

THE OBSERVER

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ND presidential candidates announced

Four tickets vie for student body leadership

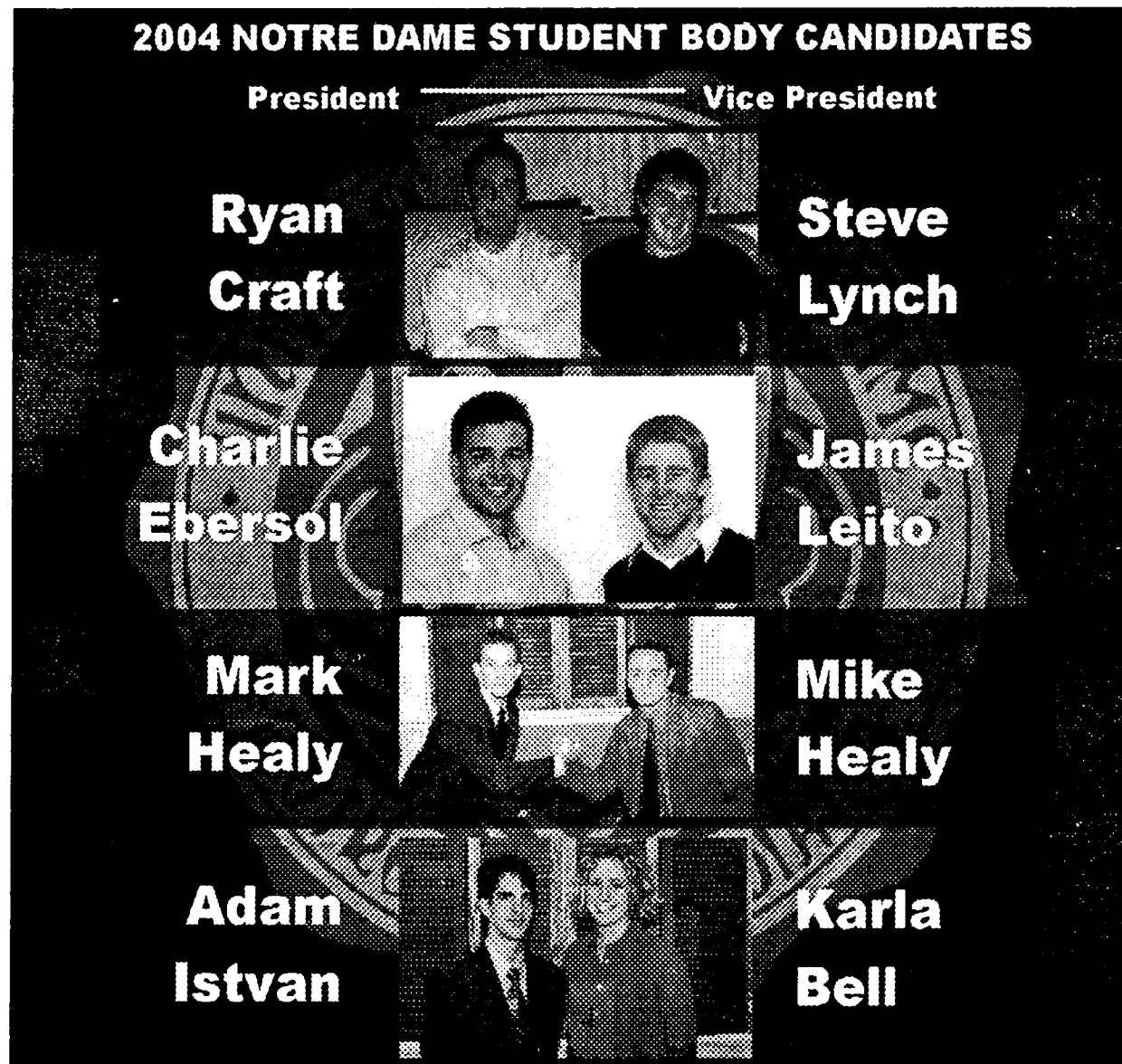
By MAUREEN REYNOLDS
Associate News Editor

As election year begins across the country, so it begins on the Notre Dame campus as candidates begin campaigning for the top spots in the Student Union — student body president and vice president.

This year, four tickets — Ryan Craft and Steve Lynch, Charlie Ebersol and James Leito, Mark Healy and Mike Healy and Adam Istvan and Karla Bell — will compete for election compared to last year's seven tickets. This drop in numbers is most likely due to the number of student signatures the candidates had to obtain on petitions before being accepted to run. Last year, candidates were required to obtain 300 signatures, but the number was raised to 700 during a December Council of Representatives meeting.

The approval process for each ticket comes from having the required number of signatures, and each candidate must be in good academic standing and good standing with the Office of Residence Life and Housing, Judicial Board President Elliot

see CANDIDATES/page 8



SOURCE: Notre Dame Judicial Board

MIKE HARKINS/Observer Graphic

Incumbents Lao, Chin will not run for re-election

By MAUREEN REYNOLDS
Associate News Editor

Two names will be notably missing from the list of candidates in the upcoming Notre Dame elections. Student body president Jeremy Lao and student body vice president Emily Chin have each chosen not to run for office next term.

Lao and Chin both cited different reasons for their decisions.

Although Lao said his student government experience has been a good one, he said he would like to find other activities in which to be involved during his senior year.

"Being involved with student government for the past three years has been a really fulfilling experience," said Lao. "I'd like to use my final year to pursue different interests and to find new experiences for myself."

As an example, Lao said that he had been accepted into an applied investment management course, but was unable to take the class due to his commitments as student body president.

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Students march on Washington

ND Right to Life Club participates in March for Life

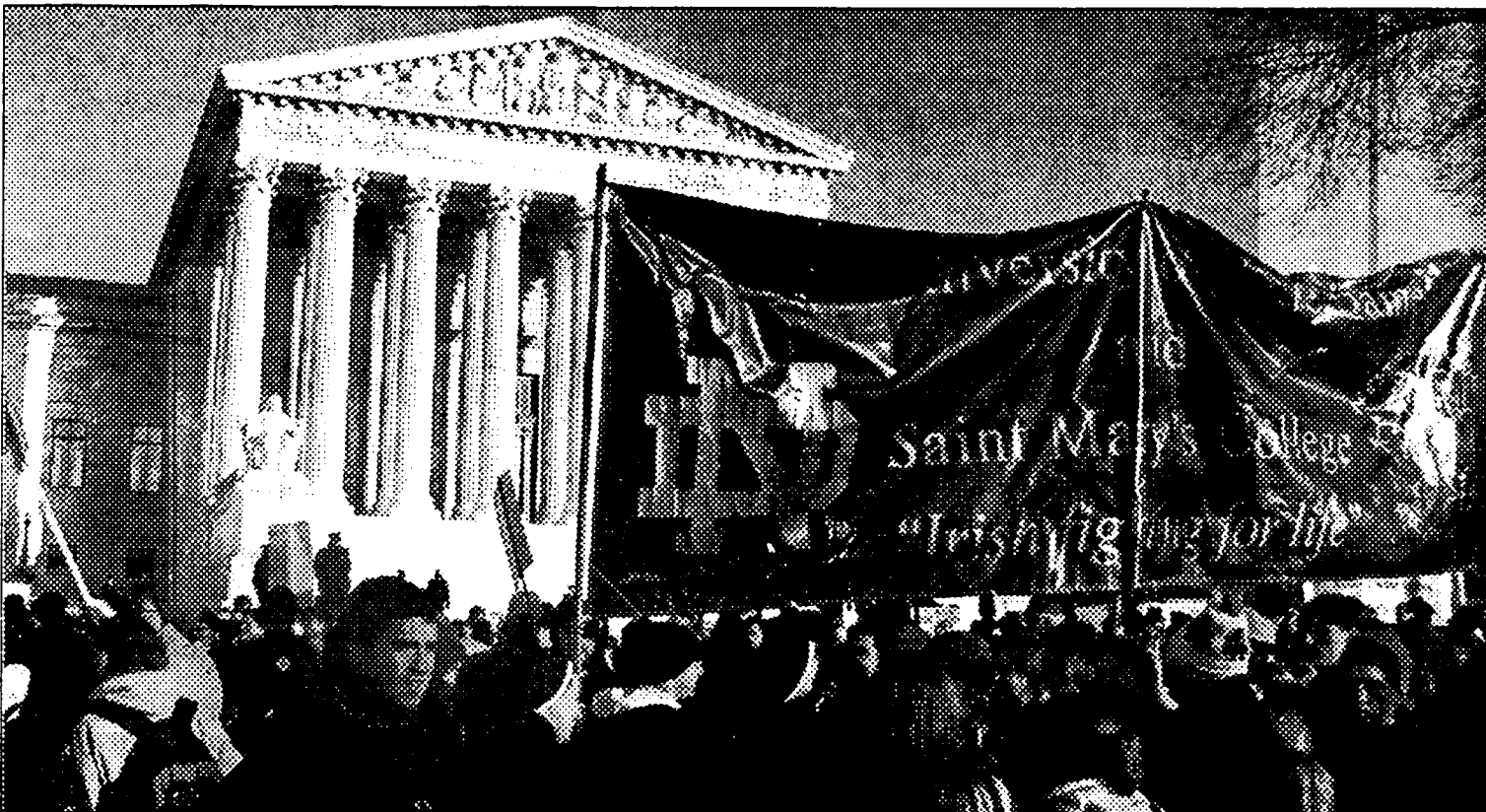


Photo courtesy of Andrew McElhinney

Members of the Notre Dame Right to Life Club march in front of the Supreme Court last week.

By MATT BRAMANTI
News Writer

Notre Dame students often have a reputation for being apathetic to current events, but don't tell that to members of the Notre Dame Right to Life Club.

The pro-life organization took about 200 Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students to Washington, D.C., last week to participate in the March for Life. The march, now in its 31st year, commemorates the Supreme Court's decision in Roe v. Wade, which legalized

abortion in the United States.

Janel Daufenbach, club president, said the march provided a unique opportunity to meet with pro-life activists from colleges across the nation.

"It was really inspiring to be there with so many college students," she said.

Daufenbach said about 250,000 abortion opponents took part in the march, which led from the Washington Monument to the Supreme Court.

Several students who attended the march said they were motivated by love for the

unborn. Andrew McElhinney, a seminarian at Moreau Seminary, said he had a desire to defend the unborn.

"It's a really powerful experience," McElhinney said. "It's a great opportunity to show support for the most unprotected people in our society."

Senior Meg Hunter-Kilmer echoed that sentiment, calling the march "powerful."

Hunter-Kilmer said the massive gathering was a chance to build unity among pro-life students from different colleges. She said the Notre

see MARCH/page 6

Three tickets compete for SMC presidency

By ANGELA SAOUD
News Writer

Three tickets will vie for student body president and vice president in tomorrow's election, the largest pool of candidates in three years.

The three sets of running mates are Sarah Brown and Michelle Fitzgerald, Shay Jolly and Veronica Saavedra and Sarah Catherine White and Mary Pauline Moran.

White and Moran, both juniors, are running with the campaign slogan "Belles ring in change."

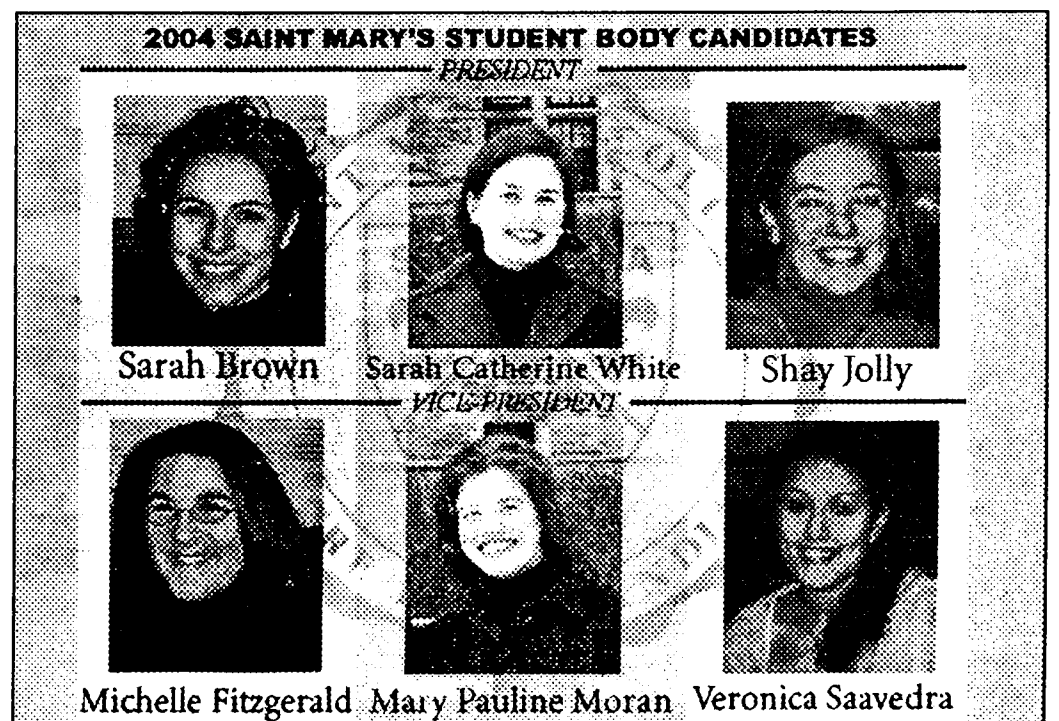
"With Dr. Carol Mooney as our

new president, the new apartments and a new student center coming to campus, we want to embrace the change, and we feel it's time for new student government representation," White said. "We've had a wonderful experience working together this year and would like to carry that on into next year as well. We know we are ready to take our involvement with student government to the next level."

As the current junior class president and vice president, White and Moran said they have big plans for the future of Saint Mary's.

"Our platform really centers around the students," said White. "We want to work to energize student life, approach student's needs

see SMC/page 6



SOURCE: Saint Mary's Board of Governance

MIKE HARKINS/Observer Graphic

INSIDE COLUMN

Rock the vote

During Winter Break, gathered at a friend's house over dinner, the conversation quickly turned to politics. She, a Stanford sophomore, told us of the circus-like atmosphere to which California had fallen as a result of the recent governor's recall and spoke of her excitement at finally being able to vote as a Californian. She proudly mentioned how she, like so many other Palo Alto residents, bucked the state-wide trend to recall Gray Davis.



Joe Trombello

Assistant
News Editor

Her vote meant something, even though she voted for a losing proposition, and she was excited at getting to do it.

During a short break in the conversation, another friend quietly asked, "Guys, I'm sorry, but, what recall?" Polite laughter ensued — my friend, the loveable screw-up, smiled sheepishly. I laughed too, later finding this emotion replaced by one of slight sadness and even embarrassment.

So much has been said about the political apathy in today's youth. Eighteen- to 24-year-olds simply don't care enough, or are too lazy, to get out and vote, the argument goes. College students would rather drink and watch sports than a political debate.

It's much sexier to send off that subscription in the mail for Maxim or Sports Illustrated than the voter's registration card or an absentee ballot, more enjoyable to surf the Web in search of music downloads (perhaps, even, the new remixes of Dean's "I have a scream" speech) than a candidate's personal Web page.

It's fairly easy to understand why people refuse to vote. To some, politics is a complicated and frustrating game, too partisan and bitter. Candidates on both sides often seem flawed.

College students especially seem pessimistic about government — we complain about the ineffectiveness of student government, for example, at how the administration seems nonchalant about our concerns, how little change actually gets accomplished. Why should we expect politics at the national level to mean something?

That notion is false — or at least it should be so. Politics should matter to us, and politicians do get things done. It's time to buck that stereotype about America's youth.

We should watch the evening news or read newspapers to keep informed of the campaign trail happenings (or to watch Dean's latest concession/motivational speech). We should discuss issues and platforms with friends and faculty members alike. Above all, we should mark that ballot on election day (watch those hanging chads). We should realize that we've earned that right and are capable of fulfilling it.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Joe Trombello at jtrombel@nd.edu.

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: HOW ARE YOU STAYING WARM IN THE BITTER COLD?



Anna Nussbaum
Sophomore
Farley

"Cuddling with my roommate."



Brian Hedges
Freshman
Siegfried

"Wearing my Jagermeister jacket."



Dan McSwain
Junior
O'Neill

"I'm going to Australia, seriously!"



Dan Grelwe
Freshman
Siegfried

"Lots and lots of layers."



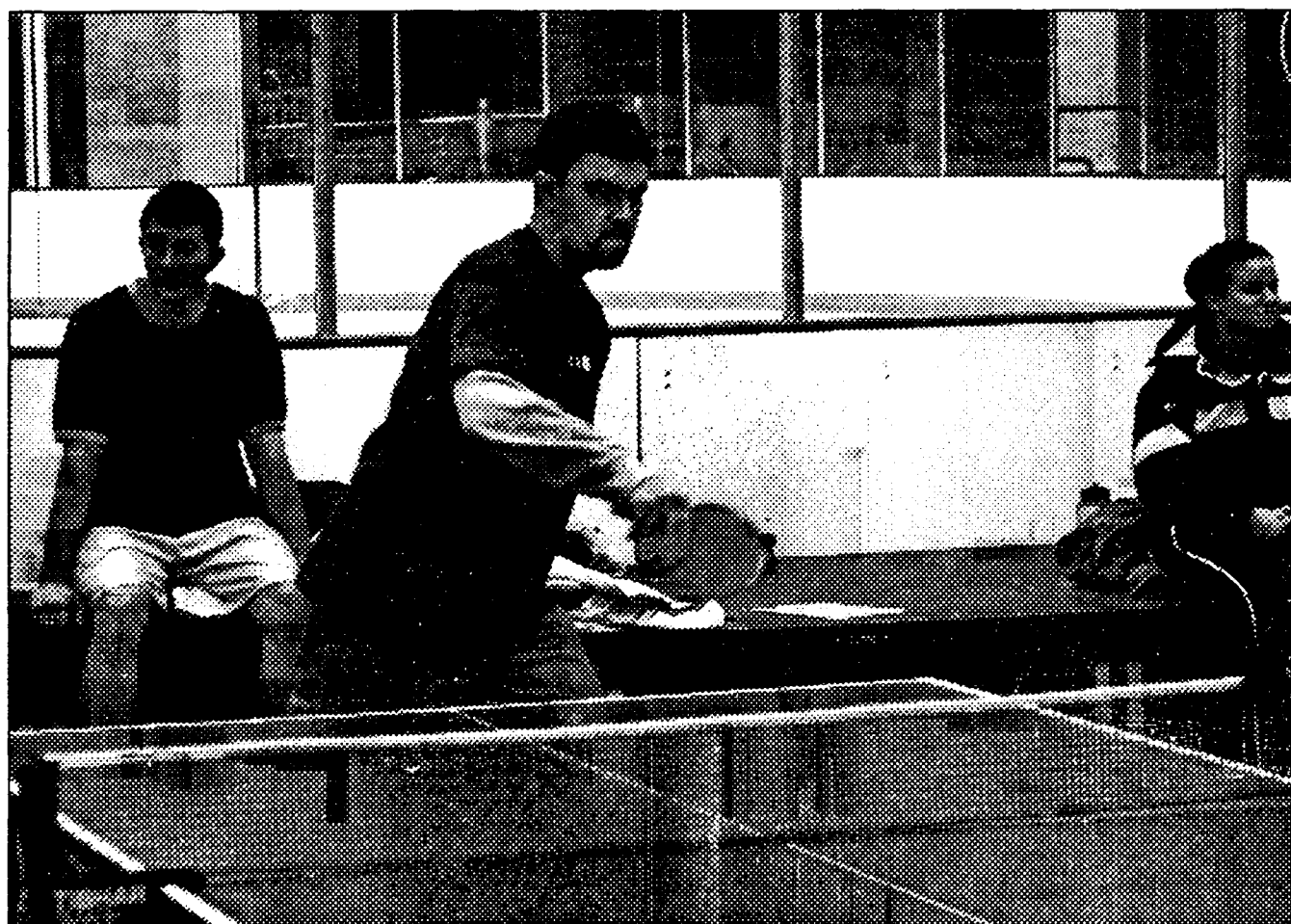
Kristina Drzlac
Junior
P.E.

"Strapping live squirrels to my body for warmth."



Sarah Schneider
Senior
Off-Campus

"Vegetarian Chicken Noodle Soup."



ANDY KENNA/The Observer

A student participates in ping-pong, one of the over 15 events in Friday's Late Night Olympics. The event pitted teams of dorms against each other in athletic competitions and raised money for Special Olympics.

IN BRIEF

The English Department will present a lecture given by Vanderbilt professor **Jonathan Lamb** titled, "The Crying of Lost Things: Advertisements for Lost Property and the Beggar's Opera." The event will take place from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium.

The final showing of the **Student Film Festival** runs in the Hesburgh Library Carey Auditorium from 7:30 to 9:45 p.m. tonight. Tickets are \$5.

"The Thief," a 1997 Russian movie that received an Oscar nomination for Best Foreign Language Film, will play tonight from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in DeBartolo 120.

Representatives from over 100 companies will speak with students about employment opportunities in the **Winter Career and Internship Fair** tomorrow. The fair will occur from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse. Students of all levels are encouraged to attend.

Amante House, a post-graduate service opportunity in Chicago, will hold an information session for interested students. The session will be held from 8 to 9 p.m. in the Center for Social Concerns Lounge.

Fred Adams, a professor at the University of Michigan and Associate Chair for Graduate Studies, will present a lecture "Into the Dark: The Long Term Future of Our Dying Universe" tomorrow from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in DeBartolo 102.

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

OFFBEAT

Bloomberg offers Mrs. Atkins steak dinner

NEW YORK — Mayor Michael Bloomberg, embroiled in a battle over remarks he made about Dr. Robert Atkins, offered the diet guru's widow a low-carb mea culpa Saturday — an invitation to a steak dinner.

Richard Rothstein, a spokesman for Veronica Atkins, said Saturday evening that the dinner invitation had been accepted.

The mayor, who a day earlier advised an angry Atkins to "lighten up," didn't deliver an apology himself. Instead, mayoral

spokesman Ed Skyler issued a three-sentence statement about the food fight.

"While talking to firefighters about the challenges of losing weight, the mayor made a joke which upset Veronica Atkins," Skyler said. "He never intended to insult her late husband or offend her, and is sorry that has been the result."

Pot fumes cause cops to leave work

JERUSALEM — The fumes from several tons of marijuana stored in an Israeli police station were so strong that officers had to leave their work place.

The police station in the town of Dimona in the southern Negev Desert is used to store all the marijuana confiscated along the Israeli-Egyptian border, a busy smuggling route. Between three and four tons were seized in the past two months.

"The smell was overpowering," police spokesman Gil Kleiman said Friday.

