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Jenkins, students head to D.C. for march

Notre Dame Right to Life Club sends students to capital to support pro-life cause



State Rep. Bill Hinkle encourages a crowd of pro-life supporters, Jan. 19 while speaking at the steps of the Legislative Building in Washington.

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Editor

Almost 400 students will participate in this year's national March for Life Friday in Washington, D.C. — doubling last year's participation.

The Notre Dame Right to Life Club sends students to the nation's capital every year to march in the annual pro-life rally, the group's co-vice president Mary Daly, a senior, said. But this year, for the first time, University President Fr. John Jenkins will join the marchers.

Jenkins created a pro-life task force in September to "broaden and deepen the

pro-life culture" at Notre Dame to help "strengthen the Notre Dame community's witness to Catholic teaching on life." One of the task force's first recommendations was to suggest the University president join Notre Dame students in Friday's March for Life.

The task force's creation was in part in response to the work of a group of students who condemned Jenkins' decision to invite President Barack Obama to deliver the 2009 Commencement address and award him an honorary degree.

Daly, a leader within the student group that protested

see MARCH/page 4

Festival showcases student film productions

By MEGAN HEMLER
News Writer

Notre Dame's film production program is often described as one of the top "hidden gems," around the country, said Ted Mandell, film and television faculty member and organizer of the Film and Television Department's annual Student Film Festival.

Now in its 21st year, the festival began Thursday night at the Browning Cinema in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The festival continues Friday and Saturday night, with screenings at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m.

The first film festival was held in 1990 in a variety of venues, until 2004 when the DPAC was built and it has been held there ever since.

All films are between three and fifteen minutes in length, from a variety of genres, but all made by students during introductory, intermediate or advanced film production classes.

Mandell said there are several factors the movies are judged on.

"There are a lot of elements,

see FILM/page 4

Petition starts in response to comic

Students call for 'sexual orientation' to be added to the University's non-discrimination clause

By AARON STEINER
News Writer

Notre Dame seniors Patrick Bears and Meaghan Jennings knew they had to do something to try to get the University to act after the Jan. 13 publication of an offensive comic about violence towards the gay community in The Observer.

The two, both involved in the Gender Relations Center and the Core Council — a University group that works to support the GLBTQ community at Notre Dame — said there was "shock and outrage" after the offensive comic was printed last week.

"By no means [do I] think that anyone saw it and thought, 'Oh, but Notre Dame is so accepting of homosexuals,'" Jennings said.

On the contrary, the comic and the national response it generated contributed to a perception of the University as not being accepting of the GLBTQ community, she said.

"I feel like our image has very much been tarnished by this," she said.

So the pair decided to start a petition to have "sexual orientation" added to the University's non-discrimination clause — it's currently not listed alongside

see PETITION/page 4



Members of the Campaign for Human Dignity presented the Office of the President with a petition on March 19, 2009.

Police ask for more information on assault

Observer Staff Report

Investigations are underway regarding the three students who were assaulted while attempting to board the Transpo bus route 7A during the early morning hours of Jan. 17, police said earlier this week.

Police asked witnesses to share any type of information they have. "Even if people think it might not be significant, it may be the break that we need," Assistant Director for Notre Dame Security Police Dave Chapman said.

Chapman said any information

about the attackers and their car or license plate number could be helpful in identifying the person responsible for the assault.

"Anything they saw, anything they heard, anything at all," he said. "If we get two or three people, we can put their stories together."

The assault occurred at around 2 a.m. Sunday on the corner of Notre Dame Ave. and Miner St., Chapman said.

Witnesses should call Sergeant Al Deroo at 574-235-9263 or South Bend Crime Stoppers at 574-288-STOP with information.

Keenan Revue pushes envelope

By JOHN CAMERON
News Writer

Between Notre Dame "bros," Facebook creepers, Twilight and Tiger Woods, few Notre Dame or pop culture topics escaped the spotlight at the 2010 Keenan Revue, presented Thursday night in O'Laughlin Auditorium at Saint Mary's College. Traditionally, the men of Keenan Hall have been known to push the envelope, and this year is no exception.

Judging from some of the skit titles, like "Flip and Tuck," and

see KEENAN/page 4



Keenan men line up and dance during their performance in O'Laughlin Auditorium at Saint Mary's on Thursday night.

INSIDE COLUMN

Stadium efficiency

Earlier this month, the Stinson-Remick Hall of Engineering opened its doors for the first time to Notre Dame students. Suffice to say, Notre Dame is not exactly hurting for new buildings. Earlier this academic year Geddes Hall and Ryan Hall opened to students. Apparently at Notre Dame construction is second only to finding a football coach who will take us back to our glory days.

Sam Stryker
News Wire Editor

What is interesting about all these new buildings is that we are not even maximizing the infrastructure that is already in place on campus. Think about it—one of the most important buildings on campus, second in notoriety to the Main Building and its Golden Dome, is open for use by students maybe 10, 15 times a year. Yes, you know exactly what I am talking about — the football stadium. Before the University breaks ground on any new buildings, I think we need to consider putting the stadium to good use.

Now, certain obvious ideas come to mind. How awesome would it be for the stadium to host the NHL's hallmark event, The Winter Classic. An outdoor hockey game on New Year's Day would be pretty cool.

And why not start hosting a concert or three at the house that Rockne built? As acoustically prestigious as Legends or the B Parking Lot may be, they could not shake a mic at the musical experience a live performance at the Stadium would provide. Imagine Taylor Swift rocking out at the 50 yard line or 'Bad Romance' blaring through the same loudspeakers that normally host the voice of Officer Tim McCarthy.

But those are just the obvious ideas. The real fun begins when one starts thinking outside of the box.

Every now and then I hear a rumor from a friend that the administration is considering building a new dining hall. What a ridiculous idea. Why not build an al fresco dining establishment right on the field right after football season? Heck, seating wouldn't be an issue—you'd have 80,000 to choose from. The best part is the University could save on refrigeration and just store all the cold food in a snow bank.

Another idea that comes to mind is turning the stadium into a lecture hall for some of the larger intro level classes. I guess you'd have to give the teacher a microphone or something, but it would be nice to cut down on all the foot traffic that goes through DeBartolo in between classes.

Notre Dame students LOVE Christmas. Why not turn the field inside the stadium into a Christmas tree farm during the cold winter months? As much as I love my 3-foot tall plastic imitation Christmas tree, nothing can quite beat a good ol' Douglas fir tree strewn with lights and ornaments. While we're at it, we might as well make it a watermelon farm in the summer.

Clearly, Notre Dame Stadium has the potential to be the definition of a multi-purpose stadium. Before we fire up the bulldozers and phone up the Bob the Builder yet again, let's put our good stadium to some real use.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Sam Stryker at sstryke1@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 PART OF KEENAN REVUE?



Kerry Quinn
sophomore
Holy Cross

"Seeing Timmy dressed up as Miley Cyrus."



Timmy Martin
sophomore
Keenan

"Wearing my ex-girlfriend's bra."



Stephan Kahn
sophomore
Keenan

"Displaying my canary like voice."



Patrick Mines
sophomore
Keenan

"Being stationed in Poland but carrying on."



Andy Zetter
freshman
Stanford

"The Jackson 4."

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail observer.questions@gmail.com



GRACE KENESEY/The Observer

Zach DuBois sings a twist of Wicked's "Defying Gravity," acting as Jimmy Clausen leaving for the draft, during Thursday's Keenan Revue.

IN BRIEF

"RFK Project" continues tonight and tomorrow at the Decio Mainstage Theatre at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. Purchase tickets online at performingarts.nd.edu or at the box office.

The University of Notre Dame will donate the full gate receipts, as well as the net concession revenue, from both the men's and women's basketball games this weekend to benefit relief and rebuilding efforts in Haiti. The men play DePaul tomorrow at 2 p.m. and the women play West Virginia Sunday at 1 p.m. in the Purcell Pavillion of the Joyce Center.

Notre Dame's Institute for Advanced Study's Conference on Beauty continues today and tomorrow at McKenna Hall. The conference is free and open to all to attend sessions, but registration is required to attend meals.

The Notre Dame Post Office will hold a Passport Fair tomorrow from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the post office in Hammes Mowbray Hall. No appointment is necessary.

Men's and women's track is holding the Notre Dame Invitational tomorrow in the Loftus Sports Center, starting at 10 a.m. The event is open to the public.

The Mr. and Miss Diverse ND Pageant will take place tomorrow at Washington Hall from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

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

OFFBEAT

Senior photo prank spells trouble; students penalized

HOUSTON — A spelling prank in a class photo for more than 600 seniors in the Houston area led to suspension of three students. Some students wore T-shirts spelling out "CLASS" as part of "Class of 2010" in a formal shot. But KHOU-TV reported in a later informal shot, students representing "C" and "L" moved from the front row, leaving behind an offensive three-letter word.

Administrators at Cypress Ridge High School cited the school's code of

conduct and suspended the three students for three days. The penalty began Tuesday.

Senior Austin Knight says "C and L ran off" and it's not the fault of the three students, wearing A, S and S, who also were fined \$135. The money will help pay the cost of retouching the photo.

Man gets day in jail after throwing taco at manager

FAIRBANKS, Alaska — An Alaska man who hit a Taco Bell manager in the face with a double-decker taco has been sentenced to one day in jail and one

year probation. Warren Strickland of Fairbanks must also pay a \$100 fine after pleading guilty Tuesday to disorderly conduct.

The 31-year-old says he threw the taco because it contained spit after he went through the drive-thru twice because the restaurant messed up his order. He claims the manager accused him of lying to get free food.

Strickland is barred from Taco Bell during his year of probation.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 34 LOW 32	HIGH 33 LOW 32	HIGH 38 LOW 37	HIGH 40 LOW 30	HIGH 33 LOW 26	HIGH 28 LOW 23

Atlanta 51 / 38 Boston 37 / 18 Chicago 35 / 33 Denver 45 / 32 Houston 74 / 61 Los Angeles 53 / 44 Minneapolis 32 / 28 New York 44 / 28 Philadelphia 45 / 28 Phoenix 59 / 45 Seattle 53 / 43 St. Louis 44 / 34 Tampa 70 / 54 Washington 36 / 30

ND institute to host conference on beauty

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

Notre Dame's Institute for Advanced Study will host its first of annual conference starting today through Jan. 23, director Vittorio Hösle said.

The conference, held in McKenna Hall, will focus on beauty emphasized in lectures by international speakers from many diverse fields, Hösle said.

"Beauty is neglected in modern discussion," Hösle said. "The question is how we will be able to reflect on beauty."

Figures like internationally known Russian artist Maxim Kantor and mathematician Robert P. Langlands will lecture on beauty in visual arts and mathematics, respectively, according to the program. Kantor will also speak Jan. 26, 27 and 29 on printmaking and Russia.

The topic of the conference is derived from the Institute's seal — "Verum, Bonum, Pulchrum," meaning truth, goodness and beauty, Hösle said.

The next two conferences will focus on goodness and truth, and a fourth conference will focus on religion.

The conference, as well as the Institute itself, is increasing the interdisciplinary and international nature of Notre Dame's campus, Hösle said.

"The Institute [for Advanced Study] has an aim to foster research with two points; that it's interdisciplinary and that it should look at the normative and descriptive," Hösle said. "That is,

we should learn how the world is and how it ought to be."

The Institute is a recent installation on campus, with original planning starting in the fall of 2008 and the formation of the actual offices in July of 2009, Hösle said. The Institute will begin selecting fellows and graduate students after the conference.

"This year we will bring in eight fellows and two graduate students," Hösle said. "Next year we will increase, adding 14 fellows and four graduate students. We will select those whose projects are in line with the Institute."

Hösle said undergraduates would eventually be hired.

"We will possibly hire some undergraduates to work for the fellows and experience scholarship," Hösle said. "We want to attract undergrads so they can be exposed early on to discussions."

He said an increase in international knowledge would be necessary as time goes on.

"The 21st century will be a global one. We have to increase international knowledge. We need students to speak different languages," Hösle said.

To find more about the Institute for Advanced Study and the Annual Conference, including a schedule of events, visit sri.nd.edu/institute-for-advanced-study or call 574-631-1305. Registration is required for meals, but the sessions are open to anyone who would like to attend.

Contact Amanda Gray at agray3@nd.edu

More seniors do thesis projects

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

The senior thesis has in the past been associated with math and the sciences at the University but the College of Arts and Letters is making strides to create what they call a "thesis culture" within the college.

The College of Arts and Letters has made changes to the thesis program and process in order to attract more students to complete a thesis. The efforts appear to have been successful because the number of students completing a thesis has risen.

"Last year we had 10 percent of our undergraduates in the college completing theses," Arts and Letters Associate Dean Stuart Greene said. "This year that number has risen to around 15 to 18 percent."

Greene said the new focus will allow students to explore an area of interest they normally wouldn't get to study in-depth in their given major.

"An Arts and Letters thesis is something that develops out of the student's interests," he said. "Not only is it a part of the overall effort to enhance undergraduate education, it allows them to develop lifelong skills."

Cara Nazareth, a senior Anthropology major who is in the process of completing her thesis project, said she decided to do a thesis because it enabled her to delve in-depth into a topic she was passionate about.

"Completing this thesis is a way for me to study issues that

are not really touched on in our classes," she said. "I would have never had the opportunity to do this project if it hadn't been in the form of a thesis."

Nazareth is working on a thesis that examines how bicultural students in the United States compare to their bicultural peers in other countries. The project requires Nazareth to interview students and gather a significant amount of information.

"I'm writing every week and that keeps you self-motivated, which is something that the thesis definitely pushes you to do," she said. "But I feel like it's a capstone for my education."

Senior Renee Rinehart, a Sociology major and a Education and Schooling in Society minor, is working on a thesis examining the politics of local education policy and community engagement in education and seeing if those factors can minimize negative political influences in the school system. Rinehart said the inspiration for her thesis came from her two summers of internships.

"One summer I worked at the Indiana Chamber of Commerce as an educational policy intern and then last summer I worked at the National Education Association in Washington D.C.," she said. "Seeing the two sides of this issue made me want to see how both sides could come together to support public schools."

Like Nazareth, Rinehart said she wanted to do a thesis because she was able to explore an issue that she was

passionate about.

"I felt that if I didn't do a thesis, I would be missing out on part of my education," she said.

Greene said the "thesis culture" the deans of Arts and Letters are hoping to facilitate will be one where students begin to see themselves as more than observers of other people's work.

"We want this 'culture' to be one in which students see the intrinsic value of engaging in this type of work," Greene said. "We want it to be an experience where student and faculty come together to talk about the significance of the student's experience."

One of the major attributes of the Arts and Letters thesis is the role of a faculty "mentor" to guide the student in their research and motivate them in their work.

"We are trying to be better mentors so that students can see the real value in doing this kind of work regardless of ambitions," Greene, who is a mentor to several students, said.

Greene said he hopes more Arts and Letters students see the value in completing a senior thesis project.

"Human problems relate to beliefs and values that we haven't come to agreement on in the Arts and we are constantly revisiting meaning," he said. "The way we deal with human problems in Arts and Letters can be interpretative, which leaves more room to be original."

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden3@nd.edu

Art exhibitions open in SMC Moreau Galleries

By NIKKI TAYLOR
News Writer

Three new exhibitions in the Moreau Art Gallery in Moreau Center for the Arts on Saint Mary's campus will be opening tonight. The installations will feature work from three contemporary artists.

Katrine Hildebrandt's drawing installation titled "Above, Below and Within" is premiering in the Sister Rosaire Gallery. Hildebrandt uses mixed mediums along with drawing and installation to create her artwork.

"As an artist I investigate the world through a philosophical and scientific lens, using data or specimens as models or metaphors in order to examine a philosophical concept," Hildebrandt says on her Web site.

Painter Cara Erskine's show "Waldo," which is full of bright and colorful pieces, is being featured in the Little Theater Gallery. She is influenced by "light, storms and the expansive landscape" in her paintings, College art professor and gallery curator Krista Hoefle said.

Erskine's exhibition features two 24-foot paintings of Waldo Tunnel from the exit off the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, which lean against the wall, Erskine wrote on her blog.

Both Erskine and Hildebrandt installed their own exhibits, as

they are installation based, Hoefle said.

"The goal is to transfer how you do artwork," Hoefle said. "[Erskine] experimented with leaning paintings up on casts of paint cans to add to the effect. The leaning gives the paintings a physicality making it more imposing."

The Hammes Gallery features an exhibition of video and photography by Robert Ladislav Derr entitled "The World Isn't Always Round."

The exhibition follows the high quality contemporary artwork the gallery usually displays.

"The goal of the space is to bring contemporary artwork to campus and give a wide range of styles. It also serves the classes of the art department," Hoefle said.

Hoefle enjoys contemporary art and enjoys the gallery shows for what they invoke in others.

"People are always questioning why. Art attempts to shake things up," she said.

The exhibition officially opens tonight with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. in the gallery. Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served and all of the exhibiting artists will be in attendance. The show runs until Feb. 19.

This is the first major show of the semester and will be followed by the senior art major comprehensive projects.

Contact Nikki Taylor at ntaylor01@saintmarys.nd.edu

Grant funds student-faculty research

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's Center for Academic Innovation (CAI) has been working to fund faculty and student research grants since 1993. One of these is the Student Independent Study and Research grant (SISTAR), which provides a student-faculty member team with money for research projects during the summer months.

The grant allows a student to work closely alongside a faculty member from an area of their choice. Laura Haigwood, Interim Co-Director for Faculty Development for CAI, said students find the program helps them discover the kind of work they might want to do after graduation.

"Students can write about [SISTAR] in their statement of purpose and set themselves apart from other students as they move to graduate work," Haigwood said.

The program gives students a taxable stipend of \$3,500 plus lodgings for an eight-week research project on campus. In addition, the faculty member they are collaborating with will receive \$3,500 in support of their research, Haigwood said. Once the research is complete, CAI will also provide funding for the pair to travel to a professional conference during the next academic year if they so

choose.

"Students have said that SISTAR helped them clarify goals for after graduation," Haigwood said.

