

THE OBSERVER

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Runoff election results in stalemate

Emergency meeting of Student Senate will declare winner Sunday

By MAUREEN REYNOLDS
Associate News Editor

The 8:30 p.m. announcement of the student body president election results threw the election into turmoil rather than bringing the closure candidates and students expected.

Judicial Council president Elliot Poindexter informed the tickets of Charlie Ebersol-James Leito and Adam Istvan-Karla Bell that neither received the 50 percent plus one vote needed to win the runoff election. As a result, an emergency meeting of the Student Senate will be called Sunday to determine the winning ticket.

Of a total of 3,524 votes, Istvan-Bell received 1,723 votes, or 48.9 percent, and Ebersol-Leito received 1,538 votes, or 43.6 percent. The remaining 7.5 percent accounted for 263 abstentions.

Istvan credited his increase in votes — 748 votes in Monday's election to 1,723 votes in Thursday's runoff — to increased awareness of his platform and to the endorsements of both the Mark Healy-Mike

see RESULTS/page 8

ND STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT ELECTION RESULTS

*3524 Total Votes Cast, 7% Abstaining

BREAKDOWN BY CLASS:

Charlie Ebersol **Adam Istvan**

Freshmen

53.6% 43.1%

Sophomores

51.8% 39.8%

Juniors

35.6% 54.0%

Seniors

26.9% 64.6%

TOTAL

Ebersol **Istvan**

45% 48%



Graphic by MIKE HARKINS and photos by ANDY KENNA/The Observer
Charlie Ebersol and Adam Istvan, top, review the vote totals. Bottom, Judicial Council president Elliot Poindexter announces the election results to the candidates.

Students compare standoff to 2000 presidential election

By AMANDA MICHAELS
News Writer

In a storyline that sounds all too familiar, last night's run-off election ended in a stalemate.

Neither candidate won a majority of the popular vote, so the candidate who won the most dorms will become the next president.

With the possibility of a candidate winning despite a receiving fewer popular votes, students reacted to the idea of living through another Election 2000.

"I wouldn't like a president without the popular vote, just like I didn't like it in the national election," said senior Anthony Lopeman. "I don't like the dorm-vote system they're going to, but I also don't think we can keep having elections. Whoever has the most votes should win."

Many students agreed with this thought, despite the fact that the Student Union Constitution does not provide

see REACTION/page 4

Election campaign marred by personal attacks

By MEGHANNE DOWNES
News Editor

Though elections always involve some personal attacks, this year's election has been marked by especially vicious attacks against one candidate.

While Adam Istvan and

Karla Bell said they received only positive comments throughout their campaign, their opposition, Charlie Ebersol and James Leito, did not report a similar experience.

Ebersol, who also ran for the top student government position last year, losing to Pat

Hallahan, said that the threats he received this year intensified since the 2003 election.

The threats include postings on the NDToday.com message boards, voicemails left on Ebersol's apartment phone and e-mails to his personal account. Ebersol added that his Hummer has been keyed

and the tires on his vehicle have been deflated multiple times. Ebersol said he did not report these threats or acts of vandalism to authorities.

"It becomes such a ridiculous situation that you don't know how to react to it," he said. "The toughest thing is that I don't feel I know that

many people at this campus or have done anything offensive enough to warrant the threat."

Ebersol said that while no one has directly confronted him, this year's threats have been more personal in nature. Though he said he received

see THREATS/page 9

Controversy swirls around Monologues

By MATTHEW SMEDBERG
News Writer

The Notre Dame and Saint Mary's production of The Vagina Monologues will take place Saturday evening under intense debate from students, faculty and alumni — and now the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Bishop John D'Arcy issued a pastoral statement this week expressing his disappointment that the University would allow the Monologues to be performed. Upon review of the texts, D'Arcy said they were "offensive to women" and "antithetical to Catholic teaching on the beautiful gift of human sexuality, and also to the teachings of the church on the human body relative to its purpose and to its status as a temple of the Holy Spirit."

The Monologues, a collection of dramatically varying pieces by Eve Ensler, has become an international movement in its five years of existence. Ensler wrote the play, originally conceived as a one-woman production, from her own experiences, taking it on national tour beginning in 1998. As an outgrowth of the play, her organization, V-Day, held its first Feb. 14 observance that same year. Its goals were to increase awareness of violence against women, sexual assault and the denigration of the value of women's sexuality.

Support for the Notre Dame performance has come from various groups, including four academic departments: English, Gender Studies, Core and Film, Television and Theatre. Notre

see DEBATE/page 4

Memorial Mass held for Sharon



ANDY KENNA/The Observer
Father Robert Moss, Chad Sharon's former rector, said a memorial Mass Thursday night in Fisher Hall for Sharon.