Finally, it was too much for the officers working next door to the storage room, and they had to leave their offices.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

LOCAL WEATHER	TODAY		TONIGHT		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW
	31	17	28	13	31	17	21	21	29	21	21	13

Atlanta 39 / 33 Boston 22 / 14 Chicago 27 / 19 Denver 32 / 18 Houston 66 / 35 Los Angeles 64 / 46 Minneapolis 16 / 1 New York 25 / 21 Philadelphia 31 / 27 Phoenix 61 / 40 Seattle 43 / 37 St. Louis 33 / 18 Tampa 75 / 61 Washington 31 / 29

Groups discuss Keenan Revue

SMC students, Keenan rector to talk about avoiding controversy

By NATALIE BAILEY
News Writer

In an attempt to eliminate the controversy surrounding the Keenan Revue, Keenan Hall rector Father Mark Thesing and two Saint Mary's student officials met Friday to discuss their concerns regarding the upcoming annual variety show.

Sarah Bailey, Women's Issues commissioner for the Board of Governance, represented the Saint Mary's Keenan Revue Committee in the meeting and was accompanied by Student Trustee Sarah Mahoney.

"This meeting was groundbreaking and will influence the future [because] we have laid the groundwork for talking to Keenan before the Revue," Bailey said. "The same issues come up every year and Saint Mary's and Keenan have never met before the show. We want to keep things civil and enjoyable."

Thesing declined to comment on the meeting

in particular or the Revue in general.

Bailey said she presented her specific concerns about the Revue's use of potentially offensive stereotypes, and she said the show's material often focuses on racism, sexism and social issues. Mahoney said she asked that Keenan consider the

"We want to keep things civil and enjoyable."

**Sarah Bailey
Women's Issues
commissioner**

College's mission in preparing its material. Both women said they felt that Thesing listened to their concerns and suggested

practical ways to address issues.

"Some things guys just don't get," Mahoney said. "It may not be offensive to them, but if they think in a broader sense and talk about all the possible ways people can be offended, it is our hope they will weed those things out before they get into the show."

Mahoney said Thesing screened the skits Friday night. Each evening, the show will start with a disclaimer stating that the Revue is self-mocking and has no intention of offend-

ing the audience.

Mahoney said that, as a result of the discussion, she hopes that planning for the show will start earlier in future years and avoid many offensive jokes.

"The success of our efforts will depend [on] how much the producers and rector push the men of Keenan to do this," Mahoney said. "This has to be something they value and want to do."

The Saint Mary's Keenan Revue Committee will screen the variety show Wednesday. The committee consists of Saint Mary's student body president and vice president, two members of Holy Cross College's student government and may include two Notre Dame representatives. The committee also plans to meet with Keenan residents after the show to review how jokes worked, whether people were offended and how the Revue can improve.

"This was a good first step," Bailey said. "[Thesing] was very nice to come over to meet with us, but, in the future, we need to do more before the event."

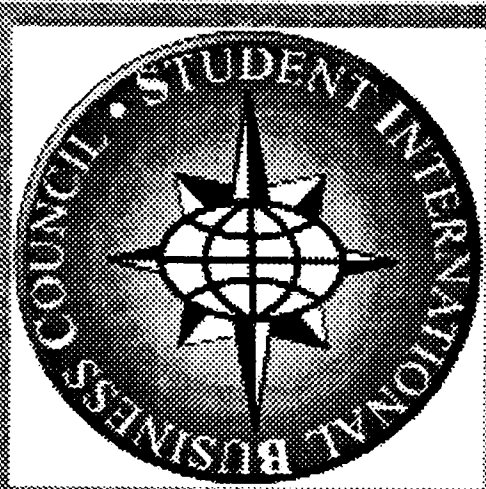
Contact Natalie Bailey at
bail1407@saintmarys.edu

ARTISTIC AWARENESS



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer
Artist Malaquias Montoya spoke about his "PreMeditated: Meditations on Capital Punishment" exhibit at the Snte Museum on Sunday. Montoya, a California native, is a prominent figure in the Chicano graphic arts movement. His works include paintings, murals, washes, and silk screens.

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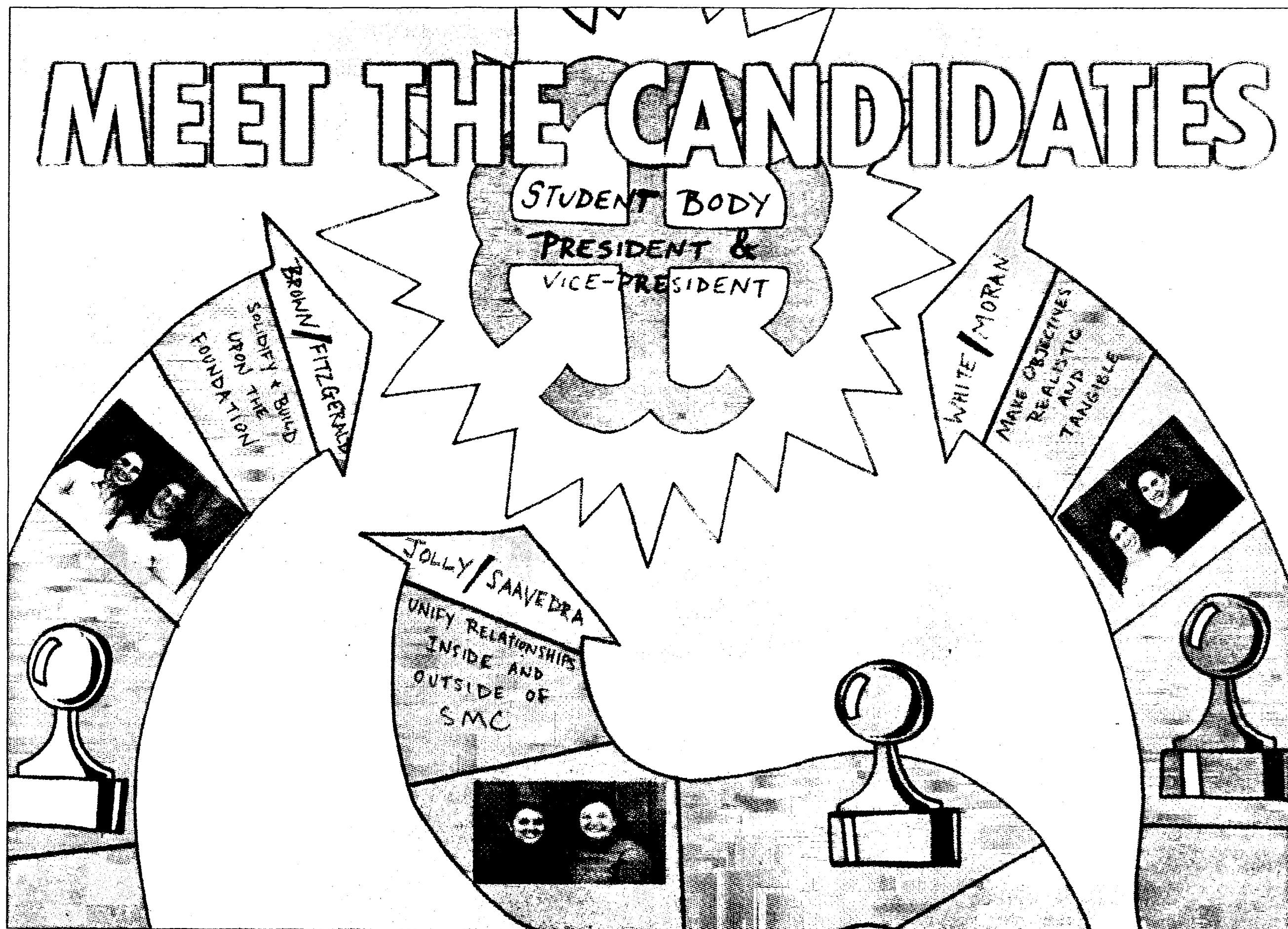
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WEDNESDAY AT ST. MARY'S

**Informational Meeting January 28th at 7:00 pm
Haggar College Center 2nd Floor Parlor Room**



Sarah Brown

Who are they?

Sarah Brown is a junior philosophy and political science major. She is currently serving as the Saint Mary's student body vice president. Michelle Fitzgerald is a sophomore political science and religious studies major. She is currently the sophomore class president.

♦ **Fun Facts:** If elected, Fitzgerald would become vice-president after serving as sophomore class president, as did current Saint Mary's president Elizabeth Jablonski-Diehl and Brown.

♦ **Notable Quote:** "We are not past administrations. We have different leadership styles," Brown said.

In their words...

♦ **Top Priority:** Expanding the backgrounds of students involved in student government leadership positions.

♦ **First Priority:** Drawing a large applicant pool for positions on the Board of Governance.

In our words...

♦ **Best Idea:** Building upon efforts by the current administration to continue making student government leaders visible and available to students.

♦ **Worst Idea:** Increasing the use of the student government logo as a marketing tool for the student body president.

♦ **Bottom Line:** Brown and Fitzgerald are the most experienced ticket. They have both served in top leadership positions and Brown's experience in the Office of the Student Body President means she is very familiar with the workings of the office and what is feasible. Students should view their proposed expansions of current initiatives favorably as this year's student government was successful in both improving itself and working with the administration to achieve goals for students, such as the implementation of the reading day. This ticket wants to build upon what already has been done and follows the edict that if isn't broke, it shouldn't be fixed.

Shay Jolly

Who are they?

Shay Jolly is a junior communications major. She currently serves as the president of the Resident Hall Association. Veronica Saavedra is a junior business major. She currently serves as the president of the Student Diversity Board.

♦ **Fun Facts:** Jolly is passionate about sports and is considering being a sports broadcaster. Saavedra likes to play racquetball.

♦ **Notable Quote:** "[Student government] needs more of a support system. ... We are all Belles in our own right and we should support each other," Jolly said.

In their words...

♦ **Top Priority:** Increase relationships between faculty and students and Saint Mary's and Notre Dame

♦ **First Priority:** Determine and analyze problems within student government to help eliminate these hierarchical issues within the structure

In our words...

♦ **Best Idea:** Improving communication within student government and between Saint Mary's and the community

♦ **Worst Idea:** Focusing too much on equalizing power between the five boards and the Board of Governance

♦ **Bottom Line:** These women decided to run together after a night of discussion about how their respective boards did not have power and were lost in the student government structure. It is no surprise their main priority is to fix the problems within student government — namely equalizing power between the five boards and decreasing the power of the Board of Governance. They praised the current administration's effort to bring organization to and publicize student government, but think that more can be done by building support for all aspects of the organization. This ticket has too narrow of a focus and appears to be running solely to make a statement about increasing power for other branches as opposed to focusing on what student government can do for students.

Sarah Catherine White

Who are they?

Sarah Catherine White is a business major and Italian minor. Mary Pauline Moran, the junior class vice president, is majoring in business administration. White and Moran currently serve as the junior class president and vice president, respectively.

♦ **Fun Facts:** White studied in Rome for a semester. Moran is an Irish dancer.

♦ **Notable Quote:** "We have a very realistic sense and a fresh outlook on student government and the student needs...We're not afraid to stop something if it's not working," White said.

In their words...

♦ **Top Priority:** Emphasize simple events and enliven attitude in daily campus life.

♦ **First Priority:** Welcome new College President Carol Mooney with an all school dinner or gathering.

In our words...

♦ **Best Idea:** Establish procedure manual that lists names, numbers and processes, which can be utilized by students who wish to institute events or other types of action on campus.

♦ **Worst Idea:** Strengthen ties with South Bend community primarily by encouraging Mass participation.

♦ **Bottom Line:** White and Moran exude an admirable enthusiasm and desire to enliven the general attitude on the Saint Mary's campus. However, their platform lacks specific goals and they are relatively inexperienced on the executive level, particularly when compared to other candidates. While White and Moran are eager and dedicated, their ability to achieve concrete accomplishments is doubtful. While they know the "ins and outs" of student government, in their words, their ideas are narrow and somewhat hackneyed, failing to put this inside knowledge to good use. The candidates are rightly concerned with working closely with new College president Carol Mooney, and they want to introduce her to the atmosphere of the school and their own attitudes. Again, though, their concern with attitude overshadows their concern with action.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Mexico admits Peace Corps volunteers

MEXICO CITY — Mexico has broken a decades-old tradition of rejecting U.S. aid workers, granting permission for the first group of U.S. Peace Corps volunteers ever to work here.

Mindful of national sensitivity over U.S. influence, though, the government plans to keep the group out of public view.

Still, for a country that has kicked out or criticized U.S. experts in the past — and for one touchy about being viewed as underdeveloped — it's a big change.

The decision was made in November. The first 15 volunteers, scheduled to arrive this summer, won't be performing the Peace Corps' usual tasks in construction, rural schools, clinics or farmer training. They will be tucked away in research centers to work on information technology, science and business development.

Asian bird flu outbreaks continue

BANGKOK, Thailand — Indonesia became the seventh country in Asia to confirm an outbreak of deadly bird flu, as the World Health Organization warned Sunday the virus could be resistant to basic human influenza drugs.

The disease has already affected millions of chickens in Indonesia, said Sofjan Sudardjat, a senior agriculture official. But the virus has not yet crossed over to humans, he said.

Indonesian officials had earlier denied the diseases' presence, but the Indonesian Veterinarians Association said several independent investigations had revealed that bird flu had already killed millions of chickens over the past several months. Asia is on a region-wide health alert, with governments slaughtering millions of chickens to contain outbreaks in Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, South Korea, Japan and Taiwan.

NATIONAL NEWS

Ex-inspector blasts WMD intelligence

WASHINGTON — U.S. intelligence agencies need to explain why their research indicated Iraq possessed banned weapons before the American-led invasion, says the outgoing top U.S. inspector, who now believes Saddam Hussein had no such arms.

"I don't think they exist," David Kay said Sunday. "The fact that we found so far the weapons do not exist — we've got to deal with that difference and understand why."

Hostage takers "more compliant"

BUCKEYE, Ariz. — As a prison standoff began its second week Sunday, negotiators were getting "increasingly more compliant responses" from two inmates holding a correctional officer hostage in a prison watch tower, a prison official said.

The change in the inmates is "a sign that negotiations have been effective," said the Arizona Department of Corrections official, Ivan Bartos. He did not elaborate about the change.

LOCAL NEWS

Majority dislike split time zone

INDIANAPOLIS — A majority of Indiana residents believe the state's time-zone split should be ended, but are divided over which zone that should be, a new statewide survey said.

The poll, sponsored by The Indianapolis Star and WTHR, found that 58 percent of Indiana residents thought the entire state should be on the same time, while 38 percent were satisfied with the current time divide.

The poll also found 48 percent preferring to have the entire state in the Central time zone, which Chicago follows, with 40 percent preferring Eastern, or New York time. Twelve percent were in the poll were not sure.

Opportunity sends 'astonishing' photos

Second rover lands safely, transmits dozens of images to NASA scientists

Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — NASA's Opportunity rover sent its first pictures of Mars to Earth on Sunday, delighting and puzzling scientists just hours after the spacecraft bounced to a landing.

The pictures show a surface smooth and dark red in some places, and strewn with fragmented slabs of light bedrock in others. Bounce marks left by the rover's air bags when it landed were clearly visible.

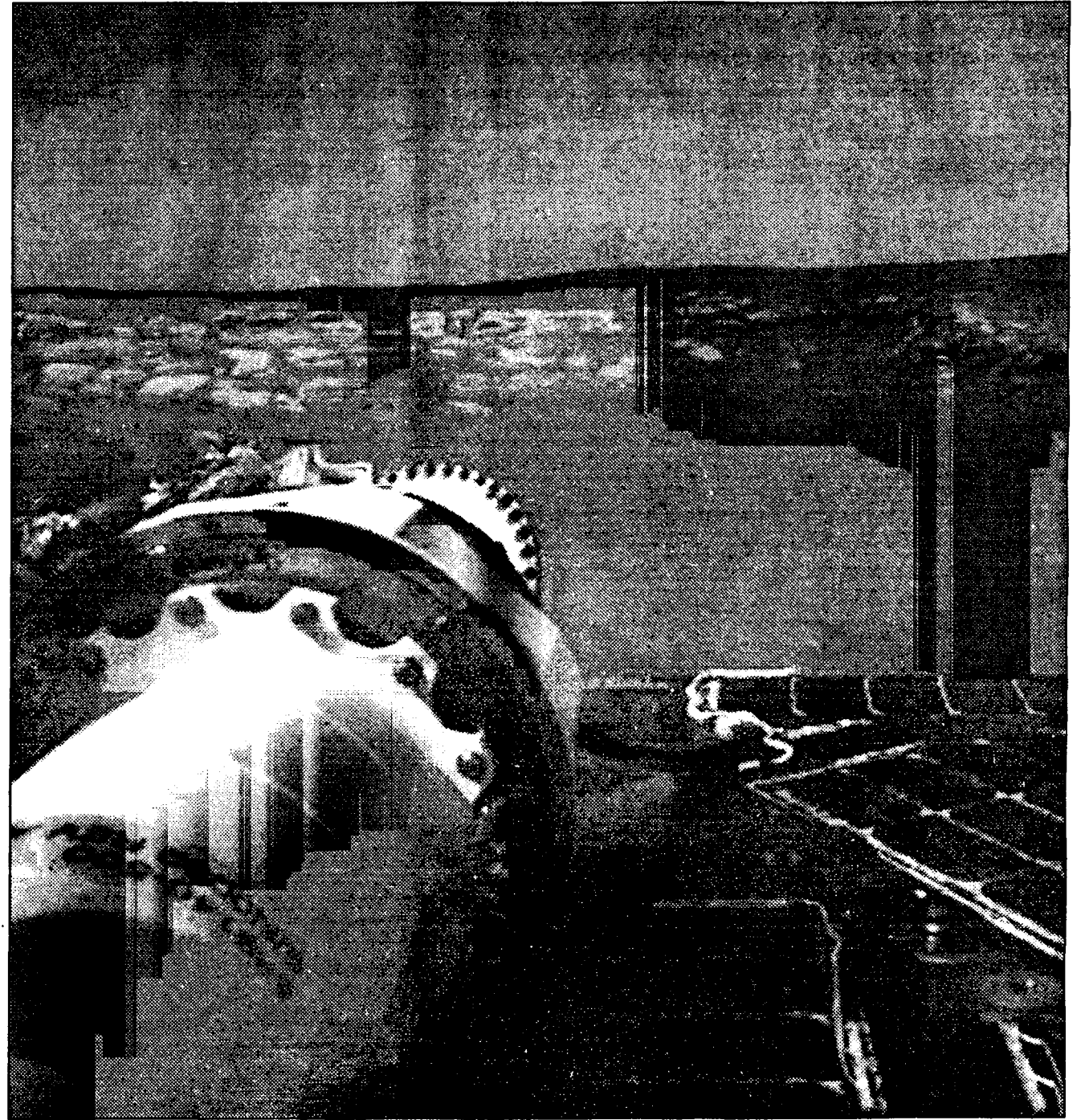
"I am flabbergasted. I am astonished. I am blown away. Opportunity has touched down in an alien and bizarre landscape," said Steven Squyres, of Cornell University and the mission's main scientist. "I still don't know what we're looking at."

NASA began receiving the first of dozens of black-and-white and color images from Opportunity about four hours after its flawless landing. Mars at the time was 124 million miles from Earth.

Mission members hooted and hollered as the images splashed on a screen in mission control at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger was there with his wife, Maria Shriver, to watch the drama unfold, and walked through mission control shaking hands with the scientists.

"The pictures just blow me away. We've certainly not been to this place before," deputy project manager Richard Cook said.

Opportunity plunged into the martian atmosphere at more than 12,000 mph and bounced down on Mars just six minutes later, swaddled in protective air bags. It hit with a force estimated to be just two to



One of the Opportunity rover's first photos sent back to earth Sunday, showing the martian landscape behind the rover's stowed mast.

three times that of Earth's gravity. Engineers had designed it to withstand as much as 40 G's, said Chris Jones, director of flight projects at JPL.

The six-wheeled rover landed at 12:05 a.m. EST in Meridiani Planum, believed to be the smoothest, flattest spot on Mars. Opportunity lies 6,600 miles and halfway around the planet from where its twin, Spirit, landed Jan. 3.

On Sunday, NASA said Opportunity was in excellent health and Spirit was on the mend after serious software problems had

hobbled it.

Initial analysis of the images suggested Opportunity landed in a shallow crater roughly 66 feet across. Its low rim shouldn't block the rolling robot once it gets going, Squyres said.

Opportunity could roll off its lander in 10 to 14 days, mission manager Arthur Amador said. Opportunity's possible targets include a larger crater, perhaps 500 feet across, that lies an estimated half-mile from where the spacecraft landed.

The rover's ramp off its lander appeared unob-

structed, unlike that of the Spirit rover, said Matt Wallace, another of the mission managers. Spirit had to use an alternate ramp because a deflated air bag blocked its safest route to the martian surface.

Together, the twin 384-pound rovers make up a \$820 million mission to seek out geologic evidence that Mars was once a wetter world possibly capable of sustaining life. NASA launched Spirit on June 10 and Opportunity on July 7. Each carries nine cameras and six scientific instruments.

IRAN

Elections threatened by veto of bill

Associated Press

TEHRAN — Iran's hard-line Guardian Council vetoed a bill on Sunday that would have curbed its power, throwing elections into doubt in a historic confrontation between reformers and conservatives.

The Guardian Council rejected a bill reinstating thousands of candidates that it disqualified earlier. The veto is likely to provoke a boycott of the Feb. 20 legislative elections by reformers.

The bill that parliament passed earlier Sunday sought to overturn the disqualifications. Reformists have condemned the disqualifications as an attempt by the hard-liners to skew the elections in their favor.

"We've been informed that the Guardian Council has vetoed the leg-

islation on the grounds that it contradicted the constitution and Sharia [Islamic] law," Mohsen Mirdamadi told The Associated Press. Mirdamadi heads the National Security and Foreign Policy Committee of the parliament and is one of the lawmakers disqualified from running again.

Members of the Guardian Council could not immediately be reached for comment.

Another reformist legislator who has been disqualified, Fatemeh Haqiqatjou, told the AP that with its veto, "the Guardian Council effectively pushes the country towards greater political chaos."

"The rejection brings reformers and all those who want free and fair elections closer to boycotting the elections," Haqiqatjou said.

"Iranians never allow dictators to decide for them," she said.

Members of President Mohammad Khatami's government have said they will not hold what would be "sham elections" if the disqualifications are upheld.

In a session broadcast live on state radio, legislators voted Sunday to approve the bill. They categorized it as "triple-urgent," meaning highest priority. It was the first time since Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution that parliament has approved a triple-urgency bill.

The bill would have amended the National Elections law to force the Guardian Council, which oversees elections, to reinstate all candidates unless there is legal documentation to prove them unfit for parliament.

SMC

continued from page 1

and concerns realistically, provide an approachable and welcoming student government and evaluate campus academics and relations between departments. We also believe we should recognize and integrate campus talent and athletics and enliven and recognize student's spiritual needs on campus."

White has been involved in the Board of Governance Academic Standards committee, as well as serving as the Abroad chair her sophomore year and the Social Co-chair of the first-year board. She is majoring in Business, with a concentration in International Business and a minor in Italian.

Moran has also held many positions in Saint Mary's politics. She is the current junior class vice president, and she was on the Student Government Association's constitution committee. Moran was the BOG Technology commissioner as a sophomore and worked on the first-year board to help design the Class of 2005 Web page. Moran is an MIS major with a concentration in Accounting.

White and Moran said that the reasons to run for president and vice president are countless.

