

THE OBSERVER

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Final three election tickets approved

By MAUREEN REYNOLDS
Associate News Editor

The remaining three tickets in the student body president/vice president elections have received approval of their petitions to run. The tickets of Mark Healy and Mike Healy, Adam Istvan and Karla Bell, and Ryan Craft and Steve Lynch were notified last Tuesday of their approval for the race.

In order to be approved, petitions are first verified by Judicial Council president Elliot Poindexter. Petitions are then sent to the Office of Student Affairs and to the Registrar. The candidates must be in good standing with each office.

Petitions were due Jan. 23, but three tickets were turned in well before the deadline. The Charlie Ebersol-James Leito ticket, which the candidates turned in on Jan. 19, was approved Jan. 20, said Director of Student Activities Brian Coughlin. The three other tickets, however, were not approved until Jan. 27.

Student body presidential candidate Mark Healy said he turned in his petition on Jan. 20 but was not notified of its approval until Jan. 27. He said he was unaware of

any problems with either the Office of Student Affairs or the Registrar.

"I was not notified of any problems," Mark Healy said. "I went almost every day that the Student Government was open to meet with Elliot Poindexter to see if my petition had been approved, and he said that it wasn't."

Mark Healy said he felt the length of time it took to get the final three petitions approved needed to be explained.

"I think that it's something that needs to be looked into," he said. "It seems peculiar that it would take so long for the rest of us to be approved, when it didn't take that long for the first ticket to be approved."

The Istvan-Bell petition was turned in on Jan. 21, Istvan said, and Craft said he turned in his petition on Jan. 23. Neither candidate said they were notified of any problems in approving their petitions.

"It's taking forever to go through the approval process, trying to get everything in," Istvan said.

When asked about the amount of time it took for the Healy-Healy and Istvan-

see ELECTION/page 4

White, Moran win SMC elections

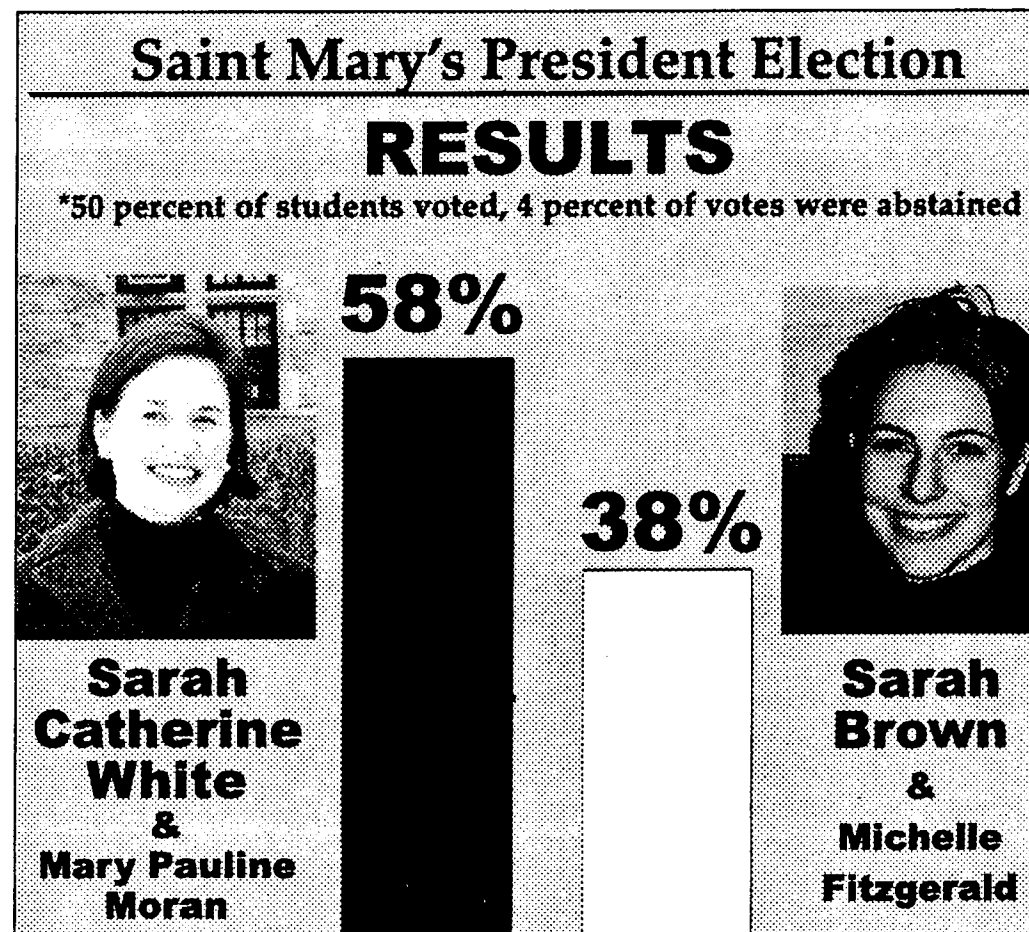
By ANNELIESE WOOLFORD
Saint Mary's Editor

Sarah Catherine White and Mary Pauline Moran were elected as Saint Mary's 2004-05 student body president and vice president Friday. White and Moran will take office April 1.

The ticket received 58 percent of total votes Thursday, beating out Sarah Brown and Michelle Fitzgerald, whose ticket received 38 percent of votes. Four percent accounted for abstentions in an election where 50 percent of the student body voted, a turnout considered successful by election officials.

"I am extremely pleased with the student body's involvement in this election," said elections commissioner Nicole Haeberle. "Fifty percent of the campus voting is well above national averages for colleges and shows that all of the candidates captivated the attention of Saint Mary's women."

Haeberle added that this year's election exemplified the strides made by Saint Mary's student government in recent years. Most notably, this election marked the first time in three years that more than one ticket ran for the student body presidency. In addition to White-Moran and Brown-Fitzgerald, Shay Jolly and Veronica Saabedra rounded out a group of candidates going into the primary elec-



tion, Haeberle said.

Both White and Moran agreed, citing a respectful election with tough competition.

"It's an honor," White said. "We're delighted and thrilled to see that so much of the student body supports us. It's exciting to see the school take interest in student government through the election."

"It really revitalized things on campus for people to know that they have a choice," Moran said of the competing candidates.

Before taking office, White

and Moran will shadow current student body president Elizabeth Jablonski-Diehl to better understand what their roles will include. The shadowing process will consist of attending both administrative and student government meetings and evaluating the leadership demonstrated by past administrations.

The ticket said that their first priority upon taking office is to welcome new College president Carol Ann Mooney on behalf of the stu-

see WHITE/page 4

Students seek off-campus housing

By NICOLE ZOOK
News Writer

Many Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students have already signed their leases for off-campus housing next year, said managers of local apartment complexes.

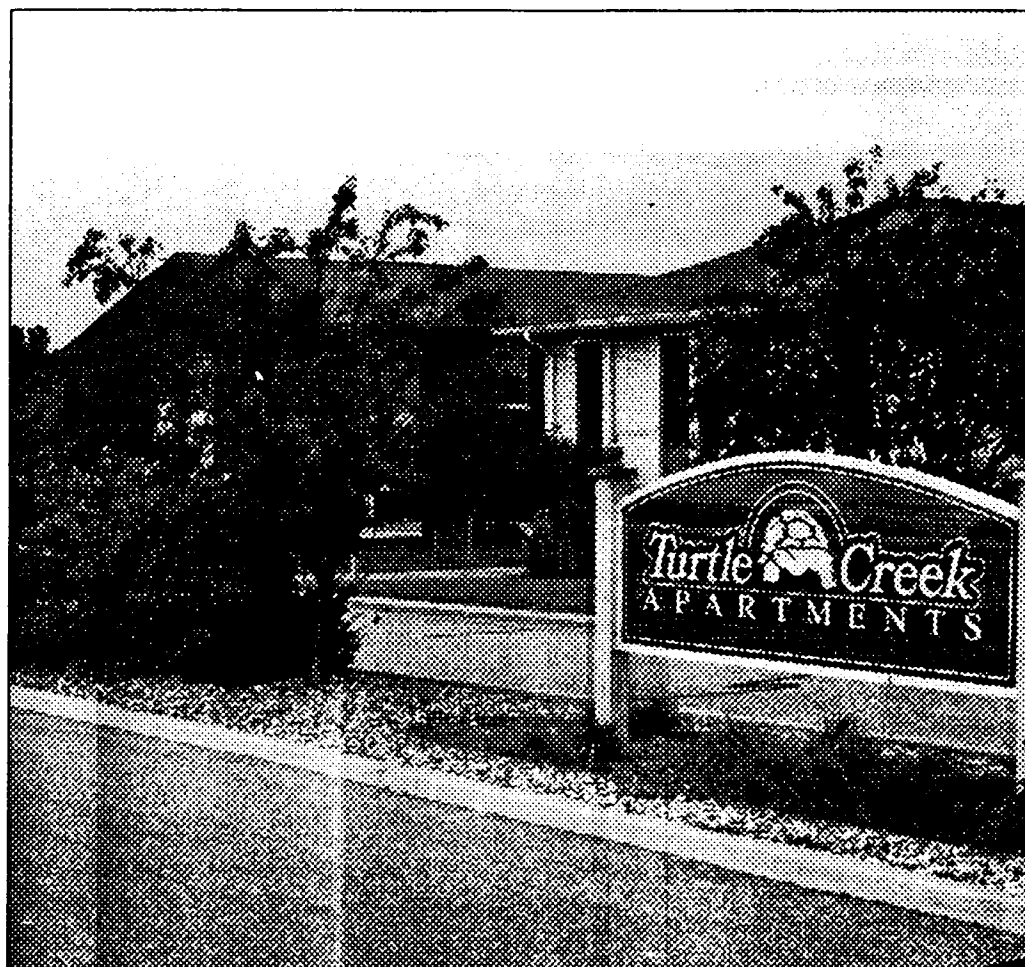
Officials representing traditionally popular off-campus options confirmed that leasing is proceeding strongly for 2004-05. Tammy Michaelbrink, the property manager at Turtle Creek, said many students have chosen to renew their leases from this year, while the number of new renters is about the same as in previous years.

"[Students] like it here, and we love to have them," Michaelbrink said. "Pretty much all of the renters here are students, besides the staff. I live here, and we have on-site maintenance and two security officers."

Turtle Creek — drawing 95 percent of its renters from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students — maintains a flexible system and is still taking applications for next year, Michaelbrink said.

"We had just started leasing in October," she said. "We don't like to pressure kids three years in advance to sign to live here."

Castle Point Apartments also



Observer File Photo

Turtle Creek remains among the most popular off-campus location for students, as 95 percent of renters attend Notre Dame or Saint Mary's.

attracts many students, sales manager Marianne Loftus-Heon said.

"Twenty-five percent are students, but out of that 25 percent, there are three and four students

per apartment," she said.

Notre Dame junior Kathryn Wendel said the mixed atmosphere of students and older resi-

see HOUSING/page 4

Lozar named 2004-05 Observer editor-in-chief

Observer Staff Report

The Observer General Board elected associate sports editor Matt Lozar as the 2004-05 editor in chief on Saturday.

Lozar, a junior MIS major from Willoughby Hills, Ohio who lives in K e o u g h Hall, joined T h e Observer as an interhall football reporter during his freshman year. Since then, he has covered a wide variety of sports, including football, men's basketball, softball and the national champion fencing team.

"I look forward to the opportunity to use the experience I've gained with the sports department to improve the paper as a whole," Lozar said. "It is a tremendous challenge, but one I am willing to accept."

As an associate sports edi-



Lozar

tor, he helped run the sports department while coordinating a variety of projects. Lozar's primary responsibilities included planning and producing the Irish Insider special section used to preview multiple sports events.

He is the fourth editor in chief in the last five years to come from the sports department.

"I have complete confidence in Matt's ability to lead The Observer next year," outgoing editor in chief Andrew Soukup said. "He has a wealth of great ideas and an excellent relationship with the staff."

Among the projects Lozar hopes to undertake during his tenure include establishing a recruiting and training system across all departments and getting color into the paper five days a week.

"I was excited to see what I could do to see The Observer improve next year," Lozar said. "And I'm extremely eager to work with a very talented staff."

Lozar officially takes over as editor in chief on March 1.

INSIDE COLUMN

Love and Hallmark

The countdown has begun. As calendars flipped to February this weekend, moans of absolute agony and squeals of delight were heard echoing off of dorms and Domes alike.

Saccharinely-sweet red and silver heart decorations have appeared in the most unpredictable of locales, including the walls of South Dining Hall — and never has 24-hour fruit salad been more romantic.

Sinatra is stuck solidly on repeat as couples gear up for candlelight dinners and moonlit walks, and singletons simultaneously loathe and revel in their solitude.

The ultimate Hallmark holiday is within sight.

That's right: Looming just beyond Groundhog Day and nestled snugly between Washington and Lincoln's birthdays is Valentine's Day. Feb. 14 — the holiday said to honor the patron saint of lovers, when candy, flowers and kisses are exchanged by the tons and the suicide rate rivals that of Christmas.

In Roman times, before St. Valentine was celebrated in its place, Lupercalia was the major mid-February holiday. During the celebration, the names of Roman girls were written on slips of paper and placed into jars, and each young man would draw a name in a kind of "love lottery." The two would then be partners for the duration of the festival, and many times they would go on to marry.

In the light of modern thought, though, this impersonal matching system may seem like the ultimate in bad blind dates to many and a mockery of the freedom of true love. To those people, may I present ... the Notre Dame dating scene.

True couples aside, as they are clearly the minority on campus, dating at Notre Dame seems to consist of drinking, dancing, debauchery and dumping — all in the same night. From my experience, dorm parties are like little Lonely Hearts clubs for students looking for a quick make-out session. Given, there are many of those who go just to have fun, but they are quickly siphoned off as the music grows louder and the room steamier.

With such an appealing alternative to the single life — who wouldn't want to be picked up and tossed out in the next breath — why not bring back the lottery of olden times? It certainly puts the "random" in "random hook-up," and it would limit ResLife interference, as beer goggles would no longer be necessary to find a partner. Besides, the jar, perhaps in a lovely shade of pink, would go so well with the rest of South Dining Hall's decorations.

With 12 days to go before the holiday, as the scramble for a significant other reaches a fevered pitch, I send out a blanket plea for intelligent date choice. When faced with spending Valentine's Day with a group of friends or a drunken stranger, go with the former. Unless you really like the idea of being just another name on a slip of paper.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@nd.edu.

Amanda Michaels

Production Editor

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT QUESTION WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN THE OBSERVER QUESTION OF THE DAY?



Dave Doppler

Senior Keenan

"What is your favorite bug?"



Hope Feher

Senior Lewis

"Are you a Mexi-CAN or a Mexi-CAN'T?"



Tad Skotnicki

Senior Siegfried

"Where do you see yourself in 10 weeks?"



Shauna Dee

Sophomore Cavanaugh

"Which member of Son of Glam would you want to date?"



Matt Silent

Junior Siegfried

"Do you believe in a thing called love?"



Jorge Pistonere

Sophomore St. Edward's

"Where have all the cowboys gone?"



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Students gather in Morrissey's second floor lounge on Sunday night for a section Super Bowl party. The closely contested NFL championship game brought students together both on and off-campus as they watched the New England Patriots beat the Carolina Panthers 32-29.

OFFBEAT

Techle gives first son name 2.0

HOLLAND, Mich. — Tacking Jr. or II onto a boy's name is too common, a new father decided, so the self-described engineering geek took a software approach to naming his newborn son.

Jon Blake Cusack talked his wife, Jamie, into naming their son Jon Blake Cusack 2.0.

Version 2.0 was born Tuesday at Holland Community Hospital, and the proud parents took him home Friday.

"I wanted to find something different to name him besides Jon Blake," Cusack,

who is self-employed with Westshore Design and Cusack Music, told The Holland Sentinel.

He said he had the idea for a few months, and spent the better part of that time persuading his wife to go along.

Russian boxers married in the ring

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia — There's usually a ring in a wedding ceremony, but a wedding ceremony in a ring?

The top matchup on the Saturday night card at a St. Petersburg boxing ring was the wedding of two Russian

boxers who exchanged vows — and then blows — in what they called the greatest experience of their lives.

"We decided to have our wedding party in a boxing ring because we first met in the ring and thought it would be very symbolic," said Nikolai Kibkalo, 40, who tied the knot with Natalya Karpovich, 31.

On Saturday night, the pair of pugilists wore traditional wedding garments, but donned boxing gloves after the ceremony and duked it out for a while.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Eat free pizza from the Saint Mary's Student Activities Board when the Belles face off against Olivet College in basketball tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Angela Athletic Center.

Attend the First Year of Studies' Honors Convocation from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday on the concourse of the Joyce Center. Students earning Dean's List status will be recognized.

Come see Money Never Sleeps: Global Financial Markets, the latest film in the Higgins Center Labor Film Series' "The Working Poor in America: Climbing the Down Escalator," from 4 to 6 p.m. tonight in the Hesburgh Auditorium. A discussion with associate professor of economics Martin Wolfson will follow.

The Class Council Leadership Summit will be held from 8 to 9 p.m. Tuesday at Legends.

Learn about a career with the State Department from former Ambassador Curtis Kamman from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in 114 Flanner Hall.

Audition for the Not-So-Royal Shakespeare Company's production of King Lear from 6 to 10 p.m. in 204 O'Shaughnessy Hall on Wednesday. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script, and additional prepared monologues are optional.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 32 LOW 26	HIGH 31 LOW 24	HIGH 32 LOW 16	HIGH 24 LOW 20	HIGH 22 LOW 20	HIGH 23 LOW 16

Atlanta 37 / 35 Boston 38 / 26 Chicago 34 / 31 Denver 37 / 24 Houston 62 / 38 Los Angeles 63 / 49 Minneapolis 24 / 6 New York 36 / 28 Philadelphia 37 / 27 Phoenix 65 / 48 Seattle 47 / 38 St. Louis 37 / 24 Tampa 76 / 56 Washington 38 / 29

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.

Movie 'Black Barbie' Beauty plays at SMC

Film depicts African-American's struggles with concepts of beauty

By ANGELA SAOUD
News Writer

Kareemah El-Amin's "Black Barbie Beauty," a film that portrays a young African-American woman struggling to fit in with society's image of beauty, premiered Friday night in Carroll Auditorium at Saint Mary's.

"I wanted to make this film because, growing up in the '70s and '80s, I struggled a lot with the image I saw looking in the mirror," El-Amin said. "I look at young women today, and I see these women dyeing their hair and wearing contacts to try to fit in."

Throughout "Black Barbie Beauty," the lead actress is shown staring at herself in the mirror. She applies baby powder to her skin in order to lighten her appearance and wears blue contacts with a blond wig.

In a voiceover, the audience hears a poem that El-Amin wrote nearly seven years ago about the pain of looking different from what mainstream America calls beautiful.

"I wanted people to leave this film loving themselves for who they are," El-Amin said. "You should be proud of your heritage, proud of the way you look, even if you don't fit into the blond-haired, blue-eyed image."

After the screening, which

was only five minutes in length, an hour-long question-and-answer session was held.

Many audience members provided El-Amin with positive feedback on the film. Others shared their personal experiences with not fitting the ideal American image of beauty.

One audience member commented on the lack of African-American beauty in mainstream America.

"You just don't see black magazines on the news stands in the grocery store, and when you do see an image of African-American beauty, it's someone like Beyonce [Knowles] who has a blond hair weave and colored contacts," the audience member said. "This world is too slow still."

El-Amin and the actors in the film then fielded questions and commented on the creation of the movie.

El-Amin has entered "Black Barbie Beauty" into the film festival circuit in hopes that it will reach many more young women who struggle with the way they look.

"I think it's important to affirm young women," she said. "Don't let the mainstream influence who you are, because you are beautiful."

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In Focus conference draws 120

By CLAIRE HEININGER
Assistant News Editor

Despite clashes over the publicity scheme leading up to the third annual AAA In Focus Student-Run Conference, executive chair Ryan Leung said the event successfully boosted recognition of Asian and Asian-American issues at Notre Dame.

"I think that, overall, the conference was a success," Leung said Sunday. "People's eyes were opened to some things they weren't aware of before."