Past collaborations have come from a wide variety of majors, with topics ranging from Latin music to drug intermediates. One 2009 SISTAR team, including Kara Joseph, a junior chemistry major and Isabel Larraza, a chemistry and physics professor, will be presenting their findings during the month of February.

Joseph and Larraza spent the summer researching, resulting in a paper titled "Hexabromoacetone and Ethyl Tribromoacetate: A Novel Green Path to Drug Intermediates."

Joseph said the project works on "making drug intermediates in more environmentally conscious conditions."

"If this method works under more environmentally conscious conditions, making drugs can then be made in better conditions that are less harmful to the chemist and environment," Joseph said.

Joseph said the inspiration and applying for the grant were a combined effort with her and Larraza.

"It was an opportunity like nothing else and I definitely

could not pass up trying to receive the grant," Joseph said. "We talked about the topic, each designed our own project and came together to write a joint proposal."

Students interested in applying for the grant but aren't

"It was an opportunity like nothing else and I definitely could not pass up trying to receive the grant."

Kara Joseph
junior

sure what they will research should approach one of their professors, Haigwood said.

"If you found a topic in a course that touched on what you most are about and

whatever deeper values you may have then go back to your professor and ask if they are interested in doing SISTAR," she said.

Haigwood also said there is even value in the application process if you are not chosen for the grant.

"No step of the process is a waste of time. It can be enormously helpful in developing a sense of who you are and what you want to understand through research," Haigwood said.

Students interested in applying for a SISTAR grant or who would like more information can contact CAI located in Room 115, Spes Unica Hall, or visit their Web site at www3.saintmarys.edu/sistar

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@saintmarys.edu

March

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Jenkins' invitation to Obama, said she is pleased with the progress of the task force so far.

"We're very glad to have Fr. Jenkins and faculty coming," she said. "This is something we've been working to get for a several years now."

Daly said Right to Life has invited Jenkins' to march with the students every year, but this is the first year he has accepted.

"It's a testament to people's recognition that this is something that is important, especially for Notre Dame to have a voice in it is key, and this year our numbers are record setting," she said.

Right to Life president John Gerardi said he believes the creation task force and Jenkins' participation in the March is a step in the right direction for the University.

"Looking at the task force as a whole, I think they've done a lot of good things and I certainly appreciate help giving

for the March," Gerardi, a senior, said.

Gerardi is participating in the March for the first time, but Daly has gone each year she has been at Notre Dame.

"What is cool is when you go to the March, you get this sense that these 3,000 people think this is important just like I do," Daly said. "It's incredibly exciting to be able to go with a group of friends, but also with people from Notre Dame I don't even know. We go and sleep on a gym floor and are backpacking through the city in a way."

The students will begin the day Friday with a Mass and gathering for students, faculty and alumni before embarking on the March. Afterward, the group will meet for an "ND family dinner," Daly said.

Fort Wayne-South Bend Bishop Kevin Rhoades will celebrate a Mass Saturday morning at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Arlington, Va.

Gerardi said a big focus of the trip is uniting students, faculty and alumni.

"I think it's a really good thing that the University as a whole is attempting to give

witness to the sanctity of human life," he said. "I also think it is nice to see that it's sort of the entire Notre Dame community, not just a rabble-rousing group of rambunctious 20-year-olds."

Although Daly said Jenkins' appearance makes this year's March significant for the Notre Dame community, she said Right to Life is approaching this trip in the same way they have every year.

"We would like this year to go similarly to other years. I think that's kind of normal. I don't want to hype things up because Father Jenkins is coming, and I don't think he wants that either," she said. "He wants to join us and be apart of it. That's something that has been communicated to us."

Daly said she hopes the March acts as a unifying event for the Notre Dame community.

"You feel this instant camaraderie with everyone there," she said. "It's really a cool thing."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Keenan

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"Soviet Strippers," it was clear from the start the show would be edgy. Sure enough, the Revue delivered, as the audience witnessed appearances from a cross-dressing Miley Cyrus impostor, a lamenting Tiger Woods (accompanied by barber shop trio) and a foul-mouthed anthropomorphized urban-dictionary.com.

While nearly all the skits received a positive response from the audience, a few stood out above the rest.

"The whole show was really funny," freshman Kevin Doherty said, "but the Web site skit was the funniest. It was hilarious."

The skit Doherty refers to, the "Tangled Web," was a crowd favorite. The skit imagines a technological advancement that enables computer programs

and Web sites like Facebook, Twitter, and Urban Dictionary to come to life.

"I thought all the Tiger Woods jokes were the funniest," freshman Dan Kinasz said.

While the show seemed to contain less of the typical "Saint Mary's jokes" it's been criticized for including in the past, it still managed to draw out shocked reactions from the audience.

"At certain points, I didn't know whether we were supposed to laugh or gasp."

Dan Kinasz
freshman

While many skits received uproarious laughter from the crowd, a few had more mixed responses, as audience members hesitated to laugh.

"At certain points, I didn't know whether we were supposed to laugh or gasp," Kinasz said.

"The show definitely pushed the envelope," freshman Steve LaBerge said. "I know it was all in good fun, but I'm surprised a few of the skits made it into the show."

Contact John Cameron at jcamero2@nd.edu

Film

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cinematography, editing, writing ... we're looking for a creative piece with high production quality that speaks to a larger audience," he said.

Mandell said the festival shows improvement every year.

"Just about every year we sell out all the shows," Mandell said. "And each year the films get more sophisticated."

This year marked the first time student films in the festival were shot with high definition cameras, and thanks to a number of funding opportunities, students were also able to travel to various locations.

"I traveled to L.A. and Colorado," senior Nick Andert, a Film, Television and Theater (FTT) major said. "I think it's good that people in creative majors are given a chance to let others see their work."

Andert will show the film he made with senior Krissy Estrada, titled "The Documentarian," in the festival.

After the film festival ends, six additional student films will be available on the Notre Dame iTunesU public site.

"We wanted to keep the show to under two hours, but this is a way to show more of what our students can do," Mandell said.

Marie Wicht, a junior FTT

major, has her first film in the festival this year, said although her film took an enormous amount of time, "it's a learning experience that you can never find in a textbook ... it's chaotic and overwhelming, and worth every minute."

Junior Pat Berry, who shares a film in the festival with senior Bob Greenfield, said, that "even if you aren't a film student you can appreciate the hard work these students have put into their projects."

According to Mandell, the program has helped build an alumni network.

"A lot of people don't realize not only the quality of production our students have, but that we even have film production," Mandell said. "Nobody realizes the network of Notre Dame alums that are working in the film industry, and doing really well. A lot of them got their start with the student film festival."

In the end, Mandell said, the festival "is for the students ... you never make movies just for you and your roommates; you're creating art, and art is for the public."

Tickets for the festival can be purchased online at performingarts.nd.edu, or by calling 574-631-2800, and are \$3 for Notre Dame students, \$5 for faculty and staff, and \$6 for the general public.

Contact Megan Hemler at mhemler@nd.edu

Petition

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"race/ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, disability, veteran status or age."

Bears and Jennings are working with other students to gather signatures and are coordinating with other student groups and faculty to plan events related to the cause — including a rally and panel discussion next Thursday.

Several student groups have petitioned the administration in the past to amend the non-discrimination clause to include "sexual orientation," but to no avail.

Most recently, the Campaign for Human Dignity, sponsored by the Progressive Student Alliance, presented a petition with some 2,700 signatures to University President Fr. John Jenkins last March. Jenkins told the group he was open to ways to make campus "more welcoming" to the GLBTQ community.

University spokesman Dennis Brown told The Observer at the time that "after careful analysis from both the legal and theological perspectives, it was determined that adding the clause may not allow us to distinguish between sexual orientation and behavior, which is a distinction that we must maintain as a Catholic university."

Administrators have also referenced the University's "Spirit of Inclusion" document, which states that "[w]e welcome all people, regardless of color, gender, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, social or economic class, and nationality for example, precisely because of Christ's calling to treat others as we deserve to be treated."

The statement was adopted in 1997 after a similar petition to amend the clause came from students, and after student government and faculty members also spoke out on the issue.

Jennings said even before 1997, Notre Dame struggled with issues of intolerance towards the GLBTQ community.

"Notre Dame has a history of hate crimes and violence towards homosexuals on this campus," she said, noting that when she and Bears met with a group of concerned professors, they heard stories from faculty "talking about when they were students [here] and had friends who had been the

victims of such crimes."

But this year, Bears said he feels the controversy over the comic strip, plus changes within the student body over the past few years, lead him to believe now is a good time to again address the issue.

"A lot has changed, at least in terms of the student body," Bears said. He said there is a growing awareness of issues surrounding intolerance.

"I don't think these kinds of issues were even talked about as they are now," he said.

Bears noted the Student Senate's passing of a resolution on Wednesday that includes a call for "sexual orientation" to be added to the non-discrimination clause as one recent example.

However, he noted, there still are continued problems of intolerance and a lack of awareness among the student body. He cited the widespread, casual use of the word "gay" as a derogatory adjective as one example.

Bears said while some of that is ingrained in the larger culture, "we (at Notre Dame) pride ourselves on somehow being better than that, or at least we aspire to be better than that."

Jennings said the University has the opportunity to, in response to the controversy over last week's comic, make a change and publicly demonstrate it supports the LGBT community through its non-discrimination clause.

In fact, Jennings said, as the only top-20 university without "sexual orientation" included in the clause, "this is just going to hold us back."

In addition to changing the non-discrimination clause, the two said they're hopeful they can also affect greater awareness on campus about the lingering problems of intolerance of the GLBTQ community through the petition process.

"We can no longer just ignore these issues," Jennings said.

Contact Aaron Steiner at asteiner@nd.edu



ND basketball games to benefit Haiti relief

Special to The Observer

The University of Notre Dame will donate the full gate receipts, as well as the net concession revenue, from both the men's and women's home basketball games this weekend to benefit relief and rebuilding efforts in Haiti.

The men play DePaul Saturday (Jan. 23) at 2 p.m., and the women take on West Virginia

Sunday (Jan. 24) at 1 p.m. in the Purcell Pavilion of the Joyce Center. Both games are expected to sell out.

In addition, the Notre Dame Student-Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC) is organizing a fund drive to be held in conjunction with both games to encourage fans and alumni to make their own personal contributions to aid the relief efforts.

CAMP SWEENEY

A medical sports summer camp in Texas.

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COUNSELORS



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Wednesday, Feb 3rd - 4 PM to 8 PM - Joyce Center

INTERVIEWS by Appt*

Tuesday, Feb 2nd - 9 AM to 5 PM
Thursday, Feb 4th - 9 AM to 5 PM - Flanner Hall

Interviews by appointment may be arranged
by calling

Skip Rigsby at 940-768-8250

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Rescue hopes dim in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — The rubble from the epic earthquake now deathly quiet, search-and-rescue teams packed their dogs and gear Thursday as the focus shifted to keeping injured survivors alive, fending off epidemics and getting help to hundreds of homeless camps.

"We're so, so hungry," said Felicie Colin, 77, lying outside the ruins of her Port-au-Prince nursing home with dozens of other elderly residents who have hardly eaten since the earthquake hit on Jan. 12.

A melee erupted at one charity's food distribution point as people broke into the storehouse, ran off with food and fought each other over the bags.

Russia wins case over cathedral

PARIS — A French court ruled Wednesday that a Russian Orthodox cathedral built on the French Riviera nearly a century ago under Czar Nicholas II now belongs to Moscow.

The ruling by the Nice court is the latest development in Russia's bid to obtain ownership of Orthodox edifices around the world; Italy last year amicably returned to Russia a church in the southern city of Bari.

Wednesday's ruling was a defeat for an association founded by Russians who fled the Bolshevik Revolution that has been fighting to maintain its control over the Saint Nicholas Cathedral in Nice, and its archbishop is accusing the Russian government of a land grab as part of a national pride campaign.

NATIONAL NEWS

Candidates rethink after Mass. results

BOSTON — Former Massachusetts Treasurer Joe Malone said Thursday he expects to run against an incumbent congressional Democrat this fall, part of a wave of political recalibrations occurring nationally after Republican Scott Brown's upset win in the special election to replace Sen. Edward M. Kennedy.

California Sen. Barbara Boxer, a liberal Democrat facing a re-election challenge, declared "every state is in play now." The anti-spending group Club for Growth said it's trying to recruit conservative Rep. Mike Pence to challenge Democratic Sen. Evan Bayh in Indiana.

Proposition 8 backer stands by view

SAN FRANCISCO — A proponent of California's same-sex marriage ban testified Thursday that he thinks gays are more likely to be pedophiles and that allowing them to wed would lead to efforts to lower the age at which teenagers can legally have sex with adults.

Lawyers for two couples suing to overturn the ban, known as Proposition 8, called Hak-Shing William Tam of San Francisco to testify as a hostile witness to prove that bias toward gays fueled the campaign to pass the measure.

Proposition 8 sponsors have tried to distance themselves from Tam, even though his name appeared alongside ballot arguments for the measure in voter information pamphlets during the 2008 campaign.

In federal court, attorney David Boies spent time walking Tam through a Web site for a Chinese-American evangelical Christian group that featured a headline reading "Studies Show That Homosexuality Is Linked to Pedophilia."

LOCAL NEWS

Senate panel takes up gambling bill

INDIANAPOLIS — An Indiana Senate committee is considering legislation that would allow casinos on Lake Michigan and the Ohio River to relocate inland.

Proponents of the bill told the Senate Appropriations Committee on Thursday that moving the casinos on to land could improve their business and help them stave off new competition or possible gambling expansions in neighboring states.

"This bill will help the gaming industry remain healthy and protect revenues and jobs," said Republican Sen. Ron Altling of Lafayette, the sponsor of the bill.

Students respond to racial attacks

South Philadelphia High School deals with December assaults on ethnic population

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The blocks surrounding South Philadelphia High School are a melting pot of pizzerias fronted by Italian flags, African hair-braiding salons and a growing number of Chinese, Vietnamese and Indonesian restaurants.

Inside is a cauldron of cultural discontent that erupted in violence last month — off-campus and lunchroom attacks on about 50 Asian students, injuring 30, primarily at the hands of blacks. The Asian students, who boycotted classes for more than a week afterward, say they've endured relentless bullying by black students while school officials turned a blind eye to their complaints.

"We have suffered a lot to get to America and we didn't come here to fight," Wei Chen, president of the Chinese American Student Association, told the school board in one of several hearings on the violence. "We just want a safe environment to learn and make more friends. That's my dream."

Philadelphia school officials suspended 10 students, increased police patrols and installed dozens of new security cameras to watch the halls, where 70 percent of the students are black and 18 percent Asian. The Vietnamese embassy complained to the U.S. State Department about the attacks and numerous groups are investigating, including the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission.

The New York-based Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund joined the fray this week with a civil rights complaint to the U.S. Justice Department.

The Philadelphia school district acted with "deliberate indifference" toward the harassment and failed to prevent the Dec. 3 attacks,



Asian Students of South Philadelphia High School respond at a school board meeting on Dec. 9 to assaults on 30 Asian students, which they believe were racially motivated.

according to the complaint. It says Asian students' pleas for help and protection were ignored by school employees.

Asian students say black students routinely pelted them with food, beat, punch and kick them in school hallways and bathrooms, and hurl racial epithets like "Hey, Chinese!" and "Yo, Dragon Ball!"

Community advocates repeatedly told school and district administrators of that bullying, according to the legal defense fund's complaint, which was based on accounts and statements by unidentified students and teachers.

Black students say they all are unfairly being blamed for the actions of a few.

"They just want to look at everybody" for blame, said Ali Bailey, 15, a sophomore. "That's not cool."

Principal LaGreta Brown, the school's fourth principal in five years, was cited for a discriminatory attitude, particularly for referring to the advocacy groups' efforts as "the Asian agenda." On the morning of the attacks, the complaint says, she escorted about 10 frightened Vietnamese students past a large group of youths on a sidewalk.

"If you are afraid, then I will walk with you," the advocacy group says she told the students. But she soon walked away and returned to school, the complaint says, and the Vietnamese students were

assaulted by 40 students, most of them black.

In response to this week's legal filing, the school district said it had not discriminated against anyone and pointed to increased security efforts since the attacks.

"The claim of 'intentional discrimination' makes no sense," a district statement said.

Brown did not immediately respond to a message requesting comment.

Students, administrators and community leaders say many factors are to blame, including language barriers and cultural differences that escalate smaller conflicts into fights. Many of the Asians are ESL students who speak little English and often must use interpreters.

Former Sen. Edwards admits baby is his

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Confirming what practically everyone already suspected, John Edwards confessed Thursday he fathered the baby born to his ex-mistress — an admission that came just ahead of a bombshell book by a top aide to the former Democratic presidential candidate.

Edwards had long denied the girl, Frances Quinn Hunter, was his, even after he admitted cheating on his wife with the child's mother, Rielle Hunter. Hunter had been hired before Edwards' 2008 White House campaign to shoot behind-the-scenes video of him.

"I am Quinn's father," the 56-year-old former North Carolina senator said in a statement. "It was wrong for me ever to

deny she was my daughter and hopefully one day, when she understands, she will forgive me."

The confession came ahead of the Feb. 2 release of a book by former Edwards aide Andrew Young that is expected to describe how Edwards worked to hide his paternity with Young's help.

Shortly before the 2008 presidential primaries began, Young stepped forward to claim that he — not Edwards — was the child's father. But there were suspicions at the time that the fiercely loyal aide was taking the fall for his boss.

Young said in an excerpt of an ABC interview released Thursday that Edwards asked him to arrange a fake paternity test.

"Get a doctor to fake the DNA results," Young quoted the candidate as saying.

"And he asked me ... to steal a diaper from the baby so he could secretly do a DNA test to find out if this (was) indeed his child."

The scandal may not be over: Federal prosecutors in North Carolina are investigating Edwards' campaign finances, apparently with regard to Hunter, whose video production firm was paid at least \$100,000 in 2006 alone. Edwards' political career lies in ruins. And a question mark hangs over his personal life.

Edwards' wife, Elizabeth, who has been battling an incurable return of cancer, said that the "whole family is relieved" by the admission and that she hopes it will put an end to the news stories. "My marriage shouldn't be on anybody's radar screen except mine," she said.