"We have a passion for this school," said White. "We feel we represent a wide variety of students here, and people have enjoyed what we've done so far. We are always up for a challenge, and this certainly is one, an exciting one."

White also said she and Moran feel all students are a part of student government.

"All students at Saint Mary's play a role as a leader, whether silent or for all to see," said White. It would be an honor to represent the talent and energy of all the students that lead us. This is something that is in our gut, that gets us energized, and it's something we would love to do."

Brown, a junior and the current student body vice president, and Fitzgerald, a sophomore, said they would be qualified candidates.

"I think Michelle and I have a good combination of experience and fresh ideas," said Brown. "We're not opposed to new ideas, and we're not stuck in an old system. We have good relationships with the faculty, staff and students at Saint Mary's, and we also have a good feel for what is current."

Brown and Fitzgerald's platform places much emphasis on improvements both in and out of student government.

"We would really like to continue to spread out the leadership roles in student government and have the committees take on more responsibility to keep the leadership balanced and fair," said Brown. "We would also like to continue to expand student government and look for new ways to involve more students. Reaching out to a broader base of students is also important to us because we want everyone to feel as though they are a part of government at Saint Mary's."

Brown has served this year as

the student body vice president. She is a philosophy and political science double major. Fitzgerald is currently serving as the sophomore class president. She is majoring in political science and religious studies.

"We've seen ourselves doing this for a long time, and we like that as the president and vice president, we get to be involved in all aspects of student government," said Brown. "Both of us really enjoy the policy-making aspect of student government, and we're excited to expand on that."

Jolly and Saavedra, both juniors, believe they have fresh ideas for the future of Saint Mary's.

"We want to work to incorporate all aspects of Saint Mary's life like sports and clubs into one community where we can all share it," said Jolly. "We want to continue our connections with Notre Dame and Holy Cross and extend it further to the entire community of South Bend. ... And with the new administration coming in, we'd love to be there to both students and to Mooney and her administration to make the transition as smooth as possible."

Serving as the current Residence Hall Association president, Jolly also serves as a BOG

executive. She served as class treasurer her sophomore year and has been the welcome committee chairwoman. Recently, she served on the apartment committee, helping to make decisions about the campus apartments. Jolly is a communications major.

Saavedra is the Student Diversity Board president and also serves as a BOG executive. She is majoring in business.

"We've both been very involved in BOG this year, and we've seen the behind-the-scenes work that goes into it," said Jolly. "We've really enjoyed our time and the large role we played in student government this year. Veronica and I have a lot of the same ideas, and we're ready to make Saint Mary's a place for today and the future."

Jolly said that she and Saavedra are capable for the job.

"Together with the students, we want to make Saint Mary's into a wonderful community that everyone, everywhere, knows about and loves," said Jolly. "We want to make this a place where the students know that this is our school, and this is the place we can call our home."

Contact Angela Saoud at
saoud303@saintmarys.edu

March

continued from page 1

Dame contingent met students from Florida State, and each delegation took turns singing its school's fight song as they marched.

While the students may have been ready to reconcile with gridiron rivals, they were unyielding in their stance against abortion.

"Life begins at conception," Hunter-Kilmer said. "I think abortion is genocide."

In addition to the march, eight Notre Dame students attended a leadership conference at the Catholic University of America sponsored by American Collegiates for Life, a college pro-life umbrella organization. The conference included delegates from more than 50 colleges and universities nationwide.

Daufenbach said the speakers focused on helping pro-life advocates argue their case. In addition, the club purchased a taped series of lectures on the subject.

Lauren Galgano, vice president of the Right to Life club, said the wide representation at the conference was encouraging.

"It was great to see schools with brand-new pro-life groups," she said.

She went on to say that the pro-life movement can create unity among groups with otherwise differing views. Catholic and Protestant groups, for exam-

ple, were represented at the march, as were members of the Republican Party, Democrats for Life and Feminists for Life.

"It shows it's not a partisan issue," Galgano said. "It's a matter of life and death."

Contact Matt Bramanti at
mbramant@nd.edu

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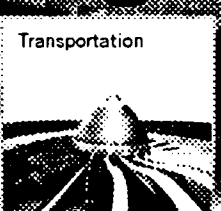
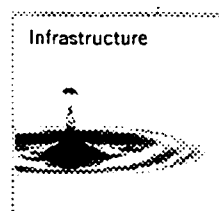
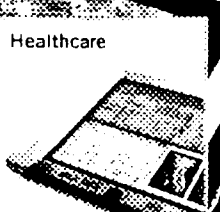
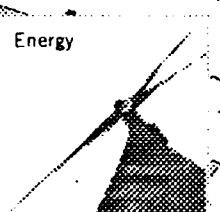
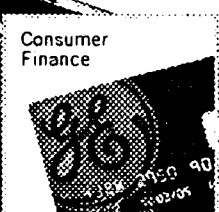
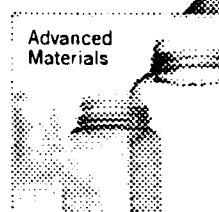
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IN BRIEF

Halliburton to pay back overcharge

WASHINGTON — Halliburton will pay the Pentagon \$6.3 million for possible overcharges by a subcontractor that is accused of giving kickbacks to supply U.S. soldiers in Iraq, a spokeswoman said Friday in new trouble for Vice President Dick Cheney's former company. A spokesman said the company was paying the \$6.3 million to the Army Materiel Command to cover any possible overcharges while the Pentagon investigates.

The Pentagon already has in progress a criminal inquiry into possible overcharging involving another Halliburton contract to supply gasoline to Iraqi civilians. Democrats have criticized the contracts and demanded further investigations; the company has denied wrongdoing. Meanwhile, Halliburton has begun an advertising campaign to improve its image.

Weyerhaeuser Q4 profits fall

SEATTLE — Profits at timber giant Weyerhaeuser Co. fell 27 percent in the fourth quarter, as the company took a series of one-time charges and recorded a large one-time gain on the sale of timberlands.

Federal Way, Wash.-based Weyerhaeuser said Friday it earned \$92 million, or 41 cents per share, for the three-month period ended Dec. 28. That was down from earnings of \$126 million, or 57 cents per share, in the same period a year earlier.

Revenue rose 9 percent to nearly \$5.15 billion from revenues nearly \$4.72 billion a year ago.

Toyota passes Ford, takes second

TOKYO — Toyota Motor Corp. outsold Ford Motor Co. last year to become the world's No. 2 automaker behind General Motors Corp., preliminary sales data released by the Japanese company showed Friday.

A Toyota spokesman said estimated unit sales for 2003 reached 6.78 million vehicles, up 9.9 percent from 6.17 million the previous year.

On Thursday, Ford reported its 2003 sales slipped to 6.72 million vehicles, down 3.6 percent from 6.97 million.

Toyota spokesman Shinya Matsumoto characterized his company's sales as an "indicator" of rising customer satisfaction but played down the comparison with Ford.

FREE TRADE

Costa Rica fifth to join CAFTA

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration reached an agreement with Costa Rica on Sunday that will allow that nation to join four of its neighbors in creating a Central American Free Trade Area with the United States, officials of the two countries announced.

The deal must be approved by Congress.

The agreement came after two weeks of intense negotiations aimed at overcoming differences in such areas as telecommunications and insurance that had prompted Costa Rica to back out at the last minute from completing the CAFTA talks last month with the four other nations, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Honduras.

Administration officials said they were pleased with the market-opening language finally reached with Costa Rica, which had sought to protect its monopoly operations in telephones and insurance.

Costa Rica agreed to fully open its insurance market to foreign competition by 2011. It also agreed to open three key sectors of its telephone market to competition — wireless services, private network services and Internet services.

While the country will maintain bans against foreign competition in other areas of telecommunications, U.S. negotiators said they were satisfied that they had torn down barriers in the areas of most interest to U.S. companies.

"Costa Rica needed a little more time to complete its participation in CAFTA, and we're very pleased it has joined its Central American neighbors in this cutting-edge, modern free trade agreement," U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick said in a statement.

The negotiating breakthrough was announced jointly in Washington by



Reuters

U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick, left, meets with Costa Rica's Minister of Foreign Trade Alberto Trejos in Washington Sunday to finalize Costa Rica's entrance into the Central American Free Trade Area.

Zoellick and Costa Rican Trade Minister Alberto Trejos.

Senior U.S. trade officials, who briefed reporters Sunday on condition of anonymity, said that they hoped to publish the full text of the CAFTA agreement by the end of the week.

They said the next step would be to add a sixth country, the island nation of the Dominican Republic, to the trade deal before submitting it to Congress.

The free trade deal covering Central America has stirred strong opposition among U.S. sugar cane and sugar beet farmers, who fear competition from

lower-priced Central American sugar and from the U.S. textile industry, which is concerned that the deal will open their beleaguered industry to even more foreign competition.

U.S. officials on Sunday refused to speculate on when the CAFTA would be presented to Congress for a vote. Supporters hope that the addition of the Dominican Republic will pick up critical House votes among Democrats whose districts include large numbers of Dominican immigrant populations.

However, U.S. labor unions are vowing to strongly oppose the pact, which they believe would

continue a trend of exposing U.S. workers to increased competition from low-wage nations with lax labor and environmental laws.

For its part, the administration hopes to use congressional passage of CAFTA as a stepping stone to achieving an even bigger goal, creation of a Free Trade Area of the Americas, covering all 34 democracies in the Western hemisphere.

In 2003, U.S. goods exports to Costa Rica totaled \$3.5 billion, up about 13 percent from the previous year, while the United States imported \$3.4 billion in goods from Costa Rica, an increase of 9.7 percent from 2002.

Meijer cuts in-store management

Associated Press

WALKER, Mich. — Meijer Inc. has eliminated about 1,900 management positions in the latest step of a reorganization effort, the retailer said on Saturday.

Meijer is reducing the number of its managers from about 42 to 30 per store. The family-owned and operated grocery and general merchandise retailer has 158 stores in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio.

Some team leaders will be offered non-supervisory positions. Those who leave Meijer will receive a severance package, health care continuation options and assistance finding new jobs, the company said.

"As part of our continual transformation, we have been studying the industry's best practices," Meijer

spokesman John Zimmerman said. "As a result, we have determined we need to streamline our stores' supervisory structure in each store."

Zimmerman said Meijer will create about 6,500 new jobs with the planned opening of five stores this year and eight in 2005.

Meijer has said its restructuring effort, which started five months ago, is necessary to remain competitive. Before the latest round of cuts, the company said it employed about 75,000 people.

"You make these moves when you're strong and when you know that you're not a unique format and you've got competitors coming into your market with this same format that you have to compete against," Zimmerman said.

Multistate retail chains such as Wal-

Mart Stores Inc., Target Corp. and Kmart Holding Corp. have adapted the superstore concept that Meijer developed during the 1960s. Dutch immigrant Hendrik Meijer opened the first Meijer store, a grocery, in Greenville in 1934.

Meijer Inc. started experimenting in October with a new cost-cutting bagging system at a store in the Grand Rapids suburb of Wyoming. If the ring-and-bag system, as it is known, is installed in all Meijer stores, nearly 8,000 mostly part-time bagging jobs would be lost, the retailer said.

A month earlier, Meijer announced the immediate elimination of about 350 white-collar jobs. Officials also said future stores will be constructed at less expense and include more efficient store formats and operating procedures.

Lao

continued from page 1

"I'm really interested in pursuing my interest in finance ... I plan to take that class next semester," he said. "I'm not abandoning student government in any way. I want to find something new for myself but keep committed to student government on a different level."

Chin said her decision not to run was based on her hopes for going abroad in the fall.

"I am hoping to go abroad next fall, and I've always wanted to go abroad since I came to this institution," she said. "It was a personal goal."

Chin has applied to the Shanghai program and will hear about her acceptance status in February.

Both Lao and Chin offered advice to the student body regarding what qualities they should look for in their next president.

Lao said that students should "look for someone they know will work hard for them and that will work to represent their needs and interests ... someone who

will ultimately love the students."

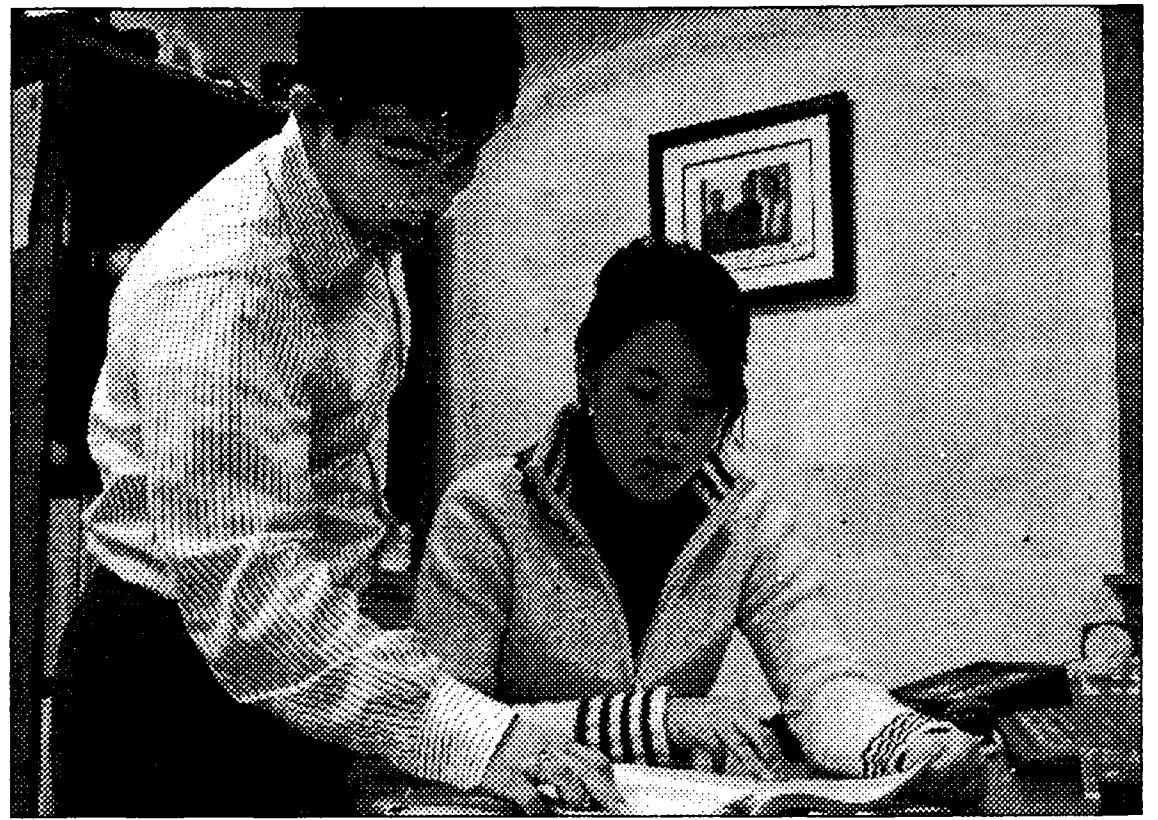
"I'm not abandoning student government in any way. I want to find something new for myself but keep committed to student government on a different level."

Jeremy Lao
student body president

the best that it can be."

Contact Maureen Reynolds at mreynold@nd.edu

Chin said she believes the true president will be the one who can challenge the students. She said students should find "someone who will challenge their potential ... Whomever takes over next year has an opportunity to take initiative ... and make this University



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Student body president Jeremy Lao and vice president Emily Chin go over plans Sunday. They have decided not to run for a second term.

Candidates

continued from page 1

Poindexter said.

According to Poindexter, the ticket of Charlie Ebersol and James Leito has been approved, but the tickets of Mark Healy and Mike Healy, Adam Istvan and Karla Bell and Ryan Craft and Steve Lynch are still in the process of being approved.

Each pair of candidates has issues on which they will focus during the next two weeks before the elections.

Ebersol said that student involvement is on the top of his list of how to better student government.

"We really need to focus on student involvement in administrative stuff," he said.

Ebersol said one of his objectives will be to have the student body president sit on the Board of Trustees, if not as a voting member, then as simply the voice of the students in the administration.

"They just need our voice there," he said.

In line with their focus on student involvement, Ebersol and Leito have vowed to visit each dorm before the election and again during the year if they are elected.

"I think the first thing you have to do is give students more of an opportunity to be a part of your campaign," said Ebersol. "I want to have students look at my campaign and [give me feedback.]"

Ebersol is currently the head of the Student Union Board, and he said he is focused on returning a good product to the students in terms of a more efficient, well-

run student government.

"... We have worked the last eight months to get a group that represents every body of student government ..." he said. "You have to be able to show you can produce."

Leito, Ebersol's candidate for vice president, is currently the sophomore class president and was the freshman class treasurer last year.

The Healy-Healy ticket — the two are not related — promise to focus on things that students want and need.

"I think the biggest problem is that [student government is] not really getting the job done on things that we can actually do something about," Mark Healy said. "I'm here because I want to break the cycle of having a few people decide what the school should be."

Mark Healy expressed a need for student government to work on things that will improve student life.

"We have been looking into putting some type of Blockbuster on campus," he said.

These candidates will also focus on student feedback and involvement.

"We're suggesting that right where they have the TCE boxes ... we put in boxes [for suggestions.]" said Mark Healy. "There would be forms that people can fill out and we'll directly get them and we can contact [the students.] ... We want to be able to take what people want to get done and make that our top priority."

Mark Healy has sat on the communications board of the Office of the Student Body President and he has also worked on campaigns for congressmen and the mayor

of his hometown, Orlando.

Mark Healy said he chose Mike Healy for his running mate because he "can tell that Mike has the right intuition to be able to lead."

Istvan said his ticket's main approach is to get SYRs back in the dorms.

"The class of juniors now is the last class that has had an SYR in the dorms," said Istvan, "and when we graduate, there will be no one who can say, 'I remember when it was better.'"

Istvan cited the lack of this issue in the past two reports to the Board of Trustees, given by former student body presidents Libby Bishop and Pat Hallahan.

"This is the kind of personality we can't perpetuate in student government ... we need to get more effective people in the office," he said. "We need to have SYRs back in the dorms. It's better for community building, and it's just more fun."

Istvan also commented on other issues in his campaign, which include transportation for

students to and from downtown South Bend.

"I would like to bring back ... the bus that takes students from campus to the downtown district where people can go out and not have to worry about drivers," he said. "It would make it easier for people to go out."

Istvan cited another institution, Xavier University in Cincinnati, which has a program like this.

Istvan was formerly the dance commissioner for Morrissey Hall, and Bell is the current president of Walsh Hall. She also worked for former student body president Brooke Norton.

Craft and Lynch also want to focus on changes to better student life.

"We're not looking to rearrange the setup and intricacies of student government, but to make changes that affect the every day lives of the students," Craft said.

Craft cited several ideas that his ticket wishes to implement that they believe would improve the lives of students.

"Our two prime objectives


would be that we're trying to get a printer in every dorm that [students] can use their printing quota for," he said. "And we're trying to get a shuttle bus from the Joyce Center parking lot to DeBartolo [for off-campus students], and Grab 'n Go in DeBartolo Hall."

Craft and Lynch also want to institute an inexpensive movie rental program on campus and design better off-campus transportation.

"We feel that we can bring a fresh outlook to [student government]," Craft said. "We feel if we can succeed in meeting these objectives that the students will notice a difference in what their student government is doing for them."

The two do not have experience with student government on campus, but they feel that it is this inexperience that will help them bring a fresh perspective to the office.

Contact Maureen Reynolds at mreynold@nd.edu



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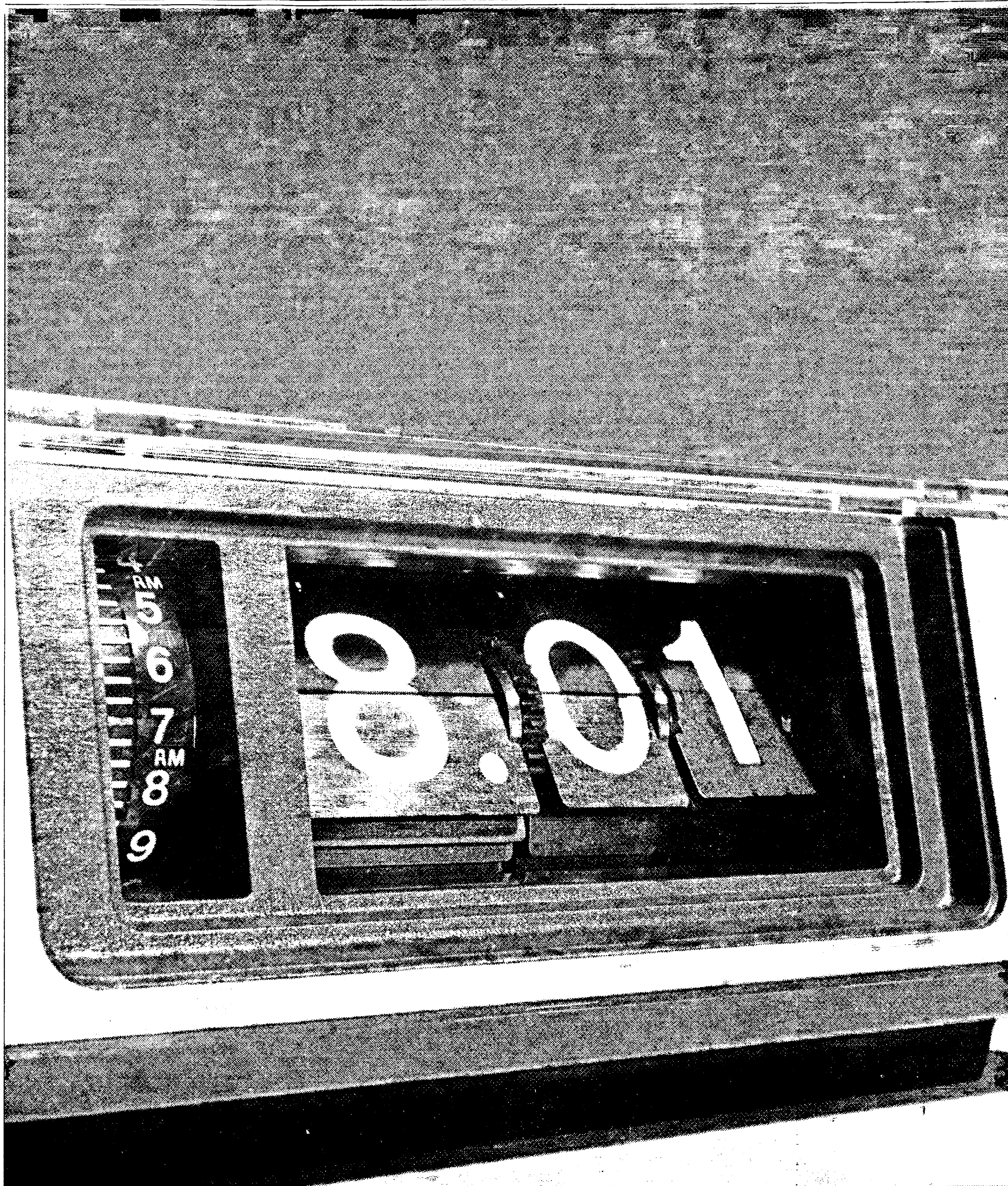
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Observer endorses Brown-Fitzgerald

Please excuse the students of Saint Mary's if they are confused heading into Tuesday's student body presidential elections. But that's what happens when, after a three-year stretch of one-ticket elections, three sets of candidates run for the highest student position at Saint Mary's. It's about time Saint Mary's students have a choice in electing their top student leaders.