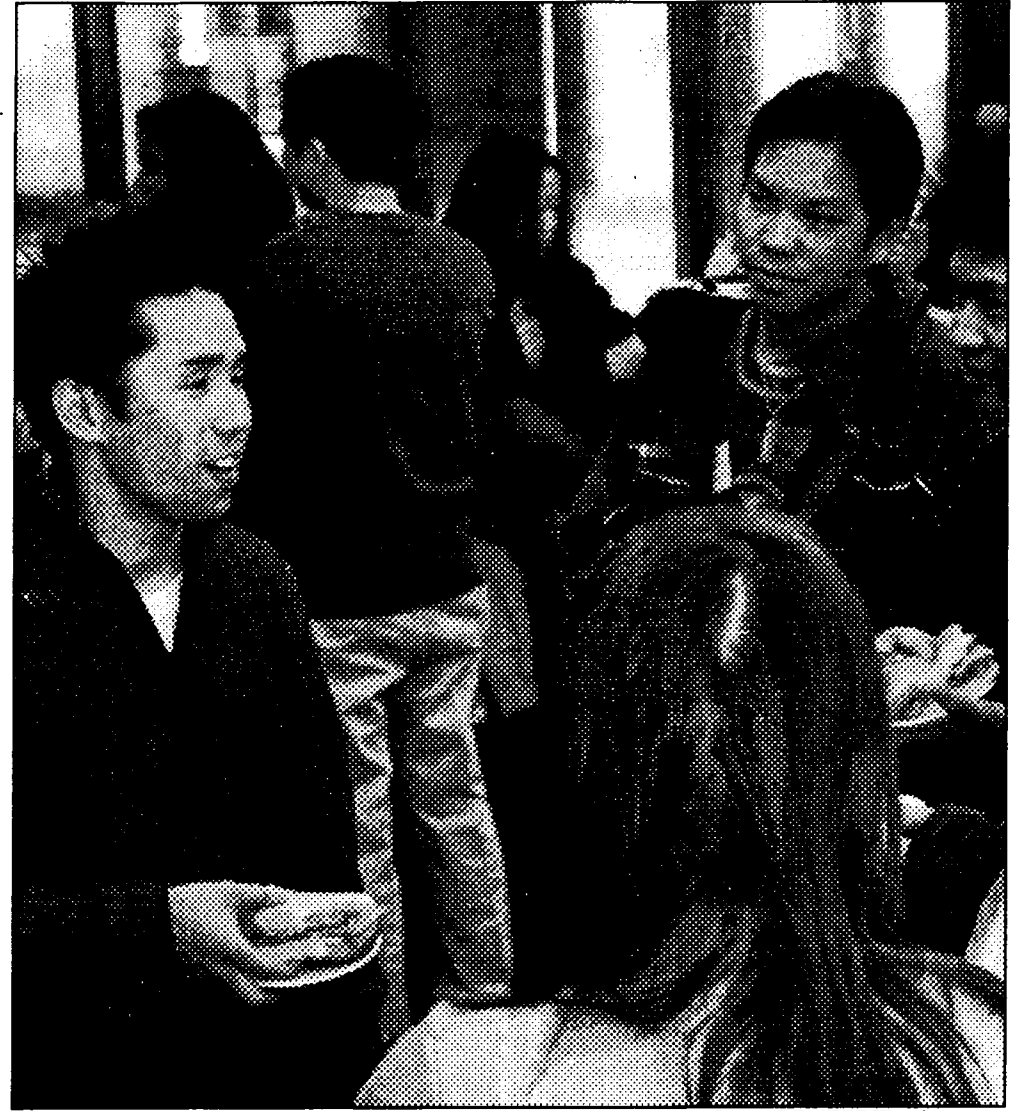
Leung said the conference was well attended, with 120 people present at the closing banquet and most of those also participating in various workshops throughout the day.

"Being an all-day Saturday event, it was hard to get people to attend every workshop we had," he said. "But I'm glad we were able to get people to come to parts of it."

Prominent Asian-Americans in a variety of career disciplines led workshops at the conference, including actor Parry Shen's presentation of "Personal Journey," which narrated his experiences as one of the few Asian-Americans in Hollywood.

AAA In Focus Public Relations chair Sarah Liu said the conference was eye-opening, but that students' interest in Asian-American concerns should not be confined to a yearly event.

"I really hope that the questions we raised will go beyond just the conference this weekend," Liu said. "I hope the students who came felt empowered and will go out to make an impact on the Notre Dame



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Students take a break from the In Focus conference this weekend to grab lunch.

community. I really hope that people will continue to challenge others and themselves."

While some of the flyers used to promote the event on campus were perceived as furthering anti-Asian stereotypes, Leung said they were not intended to be offensive.

"I didn't get any official complaints, but I heard a lot of talk," he said. "Some of the flyers were seen as perpetuating stereotypes, but we saw them as a method to bring issues Asian-Americans face to the forefront, to get people to discuss them and to promote change."

Advance publicity notwith-

standing, the conference did bring the AAA into the spotlight.

"A lot of people who came without any knowledge of the Asian community gained knowledge and insight," Liu said.

Leung agreed that the goals of the weekend were achieved.

"The most important mission of the conference was to spark that fire in students' hearts to promote a better understanding of multicultural issues on campus," he said.

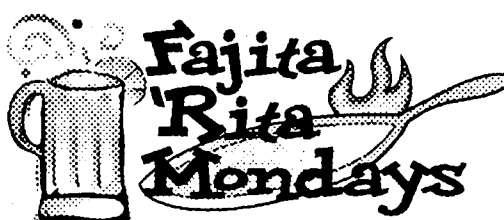
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Housing

continued from page 1

dents was one deciding factor in her choice to live in Castle Point next year.

"Castle Point is the least expensive and nicest of the complexes, despite its longer distance from school," Wendel said. "Also, because it is not just for students, I will be able to interact with many different types of people, which is something that I think many people forget about while on campus at Notre Dame."

In preparation for studying abroad this semester, Wendel signed her lease in early October. Some students, however, are not so prepared — causing complications as the signing deadline nears.

College Park property manager Patty Russworm said students attempting to renew their leases later on in the year can create problems.

"Five percent of them just assume that since they're already there, they automatically get their apartment next year," Russworm said. These students

then are left to sign up late or not at all — College Park has been sold out of apartments since early October.

"We have a list for the [20]05-06 school year starting already," Russworm said. "One hundred percent of all our renters are students."

Some complexes, however, have not begun that renting process yet. The former Campus View Apartments, renamed Clover Ridge, has come under new ownership that aims to focus on this year first.

Lisa Donlon, property manager of the recently purchased apartments, said the complex is remodeling and does not want to begin leasing until the renovations are complete.

"So far, we're in the middle of remodeling. We're putting in new carpets, dishwashers, washers and dryers — all of it," Donlon said. "We're looking to start leasing at the end of February or early March."

Management hopes that new rent-covered inclusions such as Internet access and basic cable will lure students to Clover Ridge.

Many Saint Mary's students, however, said they will not take the bait — instead turning to the new on-campus apartments. Junior Michele Firmstone said the proximity of the apartments is a major selling point.

"It's convenient. There's no driving issue," Firmstone said. "The apartments are already fur-

nished, and we won't have to worry about paying rent and utilities every month."

Saint Mary's director of Residence Life Michelle Russell believes the apartments are a strong draw.

"It's an option to the independence of students without having to move away," Russell said. "You're close to class, close to the heart of campus — yet you still have your own kitchen, your own apartment. You get that freedom."

Saint Mary's Residence Life reported receiving more applications than there are spaces for the new apartments. There will be a lottery for the 12 double and 12 quad apartments on Feb. 3. If a student is not chosen, her room deposit will roll over to the regular room drawing.

Firmstone said relying on the dorms as a back-up plan is not an option for her.

"We looked into Castle Point and Turtle Creek, but as soon as we heard that the apartments would be open for our senior year, we kept that as our first option," she said. "If we don't get one, we are still moving off campus."

Jeff Shoup, director of Notre Dame's Residence Life and Housing, said the popular perception of the entire senior class moving off campus is misconstrued.

"There actually aren't a lot of students moving off-campus," Shoup said. "As students stay here longer, they know more and more students who live off-campus. They think that means that everyone wants to move."

Shoup said that on average, 5 percent of sophomores, 25 percent of juniors and 55 percent of seniors choose to live off-campus. Notre Dame had difficulties finding space for all the students living on campus this year, he said.

"We had more students return to campus this year than the year before," Shoup said. "We began the year with no openings and had 30 people on the waiting list for housing."

Notre Dame eventually converted over 30 lounges into dorm rooms and now has four or five spaces available on campus. However, many students are attracted by the freedom that off-campus housing offers and are making the decision to move now.

"My friends who had lived off campus previously really enjoyed the independence and freedom that off-campus housing provided them," Wendel said. "I am looking forward to those very things."

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Election

continued from page 1

Bell tickets to be approved, Coughlin said that both were approved by the Office of Student Affairs on Jan. 22, but were held up in the

Registrar's office.

"The Healy ticket and the Istvan ticket [were faxed] to the Registrar's office on Jan. 21. We didn't hear anything from them," Coughlin said.

"When the Craft ticket showed up ... we faxed their names, and we re-faxed the Healy and Istvan tickets.

When they [were approved] ... there was a little note saying 'Sorry for the delay.' They were in the Registrar's office for five days," Coughlin said.

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White

continued from page 1

dent body. This goal will be followed closely by their second priority to form a Board of Governance.

"We truly realize that we're

not the only ones who will be doing all of the work," White said. "It's everyone who is interested and wants to get involved."

Confident in their leadership capabilities, White and Moran look forward to representing students' voices in a year filled with internal and external change on Saint

Mary's campus.

"I think Sarah Catherine and Mary Pauline will do a fabulous job transitioning into their new roles and taking the lead in furthering student government," Haeberle said.

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Lecture to discuss the 'other' Americas

Special to The Observer

J. Michael Dash, professor of French and director of the Africana Studies Program at New York University, will deliver a lecture titled "The Relating Island: The South of the South in the Americas" at 4 p.m. today at the Eck Center auditorium.

Presented by the University's Working Group for the Americas, in conjunction with its Institute for Latino Studies and African and African-American Studies Program, the event is free and open to the public and will be followed by a

reception. The lecture is a continuation of the "Caribbean Inventions" conference held last fall at Notre Dame.

Born in Trinidad, Dash previously served for 21 years as professor of Francophone literature and chair of modern languages at the University of the West Indies in Jamaica. He specializes in the study of Haitian literature and French Caribbean writers, especially Edouard Glissant, whose works "The Ripening" and "Caribbean Discourse" he has translated into English. He is the author of numerous books, including

"The Other America: Caribbean Literature in a New World Context," "Libete: A Haiti Anthology" [with Charles Arthur], and "Culture and Customs of Haiti."

The event is co-sponsored by Notre Dame's Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, the Departments of Romance Languages & Literatures, English and Anthropology, and French and Francophone Studies.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Hundreds killed in hajj disaster

MINA, Saudi Arabia — At least 244 people were trampled to death and hundreds more hurt Sunday under the crush of worshippers in one of the deadliest disasters during the annual Muslim pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia.

The stampede occurred during the stoning of the devil, an emotional and notoriously perilous hajj ritual. Pilgrims frantically throw rocks, shout insults or hurl their shoes at three stone pillars — acts that are supposed to demonstrate their deep disdain for Satan.

The stampede broke out on one of two ramps leading to the 50-foot stone pillars. Tens of thousands of people were on the uppermost ramp, which is about the width of a five-lane highway.

Islamic leaders now Israeli targets

JERUSALEM — The leaders of violent Islamic groups are targets for assassination, Israel's defense minister said Sunday, raising the possibility of a further escalation in the three years of Israeli-Palestinian bloodshed.

Shaul Mofaz issued the threat in response to a declaration by the spiritual leader of Hamas, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, that the group plans an all-out effort to kidnap Israeli soldiers.

"The statements of Yassin just emphasize the need to strike the heads of Hamas and the Islamic Jihad," Mofaz told the weekly meeting of the Israeli Cabinet, according to an Israeli official who attended the meeting.

The statements by Mofaz and Yassin threaten to inflame an already violent confrontation that has led to the deaths of more than 3,500 people on both sides during three years of fighting.

NATIONAL NEWS

Bush to order intelligence probe

WASHINGTON — President Bush, under mounting political pressure, will sign an executive order to establish a full investigation of U.S. intelligence failures in Iraq, a senior White House official said Sunday.

The investigation will look at what the United States believed it knew before the war against Saddam Hussein's regime and what has been determined since the invasion. Former chief weapons inspector David Kay has concluded that Iraq did not possess weapons of mass destruction, a chief rationale for the U.S.-led war.

The investigation will examine not only Iraq but also intelligence issues dealing with stateless groups such as terrorists and secretive regimes such as North Korea, the official said, insisting on anonymity. Given the broad mandate of the investigation, it is not likely to be completed before the November elections. Bush had resisted an investigation of Iraq intelligence but agreed to an inquiry amid growing pressure.

LOCAL NEWS

Ind. Guard members deployed

INDIANAPOLIS — About 800 National Guard members from Indiana and other states who are heading to Bosnia-Herzegovina on peacekeeping duty received a warm sendoff at a ceremony attended by Gov. Joe Kernan and other dignitaries.

About 500 Indiana Guard members were among the group that Kernan characterized as "well-trained and up to the task, no matter what the task."

"Know that you have the unconditional support of every man, woman and child that calls Indiana home," Kernan, a decorated Navy veteran, told the group Saturday at the Indiana Convention Center.

The Indiana-based troops being deployed are from the Indianapolis-based 38th Infantry Division, the Terre Haute-based 38th Support Battalion and the 138th Personnel Services Battalion.

IRAQ

Suicide bombers hit Kurd headquarters

Associated Press

IRBIL — Two suicide bombers with explosives wired to their bodies struck the offices of the country's two main Kurdish parties in nearly simultaneous attacks Sunday, killing at least 56 people and wounding more than 235 in the deadliest assault in Iraq in six months.

The attacks struck in the Kurdish heartland and took a heavy toll among senior leaders of Iraq's most pro-American ethnic group.

Elsewhere, an American soldier was killed and 12 were wounded in a rocket attack on a logistics base in Balad, 50 miles north of Baghdad, the U.S. command said. The death raised to 523 the number of U.S. service members who have died since the Iraq conflict began in March.

The Irbil attackers slipped into the offices of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) along with hundreds of well-wishers gathering for the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha, or the Feast of Sacrifice.

Kurdish television said both bombers were dressed as Muslim clerics.

Leaders of both parties, whose militias fought alongside U.S. soldiers during the invasion of Iraq last year, were receiving hundreds of visitors to mark the start of the four-day holiday when the blasts went off.

Guards said they did not search people because of the tradition of receiving guests during the holiday. Neither party's top leader — Jalal Talabani of the PUK and Massoud Barzani of the KDP — was in Irbil when the attacks occurred.

Although Iraq has suffered numerous suicide bombings in recent months, the attack Sunday



Reuters

The blast of a suicide bomber Sunday ripped apart the headquarters of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, one of the primary Kurdish political parties in Iraq.

marked the first time perpetrators have worn explosives rather than using vehicles.

Sunday's blasts came a day after a car bomb outside a police station in the northern city of Mosul killed at least nine people. Hours later, a mortar attack hit a Baghdad neighborhood, killing five people and wounding four.

U.S. officials said foreign militants or Ansar al-Islam, an al-Qaida-linked Islamic militant group based in the north that has frequently clashed with the Kurds, may have carried out the attacks. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

"We have no proof at this

point [about who is responsible]. It could be Ansar al-Islam. It could be al-Qaida. It could be any of a number of foreign terrorist groups operating in Iraq," said U.S. Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, coalition deputy chief of staff for operations.

U.S. administrator L. Paul Bremer pledged to work with Iraqi security forces to capture those behind Sunday's bombings. The attackers "are seeking to halt Iraq's progress on the path to sovereignty and democracy," Bremer said in a statement.

In statements, the leaders of both parties, once bitter rivals, expressed their resolve to fight ter-

rorism together.

"These terrorist acts are against the Islamic religion and humanity and we shall work more seriously toward uniting our [Kurdish] government," Talabani said. "We will work together in order to live in a democratic, federal Iraq."

No matter who was behind them, the blasts may heighten tensions between the Kurds and Sunni Arabs. As U.S. and Iraqi leaders try to map out the country's new form of government, some Arabs have sharply opposed Kurdish demands to retain or even expand their self-rule region in the north.

Rovers still plagued by software

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — NASA said Sunday its Spirit rover was a week away from rolling on Mars again and that the software problem vexing the spacecraft may trouble both it and its twin, Opportunity, for the duration of their double-barreled mission.

Engineers deleted more files from Spirit's flash memory but held off from reformatting it completely until Monday — giving them more time to diagnose ongoing problems, mission manager Mark Adler said. NASA originally planned to perform the task Saturday.

The rover has been hampered by problems since Jan. 21, when it stopped transmitting intelligible infor-

mation back to Earth.

Once its flash memory is reformatted, Adler said, Spirit should be able to leave the low-power mode, which has restricted nighttime operations, and begin operating normally again, by Tuesday at the earliest.

"Then I think we can declare we are completely back in our normal mode," Adler said during a conference call with reporters.

Engineers will have to keep deleting computer files from Spirit's flash memory to keep their numbers low enough for the rover's random-access memory to manage. The same will be done for Opportunity.

Engineers also may regularly reformat the robots' flash memory, perhaps every week or two, Adler said.

Even with the computer glitch, engineers believe at least one of the 384-pound robots may last longer than their warranted 90-day lifetimes. A 15-watt heater that's been turning on unnecessarily on Opportunity may curtail its extended mission, however.

NASA scientists said the solar-powered spacecraft have ample time to roam like no other mission to Mars ever has. Once underway, the rovers could cover thousands of yards apiece.

"I don't think the mobility side of the equation has hit us in the head yet," project manager Pete Theisinger said recently. "The first time we take a panorama and the lander's not there, it will hit home what we've accomplished."

IRAN

One-third of legislators resign

Associated Press

TEHRAN — More than one-third of Iran's lawmakers resigned in protest Sunday over disputed elections and the parliamentary speaker charged ruling clerics with trampling on the rights of his countrymen.

Speaker Mahdi Karroubi appealed to Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, to help resolve the crisis caused by disqualification of thousands of liberal candidates from the Feb. 20 vote.

Some 124 lawmakers in the 290-seat Majlis, or parliament, resigned Sunday in a dramatic gesture intended to force the clerical hierarchy to reinstate the disqualified candidates.

The mass resignation "will determine Iran's direction: rule of absolute dictatorship or democracy," reformist lawmaker Mohammad Kianoush-Rad told The Associated Press.

Karroubi said he and reformist President Mohammad Khatami started new efforts to resolve the crisis, holding discussions with Khamenei, who has the final say on all state matters.

But Khamenei left the capital Tehran for an undisclosed location, making it difficult to reach him, parliamentary officials said.