Witness: Peterson indicated he'd kill his 4th wife

Associated Press

JOLIET, Ill. — The stepbrother of a former Illinois police officer accused of killing his third wife told a hushed courtroom Thursday that he believed he might have helped his relative dispose of the body of his fourth wife, who has not been seen for more than two years.

Thomas Morphey testified at a hearing to decide whether prosecutors can use "hearsay" evidence to try and prove allegations that Drew Peterson killed his third wife, Kathleen Savio, in 2004. Peterson hasn't been charged in the 2007 disappearance of his fourth wife, Stacy, but authorities say he is the only suspect.

While the Will County hearing is about the death of Savio, Thursday's testimony focused on the day Stacy Peterson disappeared. Prosecutors would not say why Morphey was being asked to testify about Stacy Peterson, but Will County state's attorney's office spokesman Chuck Pelkie said the reasons would become clear in the proceedings.

In a packed but quiet courtroom, Morphey said Peterson suggested when they talked on Oct. 27, 2007, that he intended to kill Stacy because she planned to divorce him, win custody of their children and take Peterson's money.

Morphey said he drank heavily the next day.

"I just heard someone was going to murder somebody else," Morphey explained.

Peterson brought Morphey back to his Bolingbrook home, went into a master bedroom and rolled out a large blue barrel that Morphey estimated

weighed up to 150 pounds.

"He had me grab an end, he grabbed the other end and we proceeded down the stairs," Morphey testified. "It felt warm."

Morphey stopped short of saying that Peterson directly admitted murdering Stacy and he said the two men never talked about what was in the barrel. Earlier in the day, Morphey testified he had told Peterson that he always assumed he had killed Savio, but that Peterson denied it.

Savio's body was found in an empty bathtub in her home in 2004. Her death had initially been ruled an accidental drowning — until Stacy Peterson's disappearance led officials to exhume Savio's body, conduct another autopsy and conclude Savio was the victim of a homicide.

The story of the blue barrel has been central in Stacy Peterson's case. Numerous search parties over the years, including divers, have focused on finding it, but it has never turned up.

In court, Morphey said he had not wanted to go with Peterson, in part because he didn't want anything to do with what Peterson did. Morphey did not explain why he agreed to help him.

According to his testimony, the two men took the barrel, put it in Peterson's SUV and Peterson drove Morphey home.

"He said, 'This never happened,'" Morphey testified. "I said, 'I won't tell a soul.'"

Nevertheless, Morphey said he later told his girlfriend, brother and a neighbor. He said he was stressed out, nervous and drinking more than normal.

Morphey said he didn't contact the authorities because he wasn't sure the incident would be handled fairly due to Peterson's job.

"He was a police officer," Morphey said. "I thought, 'What would be the point of calling 911?'"

Morphey said his fear led him to overdose on the anti-anxiety drug Xanax in an attempt to end his life.

"I felt everything was coming down on me," he said. "I'm still scared to death."

In a cross-examination, Peterson's attorneys raised questions about Morphey's mental state and whether he was a credible witness.

Morphey suffers from a bipolar disorder and has admitted to drinking too much as well as problems with drugs. On Thursday prosecutors presented evidence that buttressed what Morphey said happened. That included video footage and witness interviews showing that both men made a trip to Starbucks around the time of the alleged blue barrel incident.

Peterson's stormy marriage with Savio was mentioned Thursday in afternoon testimony.

A son from Peterson's first marriage to Carol Brown described watching Peterson in 1993 dragging Savio into the house by her hair.

"She was screaming for help," said Eric Peterson, who described Savio as drunk. "He was pulling her down the stairs."

Eric Peterson, who once spent weekends with Savio and Peterson, has been estranged from his father since 1993.



In 2009, former Bolingbrook, Ill., police sergeant Drew Peterson yells to reporters as he arrives at the Will County Courthouse in Joliet, Ill. On Jan. 19, a judge will hear arguments about the admissibility of the state's new hearsay law to the Peterson's case.

Vermont considers changing drinking age

Associated Press

MONTPELIER, Vt. — Appealing to Vermont's independent streak, the former president of Middlebury College said Thursday the state is an ideal place to try returning the legal drinking age to 18.

John McCardell, who also founded the nonprofit Choose Responsibility, told lawmakers at a Statehouse hearing that a federal law that withholds highway funding from states that don't abide by a drinking age minimum of 21 has stifled debate on a worthy idea. But Mothers Against Drunk Driving argues that such a change would put thousands of lives in danger.

The 1984 enactment of the National Minimum Drinking Age Act required states to raise the age to 21 or risk losing federal transportation money. South Dakota was the last state to comply, in 1988.

Vermont lawmakers are considering a pair of bills — one to push the drinking age to 18, the other to ask the state's congressional delegation to urge Congress to authorize waivers to states and not punish them by withholding funding.

Under the current law, states that don't maintain the 21-year-old minimum risk losing 10 percent of their annual federal transportation funding. In Vermont,

that works out to about \$17.5 million, according to John Zicconi, a spokesman for the Vermont Agency of Transportation.

McCardell argues that the higher age encourages unsafe drinking by driving young people into locked dorm rooms, off-campus apartments and farm fields to do their consuming.

"We can either try to change the reality, which has been our attempt since 1984, and which, as is always the case in times of prohibition, has simply failed. Or we can, through enlightened public policy, create the safest possible environment for the reality," he told a legislative committee.

But Johns Hopkins professor David Jernigan told members of the House General Housing and Military Affairs committee that lowering the drinking age would result in young people experimenting with alcohol at an earlier age than they do now. Whatever problems the 21 minimum hasn't addressed should be handled with education, increased taxes on alcohol and more study, not by lowering the minimum, he said.

Scientists, he said, know more about the makeup of the adolescent brain than they did when the law was enacted, namely that the part of the brain that exercises judgment develops substantially later than the part that seeks out reward and risk.

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	10,389.88	-213.27	
Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume:
860	91	3,005	3,624,788,755
AMEX	1,847.38	-34.44	
NASDAQ	2,265.70	-25.55	
NYSE	7,174.46	-155.37	
S&P 500	1,116.48	-21.56	
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	10,868.41	0.00	
FTSE 100 (London)	5,335.10	-85.70	
COMPANY %CHANGE \$GAIN PRICE			
CITIGROUP (C)	-5.49	-0.19	3.27
BK OF AMERICA CP (BAC)	-6.19	-1.02	15.47
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	-1.92	-2.19	111.70
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	-2.85	-0.43	14.66
Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	-1.31	-0.48	3.61
13-WEEK BILL	-20.00	-0.10	0.04
30-YEAR BOND	-0.81	-0.37	4.51
5-YEAR NOTE	-2.44	-0.59	2.36
Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-1.54	76.20	
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-9.60	1,103.0	
LEAN HOGS (cents/lb.)	-0.73	72.65	
Exchange Rates			
YEN		90.3650	
EURO		1.4096	
CANADIAN DOLLAR		1.0503	
BRITISH POUND		1.6200	

IN BRIEF

Arkansas Tech opens business hall

RUSSELLVILLE, Ark. — Arkansas Tech University's business college marked the opening of its new \$10 million home on Thursday and gave students new options to specialize in specific areas of emphasis.

The busy lobby of Rothwell Hall opens on one side to student advising offices and on the other to a stock trading lab. The glass-walled classroom has widescreen computers for 24 students plus a set of screens flashing stock prices, exchange rates and other information. The showpiece also has a double-size whiteboard with two projectors that the instructor can use to illustrate lessons.

A color stock ticker runs along the top of the walls and extends into the lobby.

"This building incorporates everything our students and faculty wanted to have," Business College Dean Tom Tyler said.

Arkansas Tech President Robert C. Brown said the campus has struggled to make room for all its offerings and that was a "driving force" for construction.

Lawmakers angry over bank closure

WASHINGTON — Federal regulators received a verbal lashing Thursday from House lawmakers over the shutdown of a Chicago bank strongly tied to the local community and the government's handling of bank closings.

Picking over the carcass of Park National Bank — a relatively healthy institution closed by regulators last October — were a House Financial Services subcommittee, bank executives and federal agency officials. Park National and tiny Citizens National Bank, based in Teague, Texas, were in comparatively good financial shape but were shuttered along with seven severely troubled banks under the same corporate umbrella, a bank holding company called FBOP Corp. The other banks were mostly in the West; the nine had combined assets of \$19.4 billion.

While big Wall Street banks got multibillion-dollar bailouts, community banks that played no role in stoking the financial crisis were subjected to stricter rules on lending and holding capital from overreaching regulators, lawmakers said at a hearing. And they insisted that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. and other agencies are shutting down banks that have healthy loans rather than working out the institutions' problems.

Builders choose cheaper options

Homebuilders move to a less-is-more approach in response to economic troubles

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Think of it as the shrinking American dream.

What's out: Outdoor kitchens and fireplaces, two-story foyers and deluxe bathroom features like multiple showerheads in the master bathroom.

What's in: Smaller homes with lots of natural light, storage and energy efficiency features that save money — and don't cost too much.

"There's no more 'la-dee-da, green is wonderful,'" said Calli Schmidt, a spokeswoman for the National Association of Home Builders.

The housing trends were highlighted in separate surveys conducted by the Washington-based trade association and Better Homes and Gardens, released this week at the International Builders' Show in Las Vegas which ends Friday. They surveys showed there's less appetite than in recent years for big homes decked out with high-end amenities.

Now, the mantra for many homebuyers reflects a desire to keep costs down. They want to reduce wasted space like high ceilings that drive up energy bills. They favor features like smart appliances that help cut household energy costs.

The average size of an American house shrank about 100 square feet last year to about 2,400 square feet, according to the NAHB survey. The percentage of homes with three or more bathrooms fell for the first time since 1992, while homes with four or more bedrooms declined for the third year in a row.

Builders said they're less likely to build homes this year with outdoor kitchens, media rooms and sunrooms. The next generation of homes, builders said, are more likely to have a walk-in closet in the master bedroom, a laundry room,



Marie and George Powell speak to salesperson Jennifer Eberle about CertainTeed Corp.'s EnerGen Solar Roofing Panels at the International Builders' Show in Las Vegas on Jan. 20.

energy-saving windows, energy-efficient lighting and appliances, and an insulated front door.

About a quarter of 1,100 exhibitors at the Builders' show were hawking green homebuilding products. The displays included everything from streamlined solar panels to energy-saving windows. There were water and energy-saving appliances, as well as an array of flooring materials made from sustainable or recycled materials.

Up to a quarter of all new homes built last year received an Energy Star rating, which means they met the guidelines for energy efficiency set by the U.S. Environmental Protection

Agency. That's up from 11 percent in 2007.

Solar energy continues to be a big draw.

CertainTeed Corp. showed a new roof solar power system designed to fit flush with asphalt shingles, giving it a more streamlined look than traditional solar panels.

A similar solar energy system unveiled by Dow Chemical last year impressed Beazer Homes, which plans to use it in a test house.

"I've just not seen anything that thin," said Tony Callahan, an executive with Atlanta-based Beazer Homes USA Inc.

Another company, Broan-NuTone, showcased its sunlight-powered roof fans,

used to vent the hot air that builds up in an attic. A single unit can ventilate up to 1,600 square feet.

Light-emitting diodes, or LEDs, continue to be a pricier, though longer-lasting, alternative to compact fluorescent lights. One knock against LED home fixtures is the light they produce doesn't approach the warm, soft glow of an incandescent light bulb, but the technology is improving.

Cooper Lighting's new Halo LED recessed lighting fixtures consume 75 percent less energy than a 65-watt incandescent light, but last 50 times longer. They also boast light that is comparable in color and reach to an incandescent light.

Winter storms cause flight cancellations

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Winter weather stranded thousands of airline passengers on Thursday in a most unusual place: the desert Southwest.

Flights into and out of Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport were severely curtailed on Thursday afternoon because of high winds from a winter storm that dumped heavy rain and deep snow on much of Arizona and California. A limited number of Phoenix planes were still taking off and landing.

Southwest Airlines canceled all arriving and departing flights at Sky Harbor and didn't plan to resume them until Friday.

The airline also canceled flights in Tucson, Ariz., and at Southern

California airports. All Southwest takeoffs and landings at airports in Burbank, Ontario and San Diego in California were suspended, most were canceled at John Wayne airport in Orange County, and some were canceled at Los Angeles International Airport.

Airline spokesman Brad Hawkins said more than 400 California and Arizona flights had been canceled as of early afternoon. Passengers were booked on later Southwest flights. Operations were expected to resume at 4 p.m. in San Diego and at 6 p.m. in Burbank and Ontario.

The exact number of Southwest flights affected in Phoenix wasn't available, but the airline has 173 daily nonstops from Phoenix to 44 cities and additional service to 22

cities, said spokeswoman Olga Romero. There are a similar number of arrivals.

US Airways trimmed its Phoenix flight schedule and had canceled 14 mainline and 12 US Airways Express flights. Other operations were continuing as weather allowed, said airline spokeswoman Valerie Wunder. US Airways has 265 daily departures from Phoenix.

United Airlines and other carriers severely curtailed operations at Sky Harbor.

A strong winter storm moving through the West was the culprit. The National Weather Service predicted up to 7 inches of rain could fall on Thursday and Friday in the Phoenix area, and high winds were blowing Thursday afternoon.

Haitian orphans go to Netherlands



A Dutch adoption association member, left, holds Haitian orphans after arriving at Eindhoven airport in central Netherlands Thursday.

Associated Press

EINDHOVEN, Netherlands — Enveloped in his new mother's embrace, 4-year-old Jersen Silvester Eefting gazed wide-eyed around a hotel lobby at the end of an 11-hour flight that whisked him from the devastation of Haiti to his new home in the Netherlands.

"It feels magnificent," said Roel Eefting as he videoed the newly adopted son he had met minutes earlier.

Jersen was one of 123 children, aged from two months to seven years, flown into this southern Dutch city Thursday. They arrived on a plane chartered by the Dutch government and two adoption agencies to airlift children out of Haiti to new lives in the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

Wrapped in blankets against the cold of a Dutch midwinter, the children walked or were carried one by one from the Boeing 767 to a bus that ferried them to the terminal of Eindhoven Military Air Base. There they had an emotional private meeting with their new families.

One boy waved to reporters and said a word that sounded like "Dag" — Dutch for hello. Another wore striped socks and no shoes. Graying piles of snow lined the edge of the tarmac.

None of the children was hurt in last week's earthquake. But Macky Schouten, head of the Netherlands Adoption Foundation, said it was difficult getting them from their orphanages in Haiti to the choked Port-Au-Prince airport.

"They had to come from different houses in a situation that was very dangerous," she said.

The children were accompanied on the flight by medics and psychologists trained to deal with post-traumatic stress, Schouten said.

The children slept through most of the flight. Then, two and a half hours from Eindhoven, they woke up, had a meal and a drink — and started doing what kids do the world over.

"It was a big playground in the plane," Schouten said.

The quake may have killed 200,000 people, and it left thousands of children orphaned. That triggered a rush of inquiries from around the world about adopting a child from the impoverished Caribbean country — which before the quake already had about 380,000 orphans in need of homes.

Experts have warned against taking newly orphaned children out of Haiti or rushing adoption procedures. UNICEF said it was working to prevent children being abused and exploited and to reunite them with family members.

Earlier this week, 54 orphans arrived in the U.S. city of Pittsburgh. They were given medical care and placed in group homes until adoptions are finalized.

Most of the children who arrived in the Netherlands had already been matched with new parents. Some — like Jersen — were being introduced to them for the first time.

Nine had been approved for adoption but not yet matched with families; they will be placed in foster care until parents are found. Fourteen were going into the care of Luxembourg's adoption authorities.

Some of the children speak a little Dutch, having had daily lessons in a Dutch-run orphanage in Haiti.

Eefting said he and his partner, Imelda Hutten, started the adoption process four and a half years ago. They were close to traveling to Haiti to pick up Jersen when the quake struck.

As Jersen started settling into his new family, his father's joy was tempered by news that two Dutch couples were killed in the quake, along with the three Haitian children they had just adopted.

"We are happy, but at the same time we are very aware of the sorrow for people who adopted children and died and the people who died in Haiti," he said. "It puts this into perspective."

Ruling could alter campaign finance

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A major U.S. Supreme Court ruling on campaign finance Tuesday could alter drastically who gives and gets hundreds of millions of dollars ahead of the November congressional elections.

The top U.S. court threw out a 63-year-old law designed to restrain the influence of big business and unions, ruling that corporations may spend as freely as they like to support or oppose candidates for president and Congress.

By a 5-4 vote, the court overturned two of its own decisions as well as the law that said companies and labor unions could be prohibited from using money from their general treasuries to produce and run their own campaign ads. The decision threatens similar limits imposed by 24 states.

It leaves in place a prohibition on direct contributions to candidates from corporations and unions.

Critics of the stricter limits have argued that they amount to an unconstitutional restraint of free speech, and the court majority agreed.

"The censorship we now confront is vast in its reach," Justice Anthony Kennedy said in his majority opinion, joined by his four more conservative colleagues.

Strongly disagreeing, Justice John Paul Stevens said in his dissent, "The court's ruling threatens to undermine the integrity of elected institutions around the nation."

Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer and Sonia Sotomayor joined Stevens' dissent, parts of which he read aloud in the

courtroom.

The justices also struck down part of the landmark McCain-Feingold campaign finance bill that barred union- and corporate-paid ads on political issues in the closing days of election campaigns.

President Barack Obama condemned the decision as a victory for big oil, Wall Street banks, health insurance companies and other powerful interests.

The ruling will lead to a "stampede of special interest money in our politics," Obama said in a statement. He pledged to work with Democrats and Republicans in Congress to come up with a "forceful response" to the high court's action.

Sen. Mitch McConnell, the Senate Republican leader who filed the first lawsuit challenging the McCain-Feingold law, praised the court for restoring the free speech rights of corporations and unions. "By previously denying this right, the government was picking winners and losers," McConnell said.

Advocates of strong campaign finance regulations have predicted that a court ruling against the limits would lead to a flood of corporate and union money in federal campaigns as early as this year's elections in November.