By CLAIRE HEININGER
Assistant News Editor

The refrain of the opening hymn was fitting: "We remember, we celebrate, we believe."

A standing room only crowd of about 120 students and faculty gathered in the Fisher Hall chapel Thursday night to remember and celebrate the life of Chad Sharon, the freshman who disappeared on Dec. 12, 2002. Thursday's memorial Mass marked a year since his body was found floating in the St. Joseph River, two months after his disappearance.

Father Robert Moss, Sharon's former rector, reflected on the time of uncertainty when the missing student's whereabouts were still unknown.

"We were pressured, we were harried, we were wor-

see SHARON/page 8

INSIDE COLUMN

Child's play

Happy Valentine's Day, kids. I'm sorry to say it, but Cupid is bringing bad news this year: Barbara Millicent Roberts is once again single. That's right, Ken and Barbie are breaking up. The world's favorite plastic couple are calling it quits, after a 43-year relationship. They seemed so happy. Unfortunately, the puppet masters at Mattel have conspired to ruin the all-American romance just before Valentine's Day.


Matt Bramanti
Wire Editor

What is the world coming to? I mean, it's no big loss for me as a dude, but the Barbie-Ken affair represents a big chunk of American culture, and now it's gone.

I shudder to think what else the toy industry will bring us. They've been pretty busy dishing out crap for the last decade or so, and I don't think it's going to stop.

For example, the Mighty Morphin Power Rangers. Any '80s kid will tell you those hacks are just cheap, blatant ripoffs of Voltron.

Or how about Transformers? When I was a little kid, the Robots in Disguise weren't made of cheap plastic. They were forged from military-grade steel. I had a StarScream that must have weighed six pounds.

Toy guns have slipped quite a bit, too. I didn't grow up with neon-colored squirt guns. I was strapped with the kind of toy gun you could easily use to rob liquor stores.

And then there are the terrible fads. Like Tamagotchi? Remember those? They were these insufferable little electronic pets on keychains. Whenever they were hungry, or tired, or thirsty, or bored, they beeped. And beeped. And beeped.

And the Furby was just downright creepy, even though it looked like Gizmo from "Gremlins." Those things randomly wake up and speak to you. Not just programmed lines, either. They can manage the rudiments of human speech. The government even banned Furbys from the tour of CIA headquarters, for fear they could record sensitive information. Toys should never be a risk to national security.

Maybe I'm getting on in years, but I miss the good old days.

Kids actually used to play with cars. Hot Wheels, Matchbox cars and Micro Machines were the stuff race-car dreams were made of.

The old-school metal Slinky was endless fun, and it still is. There's just simple delight in watching a big spring walk down the stairs. And even though they inevitably got tangled, stretched or otherwise ruined, it was no big deal. They were like three bucks.

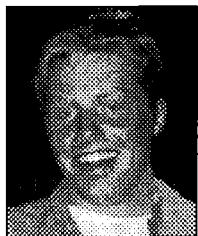
But if you ask a kid today if he has a Lite Brite or some Play-Doh, odds are he'll pistol whip you. Good thing those cheap plastic guns don't even hurt.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Matt Bramanti at mbra-mant@nd.edu.

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT DO YOU FEAR MOST ABOUT FRIDAY THE 13TH?



Dave Rooney
Junior
off-campus

"Pre-marital relations in a cabin."



Molly Welton
Junior
LeMans

"Lions, tigers and bears, oh my!"



Cole Barker
Junior
O'Neill

"Being hacked to death with an ax."



Julie Taylor
Junior
Holy Cross Hall

"Bad wigs."



Betsy Brown
Junior
Holy Cross Hall

"Being attacked by a man-eating black cat."



Dave Millar
Junior
O'Neill

"That I will wake up and still be in South Bend."



SHAWNA MONSON/The Observer

John Cameron Mitchell, star of "Hedwig and the Angry Inch," awards an audience member with a kiss and a rose for asking a question after the Notre Dame Queer Film Festival's showing of the movie Thursday night.

IN BRIEF

Come watch the Actors From the London Stage perform William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* tonight at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. Student tickets cost \$12 and are available for purchase in LaFortune.

Attend a reading, discussion and signing with **Kevin Coyne**, author of "Domers" and "Marching Home: To War and Back with the Men of One American Town." Events begin at 7 p.m. tonight in the Hammes Notre Dame bookstore.

Dance into Valentine's Day at the romantic *La Soiree: A Valentine's Dance* tonight from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the LaFortune Ballroom. Bring a date and dress to impress.