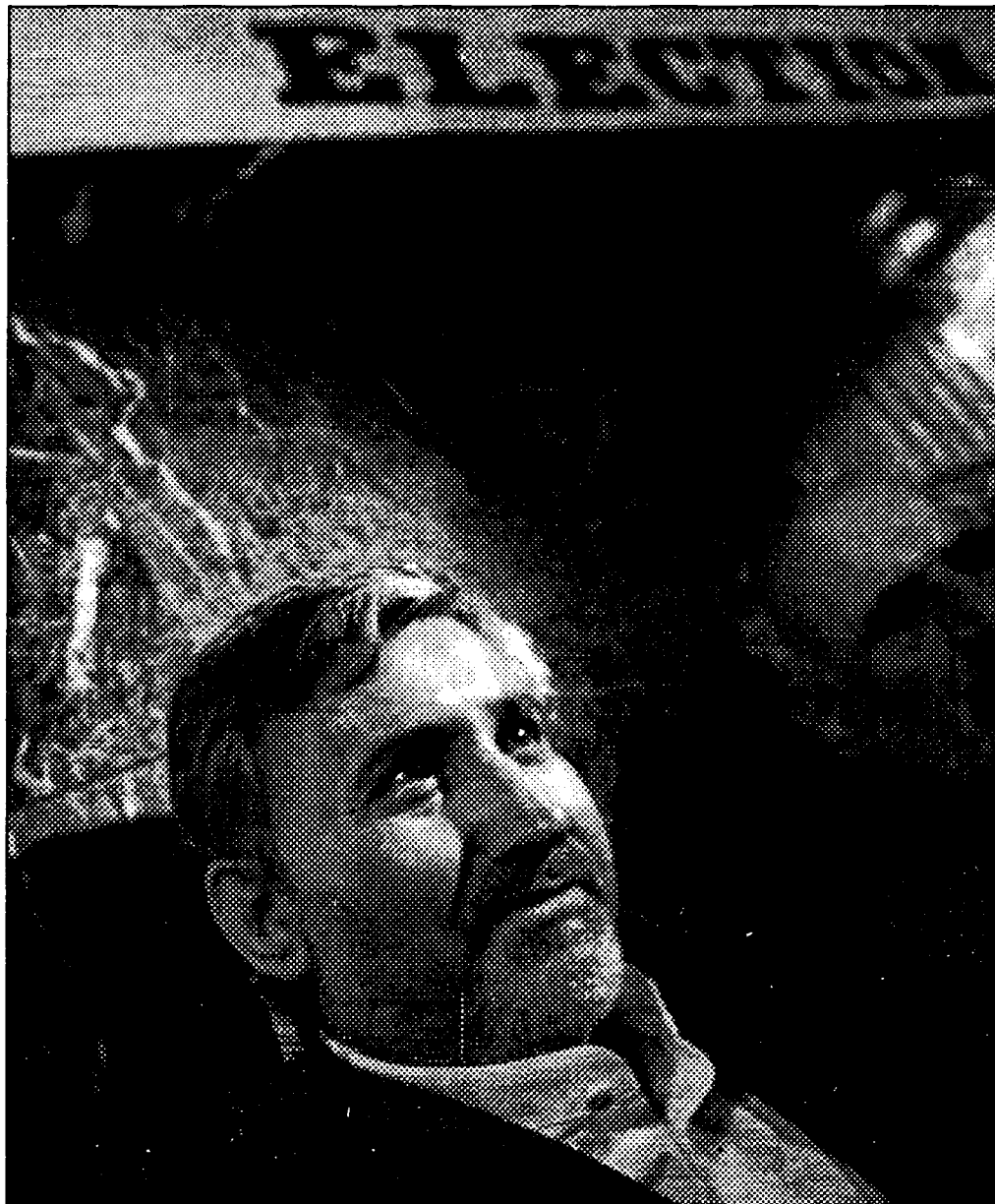
Karroubi, the parliamentary speaker, launched a rare verbal attack on the Guardian Council, the unelected body of hard-line clerics that disqualified more than 2,400 reformist candidates from the legislative elections.

"Are you loyal to Islam if you pray daily, but then trample on the rights of the people?" said Karroubi, himself a cleric.

He accused the Guardian Council, whose 12 members are appointed by Khamenei, of "disrespecting democratic values and having no faith in a popular vote."

The furor began in early January when the Guardian Council disqualified more than 3,600 of the 8,200 people who filed papers to run in the polls. After protests and an opinion from Khamenei, the council on Friday restored 1,160 low-profile candidates to the list.

Reformists say the council disqualified liberal candidates to fix the election in favor of conservatives. Hard-liners lost control of the parliament in elections four years ago, and repeatedly have thwarted



Iran's reform party head, Mohammad Khatami, attends his parliament's sit-in Saturday. Over 124 legislators resigned yesterday.

Khatami's efforts toward greater democracy and a relaxation of the Islamic social code.

The council denies political motives and argues that the disqualified candidates lacked the criteria to stand for election, even though more than 80 of them were elected in 2000.

Those lawmakers resigned Sunday.

"An election whose result is clear beforehand is a treason to the rights and ideals of the nation," resigning legislators Rajab Ali Mazrouei told the parliament.

The leader of the biggest reform party in parliament, Mohammad Reza Khatami, resigned and accused the Guardian Council of killing all opportunities for resolving the dispute.

"There is no hope for a solution. We will not participate in this sham election. Even if all those disqualified are reinstated today, there will be no time for competition. Elections on Feb. 20 are illegitimate," said Reza Khatami, the president's younger brother and a deputy speaker.

Iran's leading reformist party, the Islamic Iran Participation Front, has called a meeting Monday and is expected to announce a boycott of the polls.

President Khatami called an emergency Cabinet meeting to discuss the dispute Saturday, but was forced to postpone it when he suffered severe back pain and was confined to his house by doctors.

On Saturday, President Khatami suggested his government would call off the elections.

"My government will only hold competitive and free elections ... the parliament must represent the views of the majority and include all [political] tendencies," he said.

If he follows through, that would leave voting in the hands of hard-liners most likely relying on elite Revolutionary Guards and supporting military forces to organize the polls.

Many hard-line legislators did not attend Sunday's session, apparently hoping to deny it a quorum. But the quorum of 194 of the Majlis' total 290 seats was reached.

Inmates surrender as standoff ends

Associated Press

BUCKEYE, Ariz. — A corrections officer was released Sunday from the prison guard tower where she had been held hostage by a pair of inmates for two weeks, a Corrections Department spokeswoman said.

The inmates surrendered, corrections spokeswoman Cam Hunter said.

Hunter said the guard, whose name was not released, was receiving medical attention.

The surrender at the medium- to high-security Arizona State Prison Complex-Lewis ended one of the nation's

longest prison hostage situations in decades. Negotiators had regular contact with inmates throughout the standoff, and at times had seen the guard or talked to her by telephone.

The standoff at the 4,400-inmate prison west of Phoenix began Jan. 18 when an inmate attacked two guards and another worker in a kitchen area. That prisoner and another inmate then got into the observation tower, where they took the two guards hostage.

One of the correctional officers — a man — was released Jan. 24.

The inmates were identified

by prison officials as Ricky Wassenaar, 40, and Steven Coy, 39.

Wassenaar is serving 28 years for armed robbery and assault.

Steven Coy, who is serving a life sentence, has spent the better part of two decades in Arizona prisons. His offenses include theft, burglary, criminal damage and drug possession. He was sentenced to life after a 1993 crime spree in Tucson that included armed robbery, aggravated assault and rape.

Both Coy and Wassenaar have committed numerous infractions while in prison, officials said.

Shuttle anniversary commemorated

Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — One year after Columbia broke apart and fell in flaming streaks from the Texas sky, NASA workers who launched the shuttle and its seven astronauts and then gathered up the remains stood united in sorrow Sunday at the precise moment of destruction.

The first anniversary of the catastrophe was a time for everyone — rocket engineers, debris searchers, school children, space enthusiasts, even football fans — to pause and remember.

"One year ago, at this very hour, the unthinkable occurred," Kennedy Space Center's director, Jim Kennedy, told the crowd of a few hundred who gathered on a gray, drizzly morning at NASA's astronauts memorial.

Kennedy quietly recited the names of the Columbia astronauts, carved into the black granite monument behind him: Commander Rick Husband, copilot William McCool, Michael Anderson, David Brown, Kalpana Chawla, Laurel Clark and Israel's first astronaut,

Ilan Ramon.

"They were our friends. They are our heroes. Their loss will not be in vain. We will come back bigger, better and stronger than ever before, and I can assure you that crew and their beloved families will never, ever be forgotten," Kennedy said.

Almost all of the mourners held a long-stemmed rose. After the brief outdoor ceremony, they tucked the red, yellow, peach and ivory-colored roses into the white fence surrounding the memorial.

Many wiped away tears.

The ceremony began at 9 a.m., the instant NASA lost communication with Columbia over Texas on Feb. 1, 2003.

It ended at 9:16 a.m., the time the spacecraft should have landed on the Kennedy Space Center runway. By then, Columbia had shattered into tens of thousands of pieces that crashed down on Texas and Louisiana.

A piece of fuel-tank foam insulation had torn a hole in Columbia's left wing during the mid-January liftoff and allowed hot atmospheric gases to enter during atmospheric re-entry.

Kidnapped woman discovered alive

Associated Press

WHEELING, Ill. — A woman was found severely beaten, wrapped in duct tape and inside a plastic garbage can in her ex-husband's storage unit on Sunday, a day after she called 911 from the back of his truck saying he had abducted her.

Teri Jendusa-Nickolai, 38, was in serious but stable condition at a Park Ridge hospital, Wheeling Deputy Police Chief John Stone said.

Jendusa-Nickolai, of Wind Lake, Wis., was found in a storage facility near the airport where her ex-husband, David Larsen, works, Stone said. An employee of the facility found her after walking past Larsen's unit and hearing a muffled sound, he said.

Jendusa-Nickolai had been wrapped in duct tape

and placed inside "a big plastic garbage can," Stone said. She had been severely beaten, Racine County, Wis., Sheriff Bob Carlson said at a news conference.

Larsen, 39, was arrested Saturday when he reported for work as an air traffic controller at Palwaukee Municipal Airport. He was in custody Sunday on an initial charge of false imprisonment.

Jendusa-Nickolai's rescue was a relief to her family, who were terrified Saturday with the disappearance not only of her but of her two young daughters. Amanda Larsen, 6, and Holly Larsen, 4, were found with a

baby sitter Larsen had left them with.

"When we got the good news that Teri had been located, we again rejoiced and we thanked the Lord for all of our prayers being answered," said Jan Johnson, a friend of Jendusa-Nickolai's family.

Multiple jurisdictions are involved in the case because Jendusa-Nickolai apparently was abducted in Wind Lake, about 50 miles northwest of Wheeling.

Authorities said it was not immediately clear where official charges against Larsen would be filed. Stone said federal charges would be filed in the case, but the U.S. attorney's office in Chicago had no comment on the case Sunday and the FBI could not immediately be reached.

Jendusa-Nickolai had last been heard from when she made a 911 call from her cell phone Saturday after-

noon, saying Larsen had bound her hands and placed her in the back of his truck.

A neighbor said they saw Larsen driving away from his home in his pickup truck Saturday morning, towing a trailer with his ex-wife's car on it. Jendusa-Nickolai's empty 1994 silver Camry was later found parked on a Milwaukee street, near a rental property owned by Larsen, Carlson said.

Jendusa-Nickolai had obtained a restraining order against Larsen for domestic abuse on Jan. 22, and the two were in court recently for a child custody hearing, according to sheriff's officials.

*"We again rejoiced
and we thanked
the Lord for all of
our prayers being
answered."*

Jan Johnson
family friend

MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	10,488.07	-22.22	
Up:	1,701	Same: 174	Down: 176
		Composite Volume:	1,638,835,968
AMEX	1,197.17	+2.41	
NASDAQ	2,066.15	-2.08	
NYSE	6,551.63	-4.08	
S&P 500	1,131.13	-2.98	
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	10,783.61	+4.17	
FTSE 100(London)	4,390.70	-20.80	

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
CISCO SYSTEMS (CSCO)	-0.96	-0.25	25.71
INTEL CORP (INTC)	-1.20	-0.37	30.52
JDS UNIPHASE (JSDU)	+3.24	+0.16	5.10
ORACLE CORP (ORCL)	-2.33	-0.33	13.86
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-0.93	-0.26	27.65

Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	-1.00	-0.50	49.65
10-YEAR NOTE	-1.41	-0.59	41.38
5-YEAR NOTE	-1.87	-0.60	31.50
3-MONTH BILL	-2.18	-0.20	8.97

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl)	+0.24	33.05	
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+3.50	402.90	
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+1.40	84.925	

Exchange Rates			
YEN		105.8	
EURO		0.8022	
POUND		0.5482	
CANADIAN \$		1.325	

IN BRIEF

Winn-Dixie reports severe losses

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Supermarket chain Winn-Dixie Stores Inc. reported a loss for the latest quarter, suspended its dividend and announced plans to cut \$100 million in annual costs that could include store closings.

The announcements Friday came as Standard & Poor's lowered Winn-Dixie's corporate debt rating and said it was reviewing the situation to see if further reductions were warranted. Winn-Dixie shares tumbled \$2.53, or 28 percent, to close at \$6.56 on the New York Stock Exchange.

The company, which operates a 1,078-store chain in 12 Southeastern states and the Bahamas, said Friday it plans to cut payroll and corporate services, sell money-losing stores and tighten its centralized purchasing.

U.S. Steel reports fourth-quarter losses

PITTSBURGH — U.S. Steel Corp. on Friday reported a net loss for the fourth quarter following a year in which the company pared down its work force and shed a money-losing online venture. But its sales jumped with the acquisitions of steel firms in the United States and Europe.

The world's largest integrated steel company reported a loss of \$27 million, or 26 cents per share, in the last three months of 2003 compared with a profit of \$11 million, or 10 cents per share, for the same period in 2002. The loss includes dividend payments on preferred stock of \$5 million.

The consensus forecast of analysts surveyed by Thomson First Call was for a loss of 37 cents per share. U.S. Steel shares rose \$1.34 to close at \$34.05 on the New York Stock Exchange.

Chevron-Texaco's profits double

SAN RAMON, Calif. — Chevron-Texaco Corp.'s fourth-quarter profit nearly doubled, capping a year in which the oil giant cashed in on high fuel prices to snap out of a financial malaise.

The San Ramon-based company said Friday that it earned \$1.7 billion, or \$1.63 per share, during 2003's final three months. That marked a dramatic improvement from net income of \$904 million, or 85 cents per share, at the same time in the prior year.

COMPUTING AND ELECTRONICS

Gateway to buy eMachines

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — In its latest attempt to find profits in the notoriously low-margin personal computer business, Gateway Inc. will buy privately held eMachines Inc. in a deal valued at \$235 million.

The combined company would still trail Dell Inc. and Hewlett-Packard Co., but executives hope the increased volume will give it more leverage in negotiating with suppliers. A similar argument was made when HP announced it was buying Compaq Computer Corp. in 2001.

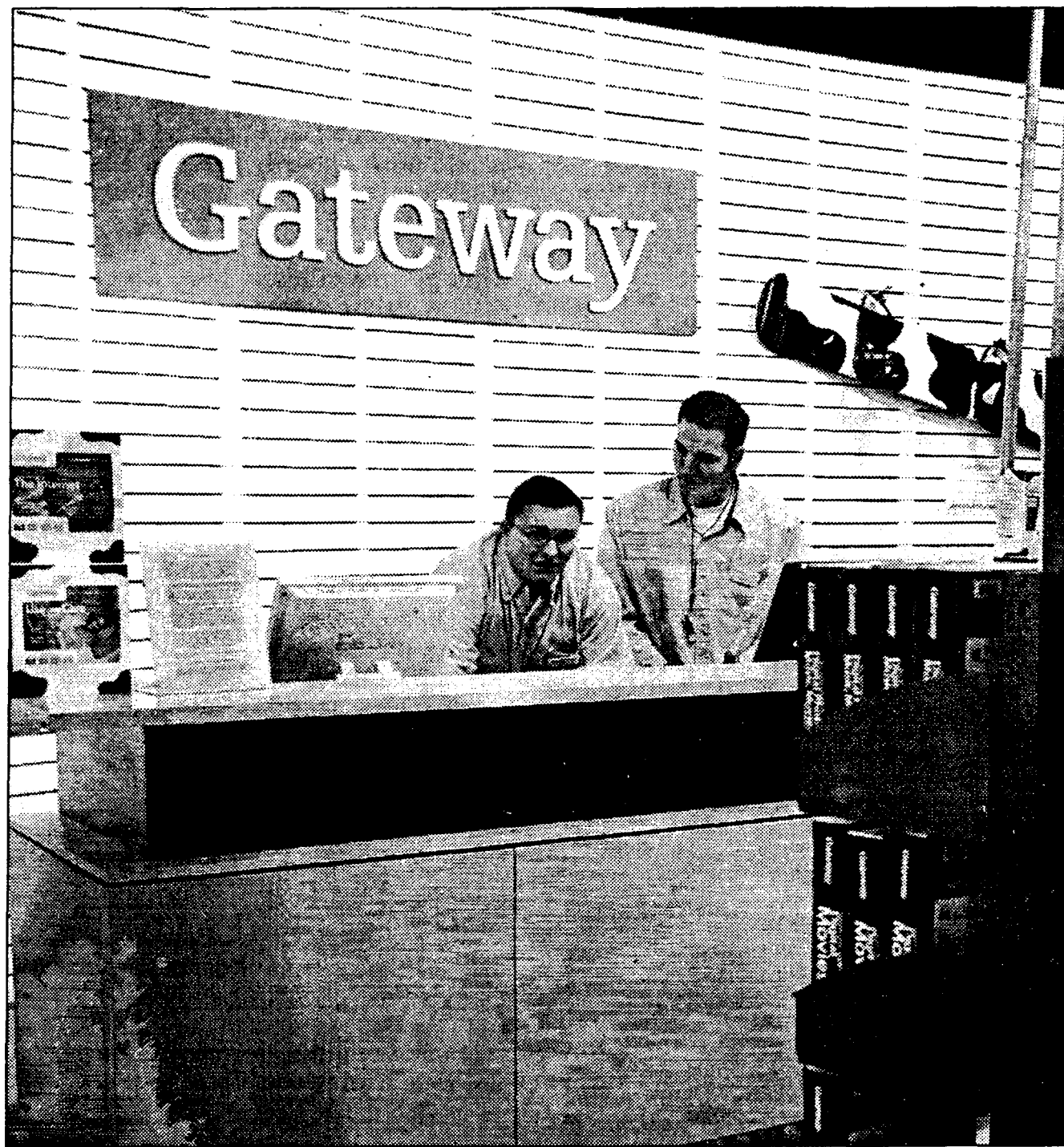
"There's an element of last man standing here," said Roger Kay, an analyst at the research firm IDC. "The PC industry is definitely consolidating and, at this stage, bulk counts."

Gateway and eMachines each had about 3.4 percent of the total U.S. market in the fourth quarter of last year, according to IDC. By comparison, Dell and HP together commanded more than half.

The agreement announced Friday came a day after Gateway posted its 12th loss in 13 quarters, a result of sharply declining sales and charges related to its makeover from a personal computer maker to consumer electronics company.

"Competing against Dell and HP is tough," said Stephen Baker, an analyst for NPD Group Inc. "There isn't anything they can do to close that gap that would be meaningful. That gap is so big that there's just nothing you can do."

Gateway's revenue last year was little more than one-third what it was in 2000. The company introduced a raft of flat-panel TVs, cameras and music players last year, but lack-



Two customer service representatives work at an Illinois Gateway store Wednesday. Gateway announced its \$235 million acquisition of eMachines Friday.

luster holiday sales failed to validate its gamble to branch into consumer electronics.

Last year, Gateway's PC shipments fell 24 percent to just under 2.1 million units. eMachines shipped 1.9 million PCs last year, meaning the transaction would effectively double Gateway's PC business.

Ted Waitt, who founded Gateway in 1985 and returned as chief executive in 2001, said skepticism by analysts about the future of the company's PC business, which still accounts for about 70 percent of its revenue, "basi-

cally gets answered" by the acquisition.

Once the deal is closed in about six to eight weeks, Waitt will be replaced by eMachines' CEO, Wayne Inouye. Waitt, 41, will remain Gateway's chairman. Inouye, 51, was senior vice president of computer merchandising at Best Buy Co. before joining eMachines in 2001 to turn around the then-struggling company.

The two companies, which began negotiating about a month ago, have targeted different customers. eMachines employs only 138 people,

mostly in Orange County, hiring outside firms and selling its lower-end PCs through major electronics retailers, including Best Buy, Circuit City Stores Inc. and Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

Gateway, which employs about 7,500 people, sells its higher-end gear at its shrinking chain of 190 stores and over the Internet and phone.

Gateway said it had no plans to carry the eMachines brand in its stores and hasn't approached eMachines' retailers about carrying the Gateway brand.

AIR TRAVEL

ATA strikes deal with bondholders

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The parent company of ATA Airlines Inc. reached agreement with bondholders Friday, buying itself more time to repay debt and ease a cash crunch that threatened to bankrupt the nation's 10th largest carrier.

ATA Holdings Corp. said it had met conditions for completing a bond exchange offer. The conditions included gaining satisfactory consent from bondholders and completing amendments for leasing Boeing 737s and 757s that ATA had ordered before the Sept. 11 attacks.

ATA also said it had won approval from the federal Air Transportation

Stabilization Board, which guarantees loans to airlines.

The low-fare carrier had faced the prospect of paying off \$300 million in debt over two years while making aircraft lease payments.

Friday's announcement "will certainly give ATA a lot of breathing room to recover from the last couple years of industry difficulties," said Richard Bittenbender, an airline analyst at Moody's Investors Service.

ATA shares closed up 41 cents, or 3.3 percent, at \$12.84 on the Nasdaq Stock Market.

Indianapolis-based ATA said last summer that it could not meet debt obligations unless it won more time

to repay bondholders. The airline warned of a possible Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing unless it secured new repayment terms.

Under the bond swap, ATA has more time to repay \$175 million in bond notes originally due in August and \$125 million in notes that were due next year. In exchange for stretching out the repayments, bondholders receive more favorable interest and cash consideration terms.