The opinion goes to the heart of laws dating back to the Gilded Age of the early 20th century, when Congress passed the Tillman Act in 1907 to ban corporations from donating money directly to federal candidates. Although that prohibition stands, the same cannot be said for much of the centurylong effort that followed to separate politics from

corporate money.

In American politics, unions tend to support Democratic candidates and causes, and industry generally prefers candidates and causes supported by Republicans.

The decision's most immediate effect is to allow corporations and unions to sponsor political ads right up to the moment of an election, and to allow them to advocate for the election or defeat of a candidate. In presidential elections and in highly contested congressional contests, that could mean a dramatic increase in television advertising competing for time and public attention.

In the long term, corporations, their industry associations and labor unions are free to tap their treasuries to assist candidates, although the spending may not be coordinated with the candidates.

Ben Ginsberg, a Republican attorney who has represented several of the party's presidential campaigns. "If corporations and unions can give unlimited amounts, ... it means that the public debate is significantly changed with a lot more voices and it means that the loudest voices are going to be corporations and unions."

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Trial begins for NYC cops in attack

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Lawyers defending three police officers charged in a subway station baton sex attack case portrayed the accuser as a scammer who made up the story to get money from the city.

In opening statements Thursday, defense lawyer John Patton said former tattoo parlor employee Michael Mineo was not sodomized by a police baton and there was no evidence to prove Mineo's statements that he was attacked with it in 2008.

"Once you've seen Mr. Mineo, you'll find him a theatrical, posing type of individual who's going to make a claim," said Patton, who represents Officer Richard Kern.

Kern, who was 25 at the time, is charged with aggravated sexual abuse and assault. He is on trial with officers Alex Cruz and Andrew Morales, who are accused of covering up the attack. They are charged with hindering prosecution and official misconduct.

All three have pleaded not guilty. If convicted, Kern could face up to 25 years in prison; the others could face up to four years. They could also be fired from the department.

A fourth officer at the scene, Cruz's partner, has not been charged and was expected to testify for the prosecution.

Despite the seriousness of the charges, the case has not brought public outcry like other instances of alleged police abuse. A few officers and Patrick Lynch, head of the patrolman's union, appeared in court Thursday, but there were no protests or demonstrations outside.

It was a contrast to the protests and show of police sup-

port at the 2007 case of officers accused in the shooting death of Sean Bell, who was killed in a hail of 50 police bullets on his wedding day.

The response to the Bell trial was tame in the wake of the Abner Louima case a decade ago, where thousands of protesters marched across the Brooklyn Bridge to protest police abuse. Louima was beaten and sodomized with a broomstick in a police precinct by officers in 1997 in one of the worst cases of brutality in NYPD history.

Race figured heavily into the Louima case and stoked tensions in the city, with Louima being black and the officers white. In the current case, Mineo is white, and the officers black, white and Hispanic.

Assistant District Attorney Charles Guria said the confrontation began when the officers were called to a fast-food restaurant on a report of a stolen cell phone on the afternoon of Oct. 15, 2008, and saw Mineo, who was smoking pot, and a friend, he said.

"I don't care what kind of law Michael Mineo broke, there's no explanation, no excuse," Guria said in his opening statement.

Realizing he had been spotted, Mineo swallowed what was left of the joint and bolted for the subway, Guria said.

Witness Andrea Dallas, outside awaiting her husband who worked at the station and was inside with their child during the incident, testified she saw Mineo running, his pants sagging and his rear end showing, pursued by the officers.

Most of the officers chased him across the street and down into the station, where he was eventually handcuffed. On the ground, his hands behind his

back, Kern sodomized him with the baton while Cruz yelled insults at him, prosecutors said.

Dallas' 13-year-old son, James Avery, testified that he heard one of the officers suggest Mineo had hidden drugs up his butt.

They brought him outside screaming and instead of arresting him, they wrote him a summons for disorderly conduct and let him go, telling him they'd arrest him if he ever told anyone, investigators said. The summons had a bad date and it would never have gone before a judge, Guria said.

"The officers were trying to make sure Michael Mineo didn't go to a hospital, didn't go to a police station," Guria said.

Guria said Mineo's DNA was found on Kern's baton, his boxer shorts were ripped and he was admitted to the hospital with injuries. A medical record obtained by The Associated Press described Mineo as being the victim of an "anal assault."

The AP does not usually identify people alleging sexual assault, but shortly after the attack, Mineo's lawyers issued a news release naming him with his approval. He has repeatedly made public statements about the encounter.

Defense attorneys say Mineo is a crafty scam artist who is using the media and the district attorney's office to get a big payday. He filed a civil suit against the city for \$220 million. Those proceedings will come after the criminal case.

Cruz's attorney, Stuart London, said his client's partner kicked Mineo and threw him to the ground after the officers nabbed him. London suggested the partner, Noel Jugraj, wasn't on trial because he agreed to testify against the other three officers.

Pilot lands plane because of prayer



A diverted plane is escorted by airport personnel to a terminal at Philadelphia International Airport on Thursday.

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — A Jewish teen trying to pray on a New York-to-Kentucky flight caused a scare when he pulled out a set of small boxes containing holy scrolls, leading the captain to divert the flight to Philadelphia, where the commuter plane was greeted by police, bomb-sniffing dogs and federal agents.

The 17-year-old on US Airways Express Flight 3079 was using tefillin, a set of small boxes containing biblical passages that are attached to leather straps, said Philadelphia police Lt. Frank Vanore.

When used in prayer, one box is strapped to the arm while the other box is placed on the head.

"It's something that the average person is not going to see very often, if ever," FBI spokesman J.J. Klaver said.

The teen explained the ritual after being questioned by crew members of the flight, which had left LaGuardia Airport around 7:30 a.m. headed for Louisville and was operated by Chautauqua Airlines, authorities said.

Officials with the airline, however, said crew members "did not receive a clear response" when they talked with the teen, according to a statement issued by Republic Airways, which owns Chautauqua.

"Therefore, in the interest of everyone's safety, the crew decided to land in Philadelphia, where a more complete investigation and follow-up with authorities would be possible," the statement said.

The flight landed in Philadelphia about 9 a.m. without incident and was met by police, bomb-sniffing dogs and officials from the FBI and Transportation Security Administration.

Authorities said the plane was searched and passengers were questioned. The teen, who is from White Plains, N.Y., and was traveling with his 16-year-old sister, was very cooperative, Vanore said.

"They were more alarmed than we were," Vanore said.

Klaver said the teen and his sister were never in custody, and were cleared to continue their travels.

The teen's grandmother, who was waiting for him at

Louisville International Airport, said the early flight left no time to pray before leaving New York.

"They had a morning flight. My grandson didn't have a chance to pray," Frances Winchell told WLKY-TV.

The teen, who belongs to the congregation Young Israel of White Plains, is "a brilliant student" from "the sweetest family," said Shmuel Greenberg, the synagogue's rabbi.

The morning prayer ritual is supposed to take place within a few hours of sunrise, so it's understandable that the teen was doing it on the plane, Greenberg said.

Binding the boxes of holy scrolls to the arm and head serves as "a reminder for the person that their actions during the day, and what they think about during the day, should be on a level of holiness and should inspire them to do productive, good things," he said.

The rabbi said he could see how someone unfamiliar with the tefillin could be alarmed.

"Security today is a serious issue. You can't become educated up in the air," Greenberg said. "I can definitely see a pilot or a crew that never saw it before in today's environment be very, very concerned."

Another rabbi, however, said tefillin have been used for thousands of years and he found it hard to believe no one recognized it. Benjamin Blech, an assistant professor of Talmud at Yeshiva University in New York, said he found the incident "both humorous and outlandish" and called it a "wake-up call" for religious sensitivity.

"We should be aware of ignorance just as much as we should be aware of terrorism," he said.

Concerns about passengers carrying bombs have been heightened since a Nigerian man allegedly tried to blow up a Detroit-bound Northwest Airlines flight using explosives concealed in his pants.

The Republic statement said the airline would use the event "to further strengthen our commitment to both security and customer service."

The flight was carrying 15 passengers and three crew members; travelers were rebooked on other flights, US Airways spokesman Morgan Durrant said.



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Join others in the fight against discrimination

Use your passion for something productive.

A good adage to live life by, but here it refers to a specific situation. A group of Notre Dame students are circulating a petition to present to the University asking it to add sexual orientation to the non-discrimination clause. It's not a new cause, but it's a necessary cause.

It's clear that this issue has support on campus. Many different student groups have proposed similar changes, most recently the Campaign for Human Dignity in March 2009. The group, sponsored by the Progressive Student Alliance, collected more than 2,700 signatures.

Yet their requests were turned down, told by University President Fr. John Jenkins that the non-discrimination clause is a legal document, and adding sexual orientation to it might blur the line between orientation and practice and that that distinction, at a Catholic university, needed to be maintained.

There are dozens of other Catholic universities in the country, however, that include sexual orientation in their non-discrimination clauses and also have GLBTQ student groups with official club status, another thing Notre Dame will not allow.

This issue has continued to arise, and for good reason. The community needs to accept GLBTQ members fully. For the most part it does, but the University has not officially recognized this acceptance through the non-discrimination clause. The "Spirit of Inclusion" statement is not enough.

Unfortunately, official recognition is not the student's

call. What students need to do is sign this petition. And on Tuesday, show their support for the cause by wearing a "Gay? Fine By Me" T-shirt. Use your passion about this issue for something productive.

The responses from both within and outside the University and College communities to The Observer's Jan. 13 comic displayed the outrage that results from discrimination against the GLBTQ community — and rightfully so.

You've communicated your passion to us at The Observer in the form of e-mails, letters and phone calls, and we appreciate that. Now you have the opportunity to do the same with the University, to use your passion for something productive like this petition.

The current Observer Editorial Board has supported this petition in the past. In our March 20 editorial, we noted that the Princeton Review has in the past ranked Notre Dame No. 1 in the "Alternative Lifestyles Not An Alternative" category — a clear signal that there are issues surrounding the acceptance of the GLBTQ community on our campus.

We continue to support this petition and the goals it seeks.

A University needs to create a welcoming sense of community to all its students. The University and those in its community do not have to choose between Catholic teaching and acceptance of its members; in fact, the two can and should go hand in hand.

So harness that passion. Sign the petition. Encourage your friends to do the same. Help the student body display just how important this issue is.

THE
OBSERVER
Editorial

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Jesuits have it right

The University of Notre Dame has said they do not want to include sexual orientation in their anti-discriminatory clause because that somehow endorses homosexual activity. I vote Jesuit! I went to the University of Detroit Mercy, a Jesuit school, and this is their non-discrimination clause: "The Program does not discriminate based on race, age, creed, gender, sexual orientation, color, national origin, marital status, religion, or any other factor prohibited by law. This applies to all aspects of its operations." Oh Snap Notre Dame! The Jesuits have very good credentials. They have been around for many centuries, and their priests are well qualified.

Another great Jesuit school, Boston College has the following non-discrimination clause: "Founded by the Society of Jesus in 1863, Boston College is dedicated to intellectual excellence and to its Jesuit, Catholic heritage. Boston College recognizes the essential contribution a diverse community of students, faculty and staff makes to the advancement of its goals and ideals in an atmosphere of respect for one another and for the University's mission and heritage. Accordingly, Boston College commits itself to maintaining a welcoming environment for all people and extends its welcome in particular to those who may be vulnerable to discrimination, on the basis of their race,

ethnic or national origin, religion, color, age, gender, marital or parental status, veteran status, disabilities or sexual orientation.

"Boston College rejects and condemns all forms of harassment, wrongful discrimination and disrespect. It has developed procedures to respond to incidents of harassment whatever the basis or circumstance. Moreover it is the policy of Boston College, while reserving its lawful rights where appropriate to take actions designed to promote the Jesuit, Catholic principles that sustain its mission and heritage, to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination in employment and in its educational programs on the basis of a person's race, religion, color, national origin, age, sex, marital or parental status, veteran status, or disability, and to comply with state law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of a person's sexual orientation."

I bet most Jesuit schools have similar, welcoming environments. Go Irish! Beat Discrimination!

Robert McKeon
graduate student
off campus
Jan. 20

Please don't forget to donate whatever you can to support Haiti relief efforts around campus.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The last temptation is the greatest treason: To do the right deed for the wrong reason."

T.S. Eliot
British dramatist and poet

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Sports do not build character. They reveal it."

Heywood Broun
U.S. journalist

Counseling at the Women's Care Center

In this column, "The Notre Dame They Know," I will interview individuals who have been influenced by the University of Notre Dame.

I will seek to discover the unique role that Notre Dame has played in their life and vocational journey.

Thomas Bounds

The Notre Dame They Know

It is hoped that this column will inculcate a deeper, more honest and more profound love for Our Lady and Her University.

A slate-gray sky hovers over half-melted piles of snow surrounding the entrance to the brown-brick Women's Care Center a mile south of campus.

Inside, Ann Manion, seated in a brown leather chair and wearing a blue and green shirt with gray slacks, is all smiles and laughter as she shares her story.

"I graduated from Notre Dame in 1977 and went to work as an accountant at Price Waterhouse Cooper. When I got married and had a baby, I stopped working to become a stay-at-home mom.

"Janet Smith, a professor at Notre Dame, had founded the Center in a little blue house north of downtown in 1984.

"I was working with the Center in 1988 when Janet, who was leaving to teach in Dallas, took me out for pizza and said, 'Ann, you've got to take this over.'

"I've volunteered here since then as the President and Executive Director of the Center."

Asked about the particular activities of the Center, Ann responds, "The Center's mission is to help young women have the opportunity to choose life for their babies. We also work to help them have healthy pregnancies, and to become better parents-to take steps to self-sufficiency.

"It's inspiring to hear the stories about these women that are planning to abort. They are having terrible struggles in their lives and then, with just a little bit of hope, encouragement and positive support, they make a turn around and become great moms or give their babies for adoption. They grow in all kinds of ways. It's very empowering and exciting to be a part of that."

In its 25 years of operation, the Center has grown from a single office to 16 Centers in four states, and has served over 100,000 women. The Centers provide free pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, prenatal care, parenting classes and a baby store for mothers and their families.

"We did a recent study," Ann comments, "and discovered that 97 percent of abortion-minded women that came for counseling and an ultra-sound [at the Fort Wayne Center] chose life ... Over the past nine years, there has been a 37 percent decline in the number of abortions performed annually in St. Joe County."

Asked about the methods of the Center,

Ann explains, "Our head counselor often says that she's never met a woman who wanted to have an abortion. It's something a woman chooses because she's desperate and doesn't have other viable options. We provide her a calm place to help her work on the obstacles that are discouraging her from keeping her baby.

"The Center takes a non-judgmental, unconditionally loving approach to provide help, hope and assistance to those in need. There is no lecturing or preaching."

Asked about those who work for the Center, Ann says, "People are committed to this place because of their faith and their belief in the pro-life cause. You have to be really committed to this work. It's not just a job, it's a mission: A mission to help women choose life and to help them become better people.

"I think that our counselors benefit from our clients as well. They see a lot of heroism. It's not easy to bring a baby into the world when you're single, young, or poor."

To those considering an abortion, Ann says, "Just come in."

"Last year," Ann recalls, "a woman came into the Center. She was 24 years old. She wasn't sad to be pregnant; she was happy. She was married and employed.

"She met with one of our counselors, who couldn't figure out why this woman had come to the Center. She didn't fit any of the descriptions. She kept thanking us for being here, for all that we'd done.

"Our counselor said to her, 'That's great,

but I don't know how we've helped you. You seem like you've got it all together.

"And she responded, 'You don't understand. Twenty-five years ago, my mom came to the Center. She was planning to have an abortion, but because of the Center she chose life and here I am!'

"It was a really cool story. And then you start thinking, 'Now this woman's going to have a baby that wouldn't be there.' You've got this whole generation of people that wouldn't otherwise be here.

"And she's doing great. She's not on welfare, or any of those things you worry about. She's successful, happily married and just a wonderful human being.

"Last year was our 25th anniversary. She must have been one of the first ones through the door."

Thomas Bounds is a pro-life senior. He reminds everyone that today, the 37th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision, has been designated a day of prayer and penance for U.S. Catholics by the Holy See. He can be contacted at tbounds@nd.edu

Ann Manion, the President and Director of the Women's Care Center, can be contacted at annmanion1@hotmail.com. She encourages anyone considering an abortion to visit womenscarecenter.org for help and information.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Forgive and forget

Everyone makes mistakes.

In regards to the cartoon (The Mobile Party, Jan. 13), everyone involved apologized, the editor resigned and the cartoon was banded. I believe that the apologies and actions taken after were done in full spirit and I am tired of reading people's reactions to something that has been apologized for again and again.

As Christians, or even just as people, we are taught to forgive. This is not the last time someone will make an offensive joke about you and that statement can be applied to everyone. That is an unfortunate but real part of life and thinking otherwise is sadly unrealistic. Sure being made fun of sucks, but push that experience out of the way and use it to make yourself a stronger person.

Patrick McHugh
senior
off campus
Jan. 21

Goodbye Mr. Carroll, thanks for the memories

The first time I saw Pete Carroll coach in person was in 2001 at Notre Dame Stadium. I was a freshman in high school that was first becoming infatuated with Notre Dame Football (and college football in general). The Irish won that game, the last time the Irish beat the Trojans, as both teams went on to have disappointing seasons. Since that year, however, the Trojans have been a college football juggernaut while our beloved Irish have been something of a national joke.

As our Irish have floundered through numerous coaches over the past decade, Pete Carroll has built our rival into a team that was unquestionably the best of the aughts. USC won 1.5 national championships, their program produced three Heisman Trophy winners (until Reggie Bush's is taken away), they have dominated the Pac-10 almost every year, sent countless players to the NFL, and held an iron clad grasp on that jeweled shillelagh that we covet so very much (raise your hand if you couldn't name the trophy for our rivalry until now).

Most of these years, the Irish have been a punching bag for the Trojans. In Carroll's typical game against our guys, the Trojans win by 30 points. Every once in a while (ok, twice) the Irish put up a fight, only to lose it all at the last second. Notre Dame fans have been crushed time and again by Carroll-coached teams and I should be ecstatic that the coach is finally rolling the dice with another NFL franchise.