Enjoy Irish sing-a-longs and camaraderie with the traditional Irish and Scottish tunes of *The Kwills* tonight at Legends. Doors are at 9:45 p.m.

Watch the revolutionary 1994 film "Go Fish" as part of the ND Queer Film Festival. Winner of the Best Feature Film at the Berlin Film Festival and nominated for the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival, it tells the story of a young lesbian in Chicago who has trouble finding love. The film begins at 7 p.m. in the Hesburgh Library Auditorium.

Showcase your skills at a campus-wide **snow sculpting extravaganza**, sponsored by the Hall Presidents Council. The competition begins at 4 p.m. on South Quad.

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

OFFBEAT

Barbie and Ken break up
NEW YORK — Just like J.Lo and Ben, the romance is over for Barbie and Ken. After 43 years as one of the world's prettiest pairs, the perfect plastic couple is breaking up. The couple's "business manager," Russell Arons, vice president of marketing at Mattel, said that Barbie and Ken "feel it's time to spend some quality time — apart."

"Like other celebrity couples, their Hollywood romance has come to an end," said Arons, who quickly added that the

duo "will remain friends." Truth be told, the announcement was prompted by the fact that Mattel is releasing the Cali (as in California) Girl Barbie, arriving in stores now. Ken will still be in the picture — only now he's "just a friend," Mattel claims.

Bedbugs bite back

IOWA CITY, Iowa — Bedbugs have bitten in 35 states, including Iowa, and continue to spread across the country, pest control experts say.

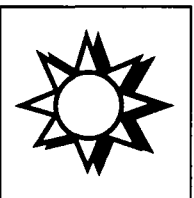
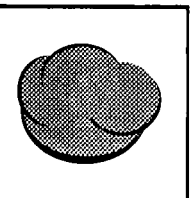
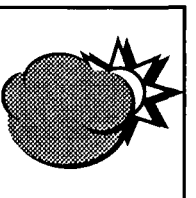
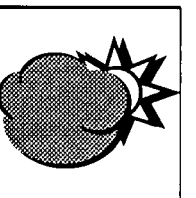
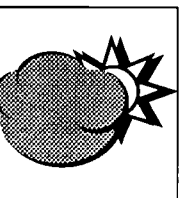
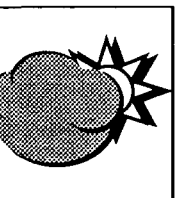
Bedbugs are tiny blood-sucking insects that smell

like soda pop syrup and are shaped like apple seeds. They live in bedding or furniture, or hide behind baseboards and wallpaper.

They don't carry diseases, but they bite while you sleep, turning brownish-red after feeding on your blood.

Infestations are on the rise across the country in metropolitan cities with high travel populations, according to Orkin Exterminating Co.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

LOCAL WEATHER	TODAY		TONIGHT		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW
	33	21		22		33		20		30		33
				18		9		6		16		24

Atlanta 55 / 36 Boston 44 / 30 Chicago 34 / 25 Denver 44 / 26 Houston 43 / 39 Los Angeles 70 / 48 Minneapolis 34 / 13 New York 44 / 31 Philadelphia 46 / 27 Phoenix 64 / 40 Seattle 50 / 39 St. Louis 41 / 25 Tampa 75 / 61 Washington 51 / 26

Man arrested on trespassing charge

Trespasser asked priest for money near Main Building

By ANDREW THAGARD
Associate News Editor

Notre Dame Security/Police arrested a man for trespassing on campus Thursday afternoon.

The suspect, a 58-year old-male, was apprehended at approximately 3:10 p.m. in front of the Main Building after soliciting money from a Holy Cross priest, said Chuck Hurley, NDSP assistant director. The suspect was transported to St. Joseph County Jail and remained in custody Thursday evening.

The individual, who NDSP officials say was previously issued a trespassing warning and told not to return to campus, allegedly confronted a priest and asked for money. An officer patrolling the area noticed the encounter and approached to investigate, Hurley said.

"The officer observed that a priest was approached by this individual and [he] saw an exchange then occur which he thought to be suspicious," Hurley said.

Hurley declined to identify the priest or elaborate on the nature of their encounter but suggested that it mirrored past incidents where members of the Notre Dame community were asked to donate money to a needy individual.

"It's the same situation [as when] someone approaches a student with a hard luck story and asks for \$20 or \$30."

Chuck Hurley
NDSP assistant director

"It's the same situation [as when] someone approaches a student with a hard luck story and asks for \$20 or \$30," he said. "It's a problem that occurs ... periodically."

If a student is approached by someone in need, Hurley said, he should notify NDSP so the department can assess the situation and direct the individual to the appropriate organizations. More often than not, Hurley said, the individual's story doesn't check out and money given with the intent of helping ends up funding a drug addiction.