ATA made its initial bond exchange offer Aug. 29, but was forced to revise the terms and extend the offer's deadline several times after failing to win enough bondholder support.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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

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Don't appeal to Catholicism in election

Speculating whether a more Catholic voter should choose a Republican or Democrat is an exercise in both absurdity and intellectual insecurity. Anyone who requires the comfort of knowing that God will approve of his vote to either retain or oust George W. Bush is bound to be disappointed and should reevaluate the purpose of voting.

Bill Rinner

A Voice of Reason

No matter how much you are influenced by Catholic social teaching, it's no surprise that the distribution of issues across the party platforms makes neither Democrats or Republicans truly shine from a purely Catholic perspective.

Democrats would never nominate a candidate who would sign a ban on abortion or nominate Supreme Court justices who would overturn "Roe v. Wade," and the incumbent Republican facilitated what Catholic social teaching considers an unjust war in Iraq. There you have it; now get over it.

The reality of the modern political arena is that no candidate will ever espouse every social tenet of Catholicism, so many try to find comfort in the ability to weigh certain Catholic issues and vote for the lesser of two evils. It is an unfortunate position for any voter to find himself in, but I take issue with anyone who allows such a strong religious bias into their voting preferences.

No single vote will ever make you more or less of a Catholic, and those who seek divine inspiration for their voting patterns will likely end up at the polling booth trumpeting a skewed notion of God's will. To even suggest that Catholics should only vote for a single candidate is an insult to the church's endorsement of

free will as God's greatest gift to humanity.

If a priest mentions in his homily that you, as a good Catholic, should vote for a specific candidate, then you are not hearing the voice of a mediator between the human and the divine, but rather a human who is abusing his office and has the same political biases as the rest of us. The Church, or any member of it, should never make our voting decisions for us, and to suggest otherwise is to sanction a severe injustice.

So why would someone conceivably appeal to his religious faith as justification for his political preferences?

Simply put, the answer is insecurity. We live in an era where complete deconstruction of political figures is now as American as apple pie.

During our lifetimes, the prestigious role of the president has eroded significantly after countless scandals and a media that revels in inflating every minor shortcoming or mis-speak for the sake of higher ratings. I don't challenge or bemoan this development, which is the product of a free society, but I can understand that those with only moderate political views would feel insecure choosing between two flawed candidates.

As a natural but unfortunate consequence, those who grew up in a wholly Catholic atmosphere and consider their faith to be crucial to most aspects of their lifestyles will gravitate toward the realm of religious reasoning during each election cycle. It happens all the time. You couldn't decide if you preferred Bush or Gore during the 2000 election; neither had a character or platform that was a perfect match for your personal views, so you looked at your "W.W.J.D?" wristband for some sign of inspiration.

Oh, the folly of man.

The solution I offer to this tendency

is purely a challenge: Grow beyond the bonds of your religious background and develop your vision, foremost, for which candidate would best serve the country. Reevaluate your reasoning for political views and how you would express them in elections.

Listen to your conscience regarding political issues, not your religion. If you can't distinguish the two, then make sure you have arrived at those conclusions through a reasoned analysis of your opinion, not just because it makes sense within the confines of your religious views. The loudest voice in your head should be your own intellect, not what you heard at Mass this weekend.

Better yet, when you finally decide for whom to vote in the upcoming election, make sure that you support the party you believe offers the best vision for the future of America based on the current domestic and international climate, not some utopian religious view of how America "should" be that is inconsistent with the reality of the modern world.

We don't ask God how to run our country, nor does He directly influence any election, which is a testament to the free will of mankind. Claiming that a true Catholic should only vote in one direction is only a flawed way to alleviate a troubled conscience, and this mindset is unhealthy for the nation as a whole.

Bill Rinner is a junior economics major studying abroad at the London School of Economics. He's a religious introvert who promised himself never to write about religion but changed his mind. He can be contacted at wrinner@nd.edu.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Appreciating NDSP

I am currently a junior here at Notre Dame, and for almost three years I have heard many negative stories concerning the NDSP while positive experiences seem to have been at a minimum. I myself had neither a bad nor good experience with the NDSP, until last Friday.

Upon walking out to the D6 parking lot and finding that snow had been plowed two feet high around my car, I knew I would need help getting my car out of the parking space. After about five minutes of my futile attempts to remove such large quantities of snow by myself, an NDSP officer drove up and offered to let me borrow a snow shovel. After clearing a path, the officer then helped push my car out of the parking space and I was on my way.

Only a week before, my roommate had suffered a

severe allergic reaction and had to be taken to the hospital. At five in the morning, an NDSP officer was helpful enough to give my roommate a ride back to campus and drove him right to the front door of the dorm.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the men and women of the NDSP for doing more than what is required of them, and to the rest of us students: Cut these guys some slack — they aren't so bad after all.

Michael Milligan
junior
O'Neill Hall
Feb. 1

OBSERVER POLL

What new residence hall options would you like to see at Notre Dame?

Vote by 5 p.m. Thursday at
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Politics and the pulpit are terms that have little agreement."

Edmund Burke
author

Edwards, not Kerry, will depose Bush

Governor Howard Dean's barbaric yawp, in one fell swoop, derailed his campaign. The conservative strategists, aiming to paint Dean as an angry liberal, found in *The Scream* the fullest expression of the erstwhile frontrunner's lunatic fury. Luckily for the GOP, the press promptly turned *The Scream* into an Event, and that, more or less, is the story of the doctor's self-administered coup de grâce.

Roque Strew

*Straight, No
Chaser*

But how lucky was the GOP? Many believed, after all, that Dean was less electable, or more liberal, than Sen. John Kerry or Sen. John Edwards. In fact, the right-wing *National Review* had its fingers crossed for months, praying Dean would keep ahead of the other candidates. In other words, with Dean now (I think) out of the picture, the right now faces a few more formidable challengers.

Let's examine the big two, Kerry and Edwards. Where some sense gravitas, I find in Kerry an affected solemnity. None of his rhetoric rings true to me, especially in light of his voting record. His flip-flopping runs the gamut, which bespeaks either plainjane opportunism or ideological incoherence, perhaps a mix of the two.

After his wins in Iowa and New Hampshire, "The New Republic" subjected Kerry to closer scrutiny. What they found was a man attacked in the past as a "soft-on-crime, soft-on-welfare, crazed-on-taxes paleoliberal." Rove will mine that quarry happily — and more aggressively — but it'll be an uphill battle to gainfully weigh Kerry's "early years as a warrior, protester, prosecutor and legislator" against "Bush's early years as a drinker."

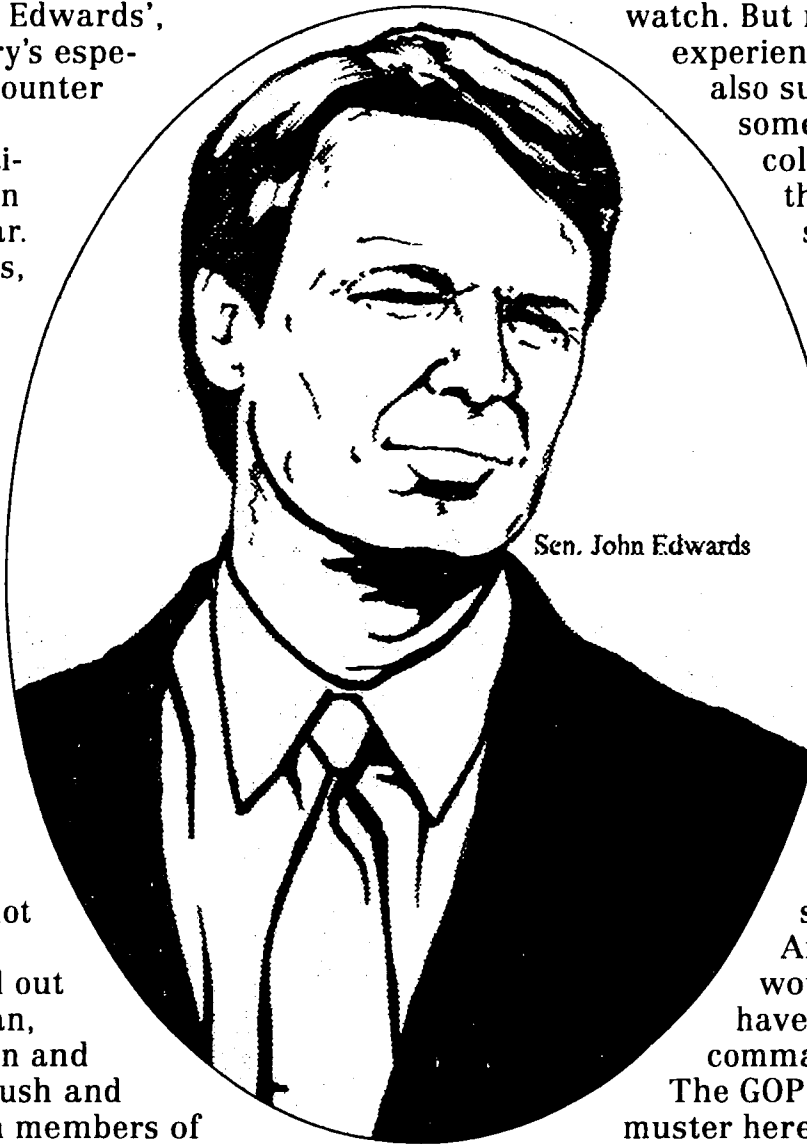
However, it's the later years where Kerry falters.

As much as Kerry's recent legislative hijinks worry me, so does his campaign. If you look at every campaign excepting Edwards', Dean's and Kerry's especially, you'll encounter the inevitable exchange of criticisms, some even verging on smear. But Edwards has, from the outset, run a positive campaign. Even conservatives have applauded Edwards' serenity.

Add to that his biography. What Edwards shares with Clark is an authentically plebeian, not patrician, background — he's not another affluent Bulldog churned out by Yale, like Dean, Kerry, Lieberman and Bush. (In fact, Bush and Kerry were even members of the same infamous "secret society" of elites at Yale, Skull and Bones.) Edwards, on the other hand, went to North Carolina State. Unlike Bush, he didn't attend an exclusive prep school. And he doesn't hail from a political dynasty or oil money. On the contrary, his father worked in a textile mill. Which, then, can better relate to Middle America?

Notre Dame's own College Democrats, a predominantly female group, share a strong balance of optimism and outrage. Bush won't serve another term — not on their watch. But my handful of experiences with them also suggest to me something else: a collective hope that, after each successful debate,

Edwards will, *Mia Hamm*-style, tear off his oxford shirt and bare his sculpted pectorals in all their Hellenistic majesty. Looks matter — I think we have a consensus here. America simply would rather not have an unsightly commander-in-chief. The GOP barely passes muster here. Not so the Democrats. The tradition of handsome, youthful Democratic candidates begins, of course, with JFK. (William F. Buckley, Jr., goes so far as to say that JFK's real legacy was his beauty.) Then Gary Hart in 1984 and Bill Clinton in 1992. And now Edwards — deemed by *People* magazine a few years ago the "Sexiest Man Alive" in the politician category.



Back to Edwards' debating skill. He's an astonishingly successful attorney, first off; argument is his profession and he's proved to have mastered it. Some believe that if Edwards ended up as the Democratic nominee, Bush would simply refuse to debate him. The soothing drawl, the warm smile, the swift intellect — it'd be over before it started.

Bush, let's be honest, couldn't debate his way out of a wet paper bag. (Maybe he could cheer his way out of one.) Top-dollar schooling evidently failed him in that department. So the prospect of our beloved incumbent locking rhetorical horns with Edwards — on national television, no less — must have Karl Rove shaking in his imported loafers. At that same prospect, people like me are all but salivating, gleefully imagining the sound thrashing Edwards would deliver.

Let's backpedal and revisit the morning after *The Scream*. Because the media focused nearly all its attentions on Dean's antics, the more substantial story was buried: Edwards' second-place finish. Kerry was instead lavished with attention, which undoubtedly helped in New Hampshire. So the media, in reality, dealt both Dean and Edwards a solid blow. The former's done with, but the latter, as the GOP knows and fears, is still fighting the good fight. With us behind him, Edwards, not Kerry, will depose Bush.

Roque Strew is a junior political science major who vehemently denies having a so-called man-crush on Sen. Edwards. His column appears every other Monday. He can be contacted at wstrew@nd.edu.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Defending 'The Vagina Monologues'

Exploring play's complexities

I would like to respond to Professor Rice's Jan. 28 column concerning "The Vagina Monologues" at Notre Dame.

In 2002, when "The Vagina Monologues" first came to Notre Dame, Professor Rice expressed concern and distress for some of the content of the play, as he did again this week. He worried about the questionable nature of some of the monologues and what they would mean for women and for Notre Dame. And he is right to worry. As the play says, "We were worried about vaginas."

"The Vagina Monologues" is not a simple play — it is incredibly complex. To attempt to cast the entire play in a single light is to miss the point it is trying to make. Professor Rice's mistake is that he attempts to do just that — classify the entire play as an advertisement for immorality and perversion.

It is true that some of the Monologues will make audience members uncomfortable. Others may cause outrage. Others may cause fear or pity, while still others will create an unwavering sense of hope. The fact is that "The Vagina Monologues" is a metaphor for women and an example of women's diverse experiences in life. To silence even one of them, no matter how upsetting or outrageous, is to silence us all. And once we get to talking, there's no stopping us.

Professor Rice chastises the administration for its decision to allow such a play to be performed on the campus of Our Lady. I say that Our Lady would be proud. She, too, had a story to tell. Pregnant out of wedlock with only an incredible

explanation for her husband-to-be, she asked that others hear her story and have faith that, although she did not fit into the mold that society expected her to, she was an important and worthy woman.

Mary had a vagina. And I bet she would have something to say.

Finally, I find it disturbing that Professor Rice refers to the administration's responses to criticism as "academic banalities." In a University as well-respected as Notre Dame, how can any academic pursuit be considered banal? Have faith, Professor Rice, that the students of Notre Dame will see the play, take it all in, and decide for themselves. I encourage everyone, even the most steadfast critics, to see the play. Explore the complexities of the stories, of the women and of their lives, and decide for yourself how you will interpret them.

Congratulations to the amazing women of V-Day ND 2004. Your hard work and dedication will no doubt make this year the most fun and informative yet. Every moment you put into this work, every person you talk to about the play or about V-Day, and every time you think about your own beliefs because of this effort, you are helping to be sure that women everywhere will be able to live happier, safer lives.

Kerry Walsh
class of 2002
former V-Day ND organizer
Jan. 30

An equal opportunity production?

I am writing to address a grave concern of mine: the travesty known as "The Vagina Monologues." Clearly, allowing them to come here will put a blemish in our school's otherwise great reputation. I cannot believe that we are allowing ourselves to take such a significant step backwards in the development of our atmosphere of sexual equality.

Where, I ask, are "The Penis Monologues?" What kind of equal-opportunity campus are we if we can't even provide comparable theatre experience for our men and our women? Now, I don't know much about this monologue play, but I do know that it has vagina in the title, and to me, that just exudes discrimination. Clearly, this can only be balanced out with a play that has penis in the title. I mean, come on. Men have sex organs, too. We can get onstage and talk about them. Ever think about that? Seriously.

I hope if you have been reading this far, you are either very angry with me, or laughing hysterically. (I will accept either result.) I wrote this letter as a joke, hoping to prove the point that you can't really complain about something unless you have experienced it. And by "experienced," I don't mean you saw a special on C-SPAN, or you looked up a few quotes about lesbians to put into an editorial. So before you throw a fit about administration laxness, school reputation, or your own inability to deal with the word "vagina," buy a ticket and see what they have to say. I know I will.

Justin Smith
freshman
Dillon Hall
Jan. 30

Rocking the F

Motion City Soundtrack, Sugarcult, MxPx and Simple Plan hit Chicago Friday

By MAUREEN BUSH
Scene Writer

The first large pop punk tour of the year breezed through the Windy City Jan. 30, leaving the young adults of Chicago with a warm feeling despite the biting cold outdoors. Motion City Soundtrack, Sugarcult and co-headlin-

ers MxPx and Simple Plan took the downtown Rivera Theater by storm that night, filling the theater to the brink and pleasing the anxious crowd.

The show opened with Epitaph recording artist Motion City Soundtrack from Minneapolis. This excellent blend of unusual vocals, electric keyboards and beats was a powerful way to start the night. The band played their much

too short eight song set with flare. They began their set with "Cambridge" and continued by playing the majority of the songs on their full-length album, "I Am the Movie."

Lead singer and guitar, Justin Pierre, has an excellent voice, and the quality shone through to the crowd of exuberant teenagers. Motion City Soundtrack is rounded out by Joshua Cain on guitars and back-up vocals, Tony Thaxton on drums, Jesse Johnson on moog (a small keyboard-type

instrument), and Matthew Taylor on bass and backup vocals. Their set flowed beautifully as they finished up with fan-favorites, "The Future Freaks Me Out" and "My Favorite Accident."

This band has an amazing amount of talent and this was evident as they finished their set. The group could do something spectacular in the future.

As Simple Plan lead singer Pierre Bouvier said later that night, "Give it up for Motion City Soundtrack. We're OK. They are great."

The next act of the night was Santa Barbara, California's own Sugarcult. This powerful pop-punk foursome put together an excellent set that was very well received by the crowd who was looking to take

the energy level up a notch. Sugarcult did just that entering the stage to with popular song, "Stuck in America."

The high energy continued through the night as they played songs from their full-length album, "Start Static," such as, "Daddy's Little Defect," "She's the Blade," and "Pretty Girl." They also played their new song, "Memory," to supplement the older favorites. This song is on their new full length titled, "Palm Trees and Powerlines," which is scheduled to be released on April 13.

Leading the way was singer/guitar Tim Pagnotta, with band mates Marko 72 on guitar, Airin on bass and vocals, and Ben Davis on drums and vocals. Their hooks were incredibly catchy and kept the crowd jumping the whole set. Their clever use of lyrics enhanced the melodies. The music had enough pop credence to draw the crowd in and was smart enough to keep them excited for the next song.

Sugarcult played an excellent set and made one lucky fan's night by pulling him out of the crowd to videotape the set for their impending DVD they will be releasing. Members of the band could also be found out by their merchandise booth during the show and after the show to take pictures and sign autographs for the fans. This kind of attitude, supplemented by their punchy music, will help them continue on their path to fame.

Next in line was veteran

Christian punk act MxPx, hailing from Bremerton, Washington. Made up of Mike Herrera singing and playing bass, Tom Wisniewski on guitar, and Yuri Ruley on drums, MxPx has released over 11 albums since 1995, the most recent being, "Before Everything & After," released in August on A&M Records. They began their set with "Play It Loud" and kept up the intensity all night. They played their set like the veterans they are.

The show was an excellent mix, hitting both old favorites and the newer songs. They played "The Next Big Thing," "Southbound," and brought out the acoustic guitar for "Quit Your Life" among the others. Like Sugarcult, they made two girls' night by bringing them up on stage to have the band's first ever bass-off. The band gave each girl a bass guitar and had them battle it out to see who was the best. Neither girl had ever played before, but the use of crowd participation was a hit with the fans.

After the bass-off, the band finished up with a cover song followed by one of their own, having Wisniewski sing "Should I Stay or Should I Go." They left the stage and came back momentarily to break into a cover of "Summer of '69" and popular song, "Chick Magnet." As always, they finished their set playing "Punk Rawk Show" to the delight of the crowd.

The set was perfect length and was well planned. Hearing the older songs was nice, but it was a surprise that they played only six new songs in a 17 song set list. Still, it was a well played set that kept the predominantly Simple Plan fan crowd happy.

The final act of the night was northern neighbor Simple Plan from Canada, with Pierre Bouvier on vocals, Chuck Comeau on drums, Jeff Stinko on lead guitar, David Desrosiers on bass and backup vocals and Sebastien Lefebvre on bass and back up vocals.

