and can be reached at cpesaven@nd.edu.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"One cannot find peace in work or in pleasure, in the world or in a convent, but only in one's soul."

W. Somerset Maugham
English dramatist & novelist

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"You can't deny laughter. When it comes, it plops down in your favorite chair and stays as long as it wants."

Stephen King
horror novelist & screenwriter

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Of insults and T-shirts

For the past four years, my friends and I have attended every home hockey game that was not scheduled during a break in addition to many away games. This Friday, we arrived to the game against Michigan an hour before game time, as per usual, only to find that the game was sold out. After hearing multiple people complain that it was advertised online that the doors would open at 7:05, I was a bit confused, and still am, as to how the student section was filled before the doors were set to open.

In addition, when I arrived at the JACC, there was a line of about 30-40 students, waiting to get into the game, completely oblivious to the fact that they would not be gaining admission. The ushers, who clearly saw the line out the door and chose to do nothing about the students standing outside in the 9 degree weather which felt like -2. It wasn't until a friend told the ushers that they should probably let the students know the game was sold out before they decided to do anything about the freezing students.

Not only was the student section sold out over an hour before the game, but it was not necessarily sold out to true fans. Many of the seats were given to students who went to the game strictly to get free t-shirts. Upon walking back from the JACC, students were seen in LaFortune with their free hockey t-shirts, odd since not only was the game not over, but it had yet to start. This problem could easily have been fixed simply by collecting the students' tickets on the way out and reissuing them, but the ushers refused to do this or even to allow waiting students to claim the tickets themselves. The ushers stated that they could not allow us to do this as it was a ticketed event.

What I find fascinating is that for the past four years whenever games have sold out, students have always waited outside, taken students' tickets as they were leaving, and entered the game with the used tickets. I know multiple people that have used this method. I find it interesting, that the ushers actually told us that this had never been allowed, when many of the students standing outside had done this before themselves.

Notre Dame students are not stupid, and we do not appreciate being lied to. After four years of being a loyal fan to the Notre Dame hockey team through good and bad, I am insulted that I was turned away from a game — by ushers that didn't have the decency to tell students the game was sold out until they were forced — because of students that just wanted to get a free shirt. When students are standing in line outside, tell them the game is sold out. And don't go to sporting events to get free stuff and then leave. It's insulting both to the team and to the true fans.

Jamie Engel
senior
Lyons
Jan. 30

Boss goes wrong

Back in 2004, fans witnessed what they would have considered the most offensive Super Bowl halftime show of all time. But now, Bruce Springsteen has tainted the Super Bowl halftime show yet again to a greater extent than Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake ever could have planned...err, experienced. Even though the Boss's wardrobe was functioning perfectly fine, he could easily be accused of gratuitous "crotching" which was much more graphic than necessary for the Super Bowl halftime show. What is supposed to be a show that one can watch with the family turned into a disgustingly offending pole dance of sorts in which Bruce Springsteen made numerous lewd gestures unbecoming a renowned star who supposedly has class. He is providing an awful role model to other singers and performers, but more importantly, senior citizens. To whom are our seniors to turn when trying to relate to the younger generation? Because Bruce certainly showed them what not to do. He most aptly demonstrated his shameful behavior while singing "10th Avenue Freeze Out" into the camera ... with his crotch. I propose that those in charge of the Super Bowl halftime show make sweeping reforms to make the show more family friendly. In future years I hope to see Disney take over the halftime show as they like no other know what is best for the nation. We should look to seeing much more family-oriented halftime shows such as those starring the Jonas Brothers, Wiggles, or even Hannah Montana (hopefully she still won't be dating someone, who in some states could be accused of statutory). One can only hope that Bridgestone will revise the halftime show next year to provide more positive role models.

Brian Conway
freshman
St. Ed's
Feb. 2

Goals worth one point

I grab one Observer everyday with lunch. My favorite section, as it is for many people, is the Viewpoint. In the past, there have been many articles I've disagreed with, some I've laughed at, and some that just made me wish I couldn't read. But yesterday, for the first, I came across an article which was, to say the least, just wrong. I am of course talking about Tim Schumer's "Surely you Jest" (Jan. 30) article. To summarize, Tim believes we should add more hockey leagues instead of lengthening the sole inter-hall hockey season. Being a player myself, I feel that the season is a little short and it is also true that the game times are ridiculously late at night. However, Tim's opinions on interhall hockey were not the reason for my alarm yesterday. It was instead, his assertion that Alumni's hockey team managed to beat Zahm's very best Wednesday night. Now, I am fairly certain it was Zahm winning the entire game until Alumni trickled a puck into the net with 30 seconds left. While I understand that a 1-1 tie to the reigning league champs may have felt like an "awe-inspiring defeat" to an Alumni fan, it was, in fact, still at tie. Therefore, I suggest Tim rewrite his viewpoint, focusing on reasons for why a last minute goal in interhall hockey should now be worth two points.

Michael Murray
sophomore
Zahm
Jan. 30

Raytheon is (not) unwelcome

Alright boys and girls, we here at the University of Notre Dame have just enjoyed yet another successful career fair! And you know what that means ... that's right. Another letter protesting Raytheon's presence at the fair ("Why is Notre Dame involved in the arms trade?" Feb. 2), which expresses new thoughts that haven't already been repeated several times. So let's look at some of the points they felt compelled to make:

1. " ... Fr. Jenkins left us with an understanding that his administration would take the issue seriously." It's a good thing that taking an issue seriously means the exact same thing as taking action or making changes. If it didn't, it would be clear that Fr. Jenkins does not at all care for the students or the University.
2. "Organizations like Raytheon serve a narrow conviction that place national self-interest and violent military power above the calling ... of 'human solidarity and concern for the common good.' They inherently contradict what we as a university community have placed as our true mission." I completely agree. Placing our own national self-interest and defense above the University's own concerns is completely uncalled for. It's a good thing Notre Dame doesn't have a popular motto (such as "God, Country, Notre Dame.") that places our own country's concerns ahead of those of the University.
3. "For Raytheon, the more war and insecurity the better." Weapons manufacturers really should learn to make profits outside of when weapons are needed. That way, everyone's happier! Plus, it certainly isn't the case that the weapons Raytheon and other companies supply our country with discourage attacks from foreign enemies. If a display of power did protect us a little bit (which is, of course, unrealistic), then we might actually promote the manufacturing of weapons in some cases. Absurd.
4. "But in August 2006 ... nine men ... occupied a Raytheon office and were detained for trespassing. On June 11, 2008 a jury released the entire group in a unanimous verdict." I am proud to know that we have a jury that was able to release these poor detained men, while neglecting the fact that they were occupying private property on which they had no right to be, and the fact that they would not peacefully leave when asked to do so. Those men certainly were lucky that jury came along.
5. "We call on the Career Center and the University administration to examine more closely who we allow onto our campus to recruit our students." If, as mentioned earlier, Fr. Jenkins doesn't realize that "consider" and "act" mean the same thing, maybe these groups will.

Well, that's five undeniable points our writers have made in opposition to Raytheon's presence here on campus. It is very important that Raytheon no longer shows up at ND, so that no ND student can try to join Raytheon and do their part in making sure weapons companies act in an ethical manner. Finally, it just so happens that "Currently, Raytheon is the world's fifth-largest weapons manufacturer." Coincidence? You decide. See you all next time.

Douglas Schuda
junior
O'Neill
Feb. 2

This is the color of fail.
Less grey. Less fail. More win.

Scene's Best of You Tube

Dane Cook on Catholic Mass



Try to keep a straight face on Sunday, just try.

The All American Rejects' Cover of "Womanizer"



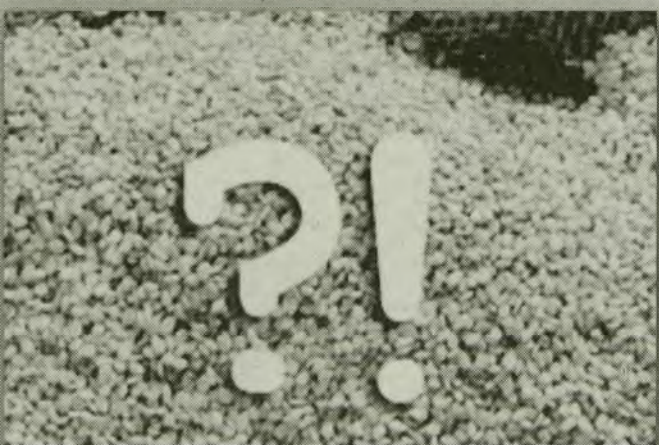
"It's because we can just do it better than Britney." You decide...

Demetri Martin's "Jokes With A Guitar"



Perhaps the best 15 minutes you will spend this week.

Mitch Hedberg's "Sesame Seeds"



"There's got to be some sesame seed glue out there!"

Lula's: More than a Restaurant

By J.J. REES
Scene Writer

Lula's opened as an independently owned coffee shop in the spring of 1995, two years after the current owner, Steve Egan, graduated from Notre Dame. Since then, Lula's has hosted Irish Music Mondays, Slam Poetry Tuesdays, acoustic sets from local musicians, and various readings through Notre Dame's Creative Writing Program.

As construction continues on the new Eddy Street Commons, Lula's demonstrates a great example of existing Notre Dame/South Bend community relations. Egan describes Lula's as "more than a restaurant — a cultural gathering place that promotes community and provides a creative outlet." For almost fourteen years, Lula's has provided a starting point for students looking to get off campus and into the community. Located on Edison Rd., in between the Backer and the Softball Field, Lula's is the easiest and closest off-campus eatery for an on-campus student to visit. In warmer weather, the walk would take about an easy 30 minutes.

Much of Lula's appeal is its accessibility for those who need to study off campus. Providing free WiFi, users are only asked to cede key tables during busy lunch hours if necessary. The restaurant does fill up quickly, but outside of lunch students will find mostly peace and quiet, with easily obtained snacks and drinks.

The atmosphere is hard to pin down, coming off as something between a stripped-down Starbucks and a hole-in-the-wall bar. Neither hipster nor corporate, it's not uncommon to see a

professor and student sitting next to an older couple as a group of undergrads argue over Trivial Pursuit (Lula's has a cabinet full of board games sure to liven the most dud of dates). The tableware was presumably from 14 years' worth of thrift stores and garage sales, but that's not a result of lack of effort.

As for the food, almost everyone who has been has a dish to recommend. A standard favorite is the hummus with warm fresh pita and blue corn chips. This homemade dish is a completely different taste, texture, and body than the dining hall's. Neither is bad, but hummus lovers would be remiss not to sample Lula's roasted red pepper take on the dish.

The soup has never been a disappointment, paired perfectly with fresh pumpernickel bread. Lastly, the sandwiches and wraps are noteworthy. Egan's four recommended dishes for first-timers are well-chosen: the house salad, the turkey brie sandwich, the veggie sandwich and the artichoke chicken spinach wrap.