Contact Andrew Thagard at athagard@nd.edu

Lecture discusses 'just war' theory

By KATIE MOUNTS
News Writer

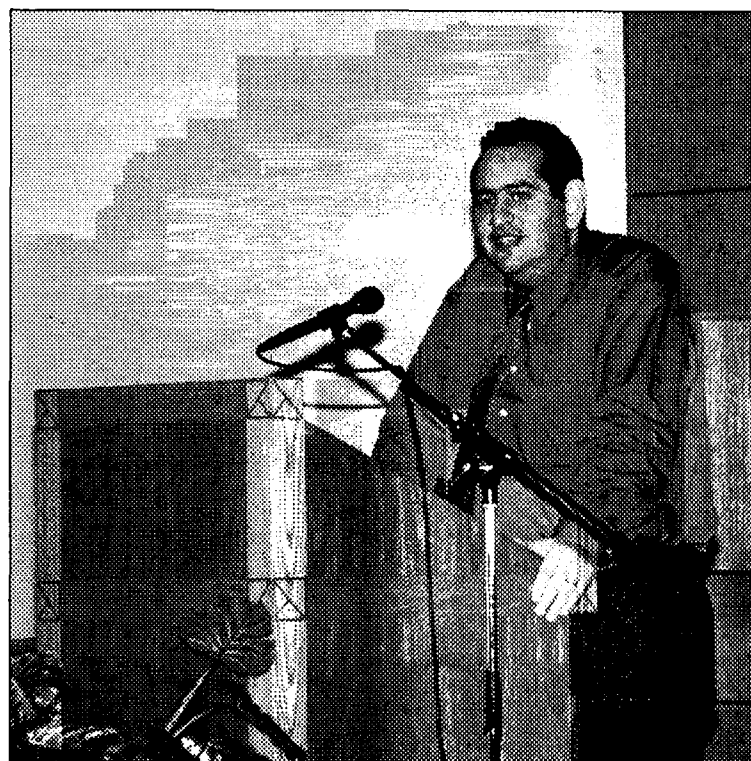
Linking recent events in Iraq to Catholic responsibility, author Peter Temes articulated his opinions on just war theory when he spoke at Notre Dame Thursday night.

Temes, President of the Antioch New England Graduate School and author of the recently published "The Just War: An American Reflection on the Morality of War in Our Time," presented a one-hour lecture entitled "Just War Thinking in a New Age" to approximately 50 students and faculty in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium.

The just war theory, Temes said, revolves around the idea that while "war is always wrong, [it is] sometimes necessary." He argued that choices are not always between right and wrong, but that war may end up being the lesser of two wrongs.

"As precious as peace is, peace is not enough," he said. "Justice and decency are higher values." The highest justification for war, he said, is not defense of self, but defense of an innocent third party.

Temes explained the ambiguity found in the principles of Catholic just war theory, a concept first proposed by St. Augustine. These principles include the propositions that war must be waged by a legitimate authority, be taken as a



Author Peter Temes spoke Thursday in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium on Just War theory, especially as it relates to Iraq.

last resort and be harmful only in proportion to the good it brings, he said.

Temes' book adds three original ideas to the first principles. He also proposed that war may be considered just if and only if it is about the future instead of the past, it is waged with the understanding that all human life is equally precious and it promotes the idea that the legitimacy of government comes from the consent of the gov-

erned.

Temes related his belief that a war is partly justified by its after-effects to the recent controversy in Iraq.

"Our obligation in Iraq is just beginning," he said.

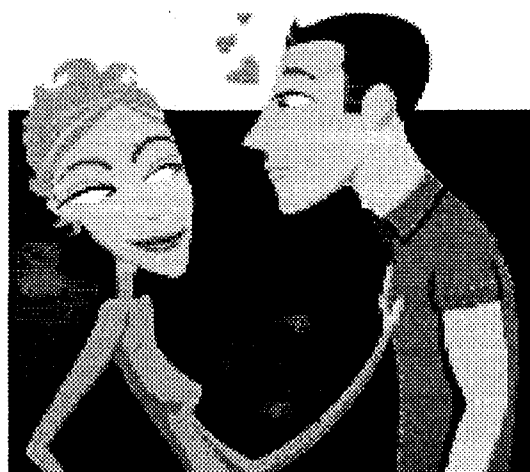
The Program of Liberal Studies, The Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and The Review of Politics cosponsored the lecture.

Contact Katie Mounts at kmounts@nd.edu

What's next for our relationship after graduation?

What are some challenges involved in long-distance dating?

What's involved in making healthy decisions about a relationship?