The thing is: I'm not ecstatic, but I'm actually a bit disappointed (or I was, as you'll read).

The thing about Pete Carroll was that he had a great personality. He was a fun-loving coach that always seemed to be joking about things. He constantly played pranks on his team and brought celebrities to practice. When Carroll was on the sideline, Will Ferrell and Snoop Dogg were never too far behind. We knew Carroll was actually a person because he showed emotion during games (unlike Alabama's RoboCoach).

Behind Carroll's goofy demeanor, we also assumed that he was a cheater. We assumed that Reggie Bush had an agent in 2005, we assumed that the recruitment of Joe McNight was tainted, no wonder we assumed that Carroll knew all about these things. We derided the 'Bush Push' because it was cheating and we always made sure to point out that LSU (and not USC) won the 2003 BCS Championship (with RoboCoach at the helm).

I'm disappointed that Pete Carroll is leaving USC because these things make him incredibly easy to hate, and college football fans (well, all sports fans) love to hate people

(Simmons disciples like myself might mention the term 'sports-hate'). How could we not hate his goofiness on the sidelines or his pranks during practices? It is incredibly easy to hate a guy that brings Will Ferrell (especially post-Bewitched Ferrell) to practices, and even easier to hate a program that brings Snoop Dogg on the sidelines (and even easier to hate Snoop Dogg when he makes the Heisman pose wearing a USC jersey).

Rooting against Pete Carroll was as easy as rooting against Ivan Drago. While we would have hated both just because of the teams they represented (USC and the USSR), the recruiting violations and obvious steroid use respectively made them even more villainous characters. Throw in the downright annoying personalities and we are left with classic villains in the mold of Darth Vader or the general in Avatar.

However, now that Pete Carroll is leaving, we'll never have a chance to get the best of him. We'll never get a chance at redemption for all those American History X-style curb stompings that his teams put on us. It would be like if "Avatar" ended when that gigantic tree was destroyed and the scientists were in prison (sorry for the spoiler, but I assume everybody has seen it by now). I want the Irish to have their chance to shoot arrows into Pete Carroll and the mech-warrior type program that he has assembled.

I'm also disappointed that Carroll is leaving because a win against him would have been a win against the best. I don't want a win against USC because they are mired in sanctions or struggling through a rebuilding process; I want a win against USC because our team was able to go toe to toe with the best team in the land and come out on top. A win against Drago would have meant nothing if Drago was just some random Russian boxer, and a win against USC will mean a lot less (although admittedly not as much less) if USC isn't the powerhouse that it has been.

I want to beat the powerhouse that has the goofy-evil-cheater head coach, and when I first heard Pete Carroll was moving to the Seahawks I was really worried that USC would no longer be the power that they once were or still have a coach that it was easy to hate. But then (after I had already completed most of this column) they hired Lane Kiffin, the one coach in all of college football that will arguably be easier to hate than Carroll has been.

"Kiffin-Kelly I" is coming in November, and I can hardly wait.

Bob Kessler is a 2009 graduate currently teaching English in China. He writes Things Notre Dame Students Like, and you can read more of his work including his thoughts on Jon Gruden at www.the17thgrade.com. He can be contacted at bob020787@gmail.com

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

Share your opinion.

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www.ndsmcobserver.com

Classic Covers Playlist



By: Patrick Griffin



By SHANE STEINBERG
Scene Writer

Starting with last night's premiere and running through Saturday, the Browning Cinema at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center will play host to one of the great gems of an event on Notre Dame's campus, the 21st Annual Notre Dame Film Festival.

Featuring a series of student-produced short films made as class projects during the past year, the festival has served for 20 years as a celebration of the work of aspiring filmmakers as well as a chance for those student filmmakers to gain a wider audience for films that would have otherwise stayed in the classroom. Spanning everything from dark comedies, to tension-ridden suspense thrillers, to a documentary about a filmmaker and covering locations ranging from our very own South Bend to Northern California to Florida, the festival combines an entertaining and intriguing mix of genres and locations that add to the fresh, original feel of the experience.

The festival screens each night at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. and features 15 films, with a few variations in the two screenings due to time constraints. In addition, there are six films not being shown during the festival that can be viewed online at ftt.nd.edu

This year's festival combines an abundance of documentaries made with a keen eye for the genre, and — in certain cases like that of the film "Artzainak: Shepards and Sheep" — made with grace and packed with shots that sit like still images against a clear sky.

In addition, there are three films embracing the tough-to-master but classic-feeling medium of black-and-white filmmaking. Then throw into the mix a few incredibly original scripts in "(Non)fiction" and "Subtext," both memorable in their own right.

But it's the documentaries that unlike last year steal the show here both in presence and in bril-

liance, thus anchoring this year's selection of films.

There's an indelible charm at the heart of the festival. There's a truly absorbing effect to stepping into a theater and seeing a set of films for which there exist no critical reviews, no word of mouth to go on, no spruced up trailers, and, ultimately, no expectations one way or the other. With each film comes a new surprise, a surprise that very often is quite refreshing, because there's nothing like finding that hidden, unknown gem when you least expect it.

And that is what the festival is at its inner core: a canvas on which a series of unknowns filmed with starry-eyed passion are projected, that more often than not turn out to be delightfully surprising, immersive and entertaining and leave an impression even after the festival's end.

Although film lovers should consider this a must-see, it doesn't take a passion for film to appreciate what the Notre Dame Film Festival has to offer. There's nothing like watching a film that your friend had a hand in making or one about a subject related to our school that you know all too well. And furthermore, in the big-budget world that we so often equate the film industry with, it's a breath of fresh air to be able to walk into a movie theater and watch a series of films made by aspiring filmmakers who share a passion for the medium and who create art for the sake of art. That, if nothing else, is why the Film Festival is such a rewarding experience, and why if only once in your four years here, everyone should attend the festival.

Tickets are \$3 for Notre Dame students, \$5 for faculty and \$6 for the general public, with the option of buying advance tickets online at performingarts.nd.edu or by calling the Performing Arts Center box office at 574-631-2800. From personal experience, it's best to order your tickets in advance because the festival has been known to sell out.

Contact Shane Steinberg at ssteinb2@nd.edu



- 1 Smile Like You Mean It - David Gray
- 2 Don't Stop the Music - Jamie Cullum
- 3 Sleepyhead (Passion Pit cover) - Run Toto Run
- 4 No Scrubs (TLC Cover) - Incubus
- 5 Hey Ya - Matt Weddle
- 6 Best of You (Foo Fighters cover) - Stereophonics
- 7 Tainted Love (Soft Cell cover) - Marilyn Manson
- 8 Billie Jean (Michael Jackson cover) - Cobra Starship
- 9 Getting Better (Beatles cover) - Kaiser Chiefs
- 10 Benny and the Jets (feat. Biz Markie, Elton John cover) - Beastie Boys
- 11 Fool in the Rain (Led Zeppelin cover) - Dave Matthews Band
- 12 Electric Feel (MGMT cover) - Katy Perry
- 13 Lover Lay Down (DMB Cover) - John Mayer
- 14 Float On - Ben Lee
- 15 Yesterday (Beatles Cover) - Depeche Mode
- 16 Mrs. Robinson (Simon and Garfunkel cover) - Weezer
- 17 Day is Done (Nick Drake cover) - Norah Jones
- 18 I Won't Back Down (Tom Petty cover) - Pearl Jam
- 19 Hallelujah (Leonard Cohen cover) - Regina Spektor
- 20 Money (Beatles cover) - The Doors

Films of the decade Top 10

By SHANE STEINBERG
Scene Writer

I was utterly unsettled, bewildered to the core, and downright livid the first time I saw "Mulholland Drive." Sitting in front of the television with perplexity written across my face, I gazed ahead stupidly. "What had just happened?" I simply didn't understand what was going on, and I wasn't willing to see or so much as try to analyze what wasn't spelled out for me. So I walked out on the film, turned my back on it, and if I recall correctly, called it "the worst movie I've ever seen."

So now, looking back, it seems rather ironic that in coming up with the idea to have The Observer run a series of arti-

cles celebrating the 50 greatest films of the last decade, the only film I was certain was on the list was in fact the very film that I had once called "the worst film ever." In fact, it turns out that film is the best film of the decade.

Sometimes I think back to the day I received "Mulholland Drive" in the mail as my first Netflix movie, how I tore open the red mailing envelope and read the synopsis thinking that I was in for a murderous thriller, and how I later watched in utter perplexity as any semblance of a linear, approachable plot dissolved into the abyss. A great passion for film grew in me that day, and it has continued to grow in me ever more since, and as I look back on that film, the confusion that followed, and the

understanding of the impossible-to-understand that ensued, I can't help but think of "Mulholland Drive" as the quintessential moment of my life as a lover of film.

There was something inescapably mesmerizing about what I didn't know and could not understand — some beauty in the uncertainty that would go on to pull and tear at me, beckoning me to solve the puzzle that was David Lynch's "Mulholland Drive." I reflected on the film for several days, until, like an epiphany the moment it's realized, it all dawned on me, and suddenly, everything started to make sense. And as the uncertainty went, so came the brilliance. The meticulous brilliance found in every corner of Lynch's work of absolute

genius. I understood, slowly but surely, how deep and incredibly exceptional "Mulholland Drive" actually was, and as I watched the film over and over again, each time kindling a new curiosity in the film, I solved more of the puzzle, and, in retrospect, started my top 50 list of the best films of the decade.

So in since watching way too many films to count and scouring the confines of everything "film" in search of great films, I can't help but look back at "Mulholland Drive," I have to say that this list — and my love of film — wouldn't have been possible if not for, "the worst film I've ever seen."

Contact Shane Steinberg at ssteinb2@nd.edu

2. No Country for Old Men (2007)

The Coen brothers' jaw-dropping neo-western film veiled as a thriller brilliantly blends all of the themes that the Coen's have played around with ever since their directorial debut in "Blood Simple." Both awe-inspiring in a "popcorn movie" sense and undeniably triumphant in an "Oscar season movie" sense, this adaptation of Cormac McCarthy's 2005 novel about life, death, and the loss of innocence, is incredibly measured and flawless from head to toe. Javier Bardem's turn as a psychopathic killer tasked with hunting down a foolhardy south-Llewelyn Moss (Josh Brolin), a farmer who is simply in the wrong place at the wrong time when he stumbles across a satchel filled with \$2 million, is enough to send shivers down even Hannibal Lecter's back. Simply put, with "No Country for Old Men" the Coen brothers have managed to top even their almost insurmountable film "Fargo."



10. Capturing the Friedmans (2003)

The best documentary of the decade will have you frown-faced and drenched in hatred for the injustices of our flawed justice system and the media hounds that feed into our lust for blood — even if it means lusting for the blood of the innocent. This harrowing tale of a family man with a secret, turned a family-ruining child rapist plays out like a tragedy of sweeping proportions and at its heart never truly answers the question of his innocence, which proves a brilliant decision.



9. Spirited Away (2001)

The best animated movie of the decade is, surprisingly, not a Pixar film. In fact, it hails all the way from Japan, under the creative genius that is Hayao Miyazaki ("Howl's Moving Castle," "Ponyo"). This is undoubtedly his greatest film for so many reasons, among which are the life infused into every scene, shadow and detail, and the pure grace and bursting imagination with which his characters, so amazingly rendered as they are, act and are brought to life with such startlingly beauty.



8. Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King (2003)

Everything about the last installment of the Lord of the Rings trilogy is epic. Clocking in at a lengthy 3:30, Peter Jackson's send-off to J.R.R. Tolkien's beloved classic manages to tie together every element of the journey while achieving the type of metaphorical brilliance the first two films lacked.



7. Lost in Translation (2003)

At its heart, Sofia Coppola's love letter of a dramedy is about those rare connections we make in life that may not last but will stay with us forever. It's a truly touching and fully immersive love story brimming with flower-like beauty and imagination, and at its end is one of the most intriguing, best thought-out closings in recent memory. Not only is "Lost in Translation" the best romance film of the decade, but it's a true testament to the journey that is being lost, and the reality that in being lost, the best is what we find along the way. It connected with me in a way no other film has, and for that reason, this is my personal favorite film.



6. White Ribbon (2009)

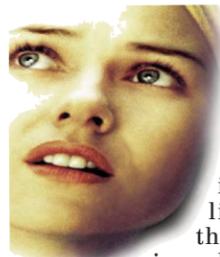
Auteur Michael Haneke creates a simple tale chronicling the strange atrocities committed in a seemingly quaint, innocent early pre-WWI German town. More than that though, "White Ribbon" is an inquiry into evil, a certain kind of evil bred by a society left stagnant by its own strict moral code and Protestant teachings — the same society that no less than two decades later would commit atrocities that would kill millions of people. Possibly the most interesting and revealing film on this list, "White Ribbon" succeeds for its insight into a society and culture where facades bottle up the inescapable human capacity for evil, only to unleash it in the worst of ways. This is a rare film truly deserving of being called a masterpiece.



The BEST Film of the Decade

1. Mulholland Drive (2001)

David Lynch's masterpiece is film at its very best. From the bewildering opening scene, when Lynch first immerses his audience in a fever hallucination of a film, until the perfectly measured ending, a spine-chilling air of brilliance engulfs the theater. This incredibly tantalizing dive into the heart of insanity and the subconscious becomes more ingenious as it unravels, and once solved, all that is left is the overwhelming feeling that what Mr. Lynch has created is so beyond perfect, it's downright scary.



3. 4 Months, 3 Weeks, 2 Days (2007)

This isn't a movie about illegal abortion in the Communist Bloc. No, it's a surreal, downright horrifying free-fall into the confines of human suffering and isolation so washed in unbearable rawness, that at its end, a part of you will wish that you hadn't seen it because of how scarred it leaves you.



4. There Will Be Blood (2007)

Destined to be studied and picked apart by film lovers for years to come, Paul Thomas Anderson's unrelenting work of genius about an oil man, Daniel Plainview (Daniel Day-Lewis in one of the most searing performances in movie history), whose greed and moral corruption lead him down a path of conflict with religion and humanity alike, is, in its purest form, an aesthetic revelation, the likes of which haven't been seen since "Citizen Kane."



5. United 93 (2006)

Paul Greengrass' heart-wrenching docudrama is undying in its commitment to telling the arresting true story of what happened to the doomed heroes aboard United Airlines Flight 93 on Sept. 11, 2001. Both impossible to watch, yet too difficult to turn away from, "United 93" is pitch-perfect and represents the most inexorably true account of Sept. 11 to grace the silver screen to this day.



NFL

Phillips to stay in Dallas

Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — Wade Phillips has a new two-year contract with the Dallas Cowboys, a deal indicating that owner Jerry Jones being is encouraged yet not satisfied.

"This contract represents that," Jones said Thursday after signing Phillips through the 2011 season. "Two years in the NFL is an eternity, but it has to be urgent and it has to be addressed as if there is no tomorrow. ... It addresses the urgency of where we want to go from here."

The Cowboys have won two NFC East titles in three years under Phillips, and two weeks ago got their first playoff victory since 1996, which was the season after their last Super Bowl.

While Phillips is 34-17 in Dallas (playoffs included), there had been speculation about his status since Jones had failed to pick up the 2010 option that was part of the deal Phillips got when he replaced Bill Parcells after the 2006 season. Jones repeatedly indicated he wanted Phillips back, but didn't make it official until now.

"We want to build on the foundation we have put in place over the last three years," Jones said. "I want to take advantage of the continuity."

Instead of picking up the 2010 option, though, Jones gave Phillips a new contract. One that doesn't include an option past the next two seasons.

"As long as the team knows I'm going to be here this year with this team, that's all I need as a coach," Phillips said. "It doesn't matter if it's one year or 10 years. With this team right now, I feel very comfortable. I think we can go further and we will go further."

In Phillips' first season, Dallas was 13-3 and the No. 1 seed in the NFC before losing its opening playoff game. The Cowboys were 9-7 and missed the playoffs a year ago before an 11-5 record this season earned them the NFC East title. They beat Philadelphia in the NFC wild-card round before a 34-3 loss at Minnesota last weekend.

Jones refused to give any specifics about the financial terms of the deal, but said it was "serious money" while making clear there would be a hefty bonus for reaching a Super Bowl.

"Is he being overpaid? Not one penny," Jones said. "Is he being underpaid? Probably, for what I think he is. The bottom line is we have something that works and certainly is structured so that we have great incentive to do what he wants to lead us into doing any way, and



Cowboys head coach Wade Phillips, left, and owner Jerry Jones speak during the news conference announcing Phillips' extension.

that is ultimately get to that Super Bowl."

Only the Colts, Patriots and Chargers have won more games than Dallas during Phillips' three seasons, but the Cowboys have gone a franchise-worst 14 seasons without winning or reaching a Super Bowl. Next season, the Super Bowl will be at Cowboys Stadium, and Jones has long wanted to become the first host team to play in the big game.

"I feel like we're going to be knocking on the door," he said.

Then a smiling Phillips jumped in with a line made famous by his dad, Bum Phillips, when he coached the Houston Oilers: "We're going to kick that SOB in, too."

Phillips has been among the league's lowest-paid head coaches at around \$3 million per season. This past year, he also took on the role of defensive coordinator, and Jones called him "the MVP of the defense."

Jones said Phillips impressed him with how the coach never let the contract status affect him during the season.

"One of the things that he demonstrated was just how well that ambiguity didn't matter relative to getting the job done or relative to aspiring to where we wanted to go," Jones said. "Don't think that players, and for that matter a lot more people than players, operate with some ambiguity with what's going to happen next year and the next year and the next year. Hello life."

The defense led by Pro Bowl picks DeMarcus Ware and Jay Ratliff allowed the fewest points in the NFC this season and closed the regular season with

the first back-to-back shutouts in the franchise's 50-season history.

Phillips just finished his 33rd year in the NFL, 28 of them spent as either a defensive coordinator or head coach. He's 62.

If Phillips finishes this contract, he will match Jimmy Johnson as the longest-tenured coach during Jones' ownership. Phillips already has the highest winning percentage among Cowboys coaches, topping Johnson, Tom Landry and Barry Switzer. However, he's lumped in with Parcells, Chan Gailey and Dave Campo as Dallas coaches who haven't won a Super Bowl.