Lula's recently added the Lagniappe Menu (Cajun for something extra, like the 13th in a baker's dozen). The new menu includes more wraps and salads, and also a breakfast sandwich. One of Lula's best features is its service. First-time diners might be put off by the clear-your-own table policy, but it almost seems right, after such friendly table service. Orders are placed at the register, where the chalkboard menu is changed frequently, and the food is brought right out to the table.

Contact J.J. Rees at jrees@nd.edu.



Jeff Tweedy Delights Kalamazoo

By JAMES DUBRAY
Assistant Scene Editor

On the night of Thursday, January 29th 2009, Jeff Tweedy took the stage at the State Theatre for his first appearance in Kalamazoo as a professional musician. With five guitars behind him, Tweedy suspended banter and began his solo show with a rendition of the Woody Guthrie penned, "One By One."

The guitar played gently and Tweedy sang as if the words were his own. No longer the wide eyed Belleville 20-something who cut his teeth on punk and traditional country, the father of two solemnly echoed his forbearers' words, "One by one, my hair is growing gray/One by one, my dreams are fading fast away."

Recently returning from New Zealand, Tweedy appeared to be as healthy as he's ever been. Sometimes noted for his lack of patience on stage, the benevolent Wilco dictator remained in good spirits despite many inappropriate shout-outs from a few over-served individuals among the over 1,000 fans on hand. Tweedy's 20-song set was both eclectic and fresh.

Reaching all the way back to "Uncle Tupelo's Anodyne," Tweedy played at least a song from every Wilco album, as well as his own "Loose Fur" tune, a "Sky Blue Sky" bonus track, a "Yankee" b-side, a Radiohead cover and four new songs.

Highlights of the set included Tweedy's two most overtly sociopolitical songs. In "The Ruling Class," Tweedy rhythmically sang "Yeah he's back Jack, shootin' smack, find him if you wanna get down." After a rousing reception of applause, Tweedy smiled asking the crowd "So you like songs about Jesus smoking crack, do you?" Wilco staple "Spiders" arrived as a stripped down version of the usual avant-garde guitar brawl.

Cheers were shouted, albeit maybe inappropriately, as Tweedy provided a bit of caustic commentary "Spiders are filling out tax returns/ Spinning out webs

of deductions and melodies/ On a private beach in Michigan." Much to the delight of Wilco's rabid fan base, four contenders for the anticipated Spring 2009 release were played. Originally debuted on The Colbert Report, "Wilco The Song" left fans smiling with its "Summerteeth"-esque leanings.

"I Will" sounded even better than the full band version performed at Neil Young's Bride School Benefit, while the newly debuted "Solitaire" left something to be desired. Tweedy relieved many fans when he conceded "Don't worry, that won't be on the new album."

The best of the bunch was the introspective "Everlasting Everything," which can be found on YouTube already. Lyrically, the song contains typical Tweedy beauty, revealing itself as a love letter from an unusually sure narrator.

The first encore began with a shocking rendition of Radiohead's "Fake Plastic Trees." Although the Chicago troubadour cannot produce the same falsetto as his British counterpart, it was a delight to hear America's brilliant front man playing homage to the band across the sea.

The second and final two-song encore concluded sans public address, witnessing Tweedy remembering his days as a member of the cult worshiped Saint Louis band Uncle Tupelo. Audience members filled the aisles to get as close to the stage as possible as their idol and friend shouted sentimentally above his own guitar, "Everything cuts against the tide, when you're by my side."

It was a fitting ending to a show, which featured the most amiable and accessible Jeff Tweedy seen, well, ever. Although a bit of the mystery is lost with Tweedy's new found happiness, fans can only find hope in the recent displays of positivity from their favorite songwriter. Bearded Canadians, "Great Lake Swimmers" provided a suitable opener. Their brand of melodic folk accompanied by sparse instrumentation was a pleasant surprise for many audience members.

Contact James DuBray at jdubray@nd.edu.

By SARA FELSENSTEIN
Scene Writer

Walking into the Decio Mainstage Theater in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center (DPAC) this weekend, many people were simultaneously excited and unsure about the dance company's, Diavolo's, performance. Excited, because the company is known to be outstanding, but at the same time unsure of what to expect.

The DPAC Web site said that Diavolo "[propels] the evolution of dance...to make the arts more integrated within the mainstream of America." It was clear that they were not a traditional dance company, and that the performance would be somewhat abstract. But what exactly were they?

Judging from the reactions of the audience, (the gasps during the dances and the enthusiastic clapping after), the performance was unlike any most people had seen before. Diavolo was a masterpiece of athletic ability, teamwork, expressiveness, and above all, creativity.

The lingering question among audience members post-performance was: how did they come up with this?

According to artistic director Jacques Heim, "We get a croissant some espresso, and start talking ... about how we feel today."

The show began with Foreign Bodies, an original work co-commissioned by Notre Dame. As the curtains rose, the audience saw twisting hands coming out of holes in a very large cube. Soon the dancers were popping in and out of the set, constantly moving, it seemed, to their own rhythms. The dance was not synchronized — each dancer was doing his or her own routine, but each contributed to the whole.

After a few minutes, the cube was broken apart and transformed into three pyramid-shaped figures. The set kept transforming in response to changes in the music and each time it did, the dancers interacted with the set and each other differently. The intensity rose as the twenty-minute piece wore on — the dancers were climbing, flipping, and lifting one another up in a display of strength and athleticism.

The second piece was called Tete en L'Air, which is French for "head in the sky." The theme of this segment was the isolation people feel with the modern world. Each dancer was dressed in a business suit and a hat that partially covered their eyes. The set this time was a large staircase positioned in the center of the stage. The dancers ran up and down the stairs, crawled across them sideways, and even did back flips off the top of the set into the arms of a few fellow dancers.

The aura of the dance was reminiscent of a New York City street — despite the thousands of people around, no one seems to have the time to acknowledge one another. Similarly, the dancers carefully refrained from making eye contact with one another to portray this sort of isolation. The effect of the ending was both powerful and ominous. All the dancers left the set except one man, who stood on the top. The lighting was dark and the man's fedora was over his eyes. He falls backwards off the top of the staircase into darkness and the music ends.

The final piece was set on a ship that rocked back and forth — harder at the crescendos, and slower during the more sensitive movements. This was the first piece to offer a significant amount of synchronization between the dancers — first between the men, and then the women, but the abstract nature of the show was certainly not lost. The dancers were constantly sliding on and off the set but the transitions were so smooth that one would not even notice they were gone. The 30-minute piece ended as one female dancer reaches into black smoke in total isolation, bringing the theme of the show full circle.

The performance was outstanding, and there was no one dancer that stood out more than another. The irony of the show was that despite its theme of isolation in the modern, technological world, every number necessitated an extraordinary amount of teamwork and trust from the performers. And there was constant uncertainty about what they would do next that was invigorating to watch. "We put it together like a puzzle," Heim said. "There's an unknown zone every night."

Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsens@nd.edu.

Diavolo: Bounding Innovation



MADLINE NIES | Observer Graphic

NBA

Mavericks down Magic for third straight win

Wade tallies 32 points and nine assists in win over Clippers; rookie Mayo scores 33 to lead Memphis over Wizards

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla.— Dirk Nowitzki had 29 points and six rebounds, Jason Terry had 23 points and the Dallas Mavericks beat the Orlando Magic 105-95 Monday night for their third straight win.

Josh Howard and Jason Kidd added 13 apiece for the Mavericks, who held Orlando to 3-for-20 shooting from 3-point range.

Dwight Howard had 35 points and 11 rebounds, and Hedo Turkoglu scored 18 as the Magic ended their three-game winning streak. But that wasn't the worst news of the night for Orlando.

All-Star point guard Jameer Nelson left the game in the third quarter with a dislocated right shoulder. He was scheduled to have an MRI on Tuesday.

And Dallas took advantage in his absence.

Terry's 3-point play capped a 19-6 run as the Mavericks turned a tight game into a blowout, going ahead 75-57 in the third quarter. Dallas started fast in the fourth, using a 10-4 spurt to take an 87-67 lead.

A late rally by the Magic cut

Dallas' lead to 99-90 with 2:29 remaining on a 3-pointer by Turkoglu. But each time Orlando nudged closer, Nowitzki and the Mavericks would answer back.

It was quite different early. Mickael Pietrus' layup highlighted an 11-4 Magic run, giving them a 40-33 lead midway through the second quarter. But Dallas would answer, clamping down on Howard and getting out on the fast break.

Forcing turnovers and speeding up the tempo, the Mavericks closed the half on an 18-7 spurt that put them ahead 54-47. Dallas' perimeter defense was stellar, holding Orlando to 1-for-7 shooting from beyond the arc in the first half.

It wasn't as easy early in the paint.

Muscling through Mavericks at will, Howard nearly had a double-double by the end of the first quarter: He had 12 points and six rebounds, powering the Magic to a 27-25 lead.

But even Howard wasn't perfect.

He was rejected by the rim on an alley-hoop attempt in the first quarter, falling to the floor after misjudging his posi-

tion under the basket. Josh Howard was able to keep the Mavericks in range early, scoring 10 points in the first quarter.

Heat 119, Clippers 95

Dwyane Wade had 32 points and nine assists, Michael Beasley added 18 points and the Miami Heat snapped a two-game losing skid by beating the Los Angeles Clippers on Monday night.

Mario Chalmers scored 15 points, Udonis Haslem added 13 and Shawn Marion — in his first game back after missing five straight with a strained left groin — finished with 11 points and seven rebounds for the Heat, who improved to 15-3 when scoring more than 100 points this season.

Zach Randolph, back after missing 19 games with a sore left knee, scored 21 points for the Clippers, who've lost six straight and 20 of 22. Marcus Camby and Eric Gordon each added 12 for the Clippers, who had beaten Miami by a single point in each of their last two meetings.

But Miami controlled this one nearly start to finish, never trailing by more than three points in the early going and holding the lead for the game's final 33:33.

It was the most points Miami scored at home since beating Utah 121-83 on March 14, 2006.