Ironically, however, the best ticket is the one that promises the greatest commitment to the status quo. Based on interviews with The Observer, Sarah Brown and Michelle Fitzgerald present the best qualified ticket for student body president and vice president.

Brown and Fitzgerald demonstrate ideal leadership abilities that would ensure a smooth and effective transition into the positions they pursue.

Brown, currently student body vice president, shows the ability to step forward and continue many of the policies she developed this year with current student body president Elizabeth Jablonski-Diehl. But experience alone does not necessarily make a ticket the best choice.

That is why Saint Mary's voters should be attracted to Brown and Fitzgerald's commitment to developing a solid relationship with incoming College President Carol Mooney. The beginning of Mooney's tenure at Saint Mary's will undoubtedly be a whirlwind for the new College president, and having consistency among the student leaders — consistency Brown provides by moving from vice president to president — will make Mooney's transition easier. Brown and Fitzgerald also promise to continue to delegate authority to Board of Governance commissioners, thereby

increasing the amount of student input in student participation.

While the other candidates lack Brown's high-level leadership experience, they have all served as BOG commissioners at one point. Shay Jolly and Veronica Saavedra propose notable ideas, such as increased communication within and outside of the Saint Mary's community, yet narrowly and unnecessarily focus on balancing power between student government branches. And

while Sarah Catherine White and Mary Pauline Moran demonstrate the most enthusiasm of the presidential tickets, they had difficulty clearly articulating concrete proposals. Still, their campaign proposes a new focus and represents a new attitude that some Saint Mary's students, especially those who are disillusioned with the current student government, may be attracted to.

But the truth is, the Saint Mary's student government — of which Brown has been an integral member — has performed so admirably this year that there is little need for a new focus in this election. Brown and Fitzgerald have the most experience in student government and know what needs to be done aside from promoting special events. They will work on the larger issues when needed, and, judging from the strides made by student government this year, it won't be needed that much. They will also maintain consistency at a time when it is crucial in the introduction of Mooney as Saint Mary's president.

The Observer endorses Sarah Brown and Michelle Fitzgerald for 2004-05 Saint Mary's student body president and vice president.

The Observer Editorial

Doctor Dean quacks up

It must be tough to be Howard Dean. From the looks of things, even Howard Dean is having a hard time being Howard Dean.

Mike Marchard

Last Monday, in the Iowa caucus, he was beaten soundly, by 20 and 14 points by John Kerry and John Edwards, respectively, two guys whose campaigns were roadkill as little as four weeks ago. Up until the Hawkeye State, Dean had never lost an election in his 20-year political career. Initially, he seemed like he was handling his defeat well, smiling and waving an American flag before supporters in Des Moines.

"If you had told us one year ago that we were going to come in third in Iowa," Dean said, "we would have given anything for that." This is quite true: Dean's revolutionary campaign has been nothing short of spectacular.

He then went on: "Not only are we going to New Hampshire" At this point, the little Jiminy Cricket inside Howard's head should have thrown the kill switch and made him stop. But the fervor of the crowd increased, and he lost himself in the moment: "We're going to South Carolina, and Oklahoma, and Arizona, and North Dakota, and New Mexico ..." and he listed just about every other state in the Union, two Canadian provinces and American Samoa.

Shortly thereafter, Dean came completely uncorked: "And then we're going to Washington, D.C., to take back the White House!" And then he let loose with ... well, nobody's quite sure what exactly it was, but it made dogs cover their ears and sheep in Dubuque bleat inconsolably.

Clever wordsmiths noticed that the Iowa caucus was held on Martin Luther King

Day and therefore called Dean's outburst the "I Have A Scream" speech. It's a fun little pun, and I hate splitting synonymic hairs, but that was most definitely not a scream. It was ... a yelp, really, a miniature little shriek that sounds like something someone would blurt when momentarily frightened at a haunted house on Halloween.

Other, far more generous observers thought that it was some sort of cathartic therapy, a venting of the energy that had amassed from shouting out states like a rock star who's trying to pry applause out of a crowd. But it was less Walt Whitman's "barbaric yawp" and more like, to be honest, Yosemite Sam experiencing an orgasm. And with that in mind, as I scan a thesaurus, I think I've found the precise word to describe Dean's "Yaahhhh!": an ejaculation. (I'm not lying. Look it up.)

If I may say so myself, it's perfect: it was at the end of the night and came following a rapid buildup to a climactic release. And the next day, he regretted that it ever happened. Psychoanalysts of all stripes have made instant diagnoses of the speech ("He really lost it," "Over the top ... childlike"), but it's hard to believe none of them considered this more Freudian angle.

And, like a sexual expression, it's all over the Internet. Quirky amateur musicians have set it to music, meaning Dean, who's an idol to thousands of hip young people who normally don't vote, is quite possibly the first politician whose words (and other utterances) have been transformed into a dance remix. One Web site's version was downloaded so often that they pulled it due to bandwidth constraints.

Some analysts think that Dean's candidacy spontaneously combusted with the ... uh, eruption. Depending on which New Hampshire tracking poll you favor, he has lost between one-third and one-half of his

support since Iowa Night. But that's more likely due to the damage "Mad How" wrought upon himself before Iowa ("The capture of Saddam has not made America safer") and the deeper context of his visceral howl.

Voters may be a fickle bunch, but nobody's going to turn away from a candidate because he made a gurgling noise, no matter how ridiculous it sounded or how much it's mocked on TV. Dean's losing support because of the impression — which he himself has admitted — that he's impulsive, or as Dean put it, "I lead with my heart and not my head." This is a decidedly un-presidential characteristic.

So Dean's fire and passion, which are what helped him lead the Democratic pack, may prove to be his undoing. According to a USA Today/CNN/Gallup poll, only half of New Hampshire Democrats think he has "the kind of personality that a president should have." Forty-six percent think he does not.

Dean has already slipped behind Kerry in New Hampshire, where the primary takes place Tuesday. If he falls to third behind Wesley Clark, who's an even flakier candidate than Dean is, then you might as well stick a fork in him.

But not too hard; he's prone to wail.

Mike Marchard, class of 2001, is the proud author of "the single most obnoxious thing ever committed to print by any pundit ever" and the winner of a contest by Chicago Sun-Times columnist Mark Steyn. For correctly guessing who would be the first Democratic presidential candidate to withdraw (Carol Moseley-Braun), he received a signed copy of Steyn's book, which he already owns. Contact him at Marchard.3@alumni.nd.edu.

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

OBSERVER POLL

Should Saint Mary's continue to host the Keenan Revue?

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Half of the American people have never read a newspaper. Half never voted for President. One hopes it is the same half."

Gore Vidal
writer

Acting out against affirmative action

Affirmative action has been a touchy subject for many Americans for a long time. Last year, Notre Dame was affected directly when our University officially sided with the University of Michigan's admissions policy, which awards "bonus" points to applicants from minority groups.

Greg Parnell

*Ideas, Issues
and Ideologies*

I am from a public school in the Washington, D.C. area, which has a much higher minority population than this University. Therefore, I know how important diversity is to a holistic education and believe our school must always take all possible strides to recruit students from varied backgrounds. However, I have also witnessed less-qualified minority students get into prestigious colleges, while more qualified white students were refused admission. Seeing both sides first-hand, I have long struggled to find my own position.

My views became solidified when I read "What's So Great About America?" by Dinesh D'Souza. An Indian immigrant who has served as a White House policy analyst, D'Souza argues vehemently against affirmative action. I found his arguments quite compelling and think that many other students with reservations similar to my own may find D'Souza's perspective helpful.

The main thrust of D'Souza's anti-affirmative action argument is a contrast between the prevailing sentiments of two groups: the African-American population and the non-white immigrant population. According to D'Souza, immigrants often compare America to conditions in their home countries, amazed that what would be considered "luxuries" in their homes are oftentimes seen as basic necessities here. In fact, the minimum wage rate in America is higher than the average income in many countries.

Conversely, many African-Americans compare their troubles to the lives of the American elite. For example, "If rich white kids can go to college, then my children should have the same opportunity." Using this standard for comparison is completely irrational, as it assumes that every citizen has the right to whatever anyone else has, regardless of other differences, usually based on merit.

African-Americans sometimes counter that they would be much more successful were it not that they are automatically at an insurmountable disadvantage because of their skin color. They believe they are treated differently because they look different.

This may be true, D'Souza argues, but new immigrants coming to America usually face even harsher disadvantages. In addition to not fitting the "American" standard physically, immigrants must overcome a lack of credit, a lack of familial relations in the country and most importantly, an immense language barrier.

However, one rarely hears of immigrants clam-

bering for "bonus points" because of their obstacles. Immigrants do not demand that the United States somehow change to eliminate their disadvantages — they simply work even harder to overcome them.

Another defense for affirmative action is that many minorities, especially inner-city blacks, simply are not exposed to the same opportunities as whites. This suggestion is false as well. Evidence from a 1999 study by the College Entrance Examination Board entitled "Group Differences in Standardized Testing and Social Satisfaction," shows that whites from families making less than \$20,000 annually actually score higher than blacks from families earning over \$60,000 a year.

Such disparity proves that "opportunity" alone cannot be responsible for differences in test scores.

The most famous civil rights leader of all time, Martin Luther King Jr., pleaded that all men be judged by merit, not by the color of their skin. Unfortunately, our current affirmative action policies do exactly what King argued against — they are in place to award positions in jobs and universities to those of a different race, in such cases that those individuals would not be accepted on merit alone.

Blacks compose only 12 percent of the population, but 75 percent of NBA players are black. Is it sensible then to place a quota on the number of blacks who can play in the NBA, so that the races are more evenly distributed? Surely not; those players earned their places on merit.

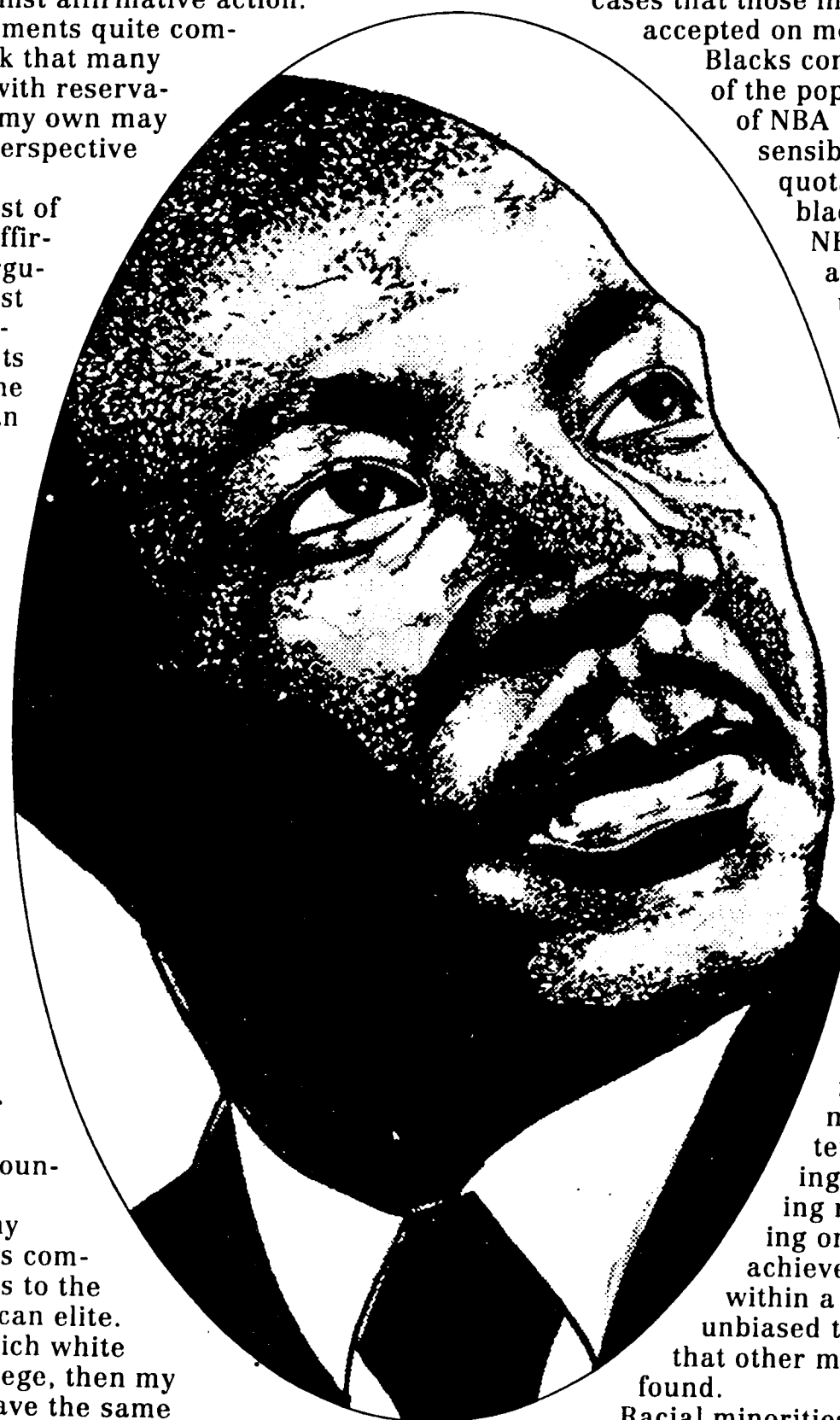
D'Souza concludes with the idea that the root of the problem for African-Americans (and other minorities) is that they are so focused on the crimes of the past that they are unable to see that there is in fact a clear path to a more successful future, if they would simply choose it.

Instead of demanding that society lower the merit-bar so that they can compete, these groups should raise themselves and meet the current criteria. Instead of agitating the system, demanding reparations and relying on pity in order to achieve, they should work within a system that is in fact unbiased to find the success that other minority groups have found.

Racial minorities are not less qualified, talented or capable than the majority. Therefore, it is time to stop treating them so by giving them special privileges, which effectively destroys the merit-based system Dr. King valiantly sought. Affirmative action does not solve the problems of the races, but sweeps an embarrassing reality under the rug and allows minorities to retain the tragic notion that they are still victims of oppression. Minority groups can only advance after accepting that the means to progress is by increasing their own merit, not robbing it from others.

Greg Parnell is a sophomore political science and economics major. Contact him at gparnell@nd.edu.

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



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Building a new Berlin Wall?

This letter concerns John Infranca's column of Jan. 23 regarding immigration. I sympathize with his concerns and regret that the haphazard approach taken by the United States to immigration has cost many lives.

Immigration has positive and negative effects. I know from personal observation in Chicago that many employers will hire Mexican immigrants before they will hire blacks. I don't think that is fair. Nor is it fair to assume that no one else will perform the jobs that Hispanic immigrants take.

Ironically, the real answer to the problem is to mimic the Soviet reaction to the exodus of Germans through East Berlin to the west in the early '60s. Spend \$40 billion or whatever it takes to build a wall — a big one — from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific. This will make it clear to Mexicans that the only way they can enter the United States is through legal channels. It will also save lives.

Finally, it is worth pointing out that real source of the problem is the corrupt and abusive Mexican government. It exploits its populace while operating what is in effect a socialist one-party system and demands the United States provide a safety valve. The more we appease that government, the more harm we do to Mexicans.

Peter Zavodnyik

Chicago

class of 1992

Jan. 23

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Welsh Family Hall offers talented students a rare chance to dance

By SHIELA FLYNN
Scene Writer

Before coming to Notre Dame last year, sophomore Mary Dubon spent her life on stage, dancing and performing.

Then she enrolled in the University, and that stage was pulled out from under her.

"As a freshman, I had come to the campus and, since I was a dancer, was looking for an outlet to dance," Dubon said. "There wasn't really anything that was strictly dance, as far as performance goes."

So she took matters into her own hands and created something that filled Washington Hall Saturday night with an enthusiastic, cheering crowd and a litany of talented, excited dancers.

The Welsh Family Hall Dance Show took the stage nearly nine months after Dubon initially suggested the idea to Welsh's hall council. Working through the dorm and Student Activities, Dubon, with show business manager Catherine Mulhern, obtained funding for advertising and booked Washington Hall. She took on the role of director and held auditions during the fall and selected 12 acts, reflecting a wide range of styles and abilities.

"We wanted diversity," Dubon said.

And the show achieved that, featuring everything from members of the Irish Step Dancers and Ballet Folklorico to routines of jazz, ballet, tap and swing.

The dancers performed to a variety of tunes - ranging from Janet Jackson's "If" to Coldplay's "Politik" to the musical Chicago's "All That Jazz" - and the music, along with the energetic and skillful dancing, sparked the enthusiasm of the audience, whose clapping and cheering unquestionably pumped up the atmosphere of the already excited dancers.

"It was great - I could hear all my friends scream," said sophomore Meghan Winger, who has been dancing since she was two years old and whose family flew in from Florida to see her perform in the TroopND and ballet routines.

"The turnout was surprising - there were so many more people there than I thought would be there," Winger said.

Senior Luke Slonkosky, president of Notre Dame's Swing Club and one of the few male participants in the show, agreed. Performing to Michael Buble's "Moondance," Slonkosky and dance partner Meg Dominick drew quite an energetic response from the audience.

"They were a loud crowd, which was terrific," he said, adding that "there were so many more people" than he had initially expected.

The other acts were extremely well received, as well. The show opened with a routine to "Footloose," and the first act followed with Irish step dancing, a lyrical number, the swing dance, a solo performance, Ballet Folklorico and a spirited routine choreographed and presented by

TroopND. After a brief intermission, the second act opened with a jazz number to "If" and continued with a ballet performance, another solo act, and a tap performance, finishing with another jazz number.

"I was elated," Dubon said, adding that the show went "better than I could have ever expected."

"Everyone was very pleased," she said.

That success, combined with the overwhelming turnout, has increased desire to present the show again next year.

"It was a beautifully orchestrated dance show," Welsh rector Candace Carson said. "We hope that next year the Welsh Family Dance Show will even attract more performers."

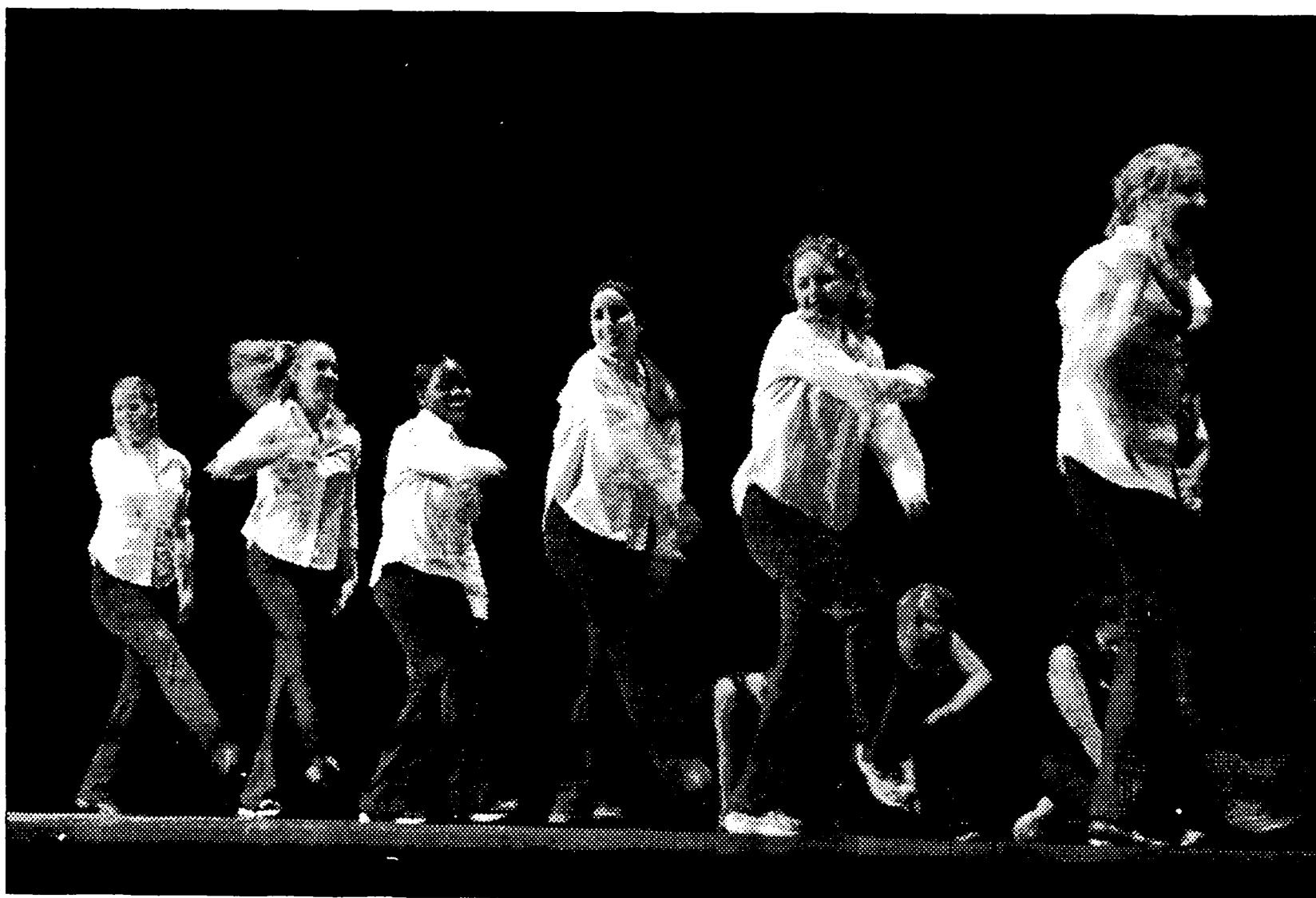
And, in the opinions of this year's dancers, that won't be a problem. They said there is a great enthusiasm for performance among dancers on campus, and those dancers not affiliated with groups such as the Pom Squad would love the chance to showcase their talents.

"There's a pretty big emptiness," Winger said, explaining the plight of those dancers not affiliated with the Pom Squad or not interested in hip-hop performance groups. "There's kind of nothing else for a dancer."

Slonkosky voiced similar sentiments.