"We've produced well, but that isn't good enough," Phillips said. "I think we have a lot better opportunity to do that now."

This will become the longest head coaching stint for Phillips, who is 81-54 in the regular season and was 0-4 in the playoffs before this season. Phillips was Buffalo's coach for three seasons and spent two seasons in Denver, along with interim stints in New Orleans and Atlanta.

Jones expects to bring back the entire coaching staff, including three assistants whose contracts expire after this season. Among them is Phillips' son, Wes, who is in charge of offensive quality control.

The one change was when defensive line coach Todd Grantham last week became the new defensive coordinator for the University of Georgia. The Cowboys quickly replaced him by rehiring Paul Pasqualoni, a Dallas assistant for three seasons before spending the last two seasons as Miami's defensive coordinator.

PGA

Fred Couples debuts on Champions Tour

Associated Press

KAUPULEHU-KONA, Hawaii — Fred Couples and Tom Watson are featured on the larger-than-life Mitsubishi Electric Championship posters that greet travelers at tiny Kona International Airport.

While Watson is identified as a member of the World Golf Hall of Fame, Couples has a more humble title underneath his smiling mug: "rookie."

There's no mention of his 15 PGA Tour titles, 1992 Masters win or 2009 U.S. President's Cup team captaincy.

"It's just a different deal," Couples said. "Everyone seems like a winner out here. Even the guys that didn't play on the regular (tour) come and do well."

Couples and U.S. Ryder Cup captain Corey Pavin will make their first official starts on the Champions Tour on Friday in the season-opening Mitsubishi. They each received sponsor exemptions, making them the first players to make their tour debuts at the winners-only event.

"It's nice to be a rookie, but it's also nice to feel extremely comfortable out here as well," Pavin said. "When you're a rookie on the PGA Tour, your eyes (are) wide, and trying to figure out what to do. Out here, I have a pretty good idea what I have to do. The guys have been incredible in welcoming me out here."

Both players turned 50 late last year, have 15 PGA Tour wins and are fitting right in. They were loose and smiling as they chatted with players they haven't seen in years—or ever.

"I'll soon get to know a few of those guys, although right now I don't have any idea who they are," Couples said.

But the players know who he is.

"We need Freddie to come out and play, and Corey, and Paul Azinger, those kind of guys," said 2006 champion Loren Roberts, who is coming off his second Charles Schwab Cup title in three years. "We need guys that are major champions to come out here and play on this tour."

Couples made his senior debut last weekend, teaming with Nick Price to finish third in the Champions Skins Game at Kaanapali.

A total of 36 players are entered at Hualalai, one of the easiest courses on the

tour that features generous fairways and immaculate greens. It is the first of 26 events on the 2010 schedule, which is one more than last year.

"On this golf course right here, it's about the putter," Roberts said. "Unless it's just a hurricane around here, you're going to hit a lot of greens, you're going to hit a lot of birdie putts."

Roberts won in 2006 by shooting a final-round 61.

Last year, Bernhard Langer held off Andy Bean by a stroke, winning the Mitsubishi for the first of his tour-high four 2009 victories. This season, Langer is going for an unprecedented third straight player of the year honor.

Pavin is hoping for some similar success. The 1995 U.S. Open champion plans to play six events on the PGA Tour and 18 on the 50-and-over circuit.

"I certainly want to get in a position where I can win some tournaments and I think I have a better chance of that out here than on the regular tour," said Pavin, coming off a tie for 52nd at the Sony Open.

He said there's a noticeable difference on the two tours.

"How should I say this? The guys (here) understand the big picture really well," Pavin said. "They understand the sponsorships and what makes this whole tour tick. It's really nice to have everybody understand that and work together as a team. But obviously when we go out, we're competing against each other and it's pretty serious competition and tough competition."

Couples, meanwhile, aims to play 12 events on the PGA Tour and 10 senior events. Next year, he plans to concentrate on the Champions Tour.

"People want to know a goal. It's not winning, it's really to see if I can play that many tournaments," said Couples, long troubled by back problems.

At the driving range, Couples seemed just as determined to master a hang-loose "shaka" sign and some Hawaiian words than he was his booming drive.

He got a couple tips from Curtis Strange, who taught Couples to say, "alooooooha."

That's where all the tips started and ended.

"Freddie doesn't need any tips," Roberts said. "C'mon now. These guys that hit it 320, I'm not going to give them any tips."

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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PERSONAL

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. Notre Dame has 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 ND's web site: <http://pregnancysupport.nd.edu>

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, we can help. For more information, visit Notre Dame's website: <http://csap.nd.edu>

"I can't even yell at you anymore."

'Fact: Bears beat Battlestar Galactica.'

63463

Hey Sush, when is date night? Thanks dude.

What's up, Papa James?

"Also."

Michael, 5K means 5 kilometers, not 5,000 miles!

So when you say psychosomatic, you mean like he could start a fire with his thoughts?

"Lettuce isn't crunchy!"

On second thought, let's not go to Camelot. It is a silly place.

AROUND THE NATION

Friday, January 22, 2010

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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CSCAA Men's Swimming and Diving Top 25

team	previous
1 Texas	1
2 Stanford	2
3 Arizona	4
4 California	3
5 Auburn	5
6 Florida	4
7 Michigan	7
8 Virginia	9
9 Ohio State	12
10 Minnesota	8
11 Tennessee	11
12 Georgia	10
13 USC	13
14 North Carolina	14
15 Florida State	15
16 Louisville	16
17 LSU	18
18 Purdue	19
19 Texas A&M	22
20 Alabama	21
21 Kentucky	16
22 UNLV	18
23 SMU	21
24 Virginia Tech	24
25 Indiana	24

CSCAA Women's Swimming Rankings

team	previous
1 Georgia	1
2 Arizona	2
3 Texas	4
4 Stanford	3
5 California	6
6 Texas A&M	6
7 Florida	7
8 Auburn	8
9 USC	9
10 Minnesota	10
11 Virginia	11
12 Tennessee	13
13 Louisville	14
14 Indiana	12
15 North Carolina	15
16 Michigan	16
17 Wisconsin	17
18 SMU	19
19 Arkansas	18
20 Virginia Tech	20
21 Missouri	24
22 Purdue	22
23 Northwestern	23
24 LSU	21
25 Florida State	25

USA Today Men's Hockey Rankings

team	points
1 Denver	500
2 Miami (Ohio)	483
3 Wisconsin	420
4 Minn. Duluth	361
5 Yale	304
6 North Dakota	295
7 Cornell	263
8 Colorado College	249
9 Ferris State	237
10 Boston College	232

NCAA FOOTBALL



Boston College linebacker Mark Herzlich returned to practice Thursday for the first time since he was diagnosed with cancer last spring. The 2008 ACC defensive player of the year finished chemotherapy treatment in November.

Eagles' Herzlich returns to practice

Associated Press

BOSTON—Mark Herzlich roamed the dome-covered football field at Boston College's Alumni Stadium, sharing with his teammates the techniques and wisdom that had him destined for NFL stardom before a cancer diagnosis delayed—but did not derail—his promising career.

With his hair and eyebrows growing out and even a short beard to serve as an exclamation point on his recovery, Herzlich returned to practice on Thursday for the first time since he was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer called Ewing's Sarcoma.

"I can't believe it's been a

whole year playing without him," linebacker Mike Morrissey said after the hourlong workout without coaches, pads or contact.

Herzlich, who finished radiation in August and chemotherapy in November, said his energy has returned enough to enable him to join his teammates in the weight room on Wednesday and a day later in the winterized bubble that covers the field in the offseason. In shorts and a cut-off workout shirt, Herzlich took his turn rotating into seven-on-seven drills before addressing the group as a whole before practice broke up.

"I'm very excited, even to do just a little stuff today," he said. "I want to jump in, but I

also want to be smart and not take any risks that can get me hurt."

The risk of injury, Herzlich noted, is not from the cancer but from the lack of conditioning after a year in which he lost his hair and the finely honed edge he needed to bang around on a football field a dozen Saturdays each fall. He was pronounced cancer-free in October, and doctors told him there are no other lingering effects of the cancer or its treatment; he is checked every three months, just to make sure.

"We're all overwhelmed by his story," offensive lineman Anthony Castonzo said. "He's done something only a few people around the world can say they've done, beat can-

cer. And he's picked up right where he left off."

Herzlich was named the Atlantic Coast Conference defensive player of the year in 2008, picking off six passes—the most in the nation for a linebacker—and leading the Eagles with 81 tackles. But in May he announced that he would miss 2009 after being diagnosed with Ewing's Sarcoma, a rare form of cancer often found in bone or soft tissue.

The diagnosis sent him home to bed, dejected.

But not for long.

"After about two hours of sulking, I realized this has got to be something I overcome," Herzlich said. "Once I made that decision, I was ready."

IN BRIEF

Blanton re-signs for \$24 million over three seasons

PHILADELPHIA — Joe Blanton got his reward for consistency and durability.

Blanton and the Philadelphia Phillies agreed to a \$24 million, three-year contract that avoided a salary arbitration hearing next month. The 29-year-old right-hander was 12-8 with a 4.05 ERA last year.

"They came to me with the prospect of going long term, and I couldn't have been more thrilled," Blanton said at a news conference Thursday. "I couldn't be happier to have this opportunity to stay in the Phillies' organization. I've enjoyed my time here and I feel like the organization just keeps getting better and better every year."

After making \$5,475,000 last year, Blanton asked for \$10.25 million in arbitration and was offered \$7.5 million. He already had agreed to a new deal before those numbers were submitted.

King Felix agrees to deal to remain in Seattle

SEATTLE — Felix Hernandez and the Seattle Mariners have completed a \$78 million, five-year deal that averts an arbitration hearing and keeps the young ace under contract through 2014.

General manager Jack Zduriencik called Thursday a great day for Seattle and for the pitcher, his wife and their two young children.

"This one was immense," Zduriencik said, seated next to a constantly grinning Hernandez. "It's rare when you can secure a guy like this. And it's rare to have a guy with this kind of ability. There's no better move than to secure a Felix Hernandez."

Hernandez, who could have become a free agent after the 2011 season, finalized his first big contract after taking a physical that was required to finish the deal.

Celtics' Davis fined for incident with fan

NEW YORK — Boston Celtics forward Glen "Big Baby" Davis has been fined \$25,000 for directing inappropriate language at a fan.

NBA executive vice president of operations Stu Jackson announced the fine Thursday.

Davis was fined for language he used when addressing a fan during the second quarter of Boston's 92-86 loss to the Detroit Pistons at the Palace of Auburn Hills on Wednesday.

It was the second fine Jackson has handed down to a Celtics player in as many days. Boston forward Rasheed Wallace was fined \$35,000 on Wednesday for publicly criticizing officials.

Davis is averaging 6.2 points per game and 4.3 rebounds per contest in 12 games this season.

around the dial

NBA
Lakers at Knicks
8 p.m., ESPN

NBA
Bulls at Suns
10:30 p.m., ESPN

NBA

Williams to miss one month

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Cavaliers starting point guard Mo Williams will miss at least one month with a sprained left shoulder, a major blow to the Eastern Conference's top team.

An MRI revealed the sprain and the Cavs said that Williams, who has played in 124 of a possible 125 games since joining Cleveland before last season, is projected to be out for the "next four to six weeks" — a timetable that could keep him out until the first week in March.

Williams is the club's second-leading scorer and top playmaker other than LeBron James. His loss figures to test the Cavs like nothing else so far this season.

"It's huge," James said before Thursday's showdown with the Los Angeles Lakers. "The last two years a lot of the reason for the success we've had as a team is because Mo has been our point guard. He has been the guy that has kept us under wraps and played in almost every single game. When you lose an All-Star point guard it hurts. It hurts a lot.

"Guys got to step up. Guys have no choice but to step up."

Williams injured his shoulder in Tuesday night's win over Toronto when he reached for a steal in the third quarter and banged into a few Raptors players. He was taken to the locker room for an examination and treatment before returning to the floor and making a key 3-pointer in the fourth quarter.

Cleveland coach Mike Brown said it is his understanding that rest should take care of Williams' injury. It's not likely he will need surgery.

On Tuesday, the Cavs initially



Cavaliers point guard Mo Williams will be out of action for at least one month due to a shoulder injury.

said Williams had sustained a strain, but changed the diagnosis to a sprain, which indicates there is a tear in the shoulder.

Williams, who was an All-Star last season — his first with Cleveland — scored a team-high 28 points in the Cavaliers' Christmas Day win over the Lakers.

Delonte West, who is more of a shooting guard, will start in place of Williams and Daniel Gibson will return to the rotation after having his minutes reduced in recent weeks. West will be making his first start this season.

"It's tough," Brown said. "But we feel like we have a deep team. It's unfortunate Mo got hurt because he was playing really well for us and was in a rhythm. We have to see if we can hold the fort down until he's able to come back."

Losing Williams will hurt the Cavs in a variety of ways. He is one of the NBA's best three-throw (90 percent) and 3-point shooters (43 percent).

Cleveland (32-11) entered Thursday's game against the Lakers with a 3 1/2 -game lead over Boston for the East's best record.

NASCAR

Bump-drafting back in '10, drivers happy

Associated Press

CONCORD, N.C. — Have at it, boys.

NASCAR is relaxing some of its rules this season, and encouraging drivers to show more aggression and emotion, in large part to answer a growing fan sentiment that the sport had gone stale.

"There's an age old saying that NASCAR, 'If you ain't rubbing, you ain't racing,'" NASCAR president Mike Helton said Thursday. "I think that's what the NASCAR fan, the NASCAR stakeholders all bought into, and all expect."

The first change will be evident when the season opens next month at Daytona International Speedway, where restrictions on bump-drafting will be lifted and horsepower will be increased by the use of the largest restrictor plate since 1989.

NASCAR had been slowly tightening its tolerance on bumping at Daytona and Talladega — the two biggest and fastest tracks in the series, where the horsepower-sapping restrictor plates are used to control speeds — and it graduated into an outright ban issued the morning of the November race at Talladega. The edict sucked the drama out of what's typically one of the most exciting races of the year, and was the final straw for many race fans who had grown tired of watered-down racing.

Even some drivers publicly complained, criticism that is usually frowned upon in NASCAR.

"Let us RACE," Denny Hamlin tweeted after the Talladega drivers meeting, later adding, "We signed up to drive our cars. Not be told how to."

He's getting his wish.

"We will put it back in the hands of drivers, and we will say 'Boys, have at it and have a good time,'" vice president of competition Robin Pemberton said Thursday.

The yellow out-of-bounds line that circles the bottom of those two tracks will remain, and Pemberton said the majority of drivers did not want that removed.

Another change coming this year will be an eventual switch from the rear wing to a spoiler on the back of the car, a design change that should both positively affect downforce and the aesthetic look that race fans prefer.

Also on tap is an organizational restructuring. The most prominent shuffle is the promotion of longtime Sprint Cup Series director John Darby into an oversight position, and NASCAR is actively looking for his replacement in a role that is effectively the top cop of the garage.

Darby's successor could be in for a busy year, particularly if drivers answer NASCAR chairman Brian France's call "to mix it up a little bit differently" going forward.

NBA

Iverson, Duncan lead All-Star team starters

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A mostly absent Allen Iverson was voted to start in the NBA All-Star game on Thursday, while Steve Nash and Tim Duncan made late moves to claim starting spots.

Nash passed the inactive Tracy McGrady as the second guard for the Western Conference, while Duncan disappointed Dallas fans hoping to see Dirk Nowitzki start by rallying past the Mavericks forward.

LeBron James was the leading vote-getter for the Feb. 14 game at Cowboys Stadium, becoming the first player to earn at least 2.5 million votes three times. He will make his sixth All-Star appearance, all as a starter.

"The fans still love and see what I do every night and they appreciate it, and I appreciate them for electing me as an All-Star starter," James said. "It's still special."

Joining James and Iverson as Eastern Conference starters were Miami guard Dwyane Wade, Orlando center Dwight Howard and Boston forward Kevin Garnett.

Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant was picked in the West along with Phoenix center Amare Stoudemire and Denver forward Carmelo Anthony.

Starters were decided by fan balloting at NBA arenas and electronically. The reserves will be chosen by votes by the head coaches in each conference and will be announced next Thursday.

The fans still love Iverson, even though he's played only 19 games during the worst season of his career. He appeared on the West ballot since he began the season in Memphis, but they parted ways after only three games.

Iverson's votes counted in the East since he rejoined the Philadelphia 76ers, his long-time team. He is averaging only 14.8 points with the 76ers, but will get a shot at earning a third All-Star game MVP award if he chooses to play.

Bothered by a sore knee, Iverson said he would consider his health before deciding whether to play in his 10th All-Star game. He's been an All-Star for 11 straight seasons, but missed the 2007 game because of injury.

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TENNIS

Jelena Jankovic upset at Grand Slam again

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Dinara Safina advanced to the fourth round of the Australian Open on Friday, winning her first match on the major's marquee court since her lopsided loss to Serena Williams in last year's final.

Jelena Jankovic just keeps running into trouble at the Grand Slams.

Second-seeded Safina beat Britain's Elena Baltacha 6-1, 6-2 in her return to Rod Laver Arena and eighth-seeded Jankovic was upset by No. 31 Alona Bondarenko, falling 6-2, 6-3 for her first loss in 10 meetings with the Ukraine player.

Both Safina and Jankovic have held the No. 1 ranking, but neither has won a Grand Slam singles title. Only Safina, who has been a runner-up three times, can make that breakthrough here.

"I'm happy to be back here in Rod Laver, I didn't have too many good memories from last year so I turned it around and tried to forget the bad memories," said Safina, the younger sister of 2005 Australian Open champion Marat Safin.

"I had some unbelievable matches here in Rod Laver: dramas, fighting, running," she recalled of the happier times in her run to the 2009 final.

Jankovic made 40 unforced errors against 13 winners. She hasn't gone beyond the fourth round at any of the majors since she lost the 2008 U.S. Open final - her only championship match at a major. She lost the No. 1 ranking after her fourth-round exit here last year.