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~Pre-registration is required by Friday, Feb 27, at noon.
~Applications are available in 114 Coleman-Morse Center or 319 Coleman-Morse at the Reception Desk
(there is no cost for this program)

Questions: call John or Sylvia Dillon at 1-7163

CM
Campus Ministry

Reaction

continued from page 1

for a plurality vote in such a case. However, with less than 50 percent of the campus population voting, the situation is also being blamed on student apathy.

"I think [the low voter turnout] is sad," said sophomore Maddy Saunders. "At least the people that abstained voiced their opinions."

Siegfried junior Rob Murphy was one of the non-voters and attributed his

actions to a lack of interest. "I didn't vote pretty much out of sheer laziness," he said. "I didn't feel like going on the Web site, and I guess it seems like student government doesn't personally affect me. I realize what they do is important, but it's not a part of my day to day life."

Also playing an important role in the election's outcome were the 7 percent of students who voted but chose to abstain.

"I feel like you need to have a majority of the student popular vote to be student body president."

Sara Woolf
freshman

Sophomore Brownschidle explained the reasons for her abstention, citing the lack of strong candidates.

"I didn't feel like there was a good choice between the two of them, so I abstained. I would probably make a choice now, just to end it. I would find something to pull me one way or another," said Brownschidle.

Now that this previously

untested rule is affecting the campus, many are speaking out against it and calling for reform before the next election.

"Having a president without the most votes would be upsetting, because it'd be cheating the other guy out," junior Ann Mulligan said. "I think changing the rules would really encourage people to vote, because their vote would really make a dif-

"I think [the low voter turnout] is sad. At least the people that abstained voiced their opinions."

Maddy Saunders
sophomore

ference in the end if it came down to a situation like this."

Freshman Sara Woolf agreed. "I feel like you need to have a majority of the student popular vote to be student body president," said Woolf. "Even if he's not who I wanted, I would want the president to have the popular vote."

Contact Amanda Michaels at
amichael@nd.edu

Debate

continued from page 1

Dame is prohibited from interfering in the production by its commitment to academic freedom, said Rose Lindgren, a staff and cast member.

Support has also come from such sources as Pangborn Hall, whose hall government proposed a resolution to donate funds from the hall tax to V-Day.

"We had to drop that idea after speaking to Student Affairs," Pangborn rector Heather Rakoczy said. Instead, she said the dorm collected spare change from residents and donated the proceeds to the group.

Performances of The Vagina Monologues have also sparked protest and criticism since the beginning. Critics accuse Ensler, who is a lesbian, of furthering an anti-marriage, pro-lesbian agenda, and describe the play as "obscene" and "pornographic." When the Notre Dame chapter of V-Day organized its first performance in February of 2002, alumni and students polarized into those who supported the production and those who wanted the administration to ban it.

Saint Mary's students organized their own V-Day chapter and production in 2000; however, president Marilou Eldred forbade its performance again the following year on the grounds that no other theatrical production was done every year. Students responded by holding unofficial readings of the Monologues and organizing other V-Day events.

Most recently, Loyola University banned its students' production of the Monologues, citing concerns about the play's language. Students there have pledged to continue with unofficial readings.

The Saint Mary's chapter also continues to have unofficial readings, as well as inviting their stu-

dents to attend the performance at Notre Dame. V-Day organizers at Saint Mary's declined to comment on the activities of the group on their campus.

Lindsey Horvath, director of Notre Dame's production of the Monologues, said she has been contacted by many V-Day organizers from colleges around the nation, especially those with a Christian or Catholic orientation. She has given them advice on how to prevent a production from being shut down.

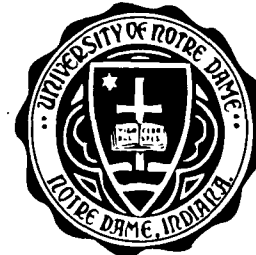
The activities of Notre Dame's chapter of V-Day are not limited to the production of The Vagina Monologues. They are organizing the "1 percent campaign," a drive to get Congress to allocate 1 percent of the current U.S. defense budget to active defense of women. This includes combating female genital mutilation, establishing shelters and preventing domestic violence. Additionally, they are sponsoring "V is for Vote," providing Indiana voting registration information to all interested, as well as women's issues track records of all the 2004 presidential candidates.

On Wednesday evening, the V-day organization sponsored an "open mike night" at Reckers. Students were offered the chance to deliver poetry, stories and personal accounts of rape or domestic violence.

V-Day also sponsored the "Clothesline Project," which brought victims of sexual assault or domestic violence together and invited them to design t-shirts about women's issues. These shirts will be hung at Stepan Center for the Monologues performance and have been displayed for several days in the main lobby of O'Shaughnessy Hall.