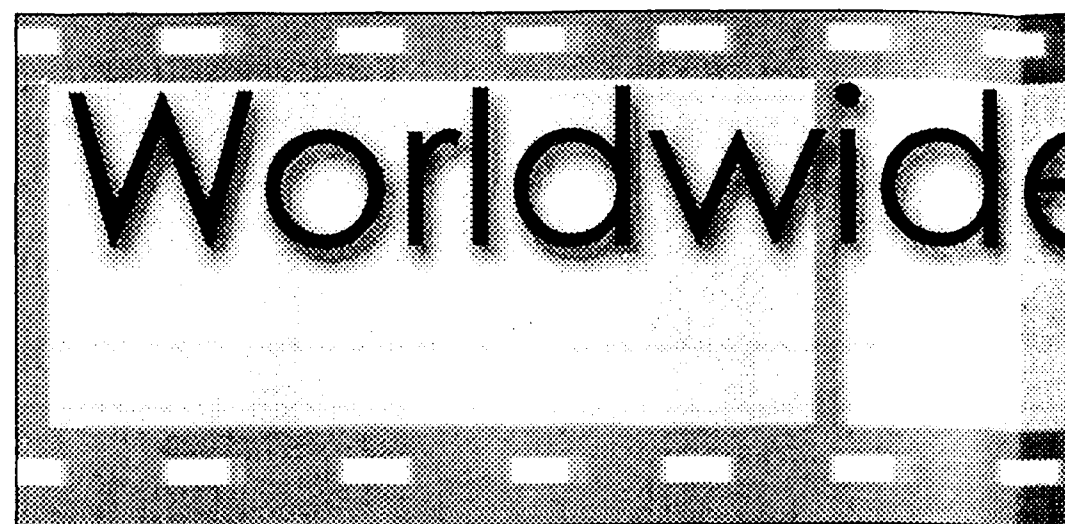
"You often see voice and acting," he said, "but dancing, I think, is the lost art."

Contact Sheila Flynn at
sflynn2@nd.edu



Saturday night's Welsh Family Hall Dance Show featured different styles of dance including jazz, Irish, swing dancing, and many others. Students from all parts of campus performed in the show.

CHIP MARKS/The Observer



Critically
student

By MARIA SMITH
Scene Editor

The films in the Race and Culture film series opening this

week, and the Women in European Film series continuing from last semester, weren't box office hits, didn't win MTV movie awards and didn't get their stars on the cover of

Race and Culture Film Series

All in Carrey Auditorium, Hesburgh Library at 7 p.m.



Lone Star
Tuesday, Jan. 27

Director: John Sayles



5 Sides of a Coin
Tuesday, Feb. 24

Director: Paul Kell



Rabbit Proof Fence
Tuesday, Mar. 23

Director: Phillip Noyce



Smoke Signals
Tuesday, Apr. 20

Director: Chris Eyre

SOURCE: Progressive Faculty and Staff Alliance

MIKE HARKINS/Observer Graphics

e Culture Comes to ND Cinema

acclaimed films from Europe, America and Australia offer
ts a chance to learn about issues from around the world

"People".

Like many of the most insightful and best-directed movies from any year, some of them never even made it to Movies 14 on Edison. But thanks to ND Cinema, students live in places besides L.A. or New York have a chance to see these critically acclaimed films.

Women in European Film

When the Nanovic Institute for European Studies organized this year's European film exhibition, they decided to focus not just on films by women, but on films about women and issues they have faced. The Institute will sponsor one film every month for the rest of the semester.

Professor Daniel Mattern was one member of the committee responsible for deciding the theme and choosing the films.

"We hoped to get a little more precise at some point," said. "But we were dealing with so many different countries, we just decided to choose seven films."

The films scheduled for this semester are far from optimistic and deal with issues like sexual abuse and prostitution. In order to help students understand the issues involved in the films, guest speakers will introduce the films and lead discussion afterward.

"One thing we're trying to do is to bring someone who can talk about a film, bring a context to it," Mattern said. "Sometimes it's hard to think about an issue while you're watching, but you can usually get more out of a film."

"Chaos," scheduled for this Thursday, tells the story of a woman who becomes involved in the life of an Algerian prostitute after she sees her being sexually abused in an alley by men who turn out to be her pimps.

"It describes the way that two people find each other through crimes by men," Mattern said. "It's kind of a drama and a comedy — I'd call it a dramedy."

Algerian playwright Alek Baylee Toumi will introduce the film. Toumi teaches film, culture studies, and francophone literatures at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. An Algerian refugee who has not been able to return home for ten years, Toumi will offer unique insight into the issues

involved in the film.

In early February, the Institute will show the controversial Irish film "The Magdalene Sisters" by Scottish director Peter Mullan, who is also known for his 1996 film "Trainspotting." "The Magdalene Sisters" prompted apologies from the Catholic Church for the poor treatment of hundreds of women who were forced to work under inhumane conditions in the Magdalene laundries in Ireland.

"Respiro," an Italian film released last year, tells the story of a young mother living on an island called Lampedusa off the coast of Sicily. Her free-spirited attitude provokes the suspicions of her fellow villagers, and eventually even of her husband.

"Lilja 4-ever" is perhaps the darkest of the four films. Lilja, a young girl living in Soviet Russia, is abandoned by her mother, and ends up drifting around the tenements of the city. Eventually she makes her way to Sweden, where she finds herself forced into prostitution.

"It shows her decline in living situation and in life," Mattern said.

The Nanovic Institute plans to bring a European Union representative to campus to introduce the film. The Institute also hopes to organize a workshop on women trafficking in conjunction with the visit to help students learn what they can do about an increasingly important issue.

"I'm glad someone is coming to give this some context," Mattern said. "It will be good to have someone here to tell us what we can do about this."

Race and Culture

The Progressive Faculty and Staff Alliance, a new group started only last semester, created the Race and Culture film series. The Alliance is divided into subcommittees for different

issues, and the series was a special project of the race issues section.

"We wanted to get together and do some things on campus," race issues committee member David Hachen said. "The series was our way of addressing some issues."

After the films the group will provide pizza, and a few students and faculty members will be asked to present a few questions about the film for anyone who wants to stay, eat and discuss.

"It's meant to be short," Hachen said. "They've been asked to talk for only one or two minutes."

The first film will be John Sales' "Lone Star," a film which deal with border issues in Southern Texas through the legend of Sheriff Buddy Deeds, who is supposed to have saved the town from corruption. When a 40-year-old murder is discovered, it drags up a net of other issues as well.

On Feb. 24, the group is bringing in director Paul Kell for the Midwest premier of his hip-hop documentary "5 Sides of a Coin." The documentary explores the five major elements of hip-hop, including graffiti and brake dancing. Kell interviews some of the most respected hip-hop figures about the history of a genre that is having an increasingly large impact on many levels of American society.

"This is going to be really exciting," Hachen said. "We're trying to bring in people from the community as well as students."

"Rabbit-Proof Fence," showing on March 23, briefly came to Movies 16 in South Bend after it came out, but

was never shown at most movie theatres. The Australian film follows the journey of three Aboriginal girls across the outback. The girls are part of the stolen generation, when large group of Aboriginal children were taken from their parents and resettled in government camps during the early 1900s.

"Smoke Signals," the last film in the series, is a comedy about two Native American boys. Victor's father saves Thomas from a fire that kills both his

parents. As the boys grow up they turn out to be complete opposites. The film is set on the Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation in Idaho.

the Carrey Auditorium in Hesburgh Library. Admission is free and open to all students.

Contact Maria Smith at msmith4@nd.edu

All the films will be shown in

Women in European Film Series

All in Carrey Auditorium, Hesburgh Library at 7 p.m.



Chaos

Director: Coline Serreau

Thursday, Jan. 29



The Magdalene Sisters

Director: Peter Mullan

Thursday, Feb. 5



Respiro

Director: Emanuele Crialese

Thursday, Mar. 18



Lilja 4-Ever

Director: Lukas Moodysson

Thursday, Apr. 7

SOURCE: Nanovic Institute

MIKE HARKINS/Observer Graphics

NBA

Cassell leads T-wolves to first place in the West

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — For Sam Cassell, the first quarter and fourth quarter of a basketball game are the same. Maybe that's why he's able to come through in the clutch so often.

Cassell scored 14 of his 32 points in the fourth quarter to lead the Minnesota Timberwolves to their fourth straight win over the Phoenix Suns.

"It's no different," answered Cassell when asked to compare crunch time to the first quarter. "It's just basketball, shooting the ball. That's it."

Over the last 29 games Cassell is shooting 57.5 percent (73-for-127) from the floor in the fourth quarter. He has hit a clutch 3-pointer nearly every game, and on Sunday he went 2-for-3 from behind the 3-point line and 8-for-8 from the foul line down the stretch.

"Sam is so focussed in the fourth quarter, he gets more and more aggressive" said Kevin Garnett, who finished with 19 points, 17 rebounds and eight assists.

"I think that's why they brought me here," Cassell said. "I'm accustomed to doing what I've been doing."

The Wolves moved into a tie with Sacramento for the best record in the Western Conference at 30-12. The Kings lost 108-99 to Dallas on Sunday.

Minnesota has never been in first place in the conference this late in the season — something Cassell isn't worrying about.

"We just play ball and don't get into what the standings are," Cassell said.

Trenton Hassell added a season-high 15 points and six rebounds for Minnesota, which extended its home winning streak to 11 games.

Shawn Marion had 31 points and 13 rebounds for the Suns, who have lost three straight and fell to 16-29, the worst record in the West. Joe Johnson had 22 points, five rebounds and six assists, and Jake Voskuhl added 10 points.

"We're playing like cats and dogs out there," Marion said. "We're trying like crazy to close these games out. Minnesota has that veteran team [and] that makes a difference."

Garnett hit a turnaround jumper at 5:13 to tie the score at 80. The lead then changed hands twice before Cassell hit a 3-pointer to make it 85-83 with 2:40 left.

Johnson's two free throws

tied it at 85. But Cassell countered with a clutch 3-pointer from the top of the arc to give Minnesota an 88-85 lead with 2:12 left.

Nets 110, Celtics 91

With the work of moving the franchise to Brooklyn, N.Y., now beginning despite a small group of protests, the New Jersey Nets finally got back to playing well again.

Richard Jefferson scored 25 points and the Nets ended their longest losing streak since Jason Kidd joined the team more than two years ago with a win over the Boston Celtics before a near sellout crowd of 17,533.

"It's great for New Jersey to come out and still support us," Kidd said after the Nets' first home game since the sale of the team was announced. "We have nothing to do with the business side. All we can do is go out there and play good basketball. We tried to do that this afternoon. The crowd was great."

Kenyon Martin added 20 points and 15 rebounds and Kidd had 10 points, 11 assists and nine rebounds to help the two-time defending Eastern Conference champions snap a five-game slide.

Nets coach Byron Scott wasn't around for the final 14 minutes. He was ejected late in the third quarter by referee Luis Grillo for saying something that earned a one-technical ejection.

"I guess I said enough," Scott said. "I don't think I did, but what the heck."

Assistant coach Lawrence Frank, who has been rumored to be Scott's successor if the Nets falter this season, finished as New Jersey beat the Celtics for the 12th time in 13 games, including the playoffs.

Ricky Davis had 26 points to lead the Celtics, who had a two-game winning streak snapped.

"I guess it is fair to say they do have our number," said a foul-plagued Paul Pierce, who had 13 points on 3-of-15 shooting from the field. "Right now, they do have a better team than us."

Scott had to be happy with what he saw in the opening three quarters, even though the Nets had 29 turnovers.

Besides getting big games from his big three, Scott also got some good production from Rodney Rogers and Lucious Harris off his much maligned bench.

New Jersey also stepped up its defense, holding the Celtics to 35.6 percent shooting from

the field

Grizzlies 106, Nuggets 88

The Memphis Grizzlies are on the best run in franchise history, and they want to keep going.

Bonzi Wells scored 17 points and the Grizzlies extended their franchise-record winning streak to eight games with a victory over the Denver Nuggets.

"I think we might be turning some eyes," Memphis point guard Jason Williams said. "But I think we've got a long way to go."

Memphis shot 70 percent (26-for-37) in the second half when they outscored Denver 64-39 on the way to their seventh straight home win.

Pau Gasol and Stromile Swift each scored 15 for Memphis, and Lorenzen Wright and Mike Miller finished with 12.

"They outthrustled us, outdefended us, outcoached us and outplayed us in the second half," Denver coach Jeff Bzdelik. "We just played the hottest team in the league. They are also the steadiest team in the league."

Carmelo Anthony shot 10-for-17 and scored 16 of his 25 points in the second half for Denver. Andre Miller added 19 and Earl Boykins had 12 in a reserve role.

"I don't think that we as a team really wanted to win that badly," Anthony said. "We sort of gave up at the end when they were making a run, and that's not like us."

The Nuggets' guards caused problems for the Grizzlies in the first half. Andre Miller scored 10 in the first quarter, and Boykins used his quickness to outrun Memphis' guards down the floor and scored 10 first-half points.

Andre Miller scored on a drive with a second left in the first half to give the Nuggets a 49-42 lead. He finished with 12 first-half points.

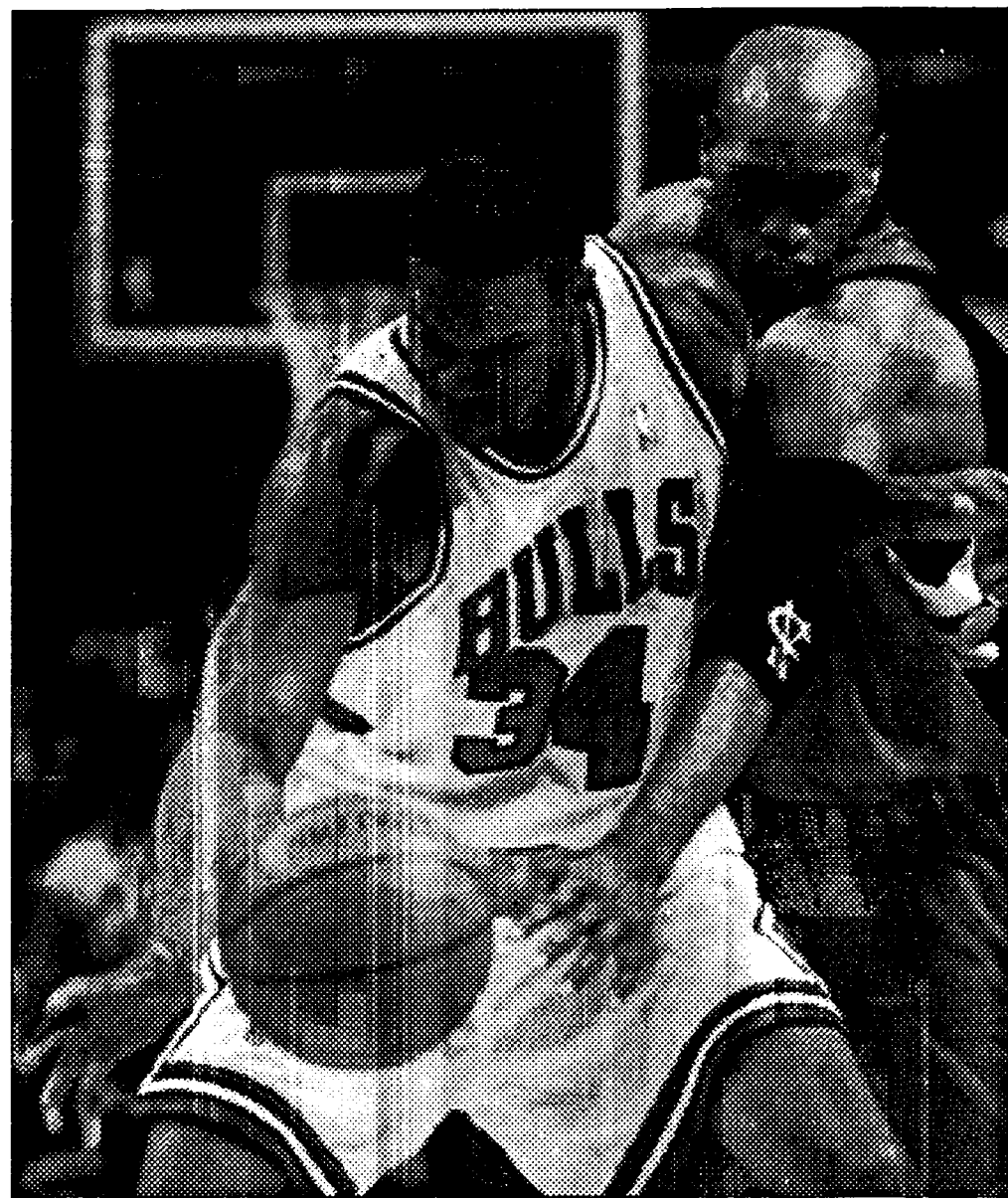
Meanwhile, the Nuggets' defense held Memphis to 41 percent shooting and forced 10 turnovers.

"Our big guys were rotating but not stopping their guys getting layins," Memphis coach Hubie Brown said.

Bulls 96, Raptors 89

The hugs and handshakes came following the game, after the Chicago Bulls played tough and rough while showing former teammate Jalen Rose they can win without him.

Jamal Crawford scored 27 points and the Bulls beat Rose and the Toronto Raptors in the teams' first meeting since a



Chicago's Antonio Davis reaches for the ball while being fouled by Toronto's Vince Carter.

major Dec. 1 trade.

"You don't want to lose to your friends and stuff like that," said Chicago's Antonio Davis, a major figure in the six-player deal that sent Rose to the Raptors.

"It always presents a little something extra, but I thought we handled it very well."

Rose, hounded by Crawford, finished with 22 points for the Raptors but shot just 5-for-12 from the field in his return to Chicago.

"It felt a weird at first. He is a guy I looked up to as a youngster. Once the game started, I didn't think about it," said Crawford, who embraced Rose after the game.

Toronto has lost five straight and Rose was unhappy on several fronts afterward.

"It's a game we wanted to win because we had a big trade against this team and it's a game we're disappointed we didn't get," Rose said.

"It's one that's going to stick with us for a minute."

Before the game, a grease-board in the Bulls' locker room contained this quote attributed to Rose: "The Chicago Bulls are the worst team in the league!" Lower down was this: Translation: With the worst players!

What Rose really said to Toronto writers was this: "They're the worst team in the

league, currently. ... It's a lot better than being on the bottom and looking up and that's where I was in Chicago, for sure."

Rose denied the quote the way it was presented on the board.

"That's just typical media play, that's typical something that when your team is struggling, you want to do something to get them fired up," Rose said.

"Hopefully it takes more than the Raptors to come to town to get those guys fired up than a quote from Jalen Rose that he didn't say."

Vince Carter, in his second game back since missing three with a quadriceps injury, shot just 6-of-23 while scoring 14 points. Chris Bosh led the Raptors with 23 points and had 10 rebounds.

Carter, guarded by developmental league signee Ronald Dupree, said the losing streak is getting to everyone.

"We can play with anybody in the league. We know that and we've shown that. But right now ... It's not fun," Carter said.

Toronto is now 12-14 since the trade that sent Rose, Donyell Marshall and Lonny Baxter from Chicago to Toronto for Davis, Jerome Williams and Chris Jefferies. The Raptors are 20-22 overall.

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Thanks Christian

What is with the milkshake song?

Lies! Lies! Lies!

Street Smarts

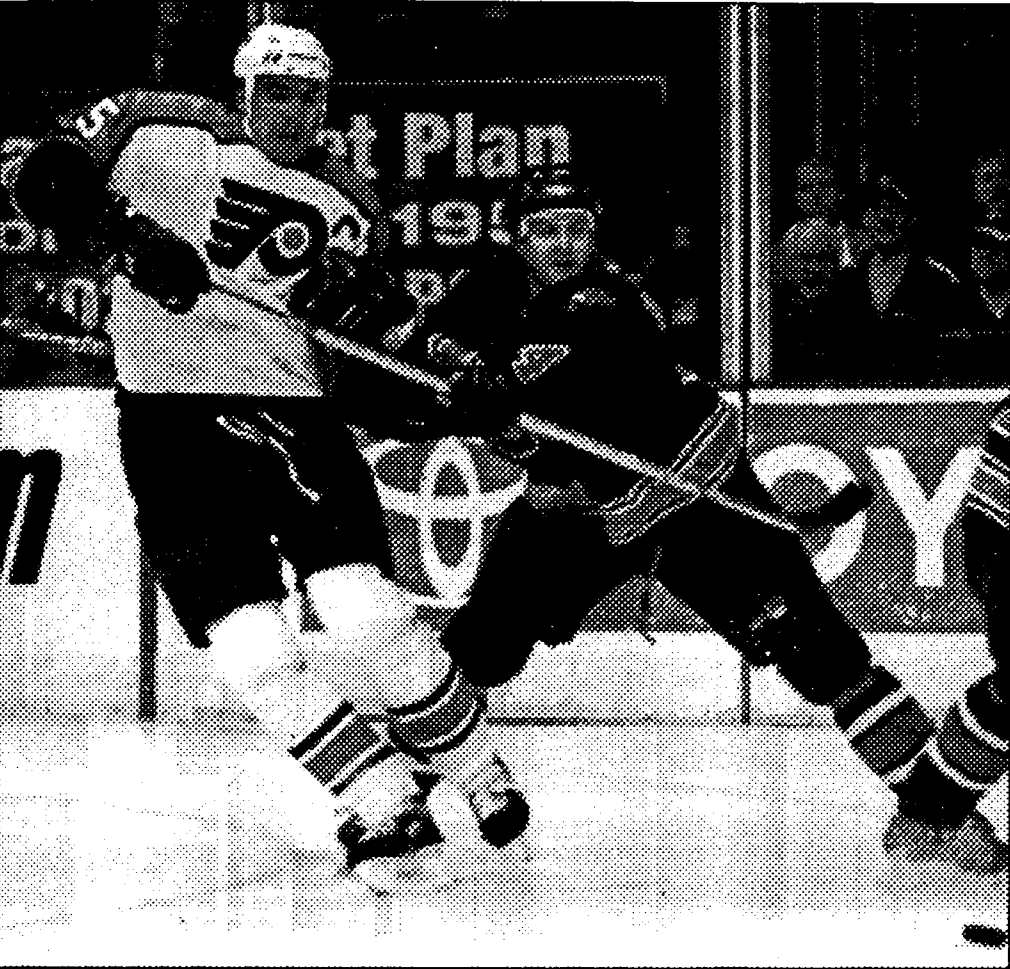
The Phoenix Suns still have a chance.

Starbuck823

Amanda is not an athlete

NHL

Sabres earn rare comeback win over Hurricanes



Philadelphia Keith Primeau battles Washington's Rick Berry for a loose puck during the first period.

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Jochen Hecht and Martin Biron showed the Buffalo Sabres how to rally from a deficit. Hecht had two goals and Biron made 37 saves, helping the Sabres erase a two-goal deficit and beat the Carolina Hurricanes 4-2 Sunday for a rare comeback win. Derek Roy's third-period goal put the Sabres ahead to stay, and Milan Bartovic added a goal and an assist. Entering the game, the Sabres were 4-18-2 when they allowed the first goal, and 1-12-1 when trailing after the first period. But none of that mattered Sunday as the Sabres took advantage of mistakes by Carolina goaltender Jamie Storr. "It doesn't happen very often," Buffalo coach Lindy Ruff said. "It would've been an easy game to go the other way, but we came back."