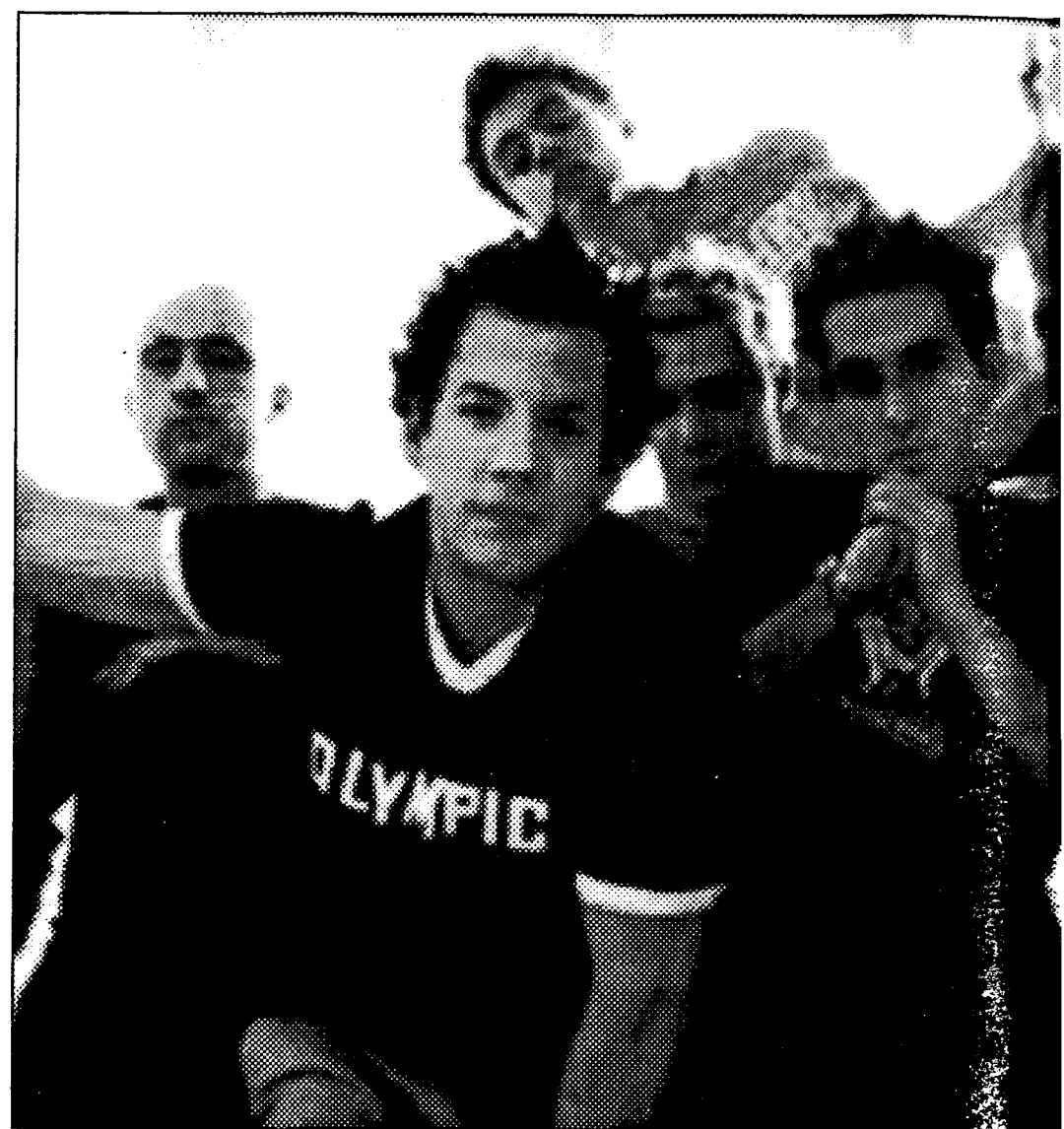
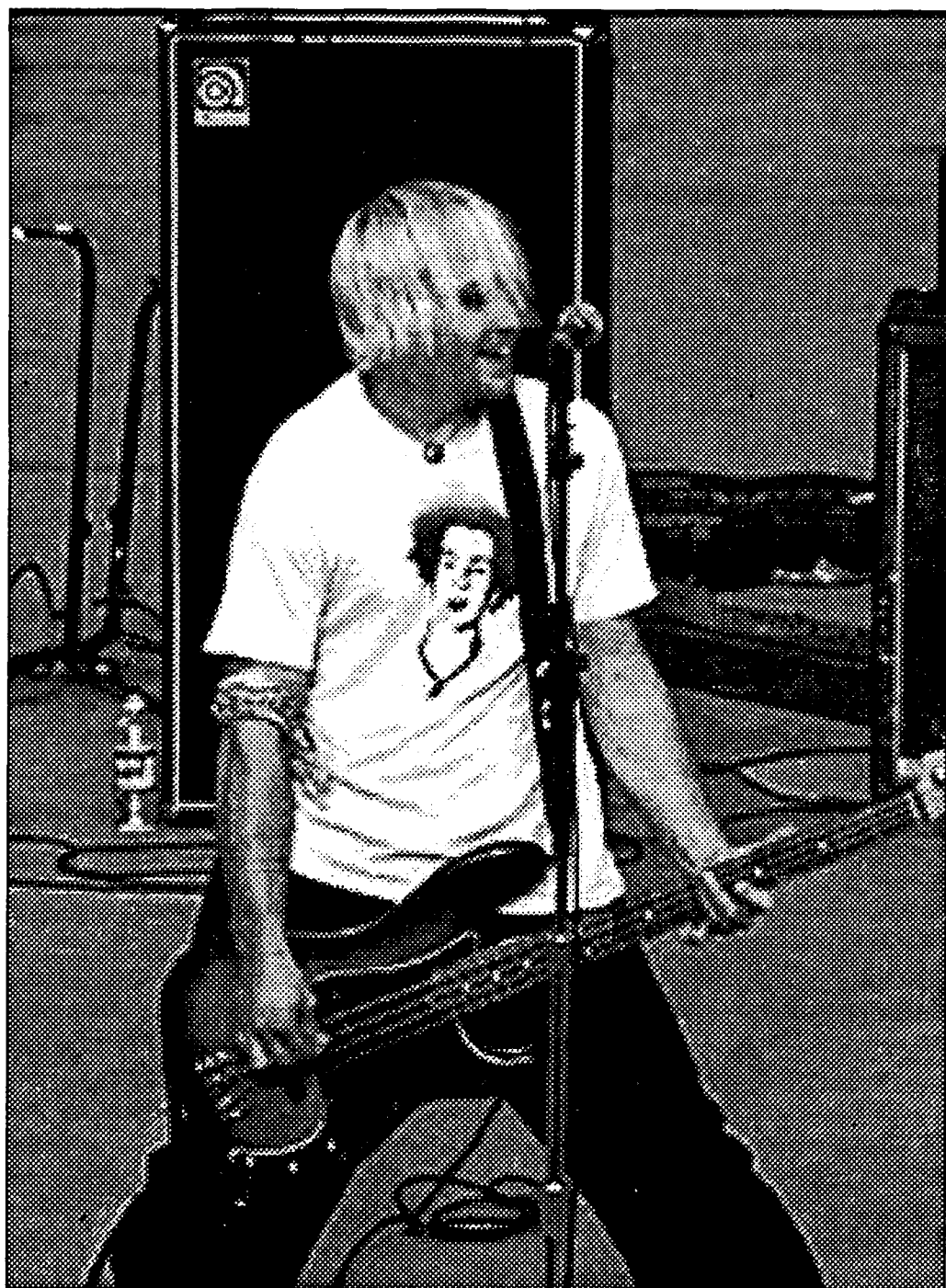


Photo courtesy of www.simpleplan.com
The Canadian rockers of Simple Plan headlined last weekend's tour of up-and-coming bands.



Photos courtesy of www.sugarcult.com

California's pop-punk foursome Sugarcult was a hit with crowds at the Riviera Theatre in Chicago last weekend.

Riviera

any night in one of the year's first big rock tours

These French-Canadian punks were the highlight of the night for many of the teens in the crowd whose resounding screams filled the building as they took the stage to the Star Wars theme, "The Imperial March." They immediately ripped into their set, playing many of the songs off their 2002 debut album, "No Pads, No Helmets... Just Balls," including radio hits, "I'm Just a Kid," "Addicted," and "I'd Do Anything."

This high-energy band is very reminiscent of fellow pop punk band Good Charlotte. Both have catchy hooks and fast paced anthems for disillusioned teens who want to scream their frustrations about growing up. The band played their songs and made jokes between them in Blink-182 fashion for the captivated audience. After playing some of their songs, the band really kicked in covering Pink's, "Get the Party Started", The Black Eyed Peas "Where's the Love", and also the Turtles' "Happy Together". Hearing so many cover songs in one night was a bit surprising.

Bouvier and his acoustic guitar provided the second encore of the night with Simple Plan's latest radio hit, "Perfect." Bouvier started the song himself, but then stopped and allowed the thousands of voices in the Riviera to do the work for him. Halfway through the song the rest of the band joined him on stage and they filled out the rest of the music in an excellent end to the concert.

Overall, it was a well-crafted tour with an interesting mix of different bands. The talent of some of the bands was over the heads of the kids who were seemingly there for one pur-

pose, to see Simple Plan. Simple Plan deserves a lot of credit for realizing this talent and taking these bands on tour to give them exposure to the masses.

Contact Maureen Bush at
bush3328@saintmarys.edu



Motion City Soundtrack's excellent vocals, beats and work on the keyboard could bring the band great success in the future.

Photos courtesy of www.motioncitysoundtrack.com

A cry for the original Viewpoint

I come to you today, my dear friends, to bring to light the dire situation we are facing concerning The Observer Viewpoint section. Many people turn to the Viewpoint section in order to explore the various perspectives of fellow students and faculty, hoping to gain insight on current issues that are relevant to the student body and in our world. This, after all, is why the section exists.

I have noticed, however, that the scope of the issues covered in The Observer by the student body has become increasingly narrow. In fact, on any given day, there's a pretty good chance that most students can name two or three of the articles that are published before even opening the paper. Because of this, I have decided to layout for you a quick list of what I believe to be the most played-out Viewpoint articles of all time.

First of all, I must point out the "obscure political reference that no one cares about" article. This is typically a full-page article that attempts to turn the student body towards either tree-hugging liberalism or "ostracize everyone but the upper-middle class" conservatism. Thanks for the effort guys, but if I were looking for an article like this I would've picked up copies of "Common Sense" or the "Irish Rover."

Second, there's the typical "Cherish your time at ND" article that someone is sure to send in once a week. This usually comes from a senior who is lamenting over their experiences at Notre Dame and talking about anything from what they think to be a funny Frosh-O experience to the last time they got drunk at the Linebacker. On occasion, these articles can be tolerable, giving the student body a chance to reflect on their experiences here, but after awhile they start to sound like an NBC "the more you know" commercial. This type of article can also easily be coupled with the "thank God I'm finally 21" article, which generally recounts close calls with bar busts or fake ID stories.

Then, of course, there is the "I'm ultra-sensitive and everything offends me" article, carrying the tone of the movie PCU throughout. This article rants about different events going on around campus that "don't fit in with the Catholic nature of the University" and usually tries to stifle much of the creative

thinking that goes on here.

Two of the usual suspects that are attacked here are the Vagina Monologues and the Keenan Review. I must say, if you're going to object to something about the Keenan

Tom Raaf

Scene
Columnist

Review then you should go off about the annoying girls in the crowd that sing all of the songs between skits. They are simply unbearable. Oh, and that awful head-bobbing that accompanies the singing...Lord, please make it stop.

On a related note to the previous article, there is the "offended person's response to the offended person." This is when someone writes a Viewpoint about something that offended them and the next day another article comes out about how offensive the previous article was to another person. These articles can get a little ridiculous and are at times hilarious because the writer often ends up looking like a total crackpot. Does anyone remember that girl who was fuming about clothing styles on campus? If not, you can find her at the first table on the left in North Dining hall, according her instructions.

I consulted a classmate of mine, fellow women's studies major Dan Block, for a reaction to lack of diversity in the Viewpoint's students are submitting and he had this to say: "I'm just surprised that no one has written on the plight of the three-toed Sri Lankan tree lemur. This rare species travels the forests in fear of his life while heartless poachers chase him like they're playing some kind of game. It's a damn shame, Jenkins, a damn shame." Upon hearing this, I shed a tear then quickly reminded him that my name was in fact Tom, not Jenkins.

I would continue on my little ramblings about the common Viewpoint themes, but then my article would look really long on the page and everyone would skip over it. So, in closing, I must say this: if anything I have said hurt your feelings or offended you, I'll see you in the Viewpoint section tomorrow.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Tom Raaf at traaf@nd.edu.

FENCING

Irish down slew of challengers at dual meet

By MATT MOONEY
Sports Writer

Saturday's dual meet marked the first time all season the Notre Dame fencing team showcased its talent in front of a home crowd. The defending national champions did not disappoint.

Ten other teams arrived in South Bend with the hopes of besting the host Irish teams. Both the men and the women mowed down their opposition, finishing the tournament at a perfect 9-0 and 10-0, respectively. The women improved their season record to 20-0 while the men advanced to an 18-1 mark.

The dual meet began on Saturday with Notre Dame fencing against Cleveland State and Air Force. Neither the men nor the women had any problem taking either match. The men topped Cleveland State 24-3 while the women dominated with a 26-1 victory. Air Force didn't put up much more of a fight, as both squads dispatched the Falcons 21-6. The next match against Ohio State, as expected, proved to be the most difficult of the weekend.

Against an Ohio State team ranked second on both sides, the Irish faced a much steeper challenge. Against the Buckeyes, the men's epeeists and sabers struggled to a combined 9-9 record leaving the match for the foilists to decide. But the Irish foilists faced a formidable foe in the per-

son of Ohio State freshman Boaz Ellis. Ellis quickly swept aside both freshman Frankie Bontempo and senior All-American Forest Walton 5-1 and 5-0, respectively. That was when senior Derek Snyder put the team on his back.

In his first bout against Buckeye sophomore Alexander Law, Snyder faced a 4-0 deficit and match point. But he battled back, scoring five unanswered touches to win in a 5-4 decision.

His greatest test, however, came in the team's last match against Ohio State when he fenced Ellis. "Seeing where he finished in all the world cups he always does really, really well," he said. "I knew that it was going to be the toughest match up to this point in the season."

With both teams and a throng of Irish fans circling the strip, the two squared off in one of the most intense matches of the day. This time, Snyder jumped out to the early lead, putting Ellis in a deep 4-1 hole. Ellis fought back and used a furious rally to record the next three points and tie the bout at four. Both fencers struggled in the deadlock until finally Snyder scored the final touch to secure a 5-4 victory.

A roar burst from the Notre Dame faithful as the men defeated Ohio State by a 15-12 score. Snyder's win capped a big day as he finished Saturday with a perfect 12-0 record.

The women's match was even closer.



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish fencer Aaron Adjemian and the men's team took care of a tough, No. 2 ranked Ohio State team and other opponents this weekend. The men advanced to 18-1 on the season.

Despite the epee team winning only two of nine matches to Ohio State, junior Natalie Bustamante's surprising 5-4 victory over top Buckeye epeeist Alexandra Shklar proved critical.

Bustamante, who is not on scholarship, showed just how deep the Irish talent pool goes.

"It was great because our walk-on beat their top girl," Walton said. "You know you can

rely on the rest of your team and you fence better when you don't have that pressure."

Contact Matt Mooney at mmooney@nd.edu

ND SWIMMING

Michigan spoils near-perfect weekend for Irish women

By MATT PUGLISI
Sports Writer

What's the deal with Michigan?

Thus far this year, the Wolverines have managed to embarrass the Irish football team, to knock the men's soccer team out of the NCAA tournament, to hand the Irish women's soccer team two of their three losses — including a season-ending upset in the NCAA tournament — and to top a higher ranked women's tennis squad.

Add women's swimming to the list of victims.

A day after taking care of both Ohio State (9-4) and Michigan State (1-9) in East Lansing, Mich. Friday, the No. 21 Irish (7-2) fell to No. 16 Michigan (8-1), 166-134, in the

Rolfs Aquatic Center on Saturday.

"Michigan has some of the top breaststrokes and distance swimmers in the country," freshman Katie Carroll said. "Although we lost, as a team we did great and everyone swam up to their potential."

On Friday, Notre Dame defeated Ohio State and Michigan State, 194-105 and 160-138, respectively. Seniors Danielle Hulick (100 backstroke and 50 freestyle), Lisa Garcia (200 butterfly and 200 individual medley) and Meghan Perry Eaton (1- and 3-meter board) and Carroll (100 and 500 freestyle) each recorded a pair of first place finishes.

Freshman Ellen Johnson (200 freestyle) and sophomore Christel Bouvron (100 butter-

fly) also chipped in event victories as the Irish won 11 overall events in shutting down the Buckeyes and Spartans Friday.

Notre Dame, however, was unable to repeat the triangular meet performance Saturday.

While Hulick (100-meter backstroke and 50-meter freestyle), Garcia (200-meter butterfly), Johnson (200-meter backstroke), Carroll (200-meter individual medley) and Perry Eaton (1- and 3-meter board) all posted event victories, it wasn't enough as

Michigan exploded out of the gates, winning the meet's first three events on its way to taking 9 of the 16 total events.

The Irish women will hit the water again next Saturday when they host Oakland in their final tune up before the Big East Championships from Feb. 19th to Feb. 21st.

The men's squad won 11 of the 13 overall events to wrap up a 5-2 January with a 159-75 thrashing of St. Bonaventure (6-5) in the Rolfs Aquatic Center Saturday.

NOTRE DAME 159, ST. BONAVENTURE 75 at ROLF'S AQUATIC CENTER

400 medley relay: Doug Bauman, Tim Randolph, Frank Krakowski, Matt Obringer (ND), 3:25.79. 1,000 freestyle: Ted Brown (ND), 9:30.95. 200 freestyle: Brown (ND), 1:44.09. 50 freestyle: Tim Kegelman (ND), 21:40. 200 butterfly: J.R. Teddy (ND), 1:55.13. 100 freestyle: Randolph (ND), 47.31. 200 backstroke: Chris Zeches (ND), 1:57.43. 200 breaststroke: Matt Cormier (St. Bonaventure), 2:11.88. 500 freestyle: Jamie Lutkus (ND), 4:44.95. 200 individual medley: Jamie Lutkus (ND), 1:54.51. 400 freestyle relay: Brian Coughlan, Teddy, Patrick Heffernan, Steve Shomberger (ND), 3:18.07. 1-meter diving: Scott Coyle (ND), 298.13. 3-meter diving: Randy Kozlowski (St. Bonaventure), 300.38.

NO. 16 MICHIGAN 166, NOTRE DAME 134 at ROLF'S AQUATIC CENTER

400 medley relay: Sara Johnson, Kelli Stein, Anne Weibacher, Lindsey Smith (UM), 4:13.78. 800 freestyle: Susan Gilliam (UM), 8:43.56. 200 freestyle: Amy McCullough (UM), 2:02.01. 100 backstroke: Danielle Hulick (ND), 1:03.62. 200 backstroke: Ellen Johnson (ND), 2:15.37. 200 butterfly: Lisa Garcia (ND), 2:16.87. 50 freestyle: Danielle Hulick (ND), 26.40. 100 freestyle: Lindsey Smith (ND), 56.71. 100 backstroke: Kelli Stein (UM), 1:11.77. 200 breaststroke: Kelli Stein (UM), 2:34.21. 400 freestyle: Susan Gilliam (ND), 4:15.26. 100 butterfly: Anne Weibacher (UM), 1:02.16. 200 individual medley: Katie Carroll (ND), 2:18.37. 400 freestyle relay: McCullough, Smith, Abby Seskevics, Weibacher (UM), 3:50.55. 1-meter diving: Meghan Perry-Eaton (ND), 302.63. 3-meter diving: Perry-Eaton (ND), 315.38.

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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To the beautiful girl in the red sweater having lunch with 3 friends at Cafe de Grasta on Tuesday. Thank you for brightening up the room with the awesome smile. - Wolf

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Mary Louise Gude, CSC, at 1-7819. For more information, see our bi-weekly ad in THE OBSERVER.

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TENNIS

Federer defeats Safin to capture Australian Open title

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Roger Federer skipped the sobbing this time. He is, after all, getting familiar with the honor: Grand Slam tournament champion.

Playing shrewd and confident tennis that has left him at No. 1, Federer won the Australian Open 7-6 (3), 6-4, 6-2 Sunday against a weary and frustrated Marat Safin.

Federer has captured two of the last three majors following his Wimbledon triumph.

"I feel like I'm living the game when I'm out there," the Swiss star said. "When a guy is going to hit the ball, I know exactly the angles and the spins. I just feel that I've got that figured out."

It was enough to end Safin's great run. The unseeded Russian beat top-seeded Andy Roddick in the quarterfinals, then stopped defending champion Andre Agassi's 26-match winning streak at the Australian Open in the semis.

But after more than 18 hours and 27 sets in six rounds, Safin had little left. Federer clearly was fresher, having spent just more than 10 hours on court and losing only two sets.

When Federer won Wimbledon last summer, he responded with sobs of relief. At Melbourne Park, he was moved, but far more composed and controlled.

"What a great start to the year for me, to win the Australian Open and become

No. 1 in the world," Federer said. "It means a lot to me."