"We are, symbolically, trying to air out our society's dirty laundry," Horvath said.

Contact Matthew Smedberg at
smedberg.1@nd.edu



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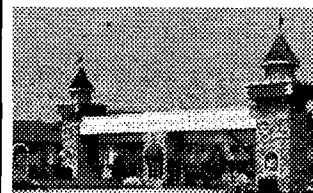
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Thurs	Lunch and daily specials
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Sat, Feb 14	Live music with Jazzy Grass
Sun	Sports all day and all you can eat Buffet \$5.95

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Most-wanted terrorist suspect dies

WASHINGTON — One of Saudi Arabia's most-wanted terrorism suspects has died from injuries in a November shootout with security forces, a U.S. official said Thursday.

Amer Mohsin Moreef Al Zaidan al-Shihri made it to a safehouse where he was treated by a nurse, but he later died, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Saudi Interior Ministry said in November that the five-hour shootout in a residential neighborhood of the Saudi capital, Riyadh, left one suspected militant dead and eight policemen wounded. Witnesses said several other militants escaped.

The Saudi government has never declared al-Shihri to be dead.

Mexico accuses U.S., Britain of spying

MEXICO CITY — Mexico has asked the United States and Britain to explain recent accusations they spied on U.N. delegations in the run-up to the war in Iraq.

Mexico's request came a day after Chile claimed its U.N. mission telephones were tapped as the Security Council considered a resolution backed by Washington, Britain and Spain authorizing war against Saddam Hussein.

A Chilean government spokesman refused to say who was suspected of tapping the telephones, but said government officials "expressed our concern to the respective institutions."

On Saturday, a London newspaper reported that British intelligence acted on a U.S. request for help in eavesdropping on U.N. delegates' home and office telephones before the war.

NATIONAL NEWS

Clark to endorse front-runner Kerry

WASHINGTON — Wesley Clark will endorse presidential contender John Kerry, a high-profile boost for the front-runner as he looks to wrap up the party's nomination, according to Democratic officials.

With next week's Wisconsin primary looming, Clark plans to join Kerry at a campaign stop in Madison, Wis., Friday to make a formal endorsement, said officials, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Clark spokesman Matt Bennett would not confirm the endorsement, and would only say, "General Clark is looking forward to going to Wisconsin to be with Senator Kerry."

Soldier arrested for aiding al-Qaida

FORT LEWIS, Wash. — A National Guardsman was arrested Thursday and charged by the Army with trying to provide information to the al-Qaida terrorist network, the military said.

Army Lt. Col. Stephen Barger confirmed that Spc. Ryan Anderson was charged with aiding the enemy by wrongfully attempting to communicate and give intelligence to al-Qaida. Anderson, 26, is being held at Fort Lewis, an Army base near Tacoma.

Barger declined to give any details on the arrest, including what information allegedly was given to al-Qaida or how it was provided.

LOCAL NEWS

House to vote on Indiana time zone

INDIANAPOLIS — A leading lawmaker expects the House to vote next week on a resolution asking the federal government to move most of Indiana to the Central time zone and have it observe daylight-saving time.

Rep. Chet Dobis, D-Merrillville, said Thursday that he senses more legislative momentum now behind making a time switch than there has been in his 34 years in the General Assembly. He also said he believed the resolution would pass.

Gay weddings performed in Calif.

San Francisco city officials allow 15 same-sex marriages in protest of state law

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — In an open challenge to California law, city authorities performed at least 15 same-sex weddings Thursday and issued about a dozen more marriage licenses to gay and lesbian couples.

By midafternoon, jubilant gay couples were lining up under City Hall's ornate gold dome and exchanging vows in two-minute ceremonies that followed one after another.