Erik Cole and Kevyn Adams scored for the Hurricanes, who had a 39-21 advantage in shots. Roy's second goal of the season gave the Sabres the lead and sent Carolina to its fourth straight home loss. After a turnover by defenseman Bruno St. Jacques in the Carolina zone, Bartovic shot on Storr, who made the save but failed to control the puck. Roy pushed the rebound into the left side of the net at 5:15 for a 3-2 lead. It was just one of three goals that came off miscues by Storr. The Sabres scored twice off rebounds. Bartovic scored Buffalo's first goal off a shot by Andy Delmore, poking the puck past Storr at 3:55 of the second period. Hecht scored an insurance goal when he stole Storr's pass along the boards and beat the goaltender back to the net at 18:31 of the third. Storr, the backup to Kevin

Weekes, took responsibility for the loss. **Devils 3, Thrashers 2** Jeff Friesen has been a streaky goal scorer since coming to the New Jersey Devils, and it appears he's on another run. After going 10 games without a goal, Friesen scored his third in four games early in the third period to lead the Devils to a victory over the Atlanta Thrashers. "Sometimes you get in slumps and, for whatever reason, guys don't get on the same page," Friesen said. "Sometimes it's a frustrating rut to get out of, but I feel I'm out of the rut now and I'm starting to contribute offensively." Friesen scored his third game-winning goal of the season by taking advantage of a bad play by Thrashers superstar Ilya Kovalchuk, whose first career short-handed goal minutes earlier had tied the game at 2. Kovalchuk had just been stopped on a three-on-one break, when the Devils then counterattacked. Kovalchuk eventually got the puck along the side boards, but he made an ill advised pass across the middle of his own zone. Friesen read the play. "I just went to the lane where I saw he was trying to throw it," Friesen said. "Obviously, you're a little surprised. It just came right on my stick. It was a big goal because this is a big win for the team." It was a big disappointment for Kovalchuk. "I can't give chances like this," Kovalchuk said. "If I want to be a leader on this team I have to play smarter."

Flyers 4, Capitals 1 Mark Recchi and John LeClair took full advantage of the short-handed Washington Capitals. Recchi and LeClair each had a goal and three assists in leading the Philadelphia Flyers to a victory. "What, are you surprised that we played a good game?" LeClair asked. "I think we're all feeling pretty comfortable. It's a good mix and it definitely worked well for us tonight." Michal Handzus and Kim Johnson also scored to help the Flyers win for the fifth time in their last six games. Washington played with just five defensemen. Sergei Gonchar injured a shoulder Friday night in a loss in Florida, and Josef Boumedienne was scratched because of food poisoning. "It's huge, we really only have two defense that have a lot of NHL experience," Washington's Mike Grier said about Gonchar. "He's the leading point-getter for defensemen in the league and to lose him is a huge blow." Recchi opened the scoring at 5:30 of the first period, beating goalie Rastislav Stana with a wrist shot after LeClair's strong play to keep the puck in offensive zone. LeClair made it 2-0 less than three minutes later, tipping a shot behind Stana, who started in place of Olaf Kolzig for the first time since being recalled from Portland on Jan. 6.

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asian american association

AROUND THE NATION

page 16

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER WIRE SERVICES

Monday, January 26, 2004

Big East Men's Basketball

	team	conference	overall
1	Pittsburgh	5-1	19-1
2	Providence	4-1	13-3
3	Connecticut	3-1	15-3
4	Syracuse	3-2	13-3
5	Seton Hall	3-2	13-4
6	Miami	3-2	13-6
7	Villanova	3-2	11-6
8	NOTRE DAME	3-2	9-6
9	Georgetown	2-3	11-4
10	Boston College	2-3	13-5
11	West Virginia	2-3	10-6
12	Rutgers	2-4	10-6
13	Virginia Tech	1-4	8-8
14	St. John's	0-6	4-12

Big East Women's Basketball

	team	conference	overall
1	Miami	5-1	16-1
2	Connecticut	5-1	14-2
3	NOTRE DAME	4-2	11-7
4	West Virginia	4-2	13-5
5	Virginia Tech	4-3	15-3
6	Boston College	3-3	13-4
7	Villanova	3-3	13-4
8	Georgetown	3-3	9-7
9	Syracuse	3-3	6-10
10	Rutgers	2-4	10-7
11	Seton Hall	2-4	10-7
12	St. John's	2-4	8-9
13	Pittsburgh	2-5	6-11
14	Providence	0-5	4-12

CCHA Hockey

	team	conference	overall
1	Miami (OH)	11-5-2	14-9-3
2	Michigan	11-4-1	16-7-1
3	Michigan State	11-6-1	15-12-1
4	Alaska-Fairbanks	11-9-0	12-12-0
5	Ohio State	10-9-0	15-12-0
6	Northern Michigan	10-10-0	12-11-1
7	Western Michigan	9-8-2	13-11-3
8	NOTRE DAME	8-8-2	12-9-3
9	Ferris State	7-10-1	12-11-3
10	Bowling Green	5-10-3	7-13-6
11	Lake Superior	4-9-3	6-11-5
12	Nebraska-Omaha	4-13-3	6-16-4

MIAA Women's Basketball

	team	conference	overall
1	Calvin	7-1	13-3
2	Hope	7-1	16-2
3	Albion	5-3	14-4
4	Kalamazoo	5-3	12-6
5	Alma	4-3	10-6
6	Adrian	2-6	6-10
7	SAINT MARY'S	0-6	5-12
8	Olivet	0-7	6-11

around the dial

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Texas at Texas Tech 7 p.m., ESPN
Georgetown at Providence 7:30 p.m., ESPN Full Court
UNLV at Colorado State 9 p.m., ESPN Full Court
BYU at New Mexico 12 a.m., ESPN

NBA

Orlando at Cleveland 7 p.m., FSN
San Antonio at Milwaukee 8 p.m., NBA TV
Minnesota at Denver 9 p.m., NBA TV
LA Clippers at Utah 9 p.m., FSN

NHL

Florida at NY Rangers 7 p.m., MSG
Detroit at Dallas 8 p.m., ESPN2

MLB



Alex Rodriguez looks on during a 4-1 loss to the Angels on Sept. 28. The shortstop was named captain of the Rangers Sunday night.

Rangers name MVP Rodriguez captain

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wearing their finest evening clothes, Alex Rodriguez and the Texas Rangers tried to put a formal end to their troubled offseason filled with trade talk and tension.

At an unusual news conference in which everyone wore tuxedos, the Rangers appointed Rodriguez their captain on Sunday night.

In town to accept the American League MVP award, Rodriguez met for five hours in the hotel suite of Rangers owner Tom Hicks, with general

manager John Hart and manager Buck Showalter joining in. Afterward, the quartet proclaimed the start of a new era that they hoped would culminate in Texas' first World Series title.

"I definitely think I'm going to be here for a long time," Rodriguez said. "I'm probably pretty sure it will work out for the best."

Texas wanted to get out from the burden of the record \$252 million, 10-year contract it signed Rodriguez to after the 2000 season, and the seven-time All-Star shortstop was frustrated follow-

ing three last-place finishes with the Rangers. Texas then agreed last month to a tentative trade that would have sent the seven-time All-Star shortstop to Boston for outfielder Manny Ramirez.

"It looked like there might be a situation that would be win, win, win," Hicks said.

But the deal was contingent on A-Rod agreeing to restructure his contract, and the players' association vetoed the proposal made by Boston, saying it would have reduced the deal's value by \$28 million to \$30 million. The union made a counteroffer that

would have cut \$12 million to \$13 million, a proposal Boston found unacceptable. The trade then collapsed.

"This was an unpleasant experience but probably a necessary one," Hart said.

Showalter said he had been thinking of making Rodriguez captain for the past year, but Hicks wasn't aware of the plan until halfway through Sunday's meeting.

"I feel a grand responsibility not only to the Texas Rangers but to our fans," Rodriguez said, adding that he was touched by the gesture, especially given that he's only 28 years old.

IN BRIEF

Mickelson wins playoff to end victory drought

LA QUINTA, Calif. — Phil Mickelson showed he's back on his game after a disappointing year, beating Skip Kendall on the first playoff hole Sunday in the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic.

The victory ended an 18-month winless streak for Mickelson, who dropped from second to 16th in the world rankings.

He rolled a 3-foot birdie putt into the center of the cup to win the Hope, his second victory in the tournament in two years.

Kendall was left still looking for his first tour win. He was runner-up for the fourth time in his career, losing three times in playoffs.

Mickelson, making his 2004 debut, closed with a 4-under 68 to match Kendall (65) at 30-under 330 in the 90-hole tournament.

After each birdied the final hole, they returned to the 18th tee to begin the playoff. Both hit their drives

down the center, then Kendall pulled his second shot into the left rough beside the green on the 543-yard par 5. Mickelson's second shot went into the rough on the other side, but considerably closer to the hole.

Kendall chipped onto the putting surface, then missed his 20-foot birdie try. Mickelson's chip left him the short putt, and he confidently stroked it in to wrap up a day when he had some problems on the green.

Jay Haas, 50, the 1988 tournament champion and runner-up to Mike Weir a year ago, finished third with a 67 that left him one shot behind Mickelson and Kendall.

NASCAR's new tires and rules to be tested

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — New tires and some new aerodynamics rules have turned the annual preseason test at Las Vegas Motor Speedway into a must for most of the top NASCAR teams.

"It's going to be important for everybody," said Ryan Pemberton,

crew chief for Joe Nemechek.

"We're going to learn a lot about the new rules, the bodies, where we're at and what direction we need to go in — if we need to make more downforce or take some downforce off the front or what."

The four days of testing on the 1 1/2-mile LVMS oval, beginning Monday, will be different than the work that has been going on the last two weeks at Daytona International Speedway, where the new rules, cutting three-quarters of an inch off the rear spoilers — do not come into play because of the use of carburetor restrictor plates to slow the cars on the big track.

The majority of the races on the 36-race schedule are run on the so-called intermediate tracks — 1 1/2- or 2-mile ovals — like Las Vegas, and everyone wants to know what the combination of softer tires, the shorter rear spoilers to cut downforce and several new templates to make the cars less aerodynamic will do.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Seminoles top Deacons 75-70

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Tim Pickett's second strong finish made some history for Florida State.

The Seminoles, with Pickett again having a big second half, beat No. 10 Wake Forest 75-70, giving them consecutive wins over Top Ten teams for the first time in school history.

He scored all of his 18 points after halftime Sunday and Florida State made six straight free throws over the final 45 seconds to hand the Demon Deacons' their fourth straight loss.

Last Thursday, Pickett scored 22 points after halftime to spark the Seminoles to a 90-81 overtime victory over No. 7 North Carolina.

Up next is No. 1 Duke on Thursday.

"In all my years of coaching I've never been part of a scenario where your team is on the rise and you play the 10th, the seventh, then have a chance to go play the No. 1-ranked team," Florida State coach Leonard Hamilton said. "You have to be realistic where we are. We're still a team that's developing, that's trying to move our program to a program of significance in the ACC as well as on a national basis."

Wake Forest (11-4, 2-3 Atlantic Coast Conference), has reached those levels, but the Demon Deacons added a loss to the list that included Texas, Duke and Georgia Tech.

No. 5 Louisville 65, Tennessee 62

Louisville needed a spark, and got it from the full-court

press.

Francisco Garcia scored 24 points and the fifth-ranked Cardinals rallied in the second half for their 15th straight victory in a win over Tennessee.

Louisville (15-1) regained the lead for the first time since the opening minutes and took control with a 12-0 run mid-way through the second half.

No. 14 Arizona 90, Oregon 66

Arizona's big first half was no accident. The Wildcats went up against Oregon hoping for a quick start.

"We wanted a game where we could come out and jump on them," said Hassan Adams, who had 20 points in the 14th-ranked Wildcats' victory over the Ducks. "We felt this would be a great opportunity to work on that."

Channing Frye had 18 points and 11 rebounds and Ivan Radenovic had a season-high 19 points, 15 in the first half when the Wildcats (13-3, 5-2 Pac-10) had an 18-0 run on the way to a 25-point halftime lead.

"The first half was just spectacular," Arizona coach Lute Olson said. "Defensively, we created a lot of problems for Oregon, and it was very hard for them to get many good looks."

Radenovic, a freshman from Serbia playing in his ninth college game, also had eight rebounds, and Arizona had a 42-30 edge on the boards against a team that had outrebounded nine of 13 previous opponents.

Andre Iguodala added 14 points for the Wildcats, who won their third straight since a two-game skid knocked

them out of the Top Ten.

Luke Jackson had 20 points, six rebounds and six assists for Oregon (9-5, 4-3), while Ian Crosswhite scored 11 points and Mitch Platt had 10.

No. 23 Purdue 76, Michigan St. 70, OT

As Brandon McKnight rose to take the biggest shot of the game in overtime, Purdue coach Gene Keady already knew what was going to happen.

"I saw the determination in his face when he took that jumper," Keady said. "It said, 'Hey we're going to win this thing.'"

Keady's intuition was right.

McKnight's jumper gave No. 23 Purdue the lead for good in its win over Michigan State.

It also capped a brilliant final 25 minutes for McKnight, who finished with 10 points, seven assists and three steals. He got Purdue into the overtime, then made sure his effort wasn't wasted.

McKnight drove the length of the floor for a layup over 8 seconds to go that forced overtime, then hit his jumper that propelled Purdue to its fourth straight win.

"All I was thinking was just attack," McKnight said of his game-tying drive. "I didn't see anybody in front of me, so I just went with it."

The victory moved Purdue (14-4, 4-1) into a three-way tie with Wisconsin and Indiana for first place in the Big Ten and set up a showdown with the rival Hoosiers on Tuesday in Bloomington.

Kenneth Lowe led the Boilermakers with 18 points and Brett Buscher scored 13 of his 17 after halftime.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Longhorns hold off instate rival Aggies

Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Texas had to overcome 22 turnovers and guard Toccara Williams to beat Texas A&M.

Tiffany Jackson had 15 points and 11 rebounds, and Heather Schreiber made the go-ahead free throw and a 3-pointer in the closing minutes, helping the Longhorns hold off Texas A&M.

Texas (17-2, 5-1 Big 12) got off to a slow start and need a charge to take a 32-30 halftime lead over the Aggies (7-10, 0-6), who tied the game at 56 with 4 minutes to play.

Schreiber's free throw with 3:59 left put the Longhorns ahead to stay at 57-56 and her 3-pointer 30 seconds later made it 60-56.

"Heather hit some really clutch shots for us," Texas coach Jody Conradt said. "She struggled early and we depend on her so much. Our opponents try to keep her out of the game. A lot of energy was extended doing that, but she hit some big shots down the stretch and that gave us some energy and momentum."

No. 20 Michigan State 72, No. 9 Minnesota 69

Lindsay Whalen's record-setting game wasn't enough to lead No. 9 Minnesota past No. 20 Michigan State.

Lindsay Bowen scored 18 points, and Kelli Roehrig made the go-ahead basket with 19 seconds left, leading Michigan State past Minnesota.

The loss spoiled a big game for Whalen, who scored a game-high 27 points to become the school's career scoring leader with 2,123.

The Gophers lost their third straight game, all against ranked opponents, and slipped to fourth place in the Big Ten after a 4-0 start.

"You can't let one week in January affect your whole season," said Whalen, who hit a personal-best seven 3-pointers. "We have to move on, put it out of our heads and play the game."

Minnesota (15-3, 4-3 Big Ten) took a 69-68 lead over Whalen's basket with just over a minute left. She was fouled on the play but missed the free throw.

USC 59, No. 6 Stanford 56

Southern California wasn't about to let Stanford run away with the Pac-10 title.

Ebony Hoffman scored 16 points, including two free throws with 21 seconds remaining, to help USC rally past No. 6 Stanford, handing the Cardinal their first conference loss of the season.

Trojans coach Chris Gobrecht called it an "ugly" victory.

"But we feel we're in the conference race now," Gobrecht said. "A loss would have put us three games out."

USC (10-7, 7-2 Pac-10) overcame a 12-point deficit and outscored the Cardinal 23-8 in the final 8:41. Hoffman was the only Trojans player who scored in double figures, including a perfect 7-for-7 from the foul line.

"It's not good for the conference if one team sails through undefeated," Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer said.

Nicole Powell led the Cardinal (15-3, 8-1) with 29 points, including 22 in the second half, and 12 rebounds. She sustained a slight sprained right ankle but returned after sitting out for about a minute.

Both teams shot poorly from the field in the first half, which ended with the Cardinal leading 24-23 on a 3-pointer from the baseline by Susan King Borhardt at the buzzer. The Trojans went nine minutes without a field goal in the half.

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ND TRACK AND FIELD

Irish dominate at home meet

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Writer

Sophomore Molly Huddle blew away the competition in the mile run as she and her Irish track and field teammates turned in a solid performance Friday night at the Loftus Sports Center. The men's and women's indoor teams hosted Western Michigan, Ball State, Loyola of Chicago and DePaul and came away with firsts in 16 events.

Huddle, a returning All-American in the 3,000-meter run, posted a first-place time of 4 minutes, 49.21 seconds in the mile as junior teammate Kerry Meagher finished second in 4:52.32.

Also on the women's side, Stacy Cowan continued her success in the high jump, winning it with a height of 1.75 meters, nearly topping the school record of 1.80 meters.

Senior Tiffany Gunn was a double winner, securing both the 500-meter dash and the 60-meter hurdles with times of 1:13.41 and 8.83, respectively.

Sophomore Petra Dankova was a winner in the triple jump with a distance of 11.46 meters.

Ayesha Boyd triumphed in the 200-meter run while fellow senior Jill Van Weelden won the pole vault.

On the men's side, the Irish were dominant in the 800-meter

run. Junior Eric Morrison came in first with a time of 1:52.21, while teammates Thomas Chamney, Kurt Benninger, Kevin Somok and Vincent Ambrico rounded out the top five spots.

Morrison was happy with how the race turned out.

"It was our first race this year, and it was good to see where everyone's at," he said. "It was a great confidence-booster for us."

Senior Godwin Mbagwu was victorious in both the long jump and triple jump with distances of 6.73 meters and 15.06 meters, respectively.

The Irish weight throw tandem of Juan Alba and Chip Roberts came away with solid performances. Alba took first place with a throw of 17.16 meters, while Roberts placed third with a distance of 16.18 meters.

Junior Selim Nurudeen was a winner in the 60-meter hurdles in a time of 7.96 while freshman Tommie Lee won the 60-meter dash in 7.09.

Freshman Dave Viken qualified for the Big East Championships with a second place finish in the pole vault, clearing a height of 4.65 meters.

Other winners were sophomore Ryan Postel in the 400-meter run as well as juniors Trevor McClain-Duer in the 500-meter race and Ryan Mineburg in the high jump.

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu

"It was a great confidence-booster for us."

Eric Morrison
Irish runner

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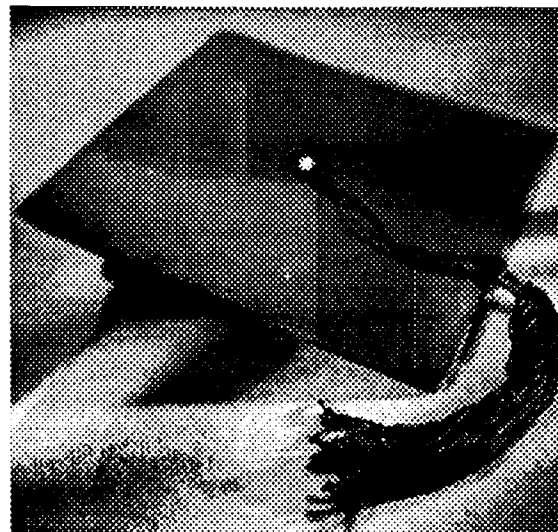
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5:30 pm

American Legislative Exchange Council (public policy), DeBartolo 118

Organon Pharmaceuticals, DeBartolo 116

Smithsonian, Museum of American History, DeBartolo 129

6:30 pm

Associated Press, DeBartolo 138

John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, DeBartolo 126

MTV, DeBartolo 129

Office of the Corporation Counsel (law), DeBartolo 116

Ruder Finn (public relations), DeBartolo 118

7:00 pm

WPS Resources (accounting, IT), McKenna Hall 112

7:30 pm

Camp Sweeney, Southwestern Diabetic Foundation, DeBartolo 126

Careers in Actuarial Science, DeBartolo 118

General Electric

Communications Leadership Development Program Internships, DeBartolo 116

NFL, DeBartolo 129

Wednesday, January 28

6:30 pm

Peace Corps, Teach for America, Holy Cross Associates,

ACE, and Inner City Teaching Corps

Diversity in Service Panel, Montgomery Theatre, LaFortune 1st Floor

ND SWIMMING AND DIVING

Irish nearly knock off Northwestern

By MATT PUGLISI
Sports Writer

The men's swimming and diving team just missed pulling off a big upset in Evanston, Ill., Saturday afternoon, narrowly falling to No. 15 Northwestern, 155-133.

"[Northwestern] is a pretty highly-ranked team, but we hung in there with them the whole way," sophomore Tyler Grenda said. "We wanted to finish out the road season really well, and this was a good conclusion to all our road meets this year."

While Notre Dame's impressive depth allowed the squad to claim two of the top three spots in 10 of the 12 races and at least three of the top five spots in 13 of the 14 swimming events, the Irish (5-7) managed only a trio of first place finishes in the 16 overall competitions.

Three freshmen — Ted Brown (200-yard freestyle), Louis Cavadini (100-yard freestyle) and Scott Coyle (1-meter board) — were the lone victors for the Irish. Also, each recorded runner-up finishes as Brown, Cavadini and Coyle took second in the 500-yard freestyle, 50-yard freestyle and 3-meter board, respectively.

In addition to the trio of freshmen, a number of Notre Dame swimmers turned in strong meets, including freshmen Tim Kegelman (second in both 100- and 200-yard butterfly, third in 200-yard individual medley) and Alan Carter (second in 200-yard backstroke, fourth in 200-yard

backstroke), sophomores Tim Randolph (second in 100-yard breaststroke, third in 100-yard freestyle), Grenda (second in 200-yard breaststroke, third in 100-yard breaststroke) and Steve Shomberger (second in 200-yard backstroke, third in 100-yard backstroke).

Several upperclassmen got in on the scoring as well, as junior Frank Krakowski took third in 100-yard butterfly and 50-yard freestyle and senior co-captain Matt Obringer placed second in 200-yard freestyle.

Although the Irish were successful in gobbling a majority of the second, third, fourth and fifth place spots, their inability to keep the Wildcats out of first in the individual races ultimately brought about their downfall.

The loss to Northwestern marks the end of a long road trip that saw Notre Dame go 4-2, falling only to No. 17 Pittsburgh and the No. 15 Wildcats.

"With the past couple weeks, we've pretty much spent it all on the road, from being in California for a little more than a week and a half, coming back for a couple days, then going to Pittsburgh and then to Northwestern [Saturday]," Grenda said. "But, we've done really well week after week on the road."

After hosting St. Bonaventure Saturday, the Irish will challenge Cleveland State Feb. 6 and Oakland Feb. 7.

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

HOCKEY

Irish suffer a pair of heartbreakers

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Writer

Close, but no cigar. No points, either.

The Irish (12-9-3, 8-8-2 in CCHA) dropped a pair of one goal games to Northern Michigan (12-11-1, 10-10-0) this weekend, falling 4-3 in overtime Friday night and 1-0 Saturday. The Wildcats exacted a bit of revenge on Notre Dame, who defeated Northern Michigan in a home sweep earlier this season at the Joyce Center.

For the third consecutive week, the Irish opened a road series with a game that went into overtime, with the previous two a 5-4 overtime loss to Bowling Green Jan. 9 and a 2-2 tie against Wisconsin Jan. 17.