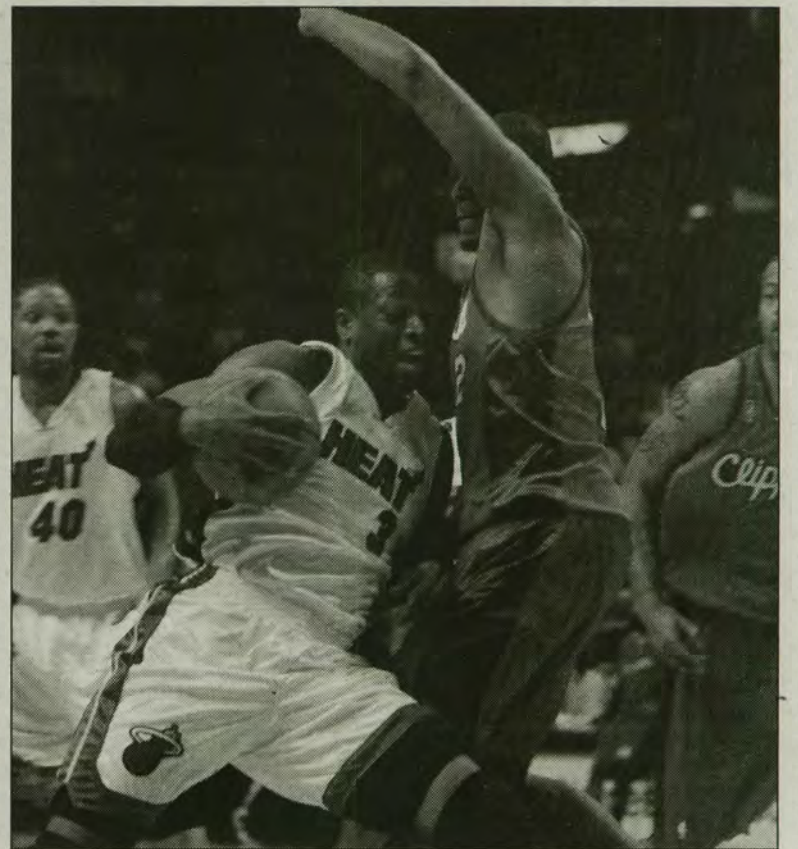
Although the Clippers are tied with Washington for the league's worst record — both teams are now 10-38 — this game had significance for Miami.

The Heat were coming off losses to Indiana and Dallas. And with a road trip to Eastern Conference rivals Detroit and Philadelphia starting Wednesday, it's not the ideal time for a midseason swoon, particularly with five teams already jostling for the No. 4 playoff seed.

So Wade and Chalmers went to work early, setting the tone. They combined for 16 points in the first quarter as Miami built a six-point lead, and the Heat — buoyed by 56 percent shooting in the half and a 10-point second quarter from Beasley — eased into the break with a 58-47 edge.

It got dicey, though, late in the third.

The Clippers held Miami to only two field goals in a four-minute span, and suddenly found themselves down just



Miami guard Dwyane Wade drives against Clippers guard Fred Jones Monday in the Heat's 119-95 victory in Miami.

77-70 with 3:08 left in the quarter after a pair of free throws from Baron Davis.

Right on cue, Wade took over, leading a 13-3 run that ended the quarter.

He hit a pair of 3-pointers and scored nine points in all during the spurt, and after Haslem hit a jumper with two seconds left, the Heat carried a 90-73 lead into the fourth.

Grizzlies 113, Wizards 97

Rookie O.J. Mayo matched his career high with 33 points to lead the Memphis Grizzlies to a win over the Washington Wizards on Monday night, their first win in nearly a month.

Rudy Gay scored 23 and Marc Gasol added 22 points and 11 rebounds for Memphis, which ended a 12-game losing streak — the team's longest since dropping 13 in a row to start the 2002-03 season. The Grizzlies had not won since beating Dallas 102-82 Jan. 4.

Antawn Jamison had 29 points and 13 rebounds and Caron Butler scored 21 for Washington, which failed to record its second two-game winning streak of the season.

Memphis led for much of the game, but did not pull away until a 19-2 run to finish the third quarter, with Gay scoring nine straight points as the

Grizzlies ended the quarter with a 94-81 lead.

The game was Memphis' highest scoring mark of the season, and the Grizzlies' eight turnovers matched a season low.

Memphis started three rookies, a second-year player and Gay, in his third season. Wizards interim coach Ed Tapscott said before the game he hoped his veterans would be able to exploit the Grizzlies' youth, and he went so far as to script the first two plays of the game to make sure Jamison and Butler would each get the ball early. They both had 12 points at the end of the first quarter, accounting for all but five of the Wizards' points, but the strategy still left Washington down 32-29 after the first quarter.

The Grizzlies' youth kept pace with the Wizards, and then bettered them. Mayo also scored 12 points in the first quarter, and hardly slowed his scoring pace. It was Gay, however, who really lifted the Grizzlies with his late third-quarter binge.

Memphis guard Kyle Lowry left the court early in the second quarter after a collision with the Wizards' Dominic McGuire, hopping on his left foot out the tunnel to the locker room.



Mavericks point guard Jason Kidd shoots over Mavericks guard Anthony Johnson in Dallas' 105-95 win on Monday.

CLASSIFIEDS

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Townhomes at Dublin Village, Irish Crossing, Wexford Place, Ivy Quad. 3 and 4 Bdr. Only a few left for 09/10. CES Property Management. 574-968-0112 CESPM.info

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PERSONAL

Morrissey Basketball: You can't stop them or even hope to contain them

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. We have many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-7819 or Ann Firth at 1-2685. For more information, visit NDS Assistance for Pregnant Students/Office of Student Affairs website at: osa.nd.edu/health-safety/assistance-for-pregnant-students.

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, visit Support Services for Victims of Rape & Assault at: http://osa.nd.edu/health-safety/assault/

I hope the next time I move I get a real easy phone number, something that's real easy to remember. Something like two two two two two two two. I would say "Sweet." And then people would say, "Mitch, how do I get a hold of you?" I'd say, "Just press two for a while. And when I answer, you will know you have pressed two enough."

My apartment is infested with koala bears. Its the cutest infestation ever. Much better than cockroaches. I turn the lights on and the koalas scatter. I'm like, come back! I want to hold one of you, and feed you a leaf.

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.

AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, February 3, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 13

NCAA Men's Basketball USA Today Top 25

	team	record	points
1	Connecticut (28)	20-1	772
2	Oklahoma (3)	21-1	729
3	Duke	19-2	682
4	North Carolina	19-2	670
5	Pittsburgh	19-2	633
6	Wake Forest	17-2	609
7	Louisville	17-3	604
8	Marquette	19-2	586
9	Xavier	19-2	529
10	Clemson	18-2	487
11	Butler	19-1	456
12	UCLA	17-4	400
13	Purdue	17-4	369
14	Michigan State	17-4	356
15	Memphis	18-3	309
16	Villanova	17-4	298
17	Texas	15-5	274
18	Gonzaga	16-4	201
19	Minnesota	18-3	197
20	Syracuse	17-5	162
21	Illinois	18-4	126
22	Utah State	21-1	106
23	Arizona State	16-5	104
24	Kansas	17-4	100
25	Washington	16-5	78

NCAA Men's Basketball AP Top 25

	team	record	points
1	Connecticut (64)	20-1	1,792
2	Oklahoma (5)	21-1	1,691
3	North Carolina (3)	19-2	1,639
4	Duke	19-2	1,563
5	Louisville	17-3	1,464
6	Pittsburgh	19-2	1,427
7	Wake Forest	17-2	1,409
8	Marquette	19-2	1,358
9	Xavier	19-2	1,176
10	Clemson	18-2	1,077
11	Butler	19-1	1,051
12	Purdue	17-4	961
13	Michigan State	17-4	876
14	Memphis	18-3	798
15	UCLA	17-4	787
16	Texas	15-5	724
17	Villanova	17-4	698
18	Gonzaga	16-4	632
19	Minnesota	18-3	426
20	Syracuse	17-5	415
21	Kansas	17-4	316
22	Washington	16-5	216
23	Illinois	18-4	198
24	Arizona State	16-5	146
25	Utah State	21-1	99

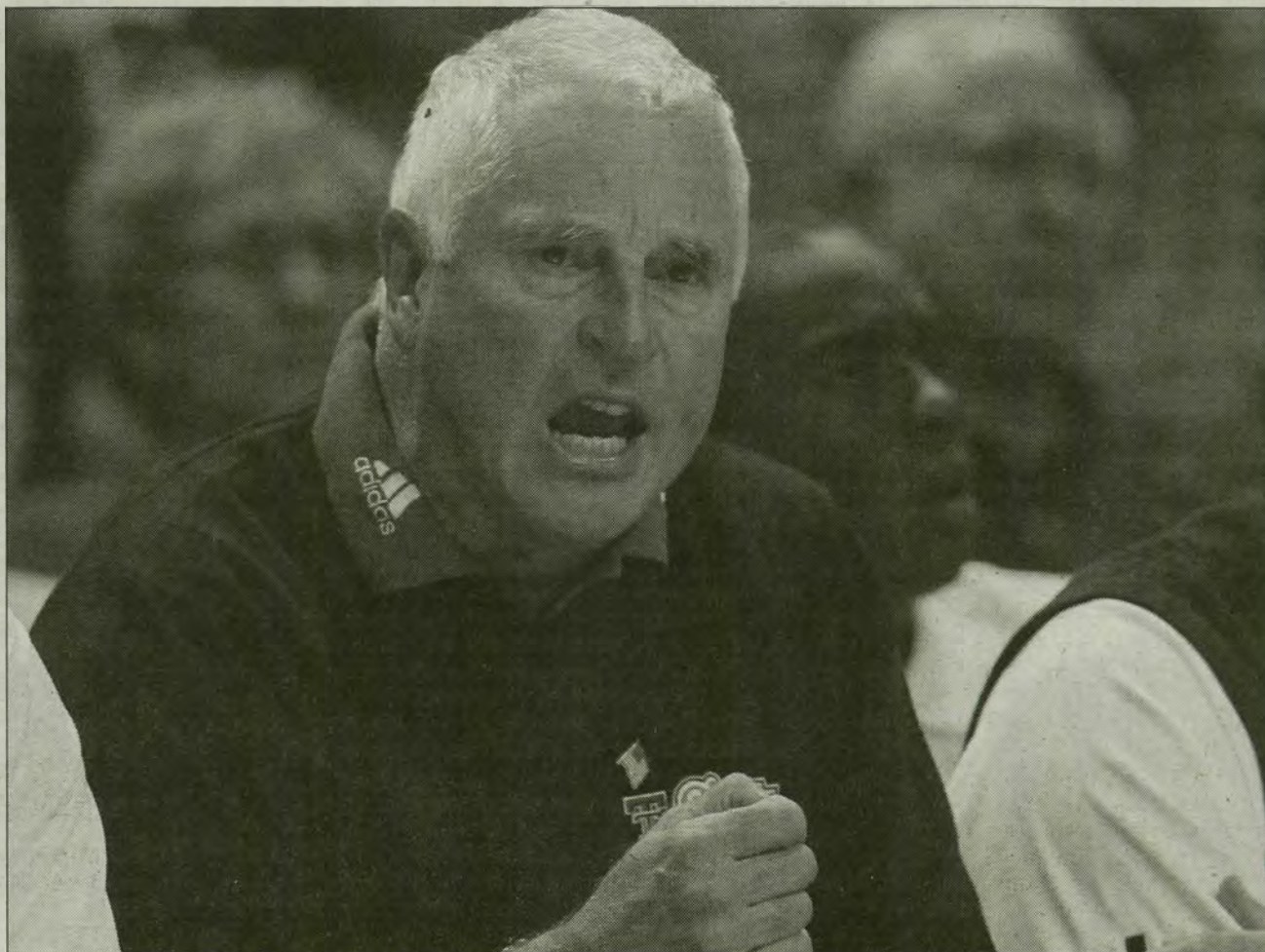
Big East Women's Basketball Standings

	team	record	overall
1	Connecticut	7-0	21-0
2	Louisville	7-1	20-2
3	Pittsburgh	6-2	16-4
4	Villanova	5-2	13-8
5	NOTRE DAME	5-3	16-4
6	DePaul	5-3	17-5
7	Rutgers	4-4	12-7
8	Cincinnati	3-4	13-7
9	Marquette	3-4	12-9
10	USF	3-5	16-6
11	Syracuse	3-5	14-7
12	Georgetown	3-5	13-8
13	St. John's	2-5	14-6
14	Seton Hall	2-6	14-7
15	Providence	2-6	8-13
16	West Virginia	1-6	12-8

around the dial

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL
No. 13 Purdue at Ohio State
7:00 p.m., ESPN