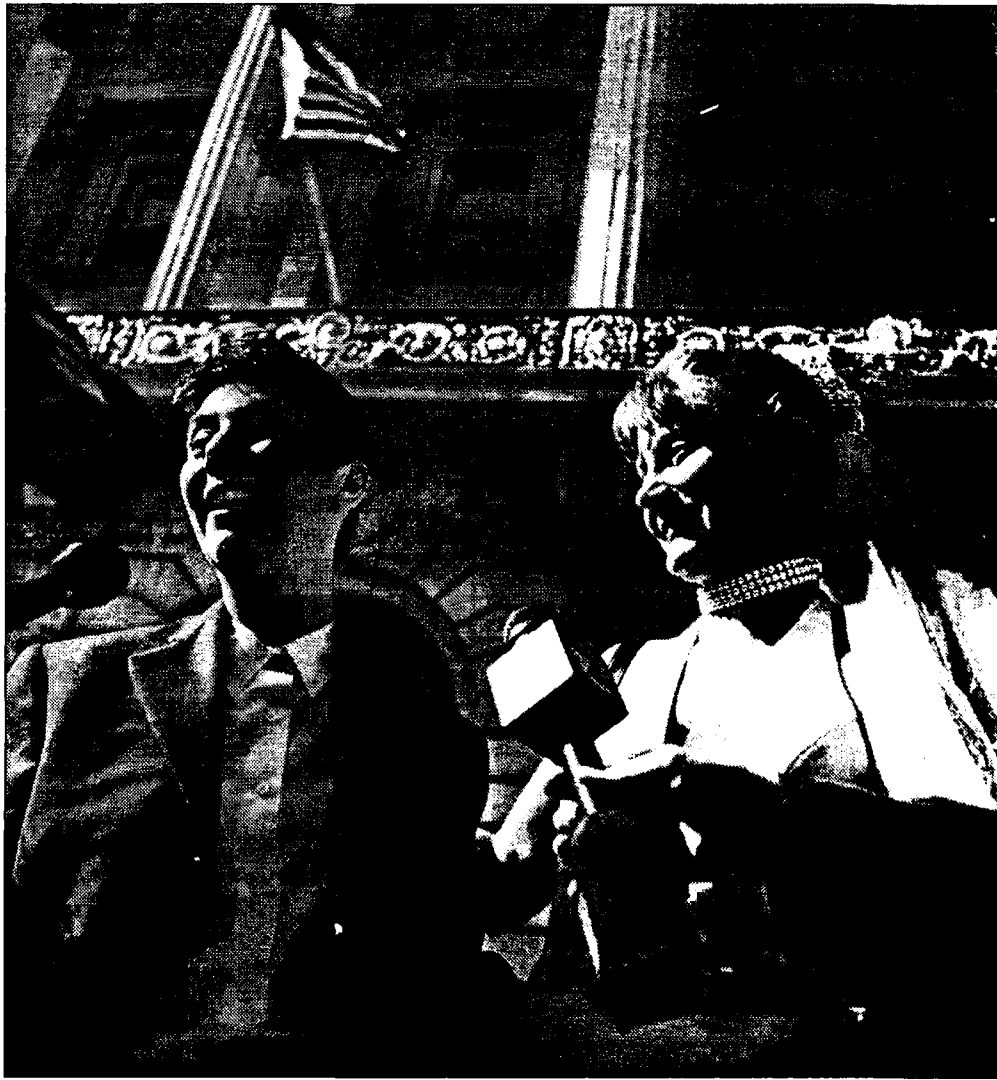
"Today a barrier to true justice has been removed," said Gavin Newsom, newly elected mayor of the city considered the capital of gay America.

No state legally sanctions gay marriage, and it remains unclear what practical value the marriage licenses will have. The weddings violate a ballot measure California voters approved in 2000 that defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman.

The move by San Francisco's mayor came as lawmakers in Massachusetts continued to debate a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage in that state, where the nation's first legally recognized same-sex weddings are set to take place this spring under a ruling from the Massachusetts high court.

The assembly-line nuptials began with longtime lesbian activists Phyllis Lyon, 79, and Del Martin, 83, who were hurriedly issued a married license and were wedded just before noon by City Assessor Mabel Teng in a closed-door civil ceremony at City Hall. The two have been a couple for 51 years.

About 30 couples crowded outside the San Francisco County Clerk's office awaiting licenses, many arm in arm. One of the women, wearing a white wedding dress and veil, encouraged couples to shout out their names and how long they



Davina Kotulski (left) and her partner Molly McKay talk to the media before applying for a marriage license outside City Hall in San Francisco, California, Thursday.

had been together.

"I understand there are wrinkles that need to be worked out, but as far as I'm concerned, we will be married," said Molly McKay as she and her partner of eight years, Davina Kotulski, stood at the clerk's counter.

During one of the weddings, performed before TV cameras, the vows were rewritten so that "husband and wife" became "spouse for life."

A conservative group called the Campaign for California Families called the marriages a sham.

"These unlawful certificates are not worth the paper they are printed on. The renegade mayor of San Francisco has no authority

to do this," said Randy Thomasson, executive director. "This is nothing more than a publicity stunt that disrespects our state law and system of government itself."

San Francisco officials insisted the licenses are legally binding and would immediately confer new benefits in everything from health coverage to funeral arrangements.

California Attorney General Bill Lockyer had no comment.

The gay marriages were timed by city officials to outmaneuver the conservative group. The group had planned to go to court on Friday to stop the mayor's announced plans to issue marriage licenses to gay

couples. But city officials struck first.