Wildcat forward Daren Olver scored the winning goal Friday with just 45 seconds left in the extra frame.

Notre Dame has struggled with consistency this year, defeating several ranked teams but having difficulty making any major strides in the conference standings. They are 1-5 in their last six CCHA contests.

The Irish were unable to take advantage of quality play from senior forward Rob Globke, who had two goals on the weekend. Senior captain Aaron Gill also scored two points in Friday's game, picking up a goal and an assist.

The combination of Gill and Globke scored seven of the eight goals the Irish have scored in their past four games.

Junior Morgan Cey started in net Friday for the Irish, making 28 saves. Freshman David



SOFIA BALLON/The Observer

Senior Neil Komadoski looks to pass the puck during a game against Lake Superior earlier this season.

Brown allowed only one goal Saturday, collecting 22 saves, but was bested by senior Craig Kowalski's shutout.

Kowalski made a combined 48 saves in the two Northern Michigan victories.

Friday, Northern Michigan got on the scoreboard first as Jamie Milan scored a power play goal just a little over halfway into the first period. The second period was full of end-to-end action, as both teams scored two goals in the frame.

Notre Dame scored the first two goals of the second, giving the Irish a 2-1 lead. Gill collected his ninth goal of the year nine minutes into the period, and Globke followed a little more than three minutes later.

That lead was short lived, as Northern Michigan tied the game just 19 seconds later, with Nathan Oystriick collecting a rebound of a Alan Swanson shot and flipping it past Cey.

Bobby Selden regained the lead for Northern Michigan with less than two minutes left in the second, flipping a shot past a screened Cey for the goal.

The Irish tied the game back up at 6:29 of the third period,

with Globke scoring his second goal of the game. It was his team-best 15th goal of the season.

Olver's overtime goal dropped Notre Dame to 0-2-3 in overtime this season. The Irish have not won in the extra frame since a win against Miami (Ohio) Jan. 25, 2002.


Saturday, the Irish put a lot of pressure on Kowalski, outshooting the Wildcats 27-23. They were unable to solve the Wildcat goalie, however, who collected his fourth shutout of the season.

Oystriick scored the only goal in the game for Northern Michigan, scoring on a slap shot that deflected past Brown with a little less than four minutes left in the first period.

Oystriick, the CCHA's leading scoring defenseman, collected three points on the weekend (two goals, one assist) and played a part in both game-winning goals for the Wildcats.

The Irish return home for the first time in 2004 this weekend, facing fourth-place Alaska-Fairbanks. Face-off Friday is 7:35 p.m., and Saturday's face-off is scheduled for 7:05 p.m.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu


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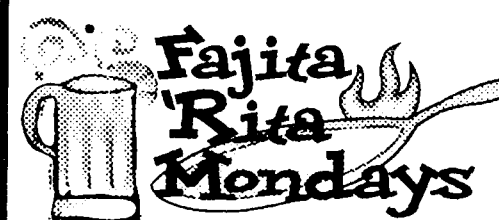
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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Defense steps up in Irish win over Wildcats

To say that the Irish defense has been dominating of late would be an understatement.

After holding Syracuse to 35 points on 23 percent shooting Wednesday night on the road, the Irish came back home Saturday to do the same to Villanova, holding the Wildcats to 36 points in a 38-36 win.

"I was really pleased with our defense," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "I think we've been doing a fantastic job defensively since the Big East season began. That's something that we're taking a lot of pride in."

The 35 points Syracuse scored was the least allowed by the Irish in a Big East road game. Notre Dame only gave up 16 points in the first half, setting the tone for the rest of the game.

Saturday, Notre Dame was able to come away with the victory because of their stifling defensive effort. Villanova, who entered the day leading the nation in turnovers with only 9.2 a game, committed 10 in the first half alone.

The Irish held the Wildcats scoreless over the last 7:05 of the game to preserve the win. But it wasn't easy.

The Wildcats sported a lineup with no true post players. Instead, they had five guards in the game at all times. Every player on the court could shoot the three, which made it difficult for the bigger Irish to matchup.

However, Notre Dame was up to

the challenge. They employed a switching defense that didn't allow the Wildcats to get good looks at the hoop.

"Their defense was very good, they switched the screens real well," Villanova coach Harry Perretta said.

Notre Dame found success in its team defense, as the Irish were able to guard anyone on the court interchangeably, making the switches on screens very effective.

"I thought it was a great team effort defensively because everybody had to guard a lot of different people," McGraw said. "I thought we handled their offense about as well as we can."

Villanova was held to 25.6 percent shooting, and went 0-for-7 from beyond the arc in the second half. The Irish held the Wildcats to 18 points in both halves, making it four consecutive halves that the Notre Dame defense has held its opponent to 20 points or less. Villanova came into the game averaging 61.7 points per game on 41.6 percent shooting.

Against the Wildcats, who like to control the tempo of a game, the defense of the Irish made all the difference in the end result.

"They run the offense to perfection," McGraw said. "We feel good about the defense because we know how good their offense is."

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily The Observer. Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu.

Heather Van Hoegarden

Sports Writer

Defense

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momentum.

Villanova had one last chance to tie or win the game, but guard Courtney Mix missed an off-balance jumper and Duffy grabbed the rebound to secure the win.

Notre Dame's defense continued its impressive play of late, holding Villanova to 25.6 percent shooting from the field and forcing 14 Wildcat turnovers. Villanova was averaging just nine turnovers a game.

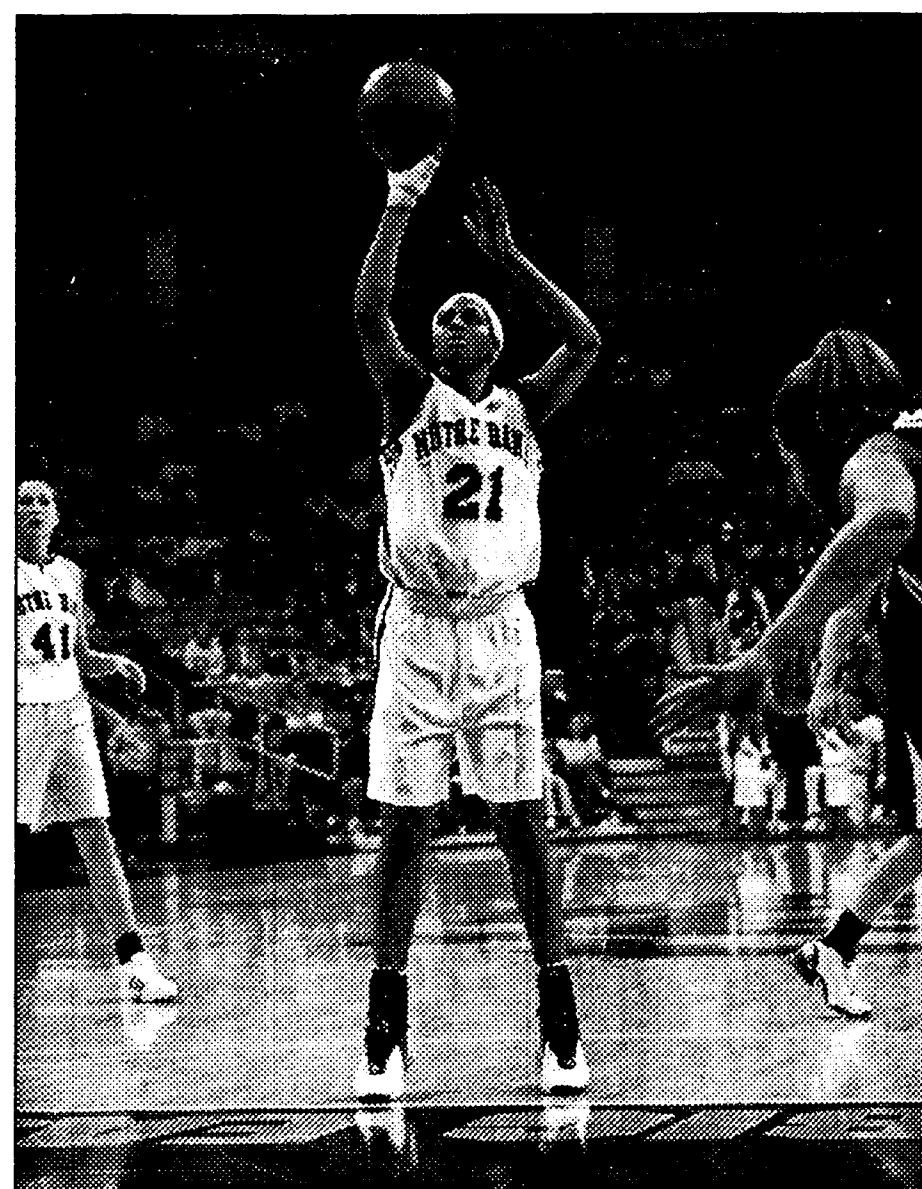
"I think we've been doing a fantastic job defensively since the Big East season began, and that's something we're taking a lot of pride in," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

There were eight lead changes and nine ties as neither team led by more than six points at any time. The Irish used an 8-0 run to take a 32-26 lead with 8:29 left, before Villanova answered with its own 8-0 spurt. The Irish held Villanova scoreless for the final 7:05 of the game.

Villanova's defense also played well, holding the Irish to 31.7 percent shooting for the game. Besides Batteast and Duffy, no other Irish player scored more than four points.

"They force you to take the kind of shot they want you to take," McGraw said.

McGraw said the absence of 3-point threat Jeneka Joyce hindered Notre Dame's offense. Joyce sprained her ankle in practice Thursday and did not dress for the game.



CHIP MARKS/The Observer

Irish forward Jacqueline Batteast attempts a free throw against the Wildcats. She was 10-for-10 from the line.

"With Jeneka out, that really limits our three's," McGraw said. "I thought [Villanova] did a pretty good job finding [Duffy]. They were leaving Breona [Gray], Monique [Hernandez] and Le'Tania [Severne] open for three's, but they are not our best 3-point shooters."

With the win, Notre Dame improves to 11-7 on the season and 4-2 in the Big East. The Irish are now tied for third-place with West Virginia, one game behind leaders Miami and Connecticut.

McGraw said she is

pleased with how her team is playing in late January, especially after Notre Dame's third straight home win against a ranked foe. The Irish are 4-3 against top 25 teams this season.

"I think we're right on track," she said. "We've won four of our last five. We've got to win some road games ... and you have to defend your home court. We need to stay focused on what were doing and keep taking it one game at a time."

Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu

Recruits

continued from page 24

Dame is doing well given the situation.

"The coaches are out working hard," he said. "[Director of personnel Jimmy] Gonzales is doing a great job of making the players happy on their visits."

One weekend of visits remains before signing day.

On Sunday during his visit, Bragg became the second quarterback to verbally com-

mit to Notre Dame after Tennessee signal caller David Wolke gave his word last week.

Brown and Jabbie visited on Jan. 16 and decided Sunday. According to Lemming, Brown needed help to get past Notre Dame admissions after previously being denied.

"None of these guys [Bragg, Brown and Jabbie] were first options, but the coaches obviously see some potential," Lemming said.

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

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Growth

continued from page 24

away the Irish appeared to have finally grasped that concept, jumping out quickly to a 5-2 lead.

Kentucky wasn't rattled and went on an 11-0 run that was part of a much-larger 30-12 run. The rest of the afternoon, the Irish had to battle back.

That's something a team, especially one like the Irish, can't do against teams like Syracuse and Kentucky.

"You can't dig that deep a hole against some men. Now, they are men," Brey said. "When we play men, we have had trouble playing older guys. We've been the younger group. I think it's been very glaring."

Against both of those teams, the Irish came out, and for whatever reason, just laid a goose egg early in the game. They are making the home-court advantage more of a disadvantage right now.

They aren't coming out with the energy and focus necessary to compete with top 25 teams.

They have to remember it's not that easy.

"I think guys are a little spoiled by success," forward Jordan Cornette said. "This team is off the radar in terms of teams being targeted across the country."

The Irish are 0-4 against ranked teams this season, 11-11 in their last 22 games dating back to last season, and haven't won a home game in front of the students since Thanksgiving.

Fifteen games into the season, the Irish don't have a good win and have one very bad loss. The chances are running out for them

to make a move for the NCAA Tournament.

The Irish need to come out the way they played in the second half Sunday when the sense of urgency finally appears and overtakes them. The Irish need to play more mature and better team basketball. They need to start doing the little things necessary to compete with the top teams in the country.

The Irish need to start making the extra pass, boxing out, committing hard fouls, getting after loose balls and playing within themselves.

In the first half of games this season, they have looked like an immature team that has its main scoring coming mainly from underclassmen. In the second half, they look like a mature team that has been to three straight NCAA Tournaments and knows how to win basketball games against good teams.

If the Irish want to get where they talked about in the preseason, they need to become men quickly.

Men know how to go into a hostile environment on the road, take the crowd out of it and dictate the pace of the game.

Men know how to withstand a late run when everyone was thinking about the miraculous comeback made 30 years ago by the team honored at halftime.

To become men like Kentucky, they have to figure out how to play for 40 minutes like they did in the second half.

That's when the Irish will have learned their lesson.

The opinions of this column are those of the author and not necessarily The Observer. Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu.

Loss

continued from page 24

some more balls to bounce our way," Irish guard Chris Thomas said. "But that's been our luck at home."

We don't have any."

Few could have predicted the outcome would have remained in doubt until the final minute, especially when the Wildcats jumped out to a 32-17 lead in the first half. And with 3:53 left in the game, Kentucky held onto what initially appeared to be a comfortable nine-point margin.

Then the Irish went to work. Torrian Jones and Jordan Cornette both tipped in missed Irish shots to cut the Kentucky lead to five with 1:46 left, and 39 seconds later, Chris Quinn made two free-throws pull Notre Dame to within three.

But that was as close as the Irish would get. After a Kentucky timeout, Cornette fouled Chuck Hayes, who made the front end of a one-and-one. Quinn missed an off-balance jumper, Cornette missed a chance to tip the ball in, and the Irish missed their chance for an upset.

"[We were] immature in the first half, mature in the second half," said Irish coach Mike Brey. "They played mature for all 40 minutes."

"That's why they won."

Notre Dame only led for the first 2:23 of the game before withering under a red-hot Kentucky offense that outscored the Irish 30-12 over a 12-minute stretch in the first half. In that span, the Wildcats

shredded an Irish defense with transition baskets and easy layups. On the other end, Notre Dame settled for 3-pointers too quickly and had trouble establishing Torin Francis amidst a double-teaming defense.

"When we play men, we have had trouble playing older guys," Brey said. "We've been the younger group. I think it's been very glaring."

But unlike their performance against Syracuse a week ago, the Irish battled back. Even when Kentucky scored to give itself a 15-point lead with 7:33, the Irish didn't give up. Slowly, they chipped away at the Wildcat lead and set the stage for the game's thrilling final minutes.

When the final horn sounded, however, it was painfully apparent that the Irish comeback — marked by a physical defense and a patient offense — was too little, too late.

"Our will to win was there. It just wasn't there the entire time," Cornette said. "When we play like [we did at the end], we're the No. 1 team in the country."

Notre Dame, despite getting 16 points apiece from Thomas and Jones and 10 points from Tom Timmermans, shot a miserable 3-of-17 from 3-point range. And although the Irish grabbed 10 more offensive rebounds than the smaller Wildcats, Kentucky's quick 6-foot-8 forward Hayes scored a game-high 21 points compared to just eight points from Notre Dame's 6-foot-11 Francis, who called the consistent double-teams he endured "frustrating."



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

Irish forward Torin Francis tries to avoid a Kentucky defender under the basket in the Joyce Center Sunday.

With the loss, Notre Dame dropped its fourth game of the season against ranked teams and has won just six of its 10 games at the Joyce Center this season. And although the Irish comeback had the Irish more encouraged in the locker room than they were after the demoralizing loss to Syracuse, the loss still showed them how far this year's crop of the Irish are behind the nation's elite programs.

"I don't think we're as good a team as them," Thomas said. "We have the talent, the personnel and the basketball IQ."

"But we haven't put it all together."

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu



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MEN'S TENNIS

Irish experience both ends of the spectrum

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

Irish coach Bob Bayliss had an analogy to sum up his squad's weekend performance.

"Sometimes you're the bug," Bayliss observed wryly, "and sometimes you're the wind-shield."

The men's tennis team had a taste of both roles this weekend, as a disappointing loss to No. 9 Texas A&M was offset by decisive wins against St. John's and Illinois State.

"We played almost well enough to win this match," Bayliss said of the 5-2 loss to the Aggies. "We had enough windows of opportunity — if we had capitalized on all of them, it would have been a different [outcome]."

Irish No. 4 Stephen Bass and No. 6 Eric Langenkamp were the only players to post points against the Aggies. Bass won 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (7-5) over Khaled El Dorry, and Langenkamp beat Bryan Wooten 6-4, 6-3.

Notre Dame's No. 1 Luis Haddock lost 6-1, 6-3 to Lester Cook, ranked No. 17 nationally in singles play. At No. 2, Matthew Scott fell 6-1, 6-1 to Ante Matijevic, ranked No. 19.

At three, Mohamed Dakki beat Notre Dame's Brent D'Amico by a score of 7-5, 6-4 to clinch the match for Texas A&M, and freshman Barry King was defeated by

Brett Joelson 6-2, 7-5 at six.

"We let them off the hook in doubles," Bayliss said. "We just didn't have enough first serves. In singles, they were so dominant at one and two, they jumped out 3-0, which took a lot of pressure off [the bottom three]."

In doubles, Cook and Matijevic, ranked No. 1 in the nation, defeated Haddock and Ryan Keckley, ranked No. 18, by a score of 8-6. At two, Dakki and Joelsom beat D'Amico and Scott 8-4, while Bass and King fell to Ell Dorry and Zack Malmgren 8-6.

"Friday was a tough match," Scott said, "against a good Texas A&M team."

Sunday was a different story, however, as Notre Dame swept St. John's 6-0, winning all singles matches in two sets.

"These were matches we expected to win," Bayliss said. "St. John's will [probably] qualify for the Big East Tournament, and it's important to win decisively over Big East opponents."

The Irish lost only 27 games to St. Johns, an average of 4.5 per match. At the No. 1 spot, Haddock clinched the match for Notre Dame, defeating David Nylen 6-3, 6-1. At two, Scott posted a 6-3, 6-4 win over Aurelio Di Zazzo and Brent D'Amico topped Louis Desmerteaux 6-4, 6-1 at three.

At four, Bass defeated Nick Stocker 6-1, 6-3, and King beat

Morgan Bauer 6-1, 6-2. Langenkamp remained consistent by topping Boris Chiporukha 6-1, 6-3 at No. 6.

Doubles were not played. Bayliss had hoped to clinch the match in singles and "substitute liberally in the doubles matches," he said Friday. The team's solid singles play, however, meant the players had a longer break before facing Illinois State at 2 pm.

"We expected to win," Haddock said of the match against the Red Storm. "The good thing was that we won every set. It's hard to come out fired up against a lower level team, especially after not playing [for a day]."

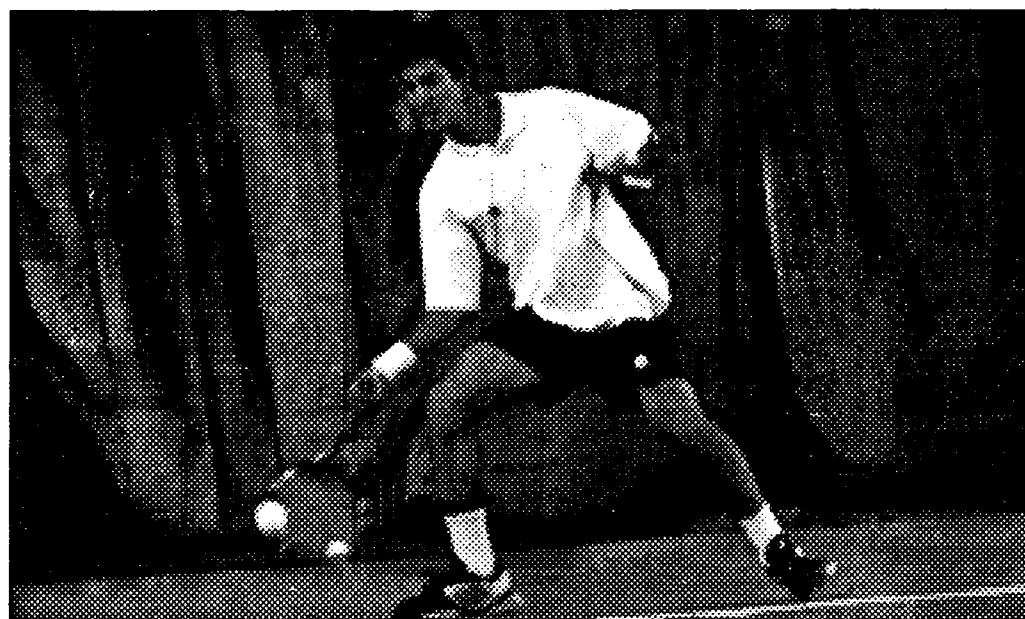
It was Haddock's first match victory of the spring season.

Despite the quick turnaround, the Irish came out strong against Illinois State, posting a 6-1 win over the Redbirds.

Notre Dame took all six singles matches, allowing the team to showcase its depth in doubles.

"It was the best I've played this season," Haddock said of his 6-3, 6-1 win over Ben Cappuccitti at No. 1. "He's not as good as other players I've played, but I felt good about [my performance]."

At No. 2, Scott defeated Benjamin Pettinari, also by a score of 6-3, 6-1. An arm injury kept D'Amico on the sidelines for the Illinois State match, moving Bass, a freshman, to the third spot. Bass rose to the challenge,



Senior Luis Haddock returns the ball in a match against Texas A&M last weekend.

winning over Djordje Uskokovic 3-6, 6-3, 6-1.

At four, King defeated Nogrobat 3-6, 6-2, 6-1, and Langenkamp beat Alban Renard 6-0, 6-1 in the first match to finish. No. 6 Pat Buchanan won 5-7, 6-3, 6-1 over Alfredo Lagarda.

In doubles, Paul Hidaka and Ryan Keckley defeated Chris Cozad and Pettinari 8-3. However, Guillermo Gomez and Renard beat Notre Dame's Ben Hatten and Bobby McNally 8-6 to clinch the match, with Cappuccitti and Tim Link winning over Jimmy Bass and Nick Chimerakis 8-3 to get the point for St. John's.

"This win is significant because we have three players unavailable," Bayliss said. D'Amico's

shoulder injury, Keckley's recent recovery from an ankle injury and Irackli Akhvendiani's case of the flu forced the Irish to rely on a deep roster.

"It speaks well of the depth of our team," Bayliss said. "I'm disappointed we didn't come out faster — three guys lost in first sets — but came back to win."

Scott is also coming off a leg injury, and did not play a full doubles match from October 2003 until last Saturday's victory at Indiana.

"We're really deep," Scott said of Sunday's contest. "When guys like Pat [Buchanan] come up, their role is to be ready if called upon, and Pat did a great job stepping up at the last minute."