NCAA BASKETBALL



ESPN analyst Bobby Knight coaches his team at Texas Tech before he surprisingly resigned in the middle of last season. Knight has expressed interest in the vacant Georgia head coaching job.

Knight interested in Georgia job

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Bob Knight could be ready to return to coaching and Monday said Georgia would be a desirable destination.

"We would have the wherewithal to recruit and be able to compete with anybody," Knight told ESPN on Monday.

Knight, who resigned as the Texas Tech coach almost one year ago, said he would return to the sideline if offered the right situation. Georgia could be that situation.

One problem, Georgia hasn't said if it is interested in Knight.

Athletic director Damon

Evans is heading the Georgia search after firing Dennis Felton on Thursday. Evans ultimately will make a recommendation to University of Georgia president Michael Adams.

Adams' friendship with NCAA president Myles Brand could become a factor. As the president at Indiana, Brand fired Knight. Adams is chair of the NCAA executive committee.

Dick Vitale, ESPN college basketball analyst said Georgia should make his longtime friend an offer "in a heartbeat."

"I don't even know if he would take a job but I

know Georgia has a lot of positives going for it in the scenario there and I think he'd be interested, I really do, but I can't speak for Bob Knight," Vitale said in a telephone interview.

"To me it's no contest, if Bobby Knight is interested in Georgia basketball it's no contest," Vitale said. "He's so good I'd come with him as an assistant. I'd be his chauffeur."

Evans named assistant coach Pete Herrmann the interim coach for the remainder of the season. Evans, returning from the Super Bowl on Monday, did not return a phone message. He said Thursday he would use a

search firm to help assemble the pool of candidates.

The 68-year-old Knight is the all-time winningest men's major college coach with 902 victories in 42 seasons at Army, Indiana and Texas Tech. He resigned as Texas Tech's coach on Feb. 4, 2008, turning the team over to his son, Pat.

In Knight's six full years at Texas Tech, he led the Red Raiders to five 20-win seasons and four NCAA tournament berths. The Red Raiders advanced to the NCAA Sweet 16 in 2005 but won only one other NCAA tournament game under Knight.

IN BRIEF

Perez, Mets reach three-year preliminary agreement

NEW YORK — Oliver Perez and the New York Mets reached a preliminary agreement Monday on a \$36 million, three-year contract.

The deal is subject to the pitcher passing a physical, two people familiar with the talks said, speaking on condition of anonymity because the agreement wasn't final. The physical is scheduled for Tuesday.

New York had offered Derek Lowe — another client of agent Scott Boras — a \$36 million, three-year contract, but Lowe accepted a \$60 million, four-year offer from Atlanta. In addition to Lowe, the Mets also held talks with agents for Tim Lincecum and Randy Wolf, and agreed with Redding on a \$2.25 million, one-year deal.

With the agreement, the Mets' projected rotation includes Johan Santana, John Maine, Perez, Mike Pelfrey and either Redding, Freddy Garcia or Jon Niese.

Tax returns reveal Selig's salary to be \$17.5 million

NEW YORK — Baseball commissioner Bud Selig made more than all but three of his sport's players in 2007.

Selig received a raise of about \$3 million to nearly \$17.5 million that year, according to Major League Baseball's latest tax return.

His compensation was listed at \$17,470,491 for the 12 months that ended Oct. 31, 2007, according to the return, which is available at guidestar.org. That was up from \$14,515,071 in the prior 12 months.

MLB's contribution to Selig in its benefit plan was \$461,540, an increase from \$400,999 in the previous return. He got \$422,590 in expense account and other allowances, up from \$140,603 in the previous fiscal year.

In 2007, the only players who received higher cash compensation were a trio of the Yankees: Alex Rodriguez at \$23 million, Derek Jeter at \$22 million, and Jason Giambi at \$21.5 million.

Phelps' sponsors stand by the Olympic swimmer

MILWAUKEE — Michael Phelps doesn't seem to be in much hot water with his sponsors despite being photographed inhaling from a marijuana pipe.

From apparel company Speedo to luxury Swiss watchmaker Omega, several sponsors are standing by the 23-year-old swimming phenom — at least for now — and have accepted his public apology. Other big companies, like Visa Inc., Subway and Kellogg Co., aren't talking yet.

Experts say if Phelps doesn't stick to the straight and narrow, he could hurt his chances at future endorsements. And there's no guarantee he won't be dropped quietly once the furor dies down.

Phelps, who won a record eight gold medals at this summer's Olympics in Beijing, acknowledged "regrettable" behavior and "bad judgment" after the photo appeared Sunday in the British tabloid News of the World.

NBA

Lakers' center Bynum to miss 8 to 12 weeks

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Los Angeles Lakers center Andrew Bynum will miss eight to 12 weeks after tearing the medial collateral ligament in his right knee.

The diagnosis Monday was a relief to Bynum, who initially feared he might be out for the season. Bynum was hurt in the first quarter of Saturday night's win at Memphis when Kobe Bryant drove to the basket, missed the shot and crashed into Bynum's leg.

"It's better news than I expected to hear because of the shot that I took," Bynum said before the Lakers played at the Knicks on Monday night.

Still, it's hard for the Lakers to forget what happened last season, when Bynum was also supposed to be out eight to 12 weeks with a knee injury. The 7-foot, 285-pound center bruised a bone in his left knee and briefly dislocated his kneecap in mid-January.

Instead of returning in time for the playoffs, he missed the final 46 games of the season and underwent arthroscopic surgery May 21 to remove cartilage debris and smooth some rough spots on the

underside of his kneecap.

Without him, the Lakers lost in the NBA finals.

Bynum, who was carrying but not using a crutch, noted the eerie similarities between the two injuries. But he's confident one aspect will be different: This time, he'll be back when expected.

Bynum hopes his comeback occurs closer to the eight-week mark, which would give him about 10 games to prepare for the postseason. Twelve weeks would mean the playoffs had already started.

Bynum's injury isn't expected to require surgery, and he plans to rest for a week or two before beginning rehab.

Bynum is the Lakers' third-leading scorer and second-leading rebounder, averaging 14 points, 8.2 rebounds and 1.9 blocks. Like last season, the injury came as he was stepping up his play. In the five games before he was hurt, he was averaging 26.2 points, 13.8 rebounds and 3.2 blocks and shooting 65.3 percent from the field.

"It's disappointing to him because he again is starting to play like last January exceptionally well, starting to exert his influence on the games," coach Phil Jackson said.

NHL

Ottawa fires coach after just 48 games

Associated Press

OTTAWA — Craig Hartsburg lasted less than one season with the unraveling Ottawa Senators, who suddenly have a revolving door behind the bench.

Unable to turn around a team that reached the Stanley Cup finals in 2007, Hartsburg was fired as coach Monday just 48 games into a season in which the Senators have the NHL's third worst record.

The Senators made their first trip to the finals two years ago and now are likely to miss the playoffs for the first time in 13 seasons.

The decision to replace Hartsburg with Cory Clouston was made by general manager Bryan Murray after Ottawa lost 7-4 at Washington on Sunday. Hartsburg signed a three-year contract in June.

"We've made another coaching change and now we have to watch the players over the next period of time and decide who stays and who doesn't stay to help us go forward," Murray said. "There will be judgements made before the trading deadline."

The 39-year-old Clouston, promoted from the AHL's Binghamton Senators, is the team's fourth coach since Ottawa lost in five games to Anaheim in the 2007 finals. He was given a three-year contract. Murray returned behind the bench for the final

18 regular-season games (7-9-2) after he fired first-year coach John Paddock in February.

"We kept hoping there would be some change in our performance, which didn't seem to be taking place," said Murray, who coached the club to the finals before taking over as GM. "We just weren't making any progress. We're struggling to keep up."

Ottawa (17-24-7) is 13th in the Eastern Conference, 14 points below the playoff cut-off.

The latest coaching change was made less than a week after team owner Eugene Melnyk held a news conference to say he still believed in his club. Talk of a potential switch surfaced in December while the world junior championships were in Ottawa. Murray's job was also rumored then to be in jeopardy.

Melnyk responded by saying he had "made no decisions with respect to personnel changes," which was hardly a vote of confidence.

The momentum of the finals appearance carried into last season when the Senators won 15 of their first 17 games. Since then, they have had a losing record and barely managed to hang on for a playoff spot last spring. The Senators were swept out of the first round in four games by Pittsburgh.

INFORMATION MEETING

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(for two years of graduate study at Oxford)

❧ MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP

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❧ MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP

(for one year of graduate study in Ireland)

**Tuesday
February 3**

5:00 pm

120 DeBartolo

*If you cannot attend but would like information, please contact the
Fellowships Office*

346 O'Shaughnessy
fellows@nd.edu



Coffee at the Como

For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Questioning Students at Notre Dame

Tuesday, February 3

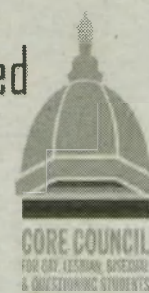
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

316 Coleman Morse

The Core Council invites gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning members of the Notre Dame family, along with their friends and allies, to an informal gathering at the Co-Mo.

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Coffee and Refreshments Will Be Served



Recycle The Observer.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

No. 1 UConn routs No. 5 Louisville

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Connecticut looks pretty comfortable at No. 1.