A day earlier, Justine Henin-Hardenne added another title, winning a third all-Belgian Grand Slam final against Kim Clijsters to remain No. 1. The 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 victory was her third major in eight months.

Federer, seeded second, was already ensured the top ranking by beating third-seeded Juan Carlos Ferrero in the semifinals. Roddick's loss in the quarterfinals ended the U.S. Open champion's stay No. 1.

In addition to his two major titles, Federer also won the season-ending Masters Cup at Houston.

"When it gets important, I feel like I can raise my game," he said.

He surely did that against Safin. The Russian slammed his racket to the court and drew a code violation when he smashed a racket after a double-fault. He talked to himself and to the crowd; he shook his head and shrugged after most of his 41 unforced errors.

Against Agassi, one of the best serve returners in the game, Safin had 31 aces and no double-faults. Against Federer, the balls kept coming back.

Federer chased overheads and forehands down the line that had the look of winners. Safin, the 2000 U.S. Open champion down, was drained.

"I was out of energy, my legs were just too tired," he said. "I was a little too tired to keep up

with him. I felt that I was missing just a little bit. Against Roger, you have to do better than that. I'm not playing a yo-yo."

Safin lost his last six matches in 2003, a rough year in which he struggled with an ailing wrist. He entered the tournament at No. 86 and will improve to the low 30s on Monday.

"I'm actually very glad to be in finals again," he said. "I'm really glad to play my best tennis after the injuries I had last year."

He did get one reward for his marathon effort in Melbourne, matching Harold Solomon's record of 30 sets for a Grand Slam tournament set in the 1976 French Open.

Henin-Hardenne, with three Grand Slams, wants a fourth — on grass.

"Wimbledon this year, for sure, is going to be another goal," she said after adding the Australian to her wins last year. She's proved too good for Clijsters in their last three meetings in which the Williams sisters dominated.

"I still have to improve my game on grass, especially against the strong players like Venus or Serena," Henin-Hardenne said. "I always lost against them over there because they're so powerful."

In Melbourne, she didn't have to face Venus Williams, who was upset in the third round by Lisa Raymond.



Icon Sports

Roger Federer of Switzerland celebrates his victory in the men's tennis singles championship at the Australian Open.

NCAA BASKETBALL

Providence falls to Seton Hall in Big East play

Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Seton Hall decided not to double team Providence's Ryan Gomes, and see if anybody else could beat them one-on-one.

The plan worked.

Gomes got 28 points, but Seton Hall never let any of the other Friars get going, and the Pirates held No. 23 Providence to its lowest point total of the season in a 55-46 victory on

Sunday.

"It was our best defensive game from beginning to end since I've been here," said coach Louis Orr, in his third season at Seton Hall.

Andre Sweet was 7-of-9 from

the field and scored 18 points to lead Seton Hall (14-4, 4-2), which won its third straight — all in the conference.

Providence (14-4, 5-2) had a six-game winning streak snapped, and fell out of a first-

place tie in the Big East with No. 7 Pittsburgh.

"We didn't play with that swagger [we had] in the past three weeks," Providence coach Tim Welsh said. "We played back on our heels and sideways, but they make you play that way. We just didn't have that look."

Gomes, who had 13 rebounds, scored 20 points in the second half, including 16 straight for the Friars at one point.

Gomes "is a tough guy to stop. I thought we did a good job to make him work for his points, but also did a good job with the other people," Orr said.

J.R. Morris scored 13 points for Seton Hall, which shot 54 percent in the second half, while Kelly Whitney added 10. Andre Barrett, the Pirates' leading scorer with an 18.4 average, was held to a season-low six points, and had four assists.

EVER WANT TO START A NEW CLUB?

The Office of Student Activities is currently accepting new club proposals. If you have an idea for a club, whose purpose is not currently served by an existing club, the Club Coordination Council encourages the submission of a new club proposal to the Student Activities Office for review. More information can be found at: www.nd.edu/~sao/clubs/newclub.htm

All requirements must be completed before the new club proposal will be reviewed, including:

- Budget
- List of planned events/activities
- Advisor
- List of officers
- Bylaws and purpose statement

Submit the required information to Amy Geist, 314 LaFortune, by 5pm Friday February 13, 2004 for review this year. The next new club review will not occur until January 2005. Contact the Student Activities Office with any questions!

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AROUND THE NATION

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COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Monday, February 2, 2004

AP College Basketball Polls

Men	Women
team	team
1 Duke (24)	Tennessee (39) 1
2 Stanford (6)	Duke 2
3 St. Joseph's (1)	Connecticut 3
4 Louisville	Texas (1) 4
5 Kentucky	Purdue 5
6 Pittsburgh	Penn State 6
7 Cincinnati	Texas Tech 7
8 Connecticut	Stanford 8
9 Arizona	Louisiana Tech 9
10 Gonzaga	Colorado 10
11 Mississippi State	North Carolina 11
12 Kansas	Kansas State 12
13 Wisconsin	Minnesota 13
14 Texas Tech	DePaul 14
15 North Carolina	LSU 15
16 Georgia Tech	Miami 16
17 Wake Forest	Georgia 17
18 Texas	Michigan State 18
19 Oklahoma State	Baylor 19
20 Florida	TCU 20
21 Purdue	Oklahoma 21
22 Syracuse	Virginia Tech 22
23 South Carolina	Boston College 23
24 Providence	Houston 24
25 Oklahoma	Auburn 25

Mens College Basketball Big East Conference

team	conf.	overall	perc.	last 5
Pittsburgh	6-1	20-1	.952	4-1
Connecticut	5-1	17-3	.850	3-2
Providence	5-2	14-4	.778	4-1
Syracuse	4-2	14-3	.824	3-2
Seton Hall	4-2	14-4	.778	3-2
Villanova	4-3	12-7	.632	3-2
NOTRE DAME	4-3	10-7	.588	2-3
Rutgers	4-4	12-6	.667	3-2
Georgetown	3-4	12-5	.706	2-3
Miami	3-4	13-8	.619	3-2
West Virginia	3-4	11-7	.611	3-2
Boston College	2-5	13-7	.650	2-3
Virginia Tech	1-6	8-10	.444	0-5
St. John's	0-7	5-13	.278	1-4

Womens College Basketball Big East Conference

team	conf.	overall	perc.	last 5
Connecticut	7-1	16-2	.889	5-0
West Virginia	6-2	15-5	.750	5-0
NOTRE DAME	6-2	13-7	.650	4-1
Miami	5-3	16-3	.842	3-2
Rutgers	4-3	12-7	.632	4-1
Virginia Tech	5-4	16-4	.800	3-2
Villanova	4-4	14-5	.737	2-3
Boston College	4-4	14-5	.737	2-3
Seton Hall	4-4	12-7	.632	2-3
Georgetown	4-5	10-9	.526	3-2
Syracuse	3-5	6-12	.333	1-4
St. John's	2-6	8-11	.421	1-4
Pittsburgh	2-6	6-12	.333	0-5
Providence	0-7	4-14	.222	0-5

around the dial

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Syracuse at Connecticut 7 p.m., ESPN
Missouri at Kansas 9 p.m., ESPN
St. Joseph's at Villanova 8 p.m., ESPN2

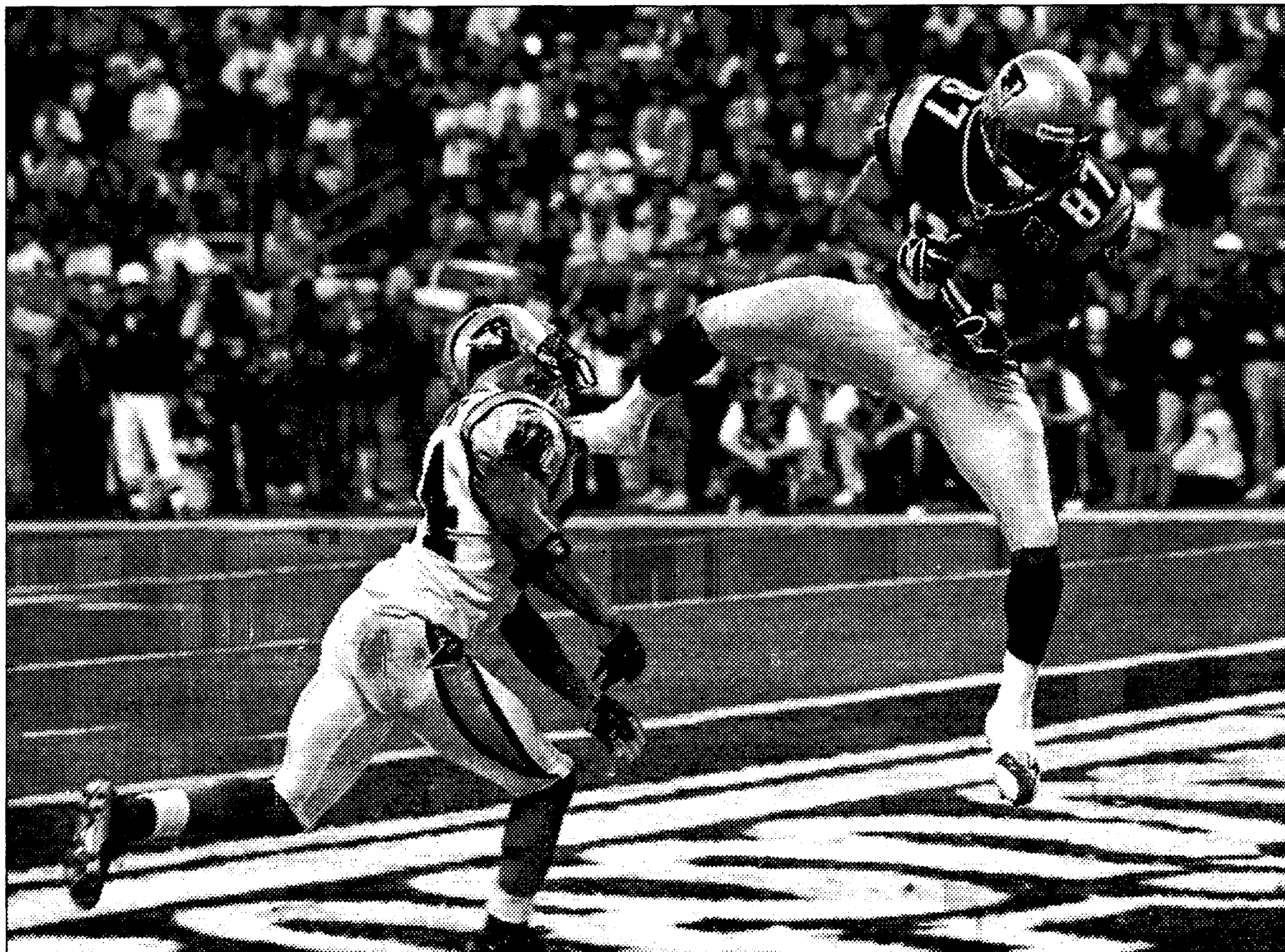
NHL

St. Louis at Minnesota 8 p.m., FOX Sports
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia 8 p.m., Comcast

NBA

Golden State at Memphis 8 p.m., NBA TV
LA Lakers at Indiana 7 p.m., FOX Sports
San Antonio at Utah 9 p.m., NBA TV

NFL



New England Patriots wide receiver David Givens leaps over Panthers cornerback Ricky Manning. Givens, a 2002 Notre Dame graduate, caught the Tom Brady touchdown pass to give the Patriots a 14-7 lead.

Brady, Vinatieri fail, then deliver

Associated Press

HOUSTON — With a chance to put the Patriots ahead early, Adam Vinatieri missed — not once, but twice. With a chance to put them in control late, Tom Brady threw his worst pass of the playoffs.

When it really counted, New England's two coolest customers were perfect.

Brady stood up to Carolina's nasty pass rush, making the throws that got New England in position to win another Super Bowl on a last-second kick. Vinatieri then delivered again with 4 seconds left for a 32-29 victory Sunday.

The dependable duo had done it again.

With his second Super Bowl title in three years, Brady stamped himself as one of the game's best clutch passers. But he was feeling a lot more like a failure after throwing his only interception.

The Patriots were already well within Vinatieri's range early in the fourth quarter when Brady threw one that he immediately knew he should have just flung away.

Instead of letting Vinatieri make the kick and put the Patriots up by eight points, he made an

uncharacteristic mistake. Brady, who didn't throw an interception in any home game during the regular season, simply threw it and hoped.

Reggie Howard's interception in the end zone left him hoping for another chance.

Brady got it, and delivered twice. He led a pair of scoring drives in the final minutes, including a last-second drive that was a bookend to the closing seconds of the Patriots' win over the Rams two years ago.

With the score tied and 68 seconds left, he made three clutch throws that

decided it.

Thirteen yards to Troy Brown, then 13 more to the same guy. Then, with overtime looming and the clock running down, a perfectly timed 17-yard pass to Deion Branch along the right side-line.

As Branch tumbled out of bounds with 9 seconds left, another Lombardi Trophy was within the Patriots' grasp. All they needed was a 41-yard field goal from Vinatieri, who beat the Rams with just such a kick.

"I looked up and it was going down the middle," he said. "I've been very fortunate, very lucky to be on such great teams."

IN BRIEF

CBS apologizes for end to halftime show

NEW YORK — CBS apologized on Sunday for an unexpectedly R-rated end to its Super Bowl halftime show, when singer Justin Timberlake tore off part of Janet Jackson's top, exposing her breast.

"CBS deeply regrets the incident," spokeswoman Leslie Anne Wade said after the network received several calls about the show.

The two singers were performing a flirtatious duet to end the halftime show, and at the song's finish, Timberlake reached across Jackson's leather gladiator outfit and pulled off the covering to her right breast.

The network quickly cut away from the shot, and did not mention the incident on the air.

It was unclear whether Timberlake intended to expose Jackson's breast.

Indian State's leading scorer arrested

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. — David

Moss, Indiana State's leading scorer, faces a domestic battery charge for allegedly attacking a woman following an argument.

Moss, 20, was arrested early Saturday after police responded to a 19-year-old student's report that she was being battered at a campus residential hall, according to an e-mail from university spokeswoman Teresa Exline.

The woman, who refused medical treatment, reported that she had been in an argument with Moss and that he had choked her, leaving abrasions on her neck.

Moss, a sophomore from South Holland, Ill., was being held without bond Sunday at the Vigo County Jail pending a Monday morning hearing on the misdemeanor charge.

Indiana State Athletic Director Andi Myers said the school's Student Judicial Office will look into the matter. "We're going to have to see how this materializes," she said.

NASCAR will not penalize Spencer for comments

NASCAR will not penalize driver Jimmy Spencer for a remark about the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor or his hope that Toyota's venture into truck racing will be a failure.

"That's Jimmy Spencer," NASCAR spokesman Jim Hunter said Sunday when asked about comments the outspoken driver made last week about Toyota's entry into Craftsman Truck competition.

They "bombed Pearl Harbor, don't forget," the San Antonio Express-News quoted the 46-year-old driver as saying during media day at Texas Motor Speedway.

"As long as it's good for the economy, I guess it's OK," said Spencer, who but added that he was rooting for Ford, Chevrolet and Dodge to humiliate Toyota.

The Associated Press was unable to reach Spencer for comment.



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WOMEN'S TENNIS

ND tops 2 Big Ten teams

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

The women's tennis team defeated No. 48 Ohio State, 5-2, then built off its momentum to trounce Wisconsin, 7-0, this weekend.

"Winning against Ohio State helped our confidence a lot" after losing 4-3 to Michigan, said junior Sarah Jane Connelly said.

Connelly and sophomore Kristina Statsny started the team off strong on Saturday, defeating Ohio State's Lindsey Adams and Sonia Ruzimovsky, 8-2. The Irish swept the doubles with freshmen Christian and Catrina Thompson claiming a 9-7 win over Erica Fisk and Jackie Leskovar, and the No. 2 nationally-ranked sophomore Lauren Connelly and senior Alicia Salas defeated Meghan Collville and Lindsay Williams, 9-7.

"[We] played better as [we] went," Irish coach Jay Louderback said. "The key was to get ahead early in doubles."

Salas, nationally ranked 14th, capitalized on the momentum provided by the early doubles victories with a 7-6 (9-7), 6-0 win over Lindsay Williams in singles. Following suit was Christian Thompson, who posted a 6-2, 6-2 win over Fisk. Lauren Connelly contributed a 6-3, 2-6, 6-2 victory over Adams. The Irish clinched the meet when Catrina Thompson edged out Leskovar 7-5, 6-4.

"It was good to play so quickly after losing to Michigan," Louderback said. "Our kids are really competitive and losing their first match was tough."

"They played nervous on Thursday," he said. "You have

butterflies before every match, but then your nerves disappear later."

Overcoming that feeling of apprehension early on this weekend proved to be key to the team's success.

Sunday's match against No. 64 Wisconsin brought Irish wins across the board beginning with Salas and Lauren Connelly's defeat of Teresa Gonzaga and Shana McElroy 8-2. Sarah Jane Connelly and Statsny knocked off Kaylan Caiati and Lexi Goldin 8-5 to clinch the doubles point. Christian and Catrina Thompson swept doubles with an 8-5 triumph over Lindsay Martin and Katie McGaffigan.

The Irish swept singles as well over Wisconsin with Salas remaining unbeaten this spring with a 7-6 (7-3), 6-3 win over McGaffigan. Christian Thompson, nationally-ranked 88th triumphed over McElroy, who started this season ranked 79th. Catrina Thompson clinched the singles point with a win against Martin. Lauren Connelly gained her third win this season, defeating Teresa Gonzaga 6-4, 6-2. Also successful was Sara Jane Connelly, who won 6-0, 7-6 (9-7) over Caiati. Statsny swept doubles, beating Goldin 6-0, 6-4.

The Irish have a two-week break before their Feb. 13 meet at No. 16 Virginia Commonwealth. During this time, Louderback said the team will focus on becoming "match-tough" by making inter-squad matches an integral part of practice.

"We'll be working really hard in practice [in the next weeks]," said Sarah Jane Connelly. "Because everyone wants to beat Notre Dame."

No. 21 NOTRE DAME 5, No. 48 OHIO STATE 2 at the ECK PAVILLION

SINGLES

No. 1: Alicia Salas (ND) d. Lindsay Williams (OSU) 7-6 (9-7), 6-0.
No. 2: Christian Thompson (ND) d. Erica Fisk (OSU) 6-2, 6-2.
No. 3: Catrina Thompson (ND) d. Jackie Leskovar (OSU) 7-5, 6-4.
No. 4: Lauren Connelly (ND) d. Lindsey Adams (OSU) 6-3, 2-6, 6-2.
No. 5: Emily DeCamilla d. Sarah Jane Connelly (ND) 6-4, 6-1.
No. 6: Kristin Messmer d. Kristina Statsny (ND) 6-4, 3-6, 1-0 (10-7).

DOUBLES

No. 1: Thompson/Thompson (ND) d. Fisk/Leskovar (OSU) 9-7.
No. 2: No. 2 Connelly/Salas (ND) d. Colville/Williams (OSU) 9-7.
No. 3: Connelly/Statsny (ND) d. Adams/Ruzimovsky (OSU) 8-2.

No. 21 NOTRE DAME 7, No. 64 WISCONSIN 0 at the ECK PAVILLION

SINGLES

No. 1: Alicia Salas (ND) d. Katie McGaffigan (W) 7-6 (7-3), 6-3.
No. 2: Christian Thompson (ND) d. Shana McElroy (W) 7-5, 6-4.
No. 3: Catrina Thompson (ND) d. Lindsay Martin (W) 6-3, 6-0.
No. 4: Lauren Connelly (ND) d. Teresa Gonzaga (W) 6-4, 6-2.
No. 5: Sarah Jane Connelly (ND) d. Kaylan Caiati (W) 6-0, 7-6 (9-7).
No. 6: Kristina Statsny (ND) d. Lexi Goldin (W) 6-0, 6-4.

DOUBLES

No. 1: Thompson/Thompson (ND) d. Martin/McGaffigan (W) 8-5.
No. 2: No. 2 Connelly/Salas (ND) d. Gonzaga/McElroy (W) 8-2.
No. 3: Connelly/Statsny (ND) d. Caiati/Goldin (W) 8-5.

Contact Ann Loughery at
alougher@nd.edu

MEN'S TENNIS

Notre Dame hits wall against No. 8 Duke

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

The Irish had no luck at Duke this weekend, as the Blue Devils swept them, 7-0, in dual match play.

"We had our chances," coach Bobby Bayliss said after the match. "They're a Final Four team, in my opinion, and I expect them to do very well [this season]."