Two other former No. 1-ranked players, both from Belgium and both on the comeback from retirement, were in action later Friday. Justine Henin played Alisa Kleybonova immediately after Jankovic on Hisense Arena and U.S. Open champion Kim Clijsters had a night match.

Men's defending champion Rafael Nadal was playing Philipp Kohlschreiber in a night match at Rod Laver.

Roger Federer, the king of tennis, met Britain's Prince William on the same court the previous evening. After Federer dispatched Victor Hanesu 6-2, 6-3, 6-2 in 99 minutes Thursday, on-court interviewer Jim Courier invited the top-ranked Swiss star to acknowledge the rare visit to Melbourne by a high-ranking British royal.

"Your Royal Highness, welcome to the world of tennis," Federer said. "Thanks for coming."

Prince William duly blushed and waved, and the pair shook hands. Federer is no stranger to royalty, having collected the Wimbledon trophy six times on London's grass courts among his record 15 Grand Slam titles. But this was his first meeting with William, second in line to the British throne.

"Chitchat? no," Federer said. "English breakfast tea? No, not yet."

"Of course, where he comes from, you know, he knows tennis. And Wimbledon's big," Federer added. "So for me it was very a big honor that he came to watch me. He said he was happy that I played a little bit longer because the match could have ended even shorter."

Prince William also met women's champion Serena Williams, who defeated Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic 6-2, 6-1 to set up a third-round match against Spain's Carla Suarez Navarro. Navarro ousted Venus Williams in the second round last year.

Venus has already improved on that, defeating Sybille Bammer 6-2, 7-5.

"I feel if I play well, I can beat anybody," said Serena, who is planning some research on Suarez Navarro. "I know she took out Venus around this time last year, if I'm not mistaken."

"I would hate to see it become a habit for her, taking out a sister this time every year. So I have to be ready. Yeah, definitely will talk to (Venus) and see what goes next."

U.S. Open finalist Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark was among the other women advancing. She'll meet No. 29 Shahar Peer of Israel in the next round.

Ana Ivanovic, the 2008 Australian Open finalist and French Open champion, lost to Argentina's Gisela Dulko.

Most of the leading men in the top half the draw progressed in straight sets.

Novak Djokovic, the 2008 champion, had a slow start in his 3-6, 6-1, 6-1, 6-3 win over Marco Chiudinelli of Switzerland. No. 9 Fernando Verdasco, a semifinalist last year, advanced 6-1, 6-2, 6-2 over Ivan Sergeev of Ukraine, and 2008 finalist Jo-Wilfried Tsonga had a 6-4, 6-3, 6-3 win over American Taylor Dent.

Sixth-seeded Nikolay Davydenko had a 6-3, 6-3, 6-0 win over Ukraine qualifier Ilya Marchenko, extending his winning streak to 11, including victories over Federer and Nadal in the 2009 World Tour Final in London and in Doha this month.

NFL

Sanchez gaining attention

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Brett Favre, Peyton Manning, Drew Brees — and Mark Sanchez? Yep, the rookie from Southern Cal is keeping some heady company. He's gotten a whole lot further than some of the best quarterbacks in NFL history did in their first seasons, too.

The fifth overall pick in last year's draft is part of the NFL's final four, playing for a spot in the Super Bowl just like the game's career passing leader, the league's only four-time MVP, and the sport's most accurate passer.

Sure could be overwhelming. "This feels right," Sanchez said confidently. "It feels good. It feels the way you dream it would feel just growing up. You get to go play at Indy again for an AFC championship your rookie year, that's unbelievable."

Maybe not. A rookie quarterback has gotten to the AFC title game in three of the last six years. The other two, Pittsburgh's Ben Roethlisberger and Baltimore's Joe Flacco, fell short of the Super Bowl.

Now Sanchez gets his chance.

"I think it's interesting that, you know, a rookie quarterback last year, Joe Flacco, AFC championship game," said New Orleans' Brees, who chuckles and changes the subject when asked about his first pro season. "A rookie quarterback this year, Mark Sanchez, AFC championship. I guess Roethlisberger, when he was a rookie, they went to an AFC championship. So there have been a bunch of rookie quarter-

backs here over the last five or six years."

The theory that QBs fresh out of college should sit and watch died a while ago. Maybe it began to disappear with Manning, who never has missed a start since being the top selection in 1998.

Favre barely saw the field with Atlanta in 1991, throwing five passes (two were intercepted) before being traded to Green Bay. Brees came along 10 years later and had only one start for San Diego as a rookie, perhaps because the Chargers had been so burned by using Manning contemporary Ryan Leaf early on they were wary of going with a youngster again.

Now, it's no big deal for the new kid in town to line up behind center from the outset. Or, in the last half-dozen seasons, to play deep into January.

"Every guy wants to be a part of the Super Bowl," said the 40-year-old Favre, who got there in his sixth and seventh season, going 1-1, but has not returned. "As you get older, you appreciate it more. Especially since you've been there, you know how difficult it is to get back. I don't care how good you are. I keep using Pittsburgh as an example, and the Giants a couple of years ago. You never know. Seize the moment."

The Jets have done a lot of seizing recently, winning seven of eight, including four in a row, two in the playoffs on the road — about as difficult a challenge as a rookie quarterback could face. Sanchez met the hurdles thanks as much to the Jets' strengths around him as to what he has achieved with his

arm and legs.

Sanchez is 24 for 38 for 282 yards in wins at Cincinnati and San Diego. Those would be one-game numbers for Favre, Manning or Brees.

But New York's top-ranked running game and No. 1-rated defense have made Sanchez's inexperience almost a non-factor. That's nearly enough to make a veteran quarterback jealous.

"Obviously he's got a great team around him: great run game, great defense," Brees said. "He makes plays when he needs to, manages the game well. His offensive coordinator is Brian Schottenheimer, who was my quarterback coach in San Diego. Brian's done a great job helping him prepare and learn the game and he's gotten a little faster dose of the learning curve maybe than most."

Sanchez agrees, recognizing that the conservative approach — if letting a rookie be your quarterback from the get-go can be considered conservative — not only has worked for the team, but has been a boon for him.

"It's worked to this point, and hopefully in the future I'll be able to take more chances and really get a feel for things," he said. "Right now, it's better to be smart than good."

"I do feel more comfortable as the days go on and as I get experience each game. There is no substitute for that experience. I think the biggest thing that has made the difference in these last few games is knowing what it takes to win and also knowing what gets you beat."

NHL

Staal's hat trick leads Thrashers

Associated Press

ATLANTA — It didn't take Eric Staal long to show how well he can lead the Carolina Hurricanes.

Staal scored a season-high three goals in his first game since becoming Carolina's captain and the Hurricanes beat the Atlanta Thrashers 5-2 on Thursday night for a rare road victory.

"It was kind of neat to start off this way," Staal said.

The Hurricanes were last in the NHL with 35 points and had lost three straight when Staal took over as captain Wednesday for Rod Brind'Amour.

"It's a challenge," said Staal of his new role. "We've had great leadership here for a long time. I'm excited for the opportunity to learn from a great captain who won us a Stanley Cup."

Brind'Amour led the team to its only Stanley Cup in 2006.

Cam Ward stopped 32 shots to tie Arturs Irbe's franchise record with 130 career wins.

"I hope to keep adding onto this record for many years to come," Ward said.

The Hurricanes took only

their fifth win in 24 road games.

Staal and the Hurricanes grabbed the momentum early. The 25-year-old All-Star center scored on a pass from Jussi Jokinen to open the scoring 3:31 into the game.

The Hurricanes stretched the lead to 4-0 with power-play goals by Sergei Samsonov, Jokinen and Staal.

Jokinen was awarded his goal after an officials' review showed the puck crossed the line before it was kicked out of the net by Ron Hainsey.

The goals by Jokinen and Staal in the first 3 minutes of the second period left the Hurricanes 3 for 3 on the power play.

Staal's third goal came with 44 seconds remaining in the third period after the Thrashers pulled goalie Ondrej Pavelec, who stopped 16 shots.

"Our goaltender was good, our special teams were real good and that's the difference in the game," Carolina coach Paul Maurice said. "Good leadership and good goaltending tonight."

Staal will represent Canada in the Olympics. General man-

ager Jim Rutherford said Wednesday that Staal "is the player around whom the team will be structured."

Added Ward after the game: "It feels good. Staal was a good choice."

The 39-year-old Brind'Amour, who had been the captain since 2005, was demoted to alternate captain.

Rich Peverley scored an unassisted goal for Atlanta 13:30 into the second period. Colby Armstrong added a tip-in with 8:12 remaining in the third period.

The Thrashers were stopped in each of their four chances with a man advantage in the third period, leaving them 0 for 6 for the game. Carolina scored three goals on four power plays.

"On special teams, I don't want to use the word horrific, but that's the first thing that comes to my mind," Thrashers coach John Anderson said. "Our power play isn't generating a lot."

Ilya Kovalchuk, who was stopped on six shots, said the Thrashers "had a lot of chances tonight, but couldn't score. ... We have to work harder on the power play and get the puck to the net."

Anderson said he may have to "dumb it down a bit" on power plays to "put some grit in front of the net and pound away."

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MLB

Miguel Cabrera kicks alcoholism

Associated Press

DETROIT — Instead of honing his swing this offseason, Miguel Cabrera focused on getting sober.

"My drinking was a problem, and I feel good without it. I feel like a new man," he said Thursday.

The Detroit Tigers slugger spent three months in an outpatient treatment program for alcoholism following a much-publicized drinking binge during the final weekend of last season, a program that general manager Dave Dombrowski said will continue into spring training and the upcoming season.

"I've worked very hard with my doctors and my family this winter, and I'm going to keep working," Cabrera said as the Tigers started their Winter Caravan through Michigan.

Cabrera said he has turned his life around. He said he hasn't had a drink since he was taken into custody by police after a domestic-abuse complaint was filed by his wife in the early morning of Oct. 3 — hours before a crucial game against the Chicago White Sox.

The All-Star first baseman with a \$152.3 million contract got drunk enough between Friday night's game and Saturday morning to have what police said was a 0.26 blood-alcohol reading — three times above Michigan's legal limit for driving — and a bruised and cut left cheek.

Cabrera said he feels as though he let down his teammates that weekend and he intends to make up for it this season. He acknowledged there have been games in the past when his performance was affected by booze.

"I never played drunk, but there were times where I was very tired or my body just felt lazy," said Cabrera, who went to a treatment program in Miami this offseason. "I don't feel that way anymore."

Last year, the Tigers were trying to hold off Minnesota and clinch the AL Central title when Cabrera created a stir on the final weekend of the season.

Police said he arrived at his suburban Detroit home at 5 a.m. on Saturday and got into a fight with his wife, who called 911. Cabrera was taken to a police station, where Dombrowski picked him up.

The GM later acknowledged being angry and sad to get a call at 7:30 a.m. to come get Cabrera.

The slugger went 0 for 4 and stranded six runners in a 5-1 loss to Chicago on Saturday night, a game that started about 12 hours after Cabrera left the police station.

"That night, I was trying to hit a five-run homer every time I came up, because I knew I had made a horrible mistake and I wanted to fix it," Cabrera said. "I was just putting too much pressure on myself."

On Friday night, he had gone 0 for 4 and left four runners on base in an 8-0 defeat against the White Sox. He went hitless in three at-bats Sunday, a 5-3 Tigers win that left them tied with the Twins for first place.

Two days later, Minnesota won a one-game tiebreaker at home for the division crown, beating Detroit 6-5 in 12 innings. Cabrera hit a two-run homer and doubled in that game to help the Tigers open a 3-0 lead, but it wasn't enough.

NCAA BASKETBALL

No. 15 Gonzaga holds off Pepperdine rally

Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. — For one night at least, the Gonzaga-Pepperdine rivalry was back in the West Coast Conference.

The two teams had some epic tussles for the WCC title in the late 1990s and early this century, before the Gonzaga started to run away with every game.

But the No. 15 Bulldogs needed a career-high 32 points from Matt Bouldin to hold off Pepperdine 91-84 Thursday night and take sole possession of first place in the league.

Elias Harris added 20 points and 13 rebounds, and Steven Gray had 20 points, as Gonzaga (15-3, 4-0 WCC) won its seventh straight game. They beat Pepperdine for the 17th straight time since 2002.

Keion Bell, who had just three points in the first half, led Pepperdine (7-13, 3-1) with a career-high 37 points, keeping the game close. Lorne Jackson added 17 points and the Waves scored 55 points in the second half.

"We survived that one," said Bouldin, who made 10 of 16 shots. "But to give up 30-something points to one player in the

second half is unacceptable."

Pepperdine opened the WCC season with three wins, and these were the last two unbeaten teams in league play.

"I'm not big on moral victories," Pepperdine coach Tom Ausbury said. "It's a loss."

Bell, a sophomore guard, seems to play his best games against top opponents, Ausbury said.

"He's not afraid of anybody," Ausbury said. "He kind of took over the game in the second half."

Bell made 14 of 21 shots in the game — 13 of 17 in the second half.

Pepperdine made only two field goals in the first 7:30 and trailed 17-6. The Waves started finding the basket, but still trailed 41-29 at halftime after shooting just 37 percent.

Bell scored 14 of Pepperdine's first 16 points of the second half to cut Gonzaga's lead to 51-45. But Bouldin, Gray and Harris quickly drove Gonzaga to a 64-49 lead with 12 minutes left.

The Waves clawed back and Bell hit a basket and two free throws to cut Gonzaga's lead to 75-68 with 4:50 left.

NBA

LeBron's 37 lead Cavs past Lakers

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — The Cavaliers haven't lost their holiday spirit.

Cleveland showed its Christmas Day win over the Los Angeles Lakers was no gift as LeBron James scored 37 points, including 12 straight down the stretch, and the Cavs, playing their first game without injured Mo Williams, beat Kobe Bryant and the NBA champions 93-87 on Thursday night.

J.J. Hickson grabbed a career-high 14 rebounds and Anderson Varejao made three free throws in the final 20 seconds as Cleveland swept the season series between the league's top two teams. That could give the Cavs home-court advantage if they meet the Lakers in June's NBA finals.

A lot can happen between now and then, but the win gave Cleveland confidence it might be able to survive despite losing Williams, their All-Star point guard who will miss at least one month with a shoulder sprain. Williams scored a team-high 28 in Cleveland's Dec. 25 win at Staples Center.

Bryant finished with 31 points but was only 4-of-15 in the second half as the Lakers lost the opener of an eight-game road trip. Pau Gasol scored 13 for Los Angeles.

Bryant surpassed 25,000 career points in the first half, but he was unable to match James in the fourth quarter as both teams turned to their superstars.

With the score tied 80-all, James hit a 3-pointer from the



LeBron James, left, led the Cavaliers to a 93-87 home victory over Kobe Bryant's Lakers last night to sweep the season series.

left side, and after a miss by Bryant, the reigning MVP dropped another jumper to put Cleveland ahead by five. James then hit another shot to make it 87-80 with 2:48 left and the Cavs looked to be in control.

But Ron Artest hit a big 3 for the Lakers and Bryant made two free throws and a quick jumper to tie it 87-87 with 1:32 remaining.

James then blasted down the left side for a layup with 40.5 seconds to go, prompting chants of "M-V-P" from the raucous Quicken Loans crowd. After Gasol missed two free throws that would have tied it, the Cavs called a timeout and before play resumed, James was caught by cameras rap-

ping to Eminem's song "Forever" before the ball was inbounded.

James then split a pair of free throws, but Varejao grabbed the rebound on the miss and was fouled by Artest. Varejao, a 66 percent shooter from the line, made both attempts for a 92-87 Cavs lead with 20.7 seconds left. Bryant misfired on an off-balance 3-point attempt and James saved the long rebound, flying into Cleveland's bench to make the save.

As Varejao went to the line again with 4.1 seconds left, James popped his maroon Cavs jersey, making sure everyone knew who came out on top.

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A Call for Aid

The worst earthquake in over 200 years has caused death and devastation in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, adding to the misery of so many people who live in severe poverty.

All collections at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart this weekend and last will be forwarded in their entirety to provide assistance to the victims of this latest natural disaster.

Campus Ministry will continue to accept and forward donations all this week at 319 Coleman-Morse Center.

The Haiti Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross, which is composed of 75 Haitian priests and 22 professed seminarians, works with the poor through schools, parishes and social service ministries.



Bayliss

continued from page 24

handled them last year at their place. They usually are quite good in doubles, so it will be important for us to meet that challenge early."

The Irish are coming off of losing their number one singles players and have some questions about who will fill the void for them this season. Someone will need to step up quickly as Virginia presents top-level competition.

"[Virginia's] top player, Sanam Singh, reached the semi-finals of an ATP event just a few weeks ago in Chennai, India, that included Robin Soderling and Marin Cilic," Bayliss said. "Both of those guys are currently ranked in the world's top ten and are now in the Australian Open. That gives you an idea of Virginia's level."

Considering the difficulty of the opening weekend for the Irish, Bayliss feels that one of the most difficult challenges facing the team this year will be the difficulty of their

schedule.

"I feel we are good enough to take on this schedule, but we need to be sufficiently resilient to handle some losses and rebound well to take advantage of the large number of opportunities that we will have," Bayliss said.

The Irish will need to be on top of their game this weekend as they open dual match play on Friday with first serve set for 5 p.m. against William & Mary.

Contact Katelyn Grabarek at kgraba02@saintmarys.edu

Thang

continued from page 24

Nebraska-Omaha in a home series.

Thang recognized that the physical play of Lake Superior will force the Irish to play smart and make the most of opportunities.

"You can't be shooting from all over the place," Thang said. "Once you start letting

them block shots, you'll give up a lot of odd-man rushes. You've got to be moving with the puck and pulling back on those quick shots at the net where you've got a seeing-eye chance, otherwise we'll be backchecking all night."

Notre Dame will play at 7:05 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Lake Superior's Taffy Abel Arena in Sault Ste. Marie.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL

Slow start does in Belles

By TIM SINGLER
Sports Writer

It's typically hard to catch up when you fall behind, but Saint Mary's managed to put up a valiant fight after a sluggish start against conference foe Albion Thursday night.

In the end, the slow start was too much for the Belles to overcome, and they fell 61-56.