Jeff Adrien scored 18 points and grabbed seven rebounds and the Huskies celebrated their return to the top of the polls for the first time in three years with a 68-51 dismantling of No. 5 Louisville on Monday night.

Hasheem Thabeet added 14 points, 11 rebounds and four blocks as the Huskies (21-1, 10-1 Big East) rolled to their 10th straight victory. Jerome Dyson had 14 points and A.J. Price had 11 points, eight rebounds and three assists as the Huskies had surprisingly little trouble shutting down the red-hot Cardinals.

Terrence Williams led Louisville (17-4, 8-1) with a career-high 26 points but got little help.

UConn became the fourth No. 1 team in as many weeks earlier in the day, but managed to avoid the pitfalls that sent Pittsburgh, Wake Forest and Duke tumbling out of the top spot.

Louisville ended Pittsburgh's run at No. 1 with a 69-63 upset on Jan. 17. The Cardinals were hoping to become the first team since Georgia Tech in 1993 to beat two different No. 1s in the same season, but simply couldn't keep up with the Huskies.



Connecticut forward Jeff Adrien, left, and center Hasheem Thabeet celebrate the Huskies victory Monday over Louisville.

UConn improved to 16-2 all time on the road as No. 1 behind the play of their two big men, who dominated the lane. The Huskies outscored the Cardinals 40-18 in the paint and held Louisville to 34 percent shooting.

The Cardinals had resurrected their season during a perfect January, reeling off nine straight wins — including four against ranked teams.

Yet with 30 pro scouts on hand to watch the two preseason favorites in possibly the nation's toughest conference, the Cardinals were manhandled

by the Huskies.

Louisville power forward Earl Clark struggled against whoever UConn put on him, finishing with five points on 2-of-16 shooting. Heralded freshman center Samardo Samuels, clearly bothered by the 7-foot-3 Thabeet, was held scoreless, missing both of his shots from the field.

Adrien had no such problems. With the Cardinals sagging to stop Thabeet, Adrien bulled his way wherever he wanted. He hit 7-of-12 field goals and seemed to hit a shot whenever the Huskies needed one.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Pitt nets easy win against Colonials

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Pittsburgh avoided a letdown in a break from Big East play.

Sam Young had 23 points and DeJuan Blair 18 and No. 6 Pittsburgh beat Robert Morris 92-72 on Monday night.

Levance Fields added 12 points and 13 assists and Jermaine Dixon 15 points for the Panthers (20-2), who were playing their first game while not ranked in the top five since Nov. 22.

"You can't look over any team," said Fields, "but obviously this is a game where we were heavily favored to win. Some of these games are kind of trap games that are tough to play. But for the most part, I thought we did a good job of handling it and treating it like a Big East game."

Pitt has won four of five since losing for the first time this season and falling from the No. 1 ranking it held for two weeks.

Jeremy Chappell had 19 points and added a team-high eight assists for the Colonials (15-8), who had a nine-game winning streak snapped.

Young is Pitt's leading scorer at 18.1 points per game. But

he had cooled recently, having scored at least that many only three times in his previous 11 games — including a season-low five against Notre Dame on Saturday. Monday, he shot 8-for-11 from the field and 7-for-8 from the free throw line.

Robert Morris, which has lost all 27 all-time meetings with Pittsburgh, was within 24-22 midway through the first half but the Panthers went on a 29-11 run before the break to take over the game. Pitt scored a season-high 53 first-half points and has scored 185 points the past two games.

"This is a good win for us against an NCAA tournament team," Pitt coach Jamie Dixon said. "I think that's a team who's going to run away with its league, so I thought we did some very good things."

The Colonials led with 13 minutes to play in the two team's most recent meeting Nov. 29, 2006, but the Panthers won that one going away, too.

Rob Robinson had 15 points and Francisco Bateko 13 for Robert Morris, which shot 57 percent from the field but committed 19 turnovers and had only two offensive rebounds.

NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Oklahoma denies Summitt milestone

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Pat Summitt's 1,000th win will have to wait at least another game.

Courtney Paris' record 112-game double-double streak came to an end, but Whitney Hand matched her career high with 20 points to help No. 2 Oklahoma beat 12th-ranked Tennessee 80-70 on Monday night for the Sooners' 15th straight victory.

Summitt was denied in her first attempt at reaching the coaching milestone. She'll get another chance on Thursday when the Lady Vols host Georgia.

"I'm not concerned about a number for me," Summitt said. "I'm concerned about this basketball team investing in our system and not picking and choosing when they want to play hard."

Paris had nine points and 12 rebounds and got a standing ovation when she fouled out with 38.2 seconds left. She walked to the bench with both arms raised and wiped away tears as she waved to a standing crowd before taking a seat on the Sooners' bench.

"It was going to end sometime," Oklahoma coach Sherri Coale said. "My immediate thought was good for her. She doesn't have to carry it around anymore."

It was the end of a remarkable run that started more than

1,000 days ago in December of her freshman year. It was only the fourth time in Paris' 121 career games that she failed to score at least 10 points and pull down at least 10 rebounds.

But her teammates had plenty of fight to get the win anyway — and, just as notably, prevent Summitt from getting it.

In the 35th year of her storied stay at Tennessee, Summitt was trying to become the first major college coach to reach 1,000 victories. And there were times early when it looked like she'd get there. But she was left glaring in silence at her team after calling timeout following Hand's steal and fast-break layup that closed an 11-2 Sooners run that put Oklahoma ahead 57-46 with 13:10 to play. When she finally broke her silence, her instructions came in brief bursts.

By then, her Lady Vols had already blown a 15-point lead and were threatening to get run out of the game entirely.

"We are a long way from being a 40-minute team," Summitt said.

She could only stem the tide for so long.

A few minutes later, Hand nailed her fourth 3-pointer of the game during a run of nine straight points for the Sooners. Danielle Robinson's fast-break layup pushed the lead to 72-54 and forced Summitt to burn her final timeout with 5:53 left. And it was too late to do enough damage after that.

NHL

Sheppard maturing in Minnesota

20-year-old center beginning to contribute to young Wild team

Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — The jump from first to second year for James Sheppard has not been as smooth as he or the Minnesota Wild wanted.

The 20-year-old center, however, is picking up his play. Sheppard has two goals and two assists in the last eight games, after tallying only two and six in the first 41. Most importantly for coach Jacques Lemaire and his staff, Sheppard is performing fundamentally better on both ends of the ice.

"At the start of the season we wanted Shep to do certain things, maybe because we counted on him so much," Lemaire said after Monday's practice. "I don't know if he felt some pressure in all this. Then all of a sudden we'd accept what he was doing. And then since we accepted it, last ... six to 10 games, he's been better."

"We were pushing him before, because we needed him, and there was nothing coming out."

Sheppard pointed to increased consistency and simply more NHL experience as the weeks and months have passed.

"There's nothing monumental happening," he said. "I'm just creating more, and because I'm doing that I'm confident in myself and I'm getting more ice time because the coaches are con-

fident in me. That's a huge thing."

Originally asked to center the second line behind Mikko Koivu, Sheppard must continue developing and improving over the next two-plus months for the scoring-starved Wild to make the playoffs in this crowded Western Conference race. They begin a four-game homestand Wednesday, all against West teams.

"It's good for me and it's good for them, because we can work together and I can help this team out more than just helping myself," Sheppard said.

Compounding his early struggles was a complete lack of contributions by the other recent first-rounders on the roster, forwards Benoit Pouliot and Colton Gillies. Pouliot was sent to the minors two weeks ago, and Gillies has only appeared in 27 of the team's 49 games.

But Gillies has improved lately, like Sheppard. There's nothing on the score sheet to show for it — he has just one goal and three assists so far in his rookie season — except for ice time.

That is a telling statistic, though. Gillies played 11-plus minutes in last Tuesday's win against Toronto and was sent out for critical shifts in the third period of Saturday's overtime victory at Vancouver.

"It's just kind of starting to

click for me," Gillies said. "I don't know if it's the confidence or the video that I do. I just feel a little more prepared."

Lemaire said he's been pleased by what he's seen from Gillies over the past two weeks.

"Often a player will say, 'Well, Coach has got to give me confidence so I get better,'" Lemaire said. "Well, I heard that many, many, many, many, many, many — that's not a recording — many times. But when the guy plays well, he gets to play. When the guy does something that you like, and it's not only points, he gets it. It's the confidence when he's on the ice. You see that he knows what he's doing. You know that he's in control and he sees what's coming, and he reacts to that."

In other news, left wing Andrew Brunette was named captain for February. The honor, seemingly, was sealed when he played through a painful injury to his right knee and extended his streak of consecutive games played — the NHL's current longest — last month. He's now at 502 straight games.

Also on Monday, forwards Derek Boogaard and Stephane Veilleux were held out of practice due to muscle spasms. Their status, according to the team, is day to day. Forward Craig Weller is also still out with a head injury.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Tressel finds support despite big game woes

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — On the driver side door of a pickup truck parked in a suburban driveway is a magnetic sign that says, "Fear Tressel."

The plastic looks as weathered and beaten as the sentiment.

Some Buckeyes fans are no longer convinced that Jim Tressel is all that fearsome. Sure, he still wins 80 percent of his games, has a 7-1 record against Michigan, still wins Big Ten titles and his teams finish in the top 10. Those accomplishments are more than enough to place him among the most famous, and highest-paid, residents of Ohio.

But in just over two seasons, stinging losses on the national stage to Florida, LSU, Southern California, Penn State and Texas — three of those in major post-season games — have left a vocal minority of fans questioning their ultra-successful coach and his game plans.

Make no mistake, though, Tressel still has the confidence of his bosses.

"All I have to say is there are 120 Division I-A schools in this country — and 119 of them would love to have my problems," Ohio State President E. Gordon Gee said of the fallout from the Buckeyes' recent series of high-profile losses.

Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith went to Tressel last summer and offered to bump the coach's salary \$1 million to make him the highest-paid coach in the Big Ten. The raise means Tressel, as of last Sunday, is making \$3.5 million per year.

Ohio's governor, Ted Strickland, is paid \$144,831 per year — less than 1/20th what Tressel makes.

Smith believes that Tressel, who declined to be interviewed, is worth every penny.

"I've always felt that it was appropriate to keep him right at the top," Smith said of Tressel's salary in comparison to other conference football coaches. "If you look at his body of work, which we always talk about, he's done everything that we've asked him to do. You know all the stats. He's just done a great job for us."

Tressel, 56, continually swats aside questions about how long he'll coach. Yet his new contract — which goes through the 2012 season — has an interesting addition: If he decides to retire, the university can keep him on as a professor for up to five years.

That's the first time Tressel has ever acknowledged there might be a life for him after he hangs up his sweater vest.

Smith doesn't believe Tressel will coach into his 80s like Penn State's Joe Paterno or Florida State's Bobby Bowden.