No. 8 Duke lost just two sets in singles and swept doubles against No. 49 Notre Dame. The box scores, though, do not indicate that many of the matches were close.

"The doubles were pretty close; there was a break at No. 1 early, and we lost No. 1 and No. 3 doubles by one service break — both were 8-5," said Bayliss. "No. 2 lost 9-8 in a tiebreaker, and we were actually in position to win the others — they were very, very close."

Duke (3-0) won against Texas A&M on Saturday. The Aggies beat Notre Dame 5-2 last weekend at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

"We had our chances," Bayliss said of singles play. "Matt Scott lost in a match tiebreaker... [and Brent] D'Amico lost in three sets."

Scott, ranked No. 68 coming off a recurrent leg injury, took the first set against Ludovic Walter, 6-3. Playing at number two, however, Walter — ranked No. 7 in the nation — battled back to win the second set and the last set in a tiebreaker.

D'Amico came out strong, taking the first set against Jason Zimmerman 6-1, but he then lost 6-2 and 6-1 and Duke received the point. Luis Haddock, Stephen Bass and Barry King all lost in straight sets at No. 1, 4 and 5, respectively. Ryan Keckley, at No. 6, was forced to retire after suffering a sprained ankle in the

second set.

"Keckley went down in the third, fourth game of his match with a sprained ankle," Bayliss said. "We took an injury timeout — he got taped and tried to continue but had to end up defaulting, and that's a blow. Hopefully next week we'll get him back on track."

"We were down 2-0 right off the bat, which is a pretty big psychological thing to deal with, but you move on," Bayliss said.

Despite Scott's defeat, Bayliss considered his play promising.

"Matt's foot started to bother him a little bit toward the end of his match," Bayliss said. "I was really satisfied with the way he played; he hit the ball better than he has since the fall. I hope he's okay for the coming weekend — with Ryan's status in question, Matt shaky and Luis gone, we could be without three starters."

Haddock will be playing in a tournament in Cuba during next weekend's match.

No. 8 DUKE 7, No. 49 NOTRE DAME 0 at the SHEFFIELD TENNIS CENTER

SINGLES

No. 1: Phillip King (D) d. Luis Haddock (ND) 6-1, 6-3.
No. 2: No. 7 Ludovic Walter (D) d. No. 68 Matthew Scott (ND) 3-6, 7-5, 1-0 (10-4).
No. 3: Jason Zimmermann (D) d. Brent D'Amico (ND) 1-6, 6-2, 6-1.
No. 4: Jonathan Stokke (D) d. Stephen Bass (ND) 6-4, 6-4.
No. 5: Peter Rodrigues (D) d. Barry King (ND) 6-3, 6-2.
No. 6: Christopher Brown (D) d. Ryan Keckley (ND) 6-1, 1-0, ret.

DOUBLES

No. 1: No. 2 Walter/Zimmermann (D) d. No. 18 Haddock/Keckley (ND) 8-5.
No. 2: Stephen Armitraj/Rodrigues (D) d. D'Amico/Scott (ND) 9-8 (7-5).
No. 3: Phillip King/Jonathan Stokke (D) d. S. Bass/King (ND) 8-5.

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SMC SWIMMING

Belles finish season on high note

Saint Mary's beats Chicago, preps for championships

By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer

The Saint Mary's swimming team finished its season by defeating the University of Chicago this weekend, 124-77.

The Belles beat Chicago in both relay events, and four swimmers claimed first place in individual events. Senior Megan Ramsey led the Belles to their second win of the year after winning both the 200-yard freestyle in a time of 2:02.77 and the 100-yard butterfly in 1:01.72. Sarah Nowak won the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:12.68. Katie Dingeman took the 100-yard backstroke in 1:14.32, and Maureen Palchak won the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 2:02.77.

Junior Michelle Stanforth finished fourth in the 100-yard breaststroke and the

200-yard IM. Stanforth's 1:16.62 breaststroke time was her fastest swim in two years.

Other notable highlights were third place finishes by Kelly Nelis in the 200-yard freestyle and Julie McGranahan in the 100-yard butterfly.

Prior to the meet, Saint Mary's viewed Chicago as the most comparable team they would meet all season — and after a marginal victory, the Belles still view Chicago as a great competitor.

"They were very competitive, with a team that is slightly smaller than ours," Saint Mary's swimming coach Greg Petcoff said. "Our girls left the meet with a great deal of respect for them."

As the team prepares for the MIAA championships, the win against Chicago will help to boost the confidence of a team that has overcome many obstacles throughout the season.

"It was a really difficult season [with] a lot of conflicts, and the team still did very well," Ramsey said. "This was a nice way to lift

everyone's spirits."

In their preparations, Saint Mary's will reduce the amount of training and begin tapering for the next few weeks. The team hopes to go into the MIAA championships Feb. 19 well rested.


"They are not going to see a new Saint Mary's at the championships," Ramsey said. "They are going to see a more rested one that is ready to win."

SAINT MARY'S 123, CHICAGO 77 at MYERS-McLORAIN POOL

400 medley relay: Bridget Lebiecz, Katy Lebiecz, Julie McGranahan, Maureen Palchak (SMC), 2:02.27. 1,000 freestyle: Yang (Chicago), 11:11.05. 200 freestyle: Palchak (SMC), 2:02.77. 100 backstroke: Dingeman (SMC), 1:14.32. 100 breaststroke: Nowak (SMC), 1:12.68. 50 freestyle: Ramsey (SMC), 26.00. 100 freestyle: Testa (Chicago), 57.23. 500 freestyle: Yang (Chicago), 5:26.97. 100 butterfly: Ramsey (SMC), 1:01.72. 200 freestyle relay: Palchak, Ramsey, Lebiecz, Nelis (SMC), 1:46.17. 200 individual medley: Testa (Chicago), 2:20.83.

Contact Dan Tapetillo at
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Track

continued from page 20

Gunn also finished third in the 200-meter, good enough to qualify for the Big East Championships.

Sophomore shot-putter Meghan Horn qualified for the Big East meet with a distance of 12.72 meters. She also finished second in the weight throw with a 13.41-meter mark.

Ayesha Boyd was a winner in the 400 meters, as the senior posted a clip of 55.79. She also came away with a win in the 60-meter dash in 7.69 seconds.

Other winners for the Irish women were senior Kristen Dodd with a time of 24.42 in the 200-meter race and freshman Cassie Gullickson, who

won the triple jump with a leap of 11.79 meters.

For the Notre Dame men, Selim Nurudeen continued his outstanding season, qualifying for the Big East Championships in the 60-meter dash with a time of 6.93 seconds.

The junior has now qualified for the conference meet in three events, the other two being the 200-meter dash and the 60-meter hurdles.

Junior Dwight Ellick, who spends the fall playing on the Notre Dame football team, finished a close second to Nurudeen in the 60-meter dash with a Big East qualifying time of 6.94 seconds.

In the 400-meter race, junior Trevor McClain-Duer came out on top, running a time of 48.00 seconds.

The 3,000 meter produced two Big East qualifying times

for the Irish as sophomore Kaleb Van Ort and senior Todd Mobley finished second and third, respectively.

In the middle distances, freshman Jordan Powell qualified for the conference meet in the 500-meter with a winning time of 1:04.49.

Senior teammate Kevin Somok won the 800-meter in 1:53.63.

Senior Juan Alba won the weight throw with a heave of 17.75 meters. He also qualified for the conference meet in the shot put with a toss of 15.60 meters.

Justin Oppel won the pole vault with a height of 4.65 meters while fellow freshman Christopher Jacques placed first in the long jump with a leap of 6.59 meters.

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu



Notre Dame hosted its annual invitational this weekend. Numerous individuals won their respective events.

Irish

continued from page 20

spark."

The Irish defense was up to the challenge against a Boston College team that came into the game averaging 72.3 points per game. The win marks the sixth victory in seven games for Notre Dame, and in all six victories, the Irish have held opponents to 50 points or less. The Irish defense has allowed just 171 points in the last four games.

The score of Saturday's contest remained close throughout the game. Duffy hit a three-pointer to make it 14-10 in favor of the

Irish, which proved to be the biggest lead of the game for either team. Notre Dame was also able to force the Eagles into 14 first-half turnovers, holding them to 22 points despite shooting 43.5 percent from the field.

"I'm just really pleased with the way they've come through this stretch [of ranked teams]," McGraw said. "It's really been a great defensive stretch for us."

The Irish defense was also able to hold the Eagles' leading scorer, Jessalyn Deveny, to 13 points on 4-for-11 shooting. Boston College's other star guard, Amber Jacobs, was held to 10 points on 4-for-15 shooting. Kathrin Röss, however, chipped in 14 points on 5-for-5 shooting. The Eagles shot 40 percent for

the game, and the game almost slipped away from the Irish at the end.

After tying the game at 42 with 7:31 to go, Notre Dame missed eight free throws.

But with 14 seconds left, Jacqueline Batteast hit one of two free throws to give the Irish a two-point lead. Boston College got the rebound on the second shot, but Jacobs was unable to hit an open, possible game-winning three-point attempt with five seconds to go.

"I thought this game was critical for us," McGraw said. "It really gave us just an added bonus going into the postseason. I think we're a top-25 team."

Courtney LaVere added 11 points for Notre Dame, who

remains undefeated at home this season (9-0).

"We really wanted to take care of our home court this year," McGraw said. "I think mental toughness is something that last year people questioned ... and this year I think we've proven, time and time again, that we are a very, very tough team. That was an incredibly physical game, and I thought we responded very well."

**NOTRE DAME 52,
BOSTON COLLEGE 50
at the JOYCE CENTER**

NOTRE DAME (13-7, 6-2)
Starter's last name FGM-FGA FTM-FTA
TP, Duffy 6-11 3-5 16, Batteast 1-7 3-6 5,
Borton 1-7 0-2 2, Severe 5-5 5-8 15,
Hernandez 0-1 0-0 0, LeVere 3-8 5-6 11,
Flecky 0-4 3-5 3, Erwin 0-2 0-0 0.

BOSTON COLLEGE (14-5, 4-4)
Starter's last name FGM-FGA FTM-FTA
TP, Deveny 4-11 4-4 13, Jacobs 4-15 1-2
10, Röss 5-5 4-6 14, Mecchia 2-3 1-2 5,
Droesch 1-2 2-2 4, Marshall 1-4 0-0 2,
Parham 1-2 0-0 2, Leahy 0-2 0-1 0.

	1st	2nd	Total
NOTRE DAME	23	29	52
BOSTON COLLEGE	22	28	50

3-point goals: Notre Dame 3-5 (Duffy 3-5), Boston College 2-12 (Deveny 1-2, Jacobs 1-6, Marshall 0-3, Droesch 0-1). Fouled out: None. Rebounds: Notre Dame 31 (Borton 6), Boston College 37 (Deveny 12). Assists: Notre Dame 9 (Borton 4), Boston College 12 (Jacobs 6). Total fouls: Notre Dame 18, Boston College 25.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Duffy, Severe come to play, make difference

Sophomore lefty Megan Duffy hit a right-handed floater with the shot clock winding down and 2:02 left on the game clock in the second half Saturday, putting the Irish up 50-48 — a lead they would not relinquish.

**Heather Van
Hoegarden**

Sports Writer

But she wasn't the only Irish guard who came to play on Saturday. Senior captain Le'Tania Severe sparked a stagnant Irish offense when they needed it the most.

The play of Duffy and Severe made the difference against Boston College, a team rumored to have one of the best backcourts in the Big East in Amber Jacobs

and Jessalyn Deveny.

Jacobs, though, was unable to connect on a three pointer to win the game and finished 4-for-15 from the field. Deveny was held to 4-for-11 shooting.

Meanwhile, Duffy and Severe made sure the 6,808 Joyce Center fans knew the Eagles were not the only team with a talented backcourt.

Duffy played the entire game, scoring 16 points on 6-for-11 shooting, including 3-for-5 from behind the arc. She committed only one turnover, while registering four steals and dishing out

three assists. The 5'7" Duffy also grabbed three rebounds against a team with two 6-foot-4 players in the posts.

But then there was Severe. She consistently slashed and drove to the basket against the bigger Eagles. When the shot clock was winding down and it seemed like there was nowhere to go, Severe found a way to score and found a way for the Irish to win.

Severe only took eight shots, but she made five. She didn't miss a free throw, either, going 5-for-5 when the other members of her team weren't hitting their free

throws. And the best part about Severe's 39 minutes was her turnovers — or lack thereof. She didn't turn the ball over once, despite handling the ball a significant amount.

And it wasn't just their offense that made this duo better than the backcourt of Boston College. It was their defensive effort.

Severe and Duffy forced Jacobs and Deveny into tough shots, resulting in poor shooting performances. They left Boston College searching for ways to score, as they helped hold the Eagles to 50 points, over 20 below their 72.3 points per-game average.

But Duffy and Severe weren't looking to be the heroes of the game. They just wanted to win.

"I'm just trying to do a good job running the point, keeping everybody in the right position," Duffy said. "Some nights I get more shots than other times. Some games I have to score, some games I don't. The biggest thing is getting these guys' shots and keeping the team together. I feed off a lot from playing good defense, and that is kind of my game."

In the Big East, Duffy and Severe may not be regarded as the best backcourt tandem just yet. But they sure are making a case for themselves.

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

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

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Hockey

continued from page 20

great effort to help us get a big point."

Notre Dame has developed a habit of taking games to the extra period. The Irish are 0-2-4 in their six overtime contests this season. The Irish have not won a regular-season overtime game since a 4-3 win over Miami (Ohio) on Jan. 5, 2002. The Alaska-Fairbanks series marks the fourth consecutive series in which the Irish have played at least one overtime game, collecting two ties and two overtime losses in that span.

"Anytime you score in the last minute of play, it's a good tie," Poulin said.

The Irish got off to a quick start Friday, leaping out to an early 1-0 lead on a goal by Gill, who pushed a rebound off a Globke shot past Nanook goalie Kelly Bartusch in the first period.

Notre Dame made it 2-0 when Gill found Globke springing through the neutral zone on an Irish penalty kill, and the senior forward flipped the puck past Bartusch for a shorthanded goal. Notre Dame success-

fully killed four UAF power plays in the first period and took a 2-0 lead into the locker room at the first intermission.

UAF came back quickly in the second period, with Ryan Lang beating Brown for a goal at the 1:16 mark of the period. Notre Dame got the game winner in the third, though, when Walsh took a hard shot from the slot to beat Bartusch less than five minutes into the third period.

Cam Keith would score a late goal in the third for the Nanooks after pulling Bartusch, but UAF was unable to get the equalizer. The Irish came away with the win despite being outshot 42-29. Brown matched a career best with 40 saves in the victory.

Saturday, each team was held scoreless in a wild first period, as UAF's McKay and Notre Dame's Brown stymied several quality chances. Notre Dame would get on the scoreboard in the second, with the freshman Paige scoring on a four-on-three Irish power play.

The Nanooks would even the score on the next shift, however, after Cam Keith stole the puck in the Irish defensive zone and slipped it to Aaron Voros, who beat a helpless Brown far post. UAF would then take the lead at 9:56 of

the third period on a goal by Curtis Fraser after another sloppy clearing pass by the Irish defense led to an outnumbered break by the Nanooks.

Lebda would score the game-tying goal, but he would not prevent McKay from being named the number one star in the game. The Nanook goalie made 45 saves, the most any opponent has made against the Irish this season.

Notre Dame has eight CCHA games remaining, including a critical series on the road this weekend against first-place Miami.

NOTRE DAME 3, ALASKA-FAIRBANKS 2 at the JOYCE CENTER

	1st	2nd	3rd	Total
ALASKA FAIRBANKS	0	1	1	2
NOTRE DAME	2	0	1	3

SCORING SUMMARY

First Period
ND — Aaron Gill 10 (Rob Globke, Tom Galvin), PPG, 9:30.
ND — Globke 16 (A. Gill), SHG, 11:42.

Second Period
UAF — Ryan Lang 7 (Cory Rask), 1:16.

Third Period
ND — Mike Walsh 10 (A. Gill, Wes O'Neill), 4:51.
UAF — Cam Keith 11 (Ryan Campbell, Jasion Grinevitch), EX, 19:32.

Shots on goal: Notre Dame 29, Alaska Fairbanks 42. **Power plays:** Notre Dame 1-of-4, Opponent 0-of-8. **Goalies:** David



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

Freshman right winger T.J. Jindra looks to pass in an earlier contest against Boston College.

ND — Jason Paige 6 (Neil Komadoski, Brett Lebda), PPG, 17:53.

UAF — Aaron Voros 11 (Cam Keith), 18:49.

NOTRE DAME 2, ALASKA-FAIRBANKS 2 at the JOYCE CENTER

	1st	2nd	3rd	Total
ALASKA FAIRBANKS	0	1	1	2
NOTRE DAME	0	1	1	2

SCORING SUMMARY

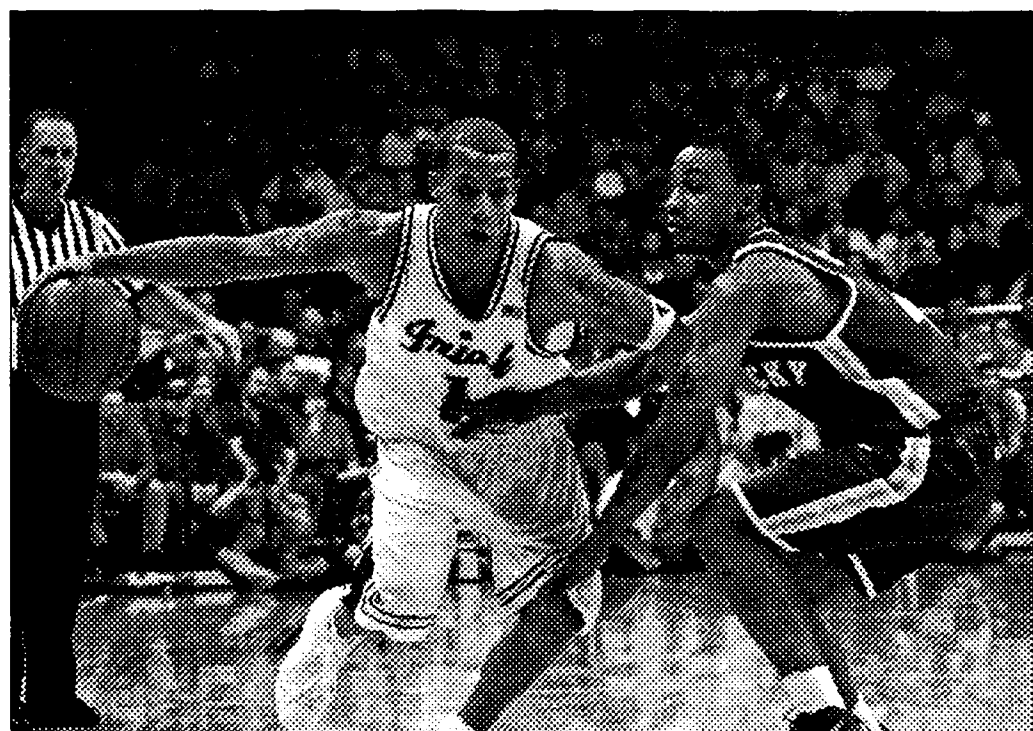
First Period
No Scoring.

Second Period

Third Period
UAF — Curtis Fraser 11 (Keith), 9:56.
ND — Lebda 5 (Komadoski, Rob Globke), EX, 19:31.

Shots on goal: Notre Dame 47, Alaska Fairbanks 31. **Power plays:** Notre Dame 1-of-3, Opponent 0-of-3. **Goalies:** David Brown 29 saves out of 31 shots (ND), Preston McKay 45 saves out of 47 shots (UAF.)

Contact Justin Schuver at
jschuver@nd.edu



TIM KACMAR

Irish guard Chris Thomas dribbles past Kentucky guard Gerald Fitch Jan. 25. The Irish fell to Rutgers on Saturday, 81-70.

Rutgers

continued from page 20

high number of fouls called in the second half to make 21-of-25 attempts from the line.

Near the end of that run, Notre Dame forward Jordan Cornette, who is usually calm and collected on the court, let himself get mentally taken out of the game and let the crowd get even rowdier.

Cornette was called for a mov-

ing screen, his fourth foul, with 13:07 remaining. Rutgers forward Herve Lamizana then bumped Cornette. Cornette retaliated, getting in the face of Lamizana and pushing Quincy Douby to the floor. Douby exaggerated his fall, and Cornette was called for a technical foul. The technical counts also as a personal foul, and Cornette fouled out.