It was the slow start that hurt the Belles (10-6, 5-3 MIAA) as they fell behind early on in the game.

Unlike the Belles, Albion (7-9, 3-5 MIAA) came out hot in the first half, building a 14-point cushion leading into halftime.

However, Saint Mary's was not going to be down for the count.

In the second half, the Belles began to find the basket. They came all the way back, erasing the deficit.

Offense was an issue in the first half, resulting in a 25.9 percent shooting percentage however, during the second half, Saint Mary's shot 37.1 percent to close out the game. This hot shooting allowed the Belles to slowly erase the lead that they were chasing and even managed to tie the game at 51-51. That was as close as the Belles could get to the Britons as they held on to a lead that nearly slipped from them.

Saint Mary's outscored the

Britons 37-28 in the second half.

Sophomore Kelley Murphy and senior Anna Kammrath scored in double figures for the Belles. Murphy led Saint Mary's with 17 points and Kammrath added 14 in the game.

This did not prove to be enough to keep pace with the Britons who came ready to play.

Junior Melissa Shaw led all scorers for the night with 19 points. She also was a perfect 8-8 from the free throw line.

Saint Mary's next plays on Saturday against conference rival Trine at 1 p.m.

Contact Tim Singler at tsingler@nd.edu



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish senior Ryan Thang makes a move toward the net against Michigan State during Notre Dame's 5-2 victory on Jan. 15.

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SMC SWIMMING

Belles look for first home meet victory

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's looks to come out of its first home meet of 2010 with its first win of the New Year. The Belles suffered two losses last weekend to Hope and Olivet in Michigan in their first matches since returning from break.

This meet marks their last home event this season, and with only three weeks left until the MIAA championships, they need to come out strong. The Belles have learned to work together, even without some of their key swimmers.

"Even though we may have lost some good swimmers recently, we still have a lot of talent on the team," freshman Ellie Watson said. "We

keep fighting no matter what challenges we face."

Watson is one of nine freshmen for Saint Mary's, many of whom have already proved to be outstanding performers.

With only three seniors of the team, a lack of experience has hurt the Belles at times.

However, effort and team spirit has kept them going.

Last weekend freshman Katie Griffin took first in both the 200-meter freestyle and 100-meter backstroke, and Watson finished first in

the 200 freestyle Saturday

and second in the 500-meter freestyle in both meets.

At the same meet, freshman Genevieve Spittler took first in the 200-meter butterfly and freshman Caila Poythress took first in the 200-meter backstroke.

After a first place finish, or two in Griffin's case, the new goal becomes a race against the clock.

"I just want to go out, have fun, and swim faster than I did last weekend," Griffin

said.

Additionally, many of the Belles finished second in events across the board, even taking first, second and third on Saturday in the 200 backstroke.

As a team, the goal for this weekend is simple. The girls have each shown their capabilities as individuals, but now want to come out with an overall triumph.

"This weekend our team goal is to beat Albion College," Watson said. "It's going to be close but I know we are strong enough to pull out with a win."

The Belles take on Albion in their final home meet of the season in the Rolfs Aquatic Center at Notre Dame tonight at 7 p.m.

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinnera@nd.edu

"Even though we may have lost some good swimmers recently, we still have a lot of talent on the team."

Ellie Watson
Belles freshman

FENCING

Irish head east to face top teams

By KEVIN BALDWIN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will have some high expectations to live up to this weekend as they go into the NCAA season opener in New York as the second-ranked team in the nation.

Veteran talent is in no short supply on the Irish roster. The men's team touts returning juniors Avery Zuck and Barron Nydam wielding the sabre, and sophomore Gerek Meinhardt plus juniors Steve Kubik and Zach Schirtz will be the backbone of the foil competition. The women's side can count on senior Kelly Hurley and younger sister sophomore Courtney Hurley to give a good showing in the epee.

A solid set of freshmen will add depth to the roster including Lian Osier who brought home the gold in the women's sabre last week at the North America Cup and Jason Choy who has shown remarkable progress in the men's sabre.

Irish coach Janusz Bednarski is confident that after numerous NAC tournaments, the team is competing with the level of skill needed for intercollegiate play.

"It was one of the steps towards preparing them to compete in the NCAA," Bednarski said.

For the Irish, it will be a good test of their metal facing off against such a large field of elite competitors with hundreds of fencers from across the country.

"All the top teams will be there — Ohio State, Penn State, the returning national champions, Harvard, Columbia. Northwestern on the women's side will be particularly tough," Bednarski said. "It will be interesting to take on Penn State, like a repeat of last year's national championship."

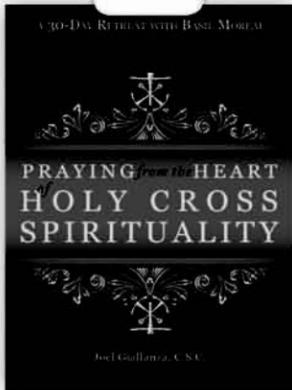
The season officially kicks off Saturday at the NYU Duals followed by the St. John's Challenge Sunday.

Contact Kevin Baldwin at kbaldwi2@nd.edu

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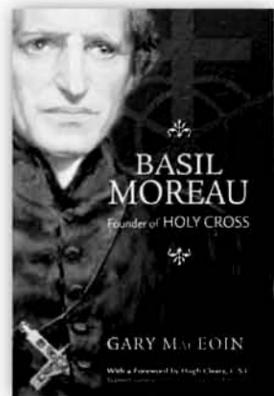
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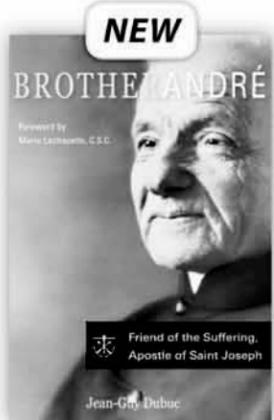
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The Observer.

McGraw

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McGraw.

"It's going to be a tall order for us," McGraw said. "I think they have a great point guard in Sarah Miles, who's a really good 3-point shooter and runs her tail off, and then they have some inside players. Korinne Campbell, who's really made an impact on the team, she's going to be a factor for them."

Indeed, the pair of juniors has paced West Virginia to a second-place rank in the Big East standings and the program's hottest start since the 1991-92 season. Miles leads the Big East with 6.8 assists and 3.1 steals per game, while turning the ball over the least. Campbell is a dual threat, working her way to top 10 in the conference in 3-point field goal percentage and rebounding.

McGraw is confident her players will be ready for the challenge, so long as they stick to the Irish brand of basketball that has been so successful all season.

"I think we've got to play our game," McGraw said. "We're shooting the ball pretty well, we've got a lot of good options on offense, but it comes down to defense and how much pressure we can put on the ball. That's when we're most successful, when we get people to turn the ball

over."

The proof is in the numbers. The Irish are 10-0 when they force 20 or more turnovers out of the opposition.

Recently though, the Irish defense has looked sluggish in the first half, leading to deficits of 12 and 20 to Louisville and Connecticut, respectively. The Irish were able to overcome their first-half woes against the Cardinals, and McGraw said she thinks her team is built to play the full 40 minutes.

"It's important to set the tone early, but I think our strength is in our depth," McGraw said. "We can really wear people down, so in the second half we tend to play much better because we're fresher, and we have great balance with different people coming in. I think it helps us relax, and we've been a second-half team mostly because of our bench."

The triple threat of guards seniors Lindsay Schrader and Ashley Barlow, and freshman Skylar Diggins will be key to the Irish's success, as they look to run the ball and score early and often against a Mountaineers team giving up the second-fewest points in

the conference. Junior Devereaux Peters, who was sidelined with a torn ACL last season, will play a significant factor against the Mountaineer post threats.

"She's a really, really great rebounder, defender and shot-blocker," McGraw said. "I think she's been able to find her way back, not worrying about scoring and where she's getting the points. It's a little bit easier when there's no pressure on her to score a lot of points because we need her in the game to help us rebound and be a presence on defense."

All gate receipts as well as the net concession revenue from the game will be donated to aid recovery efforts in Haiti. During both the men's and women's games over the weekend, student athletes will pass buckets throughout the crowd for added donations.

All donations will be used in aid toward the Notre Dame Haiti Program, the Congregation of Holy Cross and Catholic Relief Services.

Tip-off is at 1 p.m. Sunday at Purcell Pavilion, with coverage on ESPNU.

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

"It's important to set the tone early, but I think our strength is in our depth."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

DePaul

continued from page 24

Senior forward Luke Harangody said the team isn't panicking after dropping two straight Big East games to Cincinnati and Syracuse.

"It's early in the season still, we have a good DePaul team coming in here," Harangody said. "You just bounce back, we've been through this many times before, and just get that league win."

The Irish fell at home Monday to No. 5 Syracuse 84-71 despite strong games from Harangody and junior Tim Abromaitis. Harangody scored 31 points with 14 rebounds and Abromaitis added 26, but the Orange pulled away from a resilient Irish team in the final minutes.

Junior forward Carlton Scott said rebounding late in the game let the Orange seize the

advantage.

"We definitely needed to rebound more," Scott said. "We all took that question and said to each other, 'We have to rebound more'. I think that is where we lost this game."

Harangody echoed Scott's assessment.

"They're coming in every time and have some big guys over there, but that is no excuse. We just need to get in there every time and try to put a body on someone and for most of the night we were coming up with those," Harangody said. "But in the end of the night, in the last seven or eight minutes, those were their balls and that's the game right there."

The Blue Demons will be looking for their first road win of the season Saturday after five straight losing efforts. While the team has struggled to score at times, their defense is holding opponents to just under 64 points per game.

Senior guard Will Walker

"It's early in the season still ... You just have to bounce back."

Luke Harangody
Irish forward

leads DePaul offensively, averaging 14.9 points per game. His leadership was key in the Marquette upset, leading the Blue Demons with 18 points.

Sophomore Krys Faber has also become a force in the DePaul frontcourt since Webster has taken the coaching reigns, and the center used his 6-foot-10 frame to grab a career-high ten rebounds against the Golden Eagles.

While the Irish battle on the court, the Notre Dame community will be helping those fighting for survival at both basketball games this weekend. The University will donate full gate receipts and net concession revenue to benefit relief and rebuilding efforts in Haiti.

During the first half of the game, student athletes will also pass buckets through the crowd raising money for the relief effort. Money raised will be contributed to the Notre Dame Haiti Program, the Congregation of Holy Cross and Catholic Relief Services.

Tip-off is scheduled for 2 p.m.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

ND TRACK & FIELD

Irish host Louisville, Michigan State in Invite

By KAITLYN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame hopes to repeat as men's and women's champions as it hosts the Notre Dame Invitational Saturday.

The Irish will face Big East powerhouse Louisville and Big Ten top-competitor Michigan State. Both teams have proved themselves to be formidable opponents in track and field events in the past.

Junior thrower John Belcher said the meet has an intense and competitive nature as it marks the start of top-level spring competition.

"In my experience, for the field events this is a upper echelon meet for our conference," Belcher said. "There is always a great competitive atmosphere."

Last Friday Notre Dame hosted the Notre Dame Indoor Opener, and although the meet did not include team scoring, the Irish had many outstanding performances throughout the night.

Irish coach Joe Piane said last week's meet was all about "looking to see what kind of shape these men and women are in."

After proving to be strong competitors, the team hopes to continue to win meets and have as many individuals as possible qualify for both the Big East and NCAA Championships.

The Irish will look to stand-out performers from last

weekend's Notre Dame Indoor Opener. Freshman sprinter Nevada Sorenson will look for her second indoor first place finish this season in the 60-meter hurdles. The men's counterpart, junior Justin Schneider, will also look to repeat last week's first place finish.

The team will also depend on their dominant mid-distance runners, senior Cameron Eckert, sophomore Randall Babb and freshman Trent Sayers in the 1,000-meter race.

In the field events, the team anticipates a continuance of the first and second place finishes that brothers Kevin and Matt Schipper have delivered in the past. In the women's field events, pole-vaulters freshman Chrissy Finkel and junior Jessica Sullivan hope to repeat their Big East qualifying performances from last weekend.

Piane said the Irish hope for a successful, and prolonged, season.

"We want to make it to the Big East and win," he said. "That is certainly our goal in the short term. For the long term, we want to send as many individual men and women and relay teams as possible to the NCAA Tournament."

The Notre Dame Invitational will begin Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Loftus Sports Center.

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Frilling

continued from page 24

engaged in personal competitions in different parts of the country.

"We need to get out on the road as a team," Louderback said. "We have some new doubles teams this season and once our kids get the experience of playing together I think our doubles will be very good."

Both Louderback and Frilling stress the importance that this weekend will hold as the team's first chance to travel and play together.

"I think our team has a lot of drive and desire to prove that we are one of the best teams in the country," Frilling said. "Even though tennis is an individual sport, we all

work together as a team and I think that really helps us."

This weekend's trip will feature the debut of heralded freshman Chrissie McGaffigan.

"[McGaffigan] is so talented, and I'm really excited that she is going to experience her first Notre Dame dual match this weekend in her home state of Iowa," Frilling said.

Though the team struggled with injuries in the fall, Louderback emphasizes that the team is ready for competition and has a substantial amount of returning talent.

"We have a very experienced team with three seniors and five of our top six back from last year," Louderback said. "Right now we are healthy and ready to go."

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu

THIS WEEKEND IN IRISH SPORTS...

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**2PM • MEN'S BASKETBALL
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**#4 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
VS. WEST VIRGINIA**

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Top 20 test

ND faces No. 16 West Virginia in Big East tilt

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

Unless you're Connecticut, it's not every day that your team gets to play the role of season spoiler week in and week out. But when No. 16 West Virginia comes to Purcell Pavilion Sunday to defend its undefeated conference record, the Irish will have the opportunity to bust the Mountaineers' 16-game win streak before the Huskies do.

No. 4 Notre Dame (16-1, 3-1 Big East) is coming off one of its most important tests of the season, a 78-60 victory over Louisville that put the Irish back in the win column. Unfortunately, Louisville is nowhere near the level of play the Mountaineers will be bringing to the table, a fact not lost on Irish coach Muffet

see MCGRAW/page 22



Junior guard Brittany Mallory drives to the basket against Iona during Notre Dame's 80-45 victory on Nov. 22. The Irish face their second top-20 team in eight days Sunday against No. 16 West Virginia.

TOM LA/The Observer

MEN'S TENNIS

Irish open spring with three foes

By KATELYN GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will open the spring season today against William & Mary before hosting IUPUI and No. 2 Virginia Sunday. The Irish begin the season ranked No. 30 in the country.

"I don't put a lot of stock in rankings, especially pre-season ones," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "Ours is based primarily on last year's finish."

Notre Dame closed the fall season against the same William & Mary squad it meets today.

"William & Mary has already played four matches, so we have an idea of what to expect," Bayliss said. "They beat us two years ago, but we

see BAYLISS/page 20

HOCKEY

Notre Dame tries to get back into CCHA race at Lake Superior

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

Irish coach Jeff Jackson returns to Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., where he led Lake Superior State to two NCAA titles, this weekend as the Irish face the No. 18 Lakers in a two-game CCHA series.

Notre Dame (10-10-6, 6-7-5-2 CCHA) is sitting in a tie for sixth place in the conference, five points behind fifth-place

Lake Superior (14-8-4, 9-7-2-1).

The Irish are coming off of a four-point home-and-home series against No. 10 Michigan State. The weekend was marked by four goals from Notre Dame senior captain Ryan Thang, who had been mired in a scoring drought.

The performance relieved some stress on the Irish, who have been searching for more contributions from their sen-

ior players as the season turned sour.

"Those kids that are captains in there, if they weren't working hard, if they weren't executing, if they weren't doing their best for the team, then we'd have issues," Jackson said. "But I certainly don't feel that, not in any way at all."

Notre Dame will hope to carry its offensive momentum into Sault Ste. Marie this weekend, as the Irish have

only ten conference games remaining to make up ground in the CCHA.

"We can't be consistent for just one weekend series. It's crunch time and we need to pick up points whenever we can," Thang said. "Our margin for error is tiny ... 10 games is a short period of time, and we need to go out with a bang. We're going to make a run at this thing."

Notre Dame will need to make its run without the serv-

ices of senior wing Christiaan Minella, who suffered a knee injury against the Spartans, which will keep him off the ice for 6-8 weeks. Minella joins a long list of Irish wounded, which has left Notre Dame depleted along the defensive line.

The Lakers enter this weekend as one of the hottest teams in the CCHA, coming off a sweep of CCHA-opponent

see THANG/page 20

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish face another Big East test

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Associate Sports Editor

For an Irish team that has fallen back to the pack after a 3-1 start in Big East play, welcoming DePaul to Purcell Pavilion would usually sound like the perfect remedy.

Notre Dame can't look past the Blue Demons (8-10, 1-5) this Saturday, however, after the team broke a 24-game conference losing streak with a huge upset over Marquette on Jan. 20. Interim coach Tracy Webster's rejuvenated team defeated the Golden Eagles on a last-second fade-away by Mike Stovall for a 51-50 win, the team's first since Dec. 19.

see DEPAUL/page 22



Senior forward Luke Harangody scores two of his 31 points against Syracuse during Notre Dame's 84-71 defeat.

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Frilling leads team into Big Ten competitions

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will make its first road trip as a team Saturday, stopping at both Iowa and Wisconsin to check out some of the competition that the Big Ten has to offer.

"I think it will be good for us to open up on the road against two Big Ten schools," Irish coach Jay Louderback said. "The Big Ten is getting tougher each year."

Iowa has a very experienced team, boasting many seniors and juniors, and each of the teams are under new administrations, vying to start off the season with a win.

"Both Iowa and Wisconsin have coaches in their first or second year so they both are on the rise," Louderback said.

This match-up against Iowa marks the first meeting of two very talented sophomores, Iowa's Sonja Molnar and Notre Dame's Kristy Frilling, who were both named "Freshman of the Year" by their respective conferences.

"The Big Ten is definitely a formidable force in women's tennis," Frilling said.

Due to injuries, the Irish women's tennis team did not travel together during the fall portion of this year's season, though a few members

see FRILLING/page 22