NFL

Super Bowl audience 2nd highest

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Arizona-Pittsburgh matchup wasn't considered an ideal one for television, but its finish riveted an estimated audience of 95.4 million people, second only to last year's game as the most-watched Super Bowl ever.

Viewership peaked in the fourth quarter, when Arizona took the lead on Larry Fitzgerald's 64-yard catch and sprint to the end zone only to have it snatched back when Santonio Holmes' end zone leap gave Pittsburgh the 27-23 win. More than 100 million Americans were watching between 9:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. EST, according to Nielsen Media Research.

The game was the third most-watched program in American television history, after the 106 million people who watched the "M-A-S-H" series finale in 1983 and the 97.4 million who watched the N.Y. Giants end the New England Patriots' bid for an undefeated season in the 2008 Super Bowl.

"The Super Bowl, once again, proved its ability to capture America," said Dick Ebersol, NBC Universal Sports chairman.

The NFL's championship is traditionally television's biggest event of the year. Yet between 1998 and 2004,



Pittsburgh wide receiver Santonio Holmes celebrates the Steelers' 27-23 win over Arizona in Super Bowl XLIII.

none of the games reached the 90 million mark in viewers. Each game for the past four years topped 90 million.

Arizona's first-ever visit to the Super Bowl hadn't drawn much buzz outside of the Southwest. But Pittsburgh, perhaps because of its four Super Bowl wins in six years in the 1970s, has more of a national constituency than the city's size would suggest. Both of its last two Super Bowl trips topped the 90 million mark, with the Steelers' 1996 loss to Dallas the most popular Super Bowl until it was beaten last year.

The Super Bowl, long derided as a game that rarely lives up to its hype, now has two classics in two years.

One measure of how gripping the game was: for the first time in the seven years TiVo Inc. has been measuring, more people watched the game during the second half than watched the commercials. The ads are usually watched more because of people playing them back on digital video recorders, said Todd Juenger, general manager of TiVo's research department.

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Zellous

continued from page 20

"We're going to work hard, but she's just that good," McGraw said. "Losing [sophomore forward] Devereaux [Peters], she would have been someone who can challenge shots and things."

Pittsburgh is 16-4 and 6-2 in the Big East. The Panthers have won five straight and beat Marquette by 32 points. Notre Dame defeated Cincinnati 66-50 at home Saturday and is also 16-4, but the Irish have a 5-3 conference record.

Notre Dame doesn't have a go-to scorer this season like it did last season with Charel Allen. The teams on Notre Dame's schedule for the past few games have had that scorer — Laura Kurz, Epiphanny Prince and Zellous. McGraw said not having that scorer, however, helps balance the offense.

"I think when you rely on one player, if they have a bad game, you can lose," she said. "We have a lot of people who can step up."

The last time the two teams played, Pittsburgh upset then-No. 9 Notre Dame in the quarterfinals of the Big East tournament on March 9, 2008. Then-senior center Mercedes Walker scored 18 points and had 13 rebounds.

Although Walker graduated, Pittsburgh still presents challenges in the post in the form of 6-foot-6 freshman center Shawnee "Pepper" Wilson. Wilson leads the team in rebounding with 6.9 per game, shoots 50 percent from the field and 90.3 percent from the foul line. McGraw said junior center Erica Williamson will need to be effective on defense to limit Wilson.

"I think we'll hope that Erica can have a good defensive game against her, because she's a big body in there," McGraw said. "She's shooting the ball pretty well, she's rebounding well. We've got a lot of work to do to contain her."

Regardless of the challenges Pittsburgh presents, McGraw said Notre Dame's sense of urgency had returned, and that the veterans, senior guard Lindsay Schrader and junior guard Melissa Lechlitner, were spearheading the team's efforts.

"I think [the urgency's] mostly coming from Schrader and Lech, and I think those two are at that point where they're trying to get everybody on their same page," McGraw said. "And I think we're there. I think the freshmen are ready to step up and contribute."

One of those freshmen, forward Kellie Watson, contributed in a big way against Cincinnati. She hit two 3-pointers in less than a minute to seal Notre Dame's win. The team, McGraw said, needs the same mindset it had against the Bearcats to defeat Pittsburgh.

"We have to be ready to compete, we got to get on the boards, we got to get loose balls, and we have to do all the little things," McGraw said.

That mindset, however, can coexist with enjoying the game, McGraw said.

"I think it's just your attitude and your approach," McGraw said. "I think you can look at things a lot of different ways, and if you choose to be positive I think you will have a lot more fun."

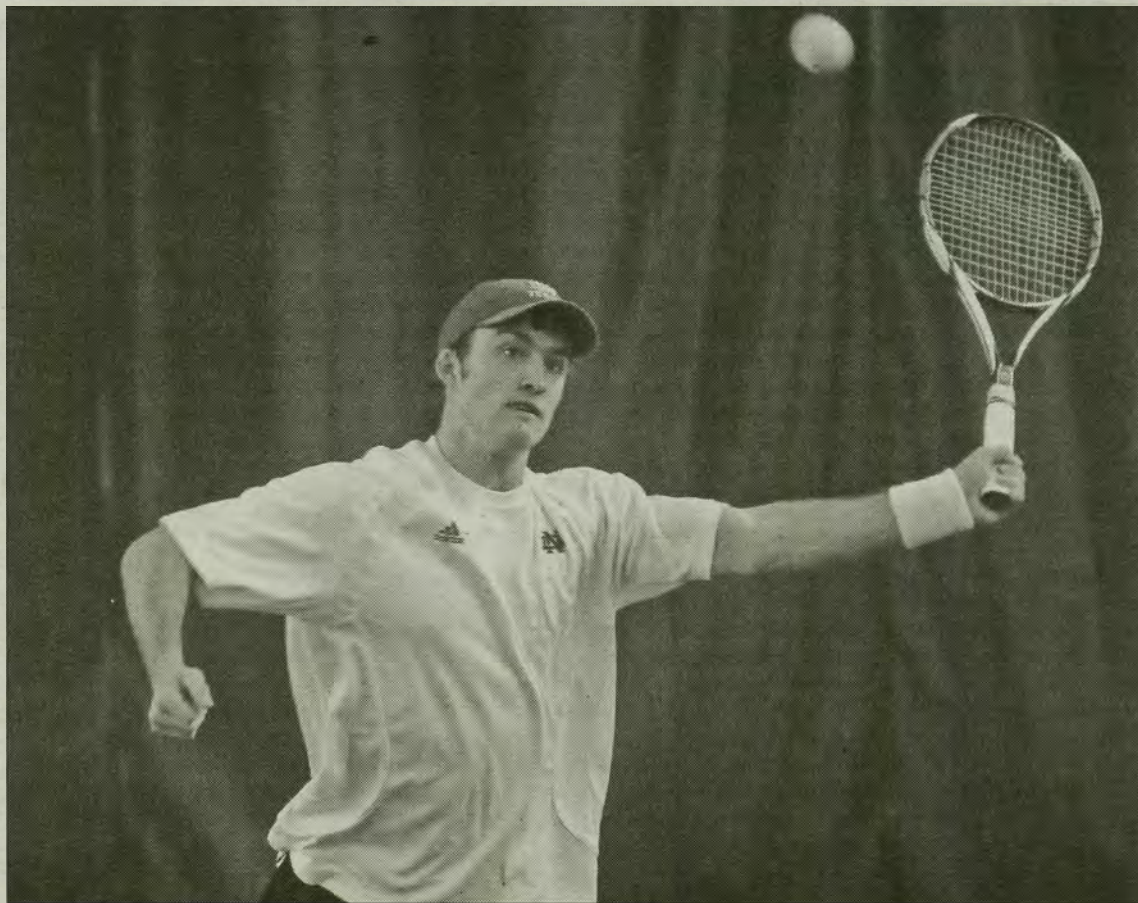
Notes:

♦A knee injury has bothered freshman guard Natalie Novosel and kept her out of practice Sunday, McGraw said.

"She's been playing hard, it's just been really painful for her," McGraw said. "She's not going to get over it, so hopefully she can play through it."

♦Freshman guard Fraderica Miller sprained her foot last Wednesday, McGraw said. She was in a walking boot during the Cincinnati game. McGraw said she will not play tomorrow but should be back by the end of the week.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu



PAT COVENY/The Observer

Sophomore Tyler Davis returns a shot during Notre Dame's match against Florida State at home on Jan. 28. Notre Dame won 4-3.

Youth

continued from page 20

sophomores fill the rest of the spots in the lineup.

"Except for Brett Helgeson, everyone is either new or playing in a new position than a year ago," said Bayliss.

The squad's inexperience in tough play has shown this season, as the Irish have fallen to four ranked opponents in dual matches.

"What needs to happen is for us to bring the level we see daily in practice to these matches," Bayliss said. "Sometimes younger guys take time to feel comfortable in tough matches. There is no question about the effort level, but learning to be comfortable in a dual match can take time."

However, the underclassmen were instrumental in Sunday's win over No. 20 Texas Tech, their first victory over a ranked opponent.

In that match, sophomores Sam Keeton and Steven

Havens and freshman Casey Watt won their singles matches to push the score to 4-0, clinching the win and ending early the matches of Helgeson and No. 112 Daniel Stahl, a sophomore.

Keeton, who missed the fall semester because of a broken wrist, improved his dual match record to 5-0 with the win.

"[Keeton] has quickly made up for lost time," Bayliss said.

Though the team has fallen several times already this season, Bayliss said the losses are a learning opportunity.

"There can be a tendency when you suffer close setbacks to hold back a bit in order to minimize the pain of a loss," he said. "We cannot allow that to happen. I ask — no, demand — that our guys give their all and leave it all on the court."

He also acknowledged that the tough schedule (five

ranked teams in six matches to start the season) has been hard on the young team.

"Many of these guys were state champions in high school and never had to face the level of competition day-in and day-out that we play," he said. "But we won't improve playing East Over shoe Tech."

Bayliss said he has confidence in his team despite their youth.

"My biggest challenge will be keeping everyone happy and finding opportunities for them all," he said.

The season does not get any easier from here, as the team has No. 33 Duke, No. 14 Michigan, and top-ranked Ohio State on its slate for February.

But the team's growth, win or lose, will probably get a little less painful.

Contact Laura Myers at lmeyers2@nd.edu

"I ask — no, demand — that our guys give their all and leave it all out on the court."

Bobby Bayliss
Irish coach

Duals

continued from page 20

clinch the victory for the Irish.

The NCAA debut of freshman foil Gerek Meinhardt was another highlight for the Notre Dame men; the 2008 Olympian led the team with 16 wins, including match-clinching victories against Cleveland State, Detroit and Ohio State. Senior All-American epeeist Karol Kostka finished the weekend with 15 wins, with a 3-0 mark against Ohio State in one of the tightest matches of the event. Sophomore All-American foil Steve Kubik and freshman epeeist Keith Feldman each posted 14 wins on the weekend.