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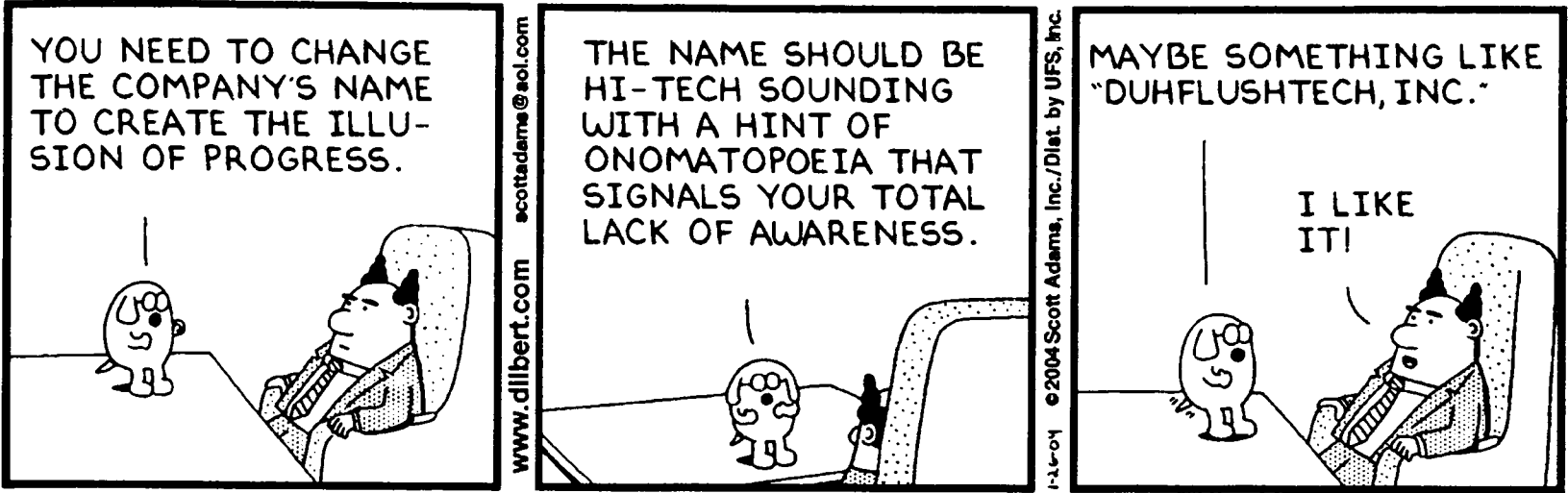
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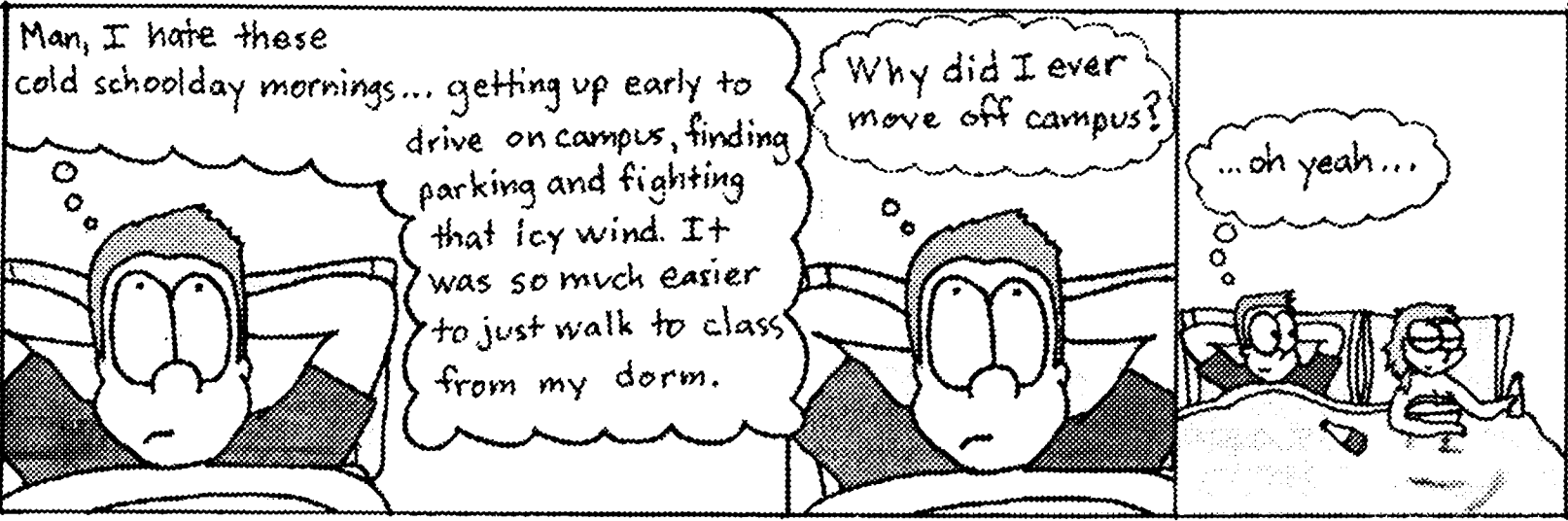
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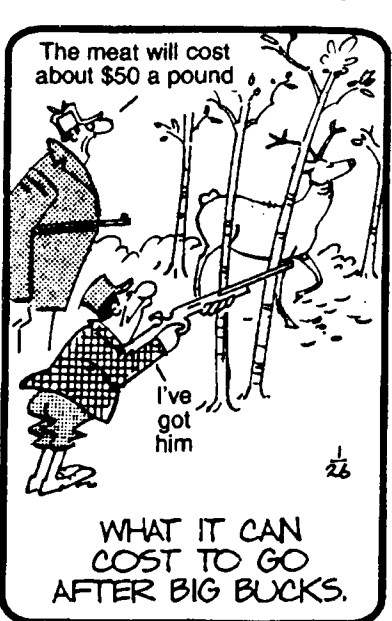
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STYLUB
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Answer here: OF
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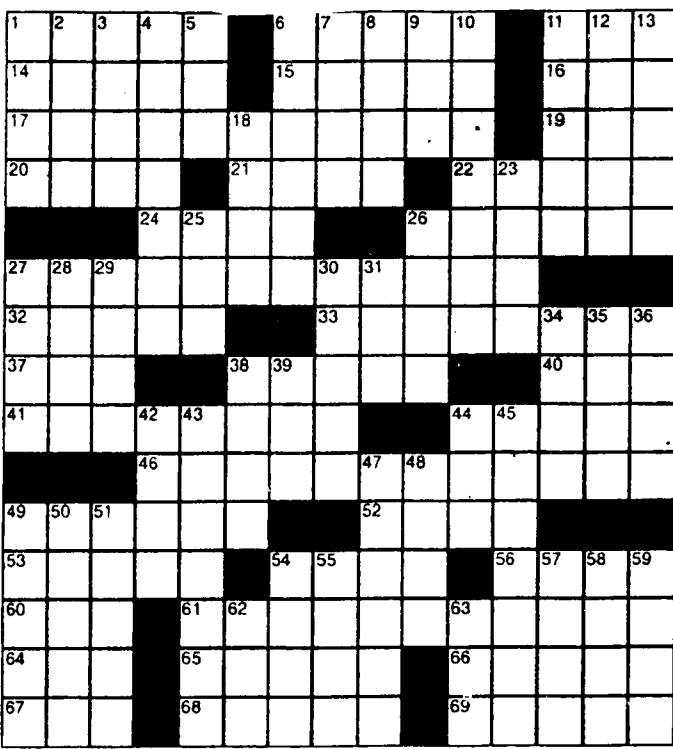
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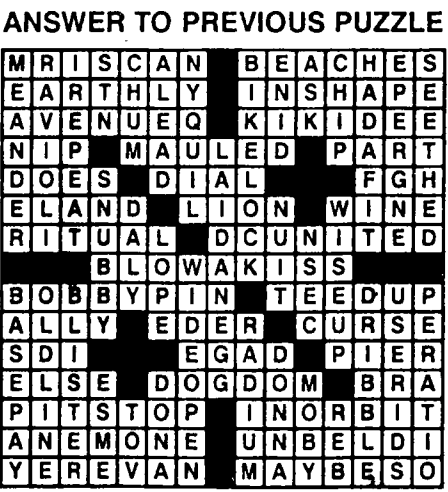
WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS
1 Coffee with body
6 Greta who said, "I want to be alone"
11 Relaxing resort
14 Sing like Crosby
15 Ancient Greek marketplace
16 President Coolidge
17 "Peter Pan" villain
19 Assayer's material
20 Dressed
21 Suggestions on food labels: Abbr.
22 Three-toed animal
24 "There's a problem!"
26 Flock leader
27 Country dance
32 Demean
- DOWN
1 1300 on a cornerstone
2 Spoken
3 Nightclub in a Manilow song
4 Ballpark vendors' offerings
5 Actress — Alicia
6 The Father of India
7 Turkish leader
8 Down Under hoppers
9 Friend in the 'hood
10 Yellow ribbon site
11 Listerine alternative
12 Plaster of —
13 Warn
18 Multivitamin supplement
23 Is not well
25 Hasten
26 Remain unsettled
27 Widespread
28 Letter-shaped building beam
29 Pasta sauce maker
30 Security feature
31 Howard of "Happy Days"
34 City east of Santa Barbara
35 "September" (Neil Diamond hit)
36 Suffix with disk or novel



- 38 Answer to a senior
39 Golfer's gadget
42 Business letter encl.
43 Russian ruler's domain
44 Pained cries
45 Fraternity candidates
47 Fetches
48 Title role for Leslie Caron
49 Intolerant one
50 City between Gainesville and Orlando
51 West African river
54 Novelist Hunter
55 Climber
57 Son of Hera
58 Honey
59 Fateful day in March
62 A Gershwin brother
63 Gun owners' grp.

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Happy Birthday: Your vision will be broad this year. You can offer great suggestions, but don't waste your time if others don't want to follow your lead. Go it alone if necessary and you'll be the one who accomplishes the most. Overdoing it can be your greatest downfall. Know your limits, know when to say no, and do for yourself first. Your numbers: 4, 17, 19, 23, 28, 35

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't let anyone talk you into doing things that you'd prefer not to do. You need to please yourself for a change instead of everyone else. It's time to follow your own beliefs and not someone else's. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You are beginning to see things through different eyes. Your awareness is growing, and your motives are changing. Don't be afraid to follow a new direction. You must take control of your future. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Financial failures are likely if you expanded your interests too quickly. Look into ways of helping children or relatives solve their problems without donating your own funds. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will have regrets if you allow a dispute to get out of hand. Be cautious how you handle both your business and emotional partnerships. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Look into career opportunities that will lead to a higher earning potential. You need to use your ingenuity if you want to get ahead. Believe in yourself and so will others. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Words of love will be dancing through your head. Get out with that special person in your life. You need to spend time enjoying the finer things in life. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Uncertainties on the home front should not be cause for alarm. A move is evident, and the problems that exist will be eliminated. Just bide your time and let things unfold as they may. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Clear up that overdue correspondence. Don't get intimate with colleagues or involved in gossip at work. Pleasure trips will break your budget. Be prepared to make cutbacks. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You would be wise not to be tempted to take part in joint financial ventures. You may have difficulties with your stomach if you overindulge or eat spicy foods. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your emotions are likely to take over today. It is best to work by yourself. Don't let anyone goad you into a debate. You really need your peace and quiet. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Making changes to your home, particularly in your rec room or home-entertainment center, will help ensure that your family will spend more time together. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your need to interact with others can be satisfied if you sign up to help worthy organizations. You have a knack for putting things together well, and for paying close attention to small but important details. Your services will be valued. ***

Birthday Baby: You have a fascinating way of looking at life. You are ingenious, outgoing and forever trying to help others. You have a great desire to do something worthwhile.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

History doesn't repeat itself

Irish comeback bid falls short against No. 9 Kentucky in 30-year reunion of 71-70 upset of No. 1 UCLA

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

For the fleetest moment, history seemed on the verge of repeating itself.

Notre Dame had fought back from a double-digit deficit at home with a furious rally at the end of the second half. The Joyce Center crowd stood on its feet, trying to will the Irish to a spectacular come-from-behind win against a highly ranked foe. Even the members of the Notre Dame team that knocked off No. 1 UCLA 30 years ago, who returned for a halftime reunion but had spent the rest of the game in their seats, arose with a yell.

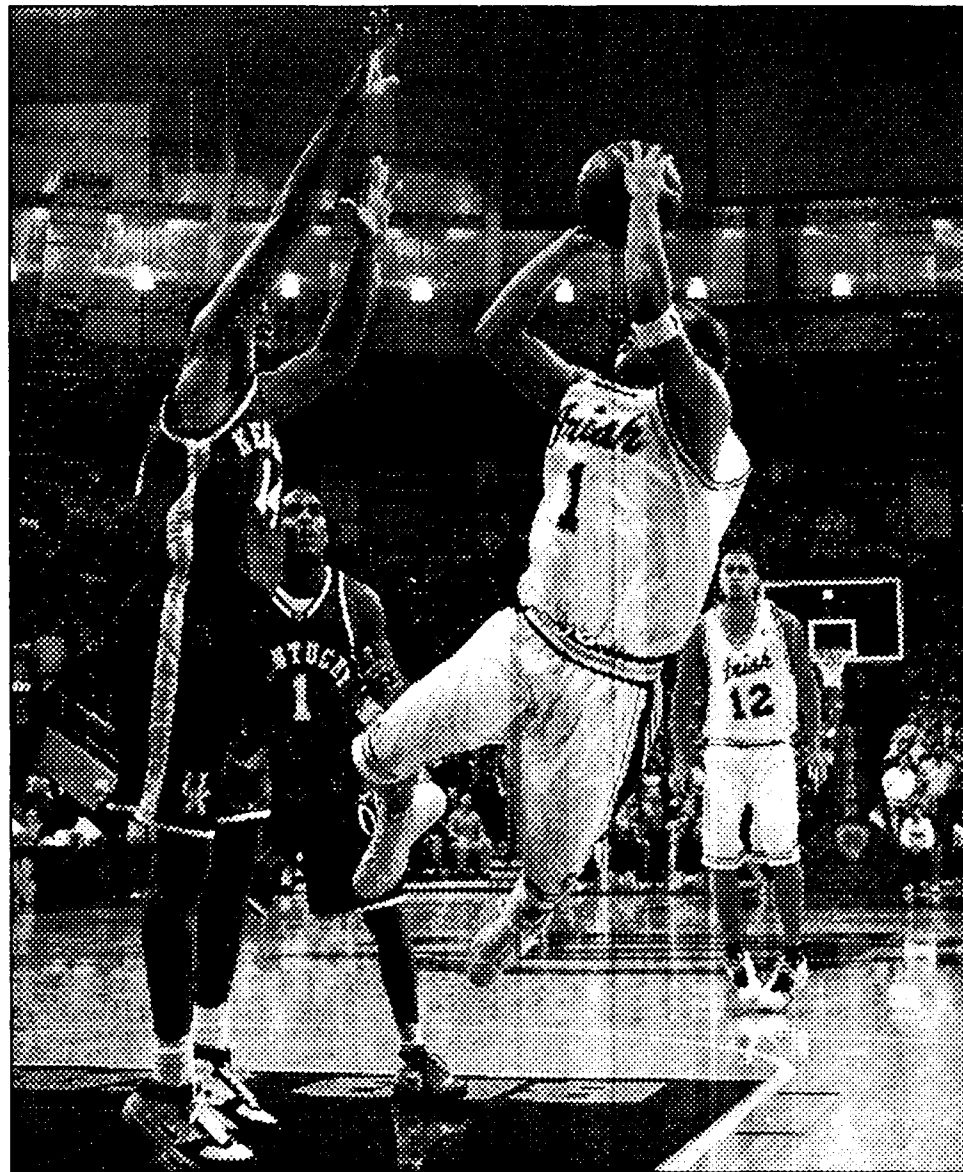
But 2004 isn't 1974.

And the upset the majority of the Joyce Center wanted never happened.

So this year's version of the Irish, despite cutting a 15-point deficit to three, couldn't complete the rally as its home struggles continued in a 71-63 loss to No. 9 Kentucky.

"We felt some more calls could have gone our way, and we need

see LOSS/page 21



Notre Dame guard Chris Thomas attempts a shot over Kentucky forward Erik Daniels in the Wildcats' 71-63 win.

TIM KACMAR/The Observer

Inexperienced Irish have much to learn

Just over a week later, the Irish haven't learned their lesson.

One of the premier programs in college basketball came to the Joyce Center on national television and gave the Irish a chance to get a much-needed win over a ranked team.

But once again, this young and immature team let a golden opportunity to improve its postseason resume slip through its hands.

Leading up to this game, Irish coach Mike Brey and his team talked about staying within itself in front of the energized home crowd. Right



Matt Lozar

Associate
Sports Editor

see GROWTH/page 21

FOOTBALL RECRUITING

Three commit, none A-list players

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

Tyrone Willingham and the Irish are waiting on word from a few A-list players — including defensive end Darryl Richard and defensive back Courtney Grixby.

In the meantime, coaches are working to lure the best remaining talent to South Bend in the late stages of a tough recruiting season.

Notre Dame received three more verbal commitments this weekend from defensive end Justin Brown, cornerback Junior Jabbie and quarterback Darrin Bragg, ESPN recruiting analyst Tom Lemming said.

The number of commitments has reached 14, and Lemming believes that number could increase soon.

"It looks like [offensive lineman] Allen Smith is coming [to Notre Dame]," Lemming said.

Smith stands 6-foot-5, 325 pounds and was heavily recruited by Pac-10 schools and Miami. He attended Corona del Sol High School in Tempe, Ariz.

Lemming also said he believes New Jersey defensive back Leo Ferrine has made his decision to join the Irish.

But there is a problem lying within this weekend's commitments, however, even if the Ferrine rumors are true.

"Smith is the only heavily recruited one," Lemming said.

Darius Walker's verbal commitment to Notre Dame Thursday afternoon was a huge step for the Irish recruiting staff, as Walker is an A-list running back — a player that coaches had pegged as a priority from the beginning.

The problem now — just over a week from signing day, Feb. 4 — is that not many A-list players remain on the board.

Brown, a 6-foot-4, 225-pound defensive end who could play linebacker, and Jabbie — 5-foot-11, 175 pounds — were not the first or perhaps second options for Notre Dame coaches, but the success of other schools' recruiting efforts has left the Irish in a desperate situation to scramble last-minute.

Lemming believes Notre

see RECRUITS/page 20

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Defense rules the day for Irish

Batteast sinks pair of free throws for 2-point victory

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Editor

Harry Perretta wanted to apologize to the 7,014 fans that witnessed the ugly game between Notre Dame and No. 23 Villanova Saturday. Instead he made a suggestion.

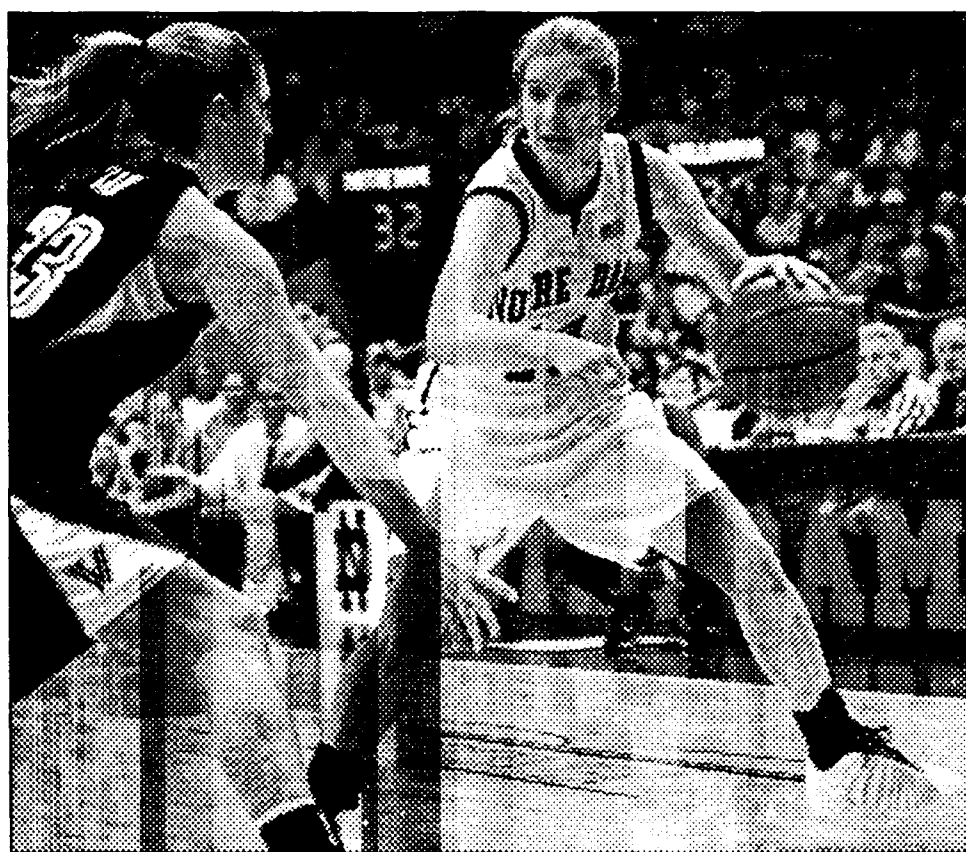
"I worked for a three at the end to try and relieve the fans and watching public of having to watch the game anymore," Perretta said. "If we

made it, the game was over. If we missed it, the game was over so nobody had to watch anymore of it."

In a game where neither team scored more than 20 points in a half, Jacqueline Batteast sank two free throws with 17.5 seconds left to give the Irish a 38-36 victory. The 38 points were Notre Dame's lowest total ever at the Joyce Center and the second lowest by an Irish team in a game anywhere.

Batteast, who played with a sprained right wrist, shot just 2-for-14 from the field but hit all 10 of her free throws to finish the game with 14 points and nine rebounds. Guard Megan Duffy added 10 points including a clutch 3-pointer with 2:02 left to tie the game at 36-36 and give the Irish

see DEFENSE/page 20



Irish point guard Megan Duffy tries to dribble around a Villanova defender in Notre Dame's 38-36 win Saturday.

CHIP MARKS/The Observer

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

NBA

Roundups of play from the NBA, including Minnesota's win over Phoenix.

page 14

NHL

A recap of Sunday's play from around the National Hockey League, including Buffalo's 4-2 comeback victory over Carolina.

page 15

NCAA BASKETBALL

A wrapup from Sunday's men's and women's collegiate hoops action from around the nation.

page 17

TRACK & FIELD

The Irish men's and women's squads combined to win 16 events over the weekend, led by the performances of Molly Huddle and Eric Morrison.

page 18

MEN'S SWIMMING

Northwestern 155, Notre Dame 133

The Irish fell just short of an upset of the 15th-ranked Wildcats. Notre Dame's three event victories were not enough.

page 19

MEN'S TENNIS

Notre Dame finished its home weekend 2-1 after a 5-2 loss to No. 9 Texas A&M and a 6-0 victory over St. John's and a 6-1 win over Illinois State.

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