The Irish were able to cut the large Rutgers lead to eight points twice, but they never got any closer. When the Irish were

down 65-57 with 5:04 to play, Rutgers went on an 11-2 run to go up 76-59 and stifle any hopes of an Irish comeback.

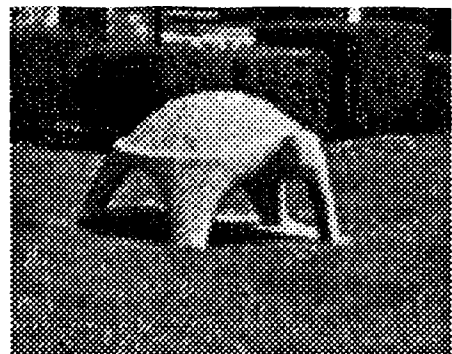
Last year, it was former Scarlet Knight Jerome Coleman connecting on 7-of-12 3-pointers to help Rutgers cruise to an easy win. This year, it was the freshman Douby coming off the bench and making 4-of-6 from behind the arc en route to a game-high 24 points.

Contact Matt Lozar at
mlozar@nd.edu

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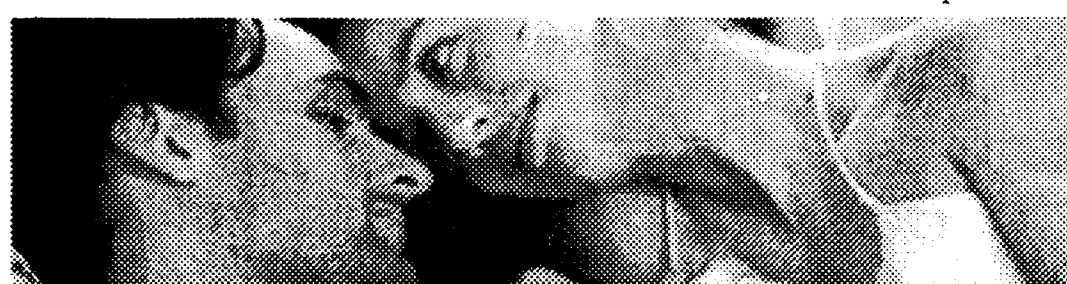
Date: Wednesday, February 4

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: **CSC Coffeehouse**

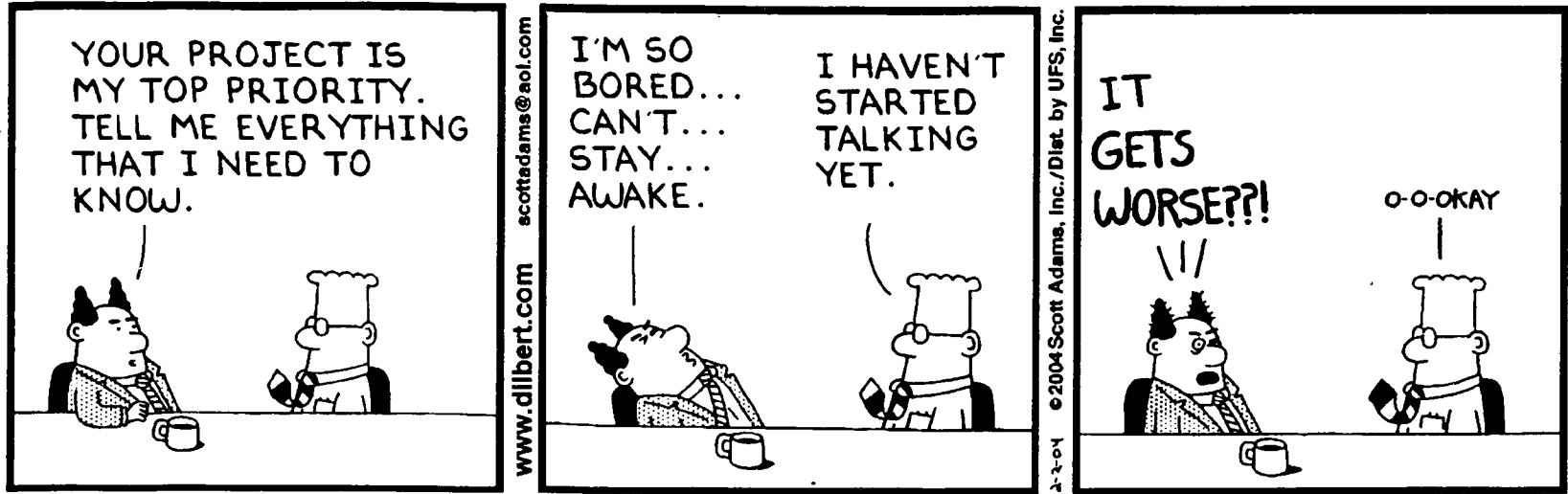
RSVP by Monday, February 2

Contact: **631-6841 MSPS**



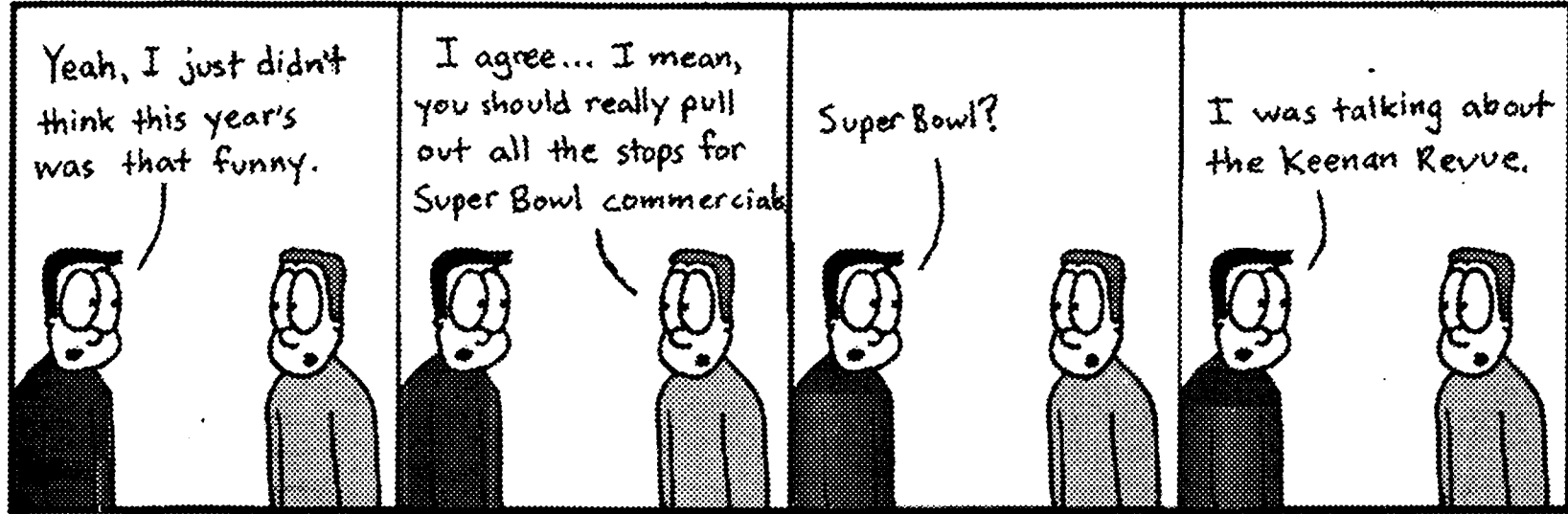
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JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

BUCCI
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

NAIRY
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

POAFFY
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

GOSPEN
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



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

Print answer here:

[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's

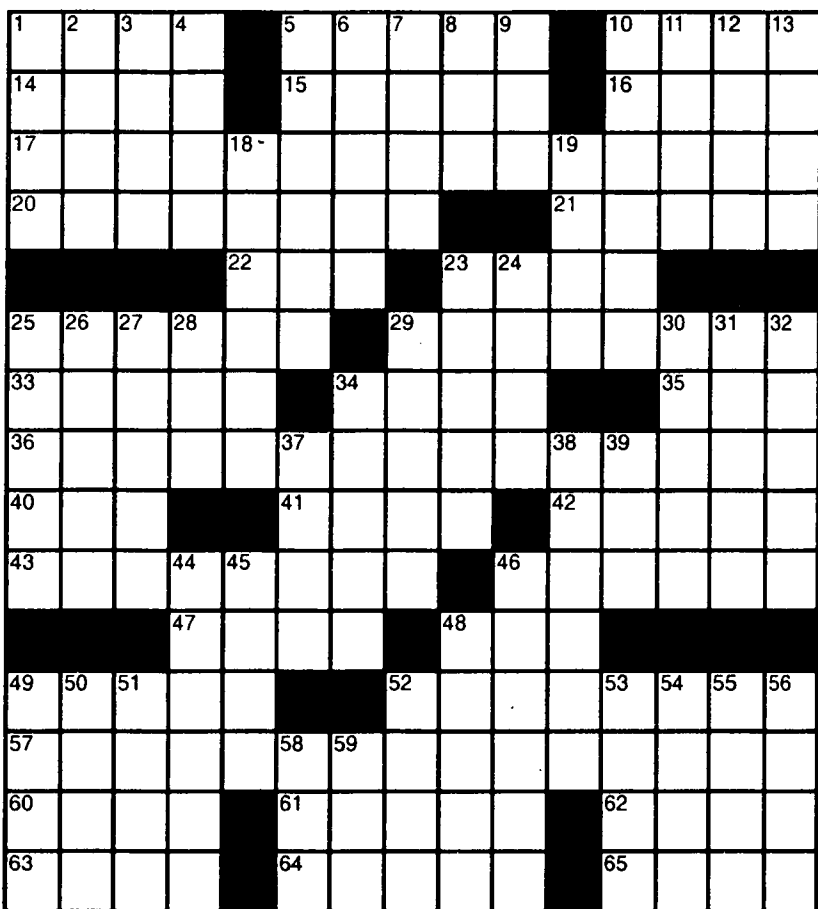
Jumbles:
Answer:

WHINE FABLE EIGHTY GENTLE
The drapery helper was fired because he couldn't
— GET THE "HANG" OF IT

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Event attended by Cinderella
 - 5 Dumbbells
 - 10 Totally unexciting
 - 14 Black-and-white cookie
 - 15 W.W. II plane
 - 16 Plumb crazy
 - 17 Song from Sondheim's "A Little Night Music"
 - 20 Aria flourishes
 - 21 Start
 - 22 Sound repeated while marching
 - 23 Company with a crocodile logo
 - 25 Soft shade
 - 29 High rank
 - 33 Cast member
 - 34 Kukla, ___ and Ollie
 - 35 "Eureka!"
 - 36 Scene of daz-zling goings-on
 - 40 Loving murmur
 - 41 Toledo's lake
 - 42 Vermont city
 - 43 Catcher's position
 - 46 Drives back
 - 47 ___ liquor
 - 48 Disfigure
 - 49 Stream
 - 52 Scale interval
 - 57 "The Greatest Show on Earth" purveyors
 - 60 "Holy Toledo!"
 - 61 Bar patron's request, with "the"
 - 62 Edward who popularized the limerick
 - 63 Old bandleader Columbo
- DOWN**
- 1 Pear variety
 - 2 Vicinity
 - 3 Allow temporary use of
 - 4 Ore's locale
 - 5 Washington of Hollywood
 - 6 Alternative to "in a bottle"
 - 7 Cries from Homer Simpson
 - 8 Spanish cheer
 - 9 Baglike structure
 - 10 Mae West, for one
 - 11 Temperature extremes
 - 12 Clearasil target
 - 13 Party-giver
 - 18 Be a natural part
 - 19 Diving bird with a weird call
 - 23 Public persona
 - 24 Multivitamin additive
 - 25 Quilt part
 - 26 Sneezer's cry
 - 27 Late Sen. Thurmond
 - 28 Stubbed item
 - 29 "Sesame Street" Muppet
 - 30 Button material
 - 31 Rude person
 - 32 Simplifies



Puzzle by Joy C. Frank

- 34 Blue-ribbon position
- 37 True
- 38 Spain and Portugal
- 39 Eminem's music
- 44 Corrects
- 45 Azerbaijan's capital
- 46 Walk aimlessly
- 48 Olympic award
- 49 "Good buddy"
- 50 Spaghetti sauce brand
- 51 Historical times
- 52 Social rebuff
- 53 Pinball error
- 54 Yellow sub?
- 55 Close in on
- 56 Brontë's "Jane ___"
- 58 Root beer order
- 59 Happy ___ lark

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

Celebrities born on this day: Debbie Allen, Jim Stafford, William Kennedy, A.J. Foyt, Marilyn Horne, Ethel Merman, Sade, Kate Moss

Happy Birthday: Don't be disillusioned by the information you receive this year. Research will help you find out the truth of any given situation. Once you have all the facts, you'll find it easy to move into the mainstream of any direction you choose. This is not a year to sit idle waiting for things to happen. Get moving and initiate whatever it is you wish to accomplish. Your numbers: 8, 10, 15, 25, 34, 45

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Emotional problems may affect your job. Let your boss know that personal difficulties have been interfering with your performance and reassure him that you will make improvements. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will meet new and exciting friends if you take part in sports events. Someone from your past will come back into your life. Don't be too eager to trust this individual. *****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Socializing with friends will be enlightening. Travel will stimulate your curiosity and bring you into contact with new friends. Investments can be made if you are careful. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will pick up a lot of information from the material you read. Too much idle time will create nervousness. Make changes to your surroundings, but don't exceed a set budget. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You will be most annoyed if your lover has made you look foolish. You will be prone to extravagance if you don't tighten your purse strings. Mix business with pleasure if possible. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Financial ventures will not be as profitable as you anticipate. Overspending should be a prime concern today. Don't let those you love cost you dearly. Offer good advice, not cash. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Pleasure trips will bring you mental stimulation. You will have conversations with interesting and informative individuals. Listen to those who offer solutions to any existing problems. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Look into career changes or start your own small business. Don't expect help from others. You will get great satisfaction if you do the work yourself. Keep your overhead down. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't take on issues or projects that you aren't completely comfortable with. Be diplomatic when dealing with other people's problems. Try not to get caught in the middle. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will have to be careful not to intimidate others. Don't elaborate too much about your goals. Your persuasive ways will get you into more trouble than you bargained for. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): There is no point in hiding your true feelings. Lay your cards on the table and try to sort out an amiable way to solve the existing problems. Those who aren't involved won't understand. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): This will be a good time to network. You can get involved in excellent investments if you are in the right place at the right time. Laziness will be your downfall. ****

Birthday Baby: Generous and trusting to a fault, you must learn to put yourself first and follow your own dreams throughout life in order to be successful. You have the ability to promote yourself, but you must take the initiative in order for that to happen.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish continue to suffer in torture RAC

Scarlet Knights improve to 7-1 all-time versus Irish at home

By MATT LOZAR
Associate Sports Editor

The Irish probably wish Rutgers were switching conferences next year. Eleven days after winning at

Virginia Tech, who is joining the ACC next year, the Irish lost 81-70 at the RAC Saturday in a loss that has the Irish feeling they are cursed when playing in Piscataway, N.J.

Unlike last season, when the Scarlet Knights jumped out to a

43-19 lead in the first half en route to a 95-80 victory, the Irish were able to stay in this game during the first half, holding a 38-34 advantage after the first 20 minutes.

But then the second half started.

Over the first 11 minutes of the second half, the Irish (10-7, 4-3 in the Big East) shot 1-of-12 from the field, committed five turnovers and scored only six points.

Rutgers (12-6, 4-4 Big East) took advantage of Notre Dame's

lack of offense to start the half and went on a 26-6 run to take a 60-44 lead and effectively put the game away. In the first half, Rutgers didn't attempt a free throw but took advantage of the

see RUTGERS/page 18

HOCKEY

Icers take 3 points against Nanooks

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

Now that's more like it.

The Irish (13-9-4, 9-8-3 in the CCHA) bounced back from a pair of disappointing one-goal losses last weekend against Northern Michigan by taking three of four points from Alaska Fairbanks (12-13-1, 11-10-1) in a series this weekend at the Joyce Center. Notre Dame won the first game 3-2 on Friday and came back to salvage a 2-2 tie against the Nanooks Saturday.

The Irish special teams had a solid weekend with the penalty kill, stopping all 11 Nanook power plays in the two games, including eight in the win Friday. Notre Dame's power play also chipped in with two goals, and Rob Globke scored a shorthanded goal Friday to really put a damper on UAF's chances at a comeback.

Freshman David Brown continued to shine in net, playing both games and stopping 71 of 75 shots, a .947 save percentage. Brown helped a Notre Dame defense ranked No. 1 in the CCHA to hold the league's top-rated offense, which aver-

ages 3.42 goals per game, to just four goals combined.

"We took three of four points from a very good team this weekend," coach Dave Poulin said. "I thought we played real well tonight — got good goaltending and some help from the special teams."

Notre Dame also got much-needed help on offense Saturday, as a player other than the trio of Mike Walsh, Rob Globke and Aaron Gill scored a goal for the first time since Jan. 10 against Bowling Green. Walsh, Globke and Gill scored the goals Friday, and Jason Paige and Brett Lebda scored on Saturday.

Lebda's goal was the key Saturday, as Notre Dame came back from a 2-1 deficit to tie the game in the waning seconds. With David Brown pulled for an extra attacker, the Irish won a face-off in their offensive zone. Neil Komadowski took a shot from the center point that was blocked. The puck hopped into the air. Lebda, who was barring down the right side, caught the puck with his stick and slapped it with a baseball swing into the net past UAF goalie Preston McKay with 28.5 seconds remaining.



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

Freshman goalie David Brown turns away a shot against the Nanooks. Brown recorded 69 saves over the weekend.

The senior defenseman skated over to the bench and leapt toward his teammates.

"That was a big goal for us," Lebda said. "We really worked

hard tonight. That's why I went over to celebrate with the team — everyone gave a

see HOCKEY/page 18

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Defense holds Eagles

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame (13-7, 6-2 Big East) used another stellar defensive effort Saturday to remain undefeated at home with a 52-50 win over No. 23 Boston College (14-4, 4-4 Big East).

Megan Duffy led the Irish with 16 points, three assists, three rebounds and four steals in 40 minutes of action.

Le'Tania Severe also scored 15 points on 5-for-8 shooting and didn't commit a turnover in 39 minutes to lead the Irish to their sixth victory over a top-25 team this season.

"I thought that Megan and Le'Tania played especially well today, and I think, coming off the Miami game, they really had great focus and played really well at both ends," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "Thankfully, they did score, because we really struggled to score."

Severe, who came into the game averaging 7.5 points per game, was able to slash and create for the Irish.

"The drive was there a lot, so I just took what the defense gave me," Severe said. "I think that we were having a little trouble scoring, and I knew I had to provide some type of a

See Also

"Duffy, Severe come ready to play, make difference" page 17

ND TRACK

Irish compete in Notre Dame Invitational

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Writer

Returning All-American Molly Huddle set the pace for the Irish as the Notre Dame track and field teams competed alongside Michigan State, Depaul, Marquette and Butler

in the Notre Dame Invitational Friday night at the Loftus Center.

Huddle, a sophomore from Elmira, N.Y., broke her own school record in the 3,000-meter race with a time of 9:14.13.

Huddle's time is the second-best time posted in the coun-

try this season. The race automatically qualifies her for the NCAA championships to be held March 12 in Fayetteville, Ark.

Another outstanding performance on the women's side came from junior Lauren King. Her time of 4:45.61 won the mile run and puts

her in second place nationally.

Senior Tiffany Gunn won the 500-meter with a season-best mark of 1:13.37. Teammate freshman Okechi Ogbuokiri finished second to Gunn in a time of 1:16.61.

see TRACK/page 17

see IRISH/page 17

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

ND SWIMMING

Michigan 166
Notre Dame 134

The No. 21 women could not break the Wolverine curse

page 12

FENCING

Notre Dame Dual Meet

The Irish sweep weekend, including victories over No. 2 men's and women's Ohio State teams.

page 12

SUPER BOWL XXXVIII

Patriots 32
Panthers 29

Adam Vinatieri hit a game-winning field goal to give New England its second title in three years.

page 16

SMC SWIMMING

Saint Mary's 124
Chicago 77

The Belles end their season with a victory.

page 16

MEN'S TENNIS

Duke 7
Notre Dame 0

The Blue Devils sweep the Irish, who won just two sets.

page 16

WOMEN'S TENNIS

No. 21 Irish take weekend

Notre Dame beat Ohio State, 5-2, and Wisconsin, 7-0.

page 16