"Meinhardt does not need my recommendation for he is one of the best foilists not only in the USA or North America but in the world," Bednarski said. "He has talent, skill and great technique from his club coach

and the experience from the 2008 Olympic Games."

The Irish women made a strong case for a No. 1 ranking with three wins over ranked teams, including blowouts over No. 1 Penn State and No. 3 Ohio State.

For the women's epee team, sophomore captain and All-American Ewa Nelip finished the weekend with a perfect 18-0 record, while freshman Courtney Hurley ended up 17-2. The two have been nearly unbeatable in 2009, with respective 37-2 and 31-5 records through three events.

"Nelip is one of the best European epeeists," Bednarski said. "She is a great talent and great performer with a blend of intelligence and sporting excellence. She is fencer who can

be a decisive factor in hard matches as she competes with true Fighting Irish character and spirit."

Sophomore All-American foil Hayley Reese paced all Notre Dame fencers with 24 wins, against one loss over the weekend, with a match-clinching victory over Ohio State, while senior sabre Ashley Serrette led her squad with 23 wins. Sophomore All-American sabre and 2008 National Champion

Sarah Bormann finished 19-2, and eclipsed the 100-win mark on her career.

The Irish return to competition Friday at the Duke Duals in Durham, N.C., before hosting this weekend's Notre Dame Duals in the Joyce Center.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu



VANESSA GEMPI/The Observer

Irish junior guard Melissa Lechlitner shoots during Notre Dame's 78-68 loss to Rutgers on Jan. 27.



Notre Dame's zone defense guards Huskies senior guard A.J. Price during Connecticut's 69-61 win over Notre Dame in the Joyce Center on Jan. 24.

Big East

continued from page 20

Marquette (19-2 overall, 8-0 Big East):

The Golden Eagles look poised to make a run at a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament. They got their losses out of the way in non-conference play and look like a strong bet to earn two byes in the Big East tourney. Marquette had one of the best weeks of any team in the country with convincing wins at Notre Dame and against Georgetown.

The New No. 1: Connecticut (21-1, 9-1):

After Wake Forest upended then-No. 1 Duke, Connecticut inherited the nation's top ranking Monday. The Huskies aren't even the top squad in the Big East but they were dominant in a win at Louisville Monday night. Plus, they still get a chance to play Marquette. Unfortunately for the Irish, they have to travel to Storrs on Feb. 28 to face the Huskies, which could be pretty close to peaking by then.

Others Looking for a Top-Four Seed: No. 6/5 Pittsburgh (20-2, 7-2), No. 5/7 Louisville (17-4, 8-1), Providence (14-7, 6-3), No. 17/16 Villanova (17-4, 5-3), No. 20 Syracuse (17-5, 5-4):

The Panthers are among the best of this group but Villanova

beat them Wednesday and has been coming on strong lately. Don't be too surprised if the Wildcats — who have spent most of the season outside the top 20 — swoop in and capture a double-bye for the conference tournament. In addition to the win over the Panthers, Villanova crushed Cincinnati Sunday. Louisville, meanwhile, is still in good position despite the loss to Connecticut. The Irish will look to avenge their road loss to Louisville when the Cardinals come to the Joyce Center next week.

The Middle of the Pack: West Virginia (15-6, 4-4) Cincinnati (14-8, 4-5):

Both of these teams beat Georgetown in the past week, improving their stock while sending the Hoyas reeling. The Irish face both of these squads in the next few weeks and would actually love to seize their "middle-of-the-pack" label.

The Mighty That Have Fallen: Notre Dame (12-8, 3-6), Georgetown (12-8, 3-6)

Both the Irish and the Hoyas looked like potential top-10 teams in the beginning of the season but they have now dropped into the dreaded "others receiving votes" category. Even worse news? Neither team is receiving too many votes. The Irish garnered just seven in the AP rankings and four in the ESPN/USA Today poll. Also, since Georgetown has fallen sim-

ilarly, Notre Dame's win over the Hoyas no longer looks nearly as good.

The Bottom of the Barrel: St. John's (12-9, 3-6), Seton Hall (11-9, 2-6), South Florida (7-14, 2-7), Rutgers (10-12, 1-8), DePaul (8-14, 0-9):

At least the Irish can still look forward to games against three of these five bottom-feeders. Still, they already lost to St. John's and didn't exactly blow DePaul or Seton Hall out of the gym.

Needless to say, the Irish must rack up some league wins in the next few weeks. But they no longer have any excuses to lose. The ultra-rough part of their schedule is done and they have a bunch of winnable games remaining.

Notre Dame can still scale the Big East mountain, but the team will have to do it with wins over weak opponents serving as oxygen and a few signature victories as its Sherpa.

Note:

♦ Irish coach Mike Brey said before practice Monday that his starting lineup against Cincinnati will be Luke Harangody, Luke Zeller, Zach Hillesland, Kyle McAlarney and Tory Jackson. This is the third different starting lineup for Notre Dame in the last four games.

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

CCHA

continued from page 20

conference play, though they have played two more games (22) than every team but Nebraska-Omaha (22) and Alaska (24).

Alaska (12-10-6, 10-9-5-3, 28 pts)

Last week: won 4-1, lost 6-2 vs. Ohio State

Next week: off; at Western Michigan Feb. 13-14

Key stat: 11.7 penalty minutes per game. The Nanooks take fewer penalty minutes than any other team in the league and have allowed a conference-best 12 power-play goals by successfully killing 89 percent of their penalties.

No. 4 Michigan (19-9-0, 13-7-0-0, 26 pts)

Last week: won 2-1, lost 3-2 vs. Notre Dame

Next week: vs. Lake Superior

Key stat: eight power-play goals allowed. The Wolverines have killed 92.2 percent of their opponents' power plays, and no other team has allowed fewer than 12 power play goals in CCHA competition.

No. 15 Ohio State (17-8-3, 10-7-3-3, 26 pts)

Last week: lost 4-1, won 6-2 at Alaska

Next week: vs. Notre Dame

Key stat: 22 third-period goals allowed. Only the bottom three teams in the current standings have allowed more goals in the final period than the Buckeyes, who will try to shore up their defense as they pursue a spot in the top four.

Nebraska-Omaha (13-10-6, 8-8-6-3, 25 pts)

Last week: lost 7-1, tied 1-1 (lost shootout 2-1)

Next week: vs. Western Michigan

Key stat: seven straight losses or ties. The Mavericks have not won since topping Northern Michigan 4-3 on Jan. 9. Since then, they have four losses and three ties, with one shootout win.

Ferris State (11-11-6, 8-8-4-1, 21 pts)

Last week: won 7-1, tied 1-1 (won shootout 2-1)

Next week: vs. Michigan State

Key stat: 89 percent of penalties killed. The Bulldogs rank No. 3 in all three special teams categories (power play percentage, penalty kill percentage, and special teams net). Miami is the only other team in the top-three of each category, as the RedHawks rank second in each.

Lake Superior (9-11-8, 6-8-6-1, 19 pts)

Last week: won 2-0, won 4-2 vs. Michigan State

Next week: at Michigan

Key stat: 12 third-period goals allowed. Only Notre Dame, with seven, has allowed fewer goals in the final stanza than the Lakers. That has helped them stay in games, as evidenced by their six ties — which include two against the Irish.

Northern Michigan (9-13-4, 6-10-4-3, 19 pts)

Last week: won 6-5, won 4-3 at Western Michigan

Next week: vs. Bowling Green

Key stat: 15 third-period goals. The CCHA's coaches picked the Mavericks to finish fourth, but Northern Michigan has scored fewer third-period goals than every team but Michigan State. The Mavericks have allowed just nine goals in the first period, however, which is the best in the league.

Western Michigan (7-15-6, 4-11-5-1, 14 pts)

Last week: lost 6-5, lost 4-3 vs. Northern Michigan

Next week: at Nebraska-Omaha

Key stat: -16 special teams net. The Broncos have a league-worst special teams net (power-play and shorthanded goals for and against) of -16, thanks mostly in part to the league-worst 29 power-play goals they have allowed. Bowling Green and Ohio State are second-worst in killing penalties and have allowed 21 power play goals each.

Bowling Green (9-16-3, 6-13-1-0, 13 pts)

Last week: lost 6-1, lost 3-2 at Miami

Next week: at Northern Michigan

Key stat: 3.6 goals allowed per game. The Falcons are the only team that has allowed 70 goals in CCHA play, and their goals-against average is more than twice that of Notre Dame's 1.70.

Michigan State (7-18-3, 4-14-2-2, 12 pts)

Last week: lost 2-0, lost 4-2 at Lake Superior

Next week: vs. Ferris State

Key stat: Eight first-period goals. The Spartans' league-worst offense (1.65 goals per game, half of Miami's average) have scored the conference's fewest goals in the opening period. Michigan State's anemic offense is the main culprit behind the disappointing finish for a perennial top-four CCHA finisher.

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

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15 Light on one's feet

16 Commuter option

17 Slugger Rodriguez

18 Foaming at the mouth

19 Nocturnal hunters

20 Incentive aimed at golden agers

23 Massachusetts tourist spot

24 Bit of work

25 Powerful Pontiac

26 Key element

31 Chocolate-coated candy

35 Hubbub
- 36 Before too long

37 Laptop key

38 Margarine

39 Modern navigational aid, for short

40 1949 Orson Welles film

44 Easy dupes

46 Thoroughfare

47 School of thought

48 Designed to increase traction

52 Ivan Turgenev novel ... and a hint to 20-, 31- and 40-Across

56 Squander

57 Ammo unit

58 Sicilian hot spot

59 Norse trickster

60 In readiness

61 Power co.

62 Clinical study
- Down**

1 Reduce drastically, as prices

2 Needing darning, maybe

3 Fight site

4 Adding, as an ingredient

5 Samurai, e.g.

6 Antiquated exclamation

7 Nickname of Israel's Netanyahu

8 Some Ivy Leaguers

9 Insignificant amount

10 Slop container

11 Sign of fatigue

12 "Braveheart" getup

13 Overhead RRs

21 Not duped by

22 Tolkien brutes

26 Most of Santa's mail

27 Creep (along)

28 Conceal in the hand

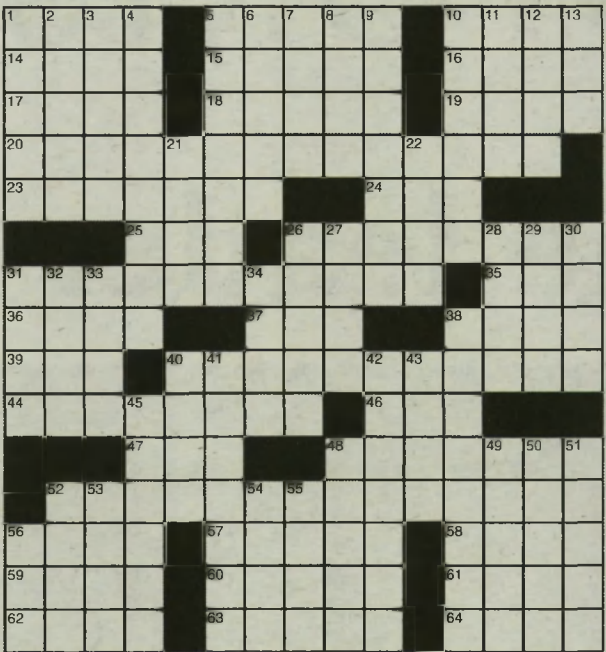
29 "What's the big ...?"

30 Midday

31 Sporty cars, briefly

32 Potentially offensive
- 63 Marathon handout

64 Look to be



Puzzle by Doug Peterson

- 33 Light snack

34 Humbly patient

38 He devised the Trojan horse

40 Nonsense, to a Brit

41 Where touch typists begin

42 "Hmmm ..."
- 43 Cape Town currency

45 Chowderhead

48 Jack of "Twin Peaks"

49 Tony winner Lenya

50 Certain navel

51 Song of David
- 52 Arctic mass

53 "Thumbs-up" responses

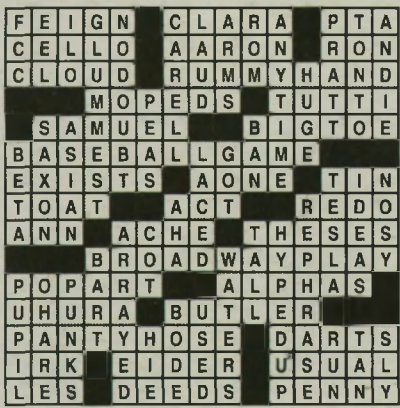
54 Barrett or Jaffe

55 Spades, for example

56 Diner order, briefly

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EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Michael T. Weiss, 47; Christie Brinkley, 55; Brent Spiner, 59; Farrah Fawcett, 62

Happy Birthday: Don't take life so seriously and things will flow better for you this year. There will be support and help from those who care about you and want to see you do well. Relax and refuse to get wrapped up in the melodrama. Bide your time, listen to good advice and work on the relationships that are worth keeping. Your numbers are 2, 6, 13, 20, 23, 31, 48

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You will be taken advantage of if you do too much for others. Listen but do not meddle. Your best efforts will come from working for your own benefit, taking care of unfinished business, projects and promises. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't give your true feelings away with your reactions. You can expect someone to try to take credit for something you did. Don't get angry but do set the record straight. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Someone will go behind your back if he or she thinks it will give them a professional edge. There is money to be made but a move or learning a new skill may be required. Someone you least expect will help you. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Use your ingenuity and you will come up with some good ideas for budgeting or bringing in more money. Chances are there is a service you can offer or a craft you produce that can be marketed. Making alterations or sizing down can help ease financial stress. 4 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't be fooled by what someone is telling you, especially if it has to do with finances, a professional position or a legal settlement or contract. You have to question everything and everyone if you intend to get what you want. 2 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You need a vacation. The experience will lead you in a whole new direction -- one of exhilaration and prosperity for your future. Love is in the stars and commitment is within your reach. 5 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): It's experience coupled with your ability to socialize that will get you where you want to go. Networking will pay off but don't let it cost you too much. An idea you have will be well received. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You'll be tempted by someone who may not be telling you the whole truth. Back up and rethink your priorities. You cannot give time or money to someone else when you have your own projects to pay for and manage. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Additional responsibilities will be a lot to handle but are essential to your own well-being and future. Someone questioning your loyalty may be guilty of exactly what he or she is accusing you of doing. Face any controversy head-on. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Consider what you can do to increase the value of your home or lower your overhead. There is money to be made if you are calculating and quick to make a move. Emotional issues can be dealt with, bringing about greater understanding. 5 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't jump to conclusions or make a hasty decision. Be sure before you make a move that will alter your lifestyle or confine you in any way. Rely on past experience to lead you in the right direction. 2 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You may be swindled if you let your emotions get involved in a money-making decision. Find out all you need to know about a job or company change that will affect your position. Don't leave anything to chance. 2 stars

Birthday Baby: You are strong-willed and determined. You are bold and sensitive and always stand up for the underdog. You like to be in control.

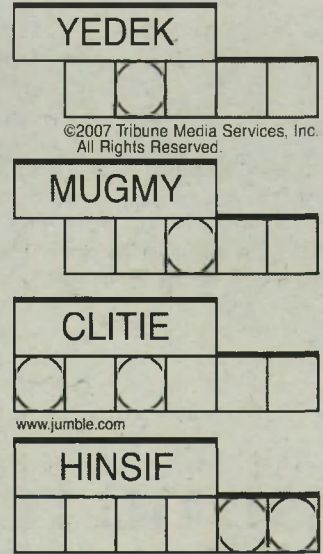
Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

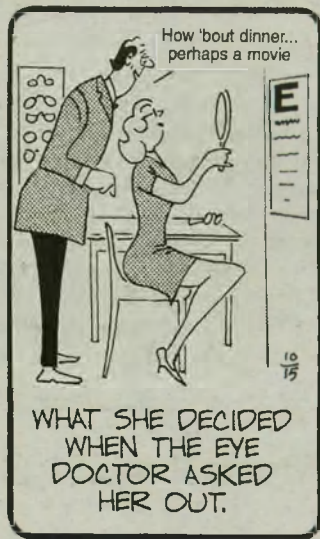
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer here: TO " " (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: PROBE BUXOM RACIAL BROOCH
Answer: What the weaver left in his estate -- AN "HEIR" LOOM

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE OBSERVER

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Stop the leader

Zellous and red-hot Panthers await ND

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

Notre Dame found its stride on defense Saturday against Cincinnati. And just in time, too, because tonight the No. 19 Irish face senior guard Shavonte Zellous, the Big East's leading scorer, and the No. 22 Panthers at the Peterson Events Center.

Zellous averages 23.8 points per game, second in the country, and just dropped 31 in a home win over Marquette on Jan. 30. She was also recently named to the Wooden Award watch list. Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said Zellous will get her points and that the Irish don't have a defender who can guard her.

see ZELLOUS/page 17



Junior guard Ashley Barlow plays defense during Notre Dame's 70-67 win over St. John's on Jan. 17. Notre Dame is ranked No. 19 in the Associated Press poll released Monday.

TOM LA/The Observer

MEN'S TENNIS

Young squad still learning

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

If Notre Dame was a teenager, it would be going through its awkward stage.

But growing pains are to be expected on a team composed almost entirely by a talented group of freshmen and sophomores not used to playing at such a high level.

"This is a process," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "Learning to compete is as much a learned skill as are one's strokes and shot-making."

The team is led by senior Brett Helgeson, ranked No. 20 — the squad's only upper-classman. Nine freshmen and

see YOUTH/page 17

HOCKEY

No. 2 Irish still lead CCHA, but playoff race heats up

By MATT GAMBER
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame may have lost its 20-game unbeaten streak and its No. 1 national ranking, but the No. 2 Irish still hold a two-point lead with two games in hand over CCHA rival Miami.

With most teams — Notre Dame included — having

eight games left in the 28-game conference season, the league standings are taking shape.

The top four teams in the final standings receive a first-round bye in the conference tournament, and with three teams within a point of each other for that No. 4 seed, that race is certainly one to watch.

The next four teams will

each host a best-of-three series starting March 6, so the fight for the No. 8 slot will also heat up in the coming weeks as the bottom four look to move into position to host a first round series.

No. 2 Notre Dame (20-4-3, 14-3-3-3, 34 pts)

Last week: lost 2-1, won 3-2 vs. Michigan

Next week: at Ohio State

Key stat: 1.5 net goals per game. With the league's second-highest scoring offense (3.2 goals per game) and top scoring defense (1.7 goals allowed per game), the Irish have dominated a relatively easy conference schedule to this point. Notre Dame also boasts the CCHA's most efficient power-play unit, scoring on 23.5 percent of its

man-up chances.

No. 8 Miami (16-8-4, 14-5-3-1, 32 pts)

Last week: won 6-1, won 3-2 vs. Bowling Green

Next week: off; at Lake Superior Feb. 13-4

Key stat: 72 goals. The RedHawks were the first team to reach 70 goals in

see CCHA/page 18

MEN'S BASKETBALL

In Big East, no rest for weary

No conference wins in three weeks, but team gets easier track

By FRAN TOLAN
Associate Sports Editor

The good news is the toughest part is over. The bad news is the easier part is also pretty darn tough. It almost seems like the Irish failed to climb Everest so they earned a chance to try scaling Mount Kilimanjaro.

After a five-game losing streak that was probably even more brutal on the Notre Dame players than the fans, the team will travel to Cincinnati Wednesday in search of its first conference win in over three weeks.

Here's a look at the Big East after another week of in-conference cannibalism:

Still Undefeated: No. 8

see BIG EAST/page 18



Guard Tory Jackson and forward Luke Harangody pump themselves up before facing Connecticut on Jan. 24.

IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

FENCING

Both teams defeat Penn State at Northwestern

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

The No. 1 men (17-0) and the No. 2 women's team (17-2) combined to go 22-0 at the Northwestern Duels this weekend, knocking off seven ranked opponents in the progress. Both squads posted victories over top-ranked Penn State teams during the Evanston, Ill. event.

The men, who finished the weekend 9-0, turned in wins over Johns Hopkins (23-4), Northwestern (20-7), Cleveland State (24-3), No. 10 North Carolina (21-6), Wayne State (24-3) Detroit (24-3), Lawrence (27-0) No. 3 Ohio State (15-12) and Penn State (14-13), who currently are tied with the Irish atop the USFCA poll.

On the women's side, the

team went 11-0 with wins against John's Hopkins (25-2), No. 1 Penn State (19-8), No. 8 Temple (19-8), Farleigh Dickinson (24-3), Lawrence (25-2) Wayne State (23-4), Cleveland State (26-1), North Carolina (23-4), No. 6 Northwestern (16-11), Detroit (27-0) and No. 3 Ohio State (17-10).

On Saturday, the men's team's scintillating 14-13 victory over Penn State set the tone for the Irish. Holding a narrow 13-12 lead late in the match, Notre Dame head coach Janusz Bednarski made a late substitution, placing sophomore Jacob Osborne into the epee lineup. After falling behind 4-3 in a match that needed five touches for a win, Osborne picked up two quick touches to

see DUALS/page 17