Lyon and Martin said after their brief ceremony that they were going home to rest and did not plan anything to celebrate. The couple seemed proud of what they had done.

"Why shouldn't we be able to marry?" Lyon asked.

The mayor was not present at the morning ceremony but later presented Martin and Lyon with a signed copy of the state constitution with sections related to equal rights highlighted.

The two official witnesses were Kate Kendell, director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights and former city official Roberta Achtenberg.

Human embryo successfully cloned

Associated Press

SEATTLE — In a clash of politics and science, the first successful cloning of a human embryo — and the extraction of stem cells from it — has ignited new calls for a ban on all forms of human cloning in the United States.

The cloning announcement by South Korean scientists on Thursday prompted members of Congress and church leaders to ask for immediate legislation.

"Cloning human beings is wrong. It is unethical to tinker with human life," said Rep. Joe Pitts, R-Pa. A ban must be passed, he said, "before this unethical science comes to our shores."

The Bush administration favors such action and referred reporters to a statement by the president calling for "a comprehensive and effective ban."

"Human life is a creation, not a commodity, and should not be used as research material for reckless experiments," Bush said last month.

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., who voted against a bill passed last year by the House that called for a ban on human cloning, said there needs to be legislation that would prevent cloning of babies, but permit "lifesaving stem cell research to proceed under strict ethical guidelines."

Two South Korean scientist who announced the landmark achievement

here Thursday said they have already been the target of street demonstrations and egg-throwing incidents in Seoul even though their work is directed at treating diseases and not at making cloned babies.

Woo Suk Hwang, lead author of the study, admitted at a news conference that the technique developed in his lab "cannot be separated from reproductive cloning" and called on every country to prevent the use of the technology in that way.

He said the work was controlled and regulated by the Korea Stem Cell Research Center "to prevent the remote possibility of any uncontrolled accidents such as human reproductive cloning."

Racial issues forum celebrates black history

By TRICIA DE GROOT
News Writer

Three Notre Dame history professors specializing in racial issues kicked off a celebration of Black History Month when they spoke at a forum in Welsh Family Hall on Thursday night.

Welsh multicultural commissioners Arienne Thompson and Shawtina Ferguson facilitated the event and invited their past and current professors Emily Osborn, Tom Guglielmo and Richard Pierce to attend the event and share their own reflections on black history with students.

Guglielmo began with an account of a life-altering book about the Civil Rights Movement that his sister gave him as a Christmas present in 1989. He said the book, "Parting the Waters" by Taylor Branch, influenced his decision to become a history major. Contrasting Branch's unusual focus on ordinary people with the usual focus on more prominent figures such as Martin Luther King Jr., Guglielmo praised their willingness to jump to action.

"If these folks can do it, why can't I take an active role and try and bring about a more just society?" asked Guglielmo.

Guglielmo said he appreciated the achievements of these "everyday folks determined that they could make a difference." The ordinary people were what made the Civil

Rights Movement a national success, he said.

"These struggles are still very much alive today, but we cannot allow that reality to deemphasize the achievements of this movement," Guglielmo said. "We can all make a difference if we organize, mobilize and are determined."

Following Guglielmo's presentation, Osborn spoke to the group about African history in Sierra Leone, Africa. She emphasized the ties that this country shares with the United States and how important it has been to African history.

She said Sierra Leone served as an example of cultural and race relations far ahead of their time and expressed her hope that, through this example, people would see Africa in a more positive light.

While negative perception of current events often "erases this complex, very rich past," Osborn said, her goal is "to show the ties the United States shares with Africa."

The last professor to speak, Richard Pierce, told his audience that "people believe African American history is a history of trauma." However, Pierce said he views African American history as a history of resistance.

"If resistance is the lens through which I see African American history," Pierce asked, "then what is the resistance to follow?"

Pierce also described the boxing match involving Floyd Patterson and Sonny Liston as

a clash Americans viewed as "good versus evil, evil versus acceptable." Pierce further related this event to his theme of resistance.

"Resistance is the base," he said. "How to resist has always been the question."

The evening concluded with an opportunity to speak with

the professors when the floor was opened up for questions.

Contact Tricia de Groot at pdegroot@nd.edu

"If these folks can do it, why can't I take an active role and try and bring about a more just society?"

Tom Guglielmo
professor

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AMEX 1,248.35 +2.15
NASDAQ 2,073.61 -16.05
NYSE 6,716.19 -34.86
S&P 500 1,152.11 +12.22
NIKKEI(Tokyo) 10,424.30 -34.96
FTSE 100(London) 4,377.70 -18.30

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
SONUS NETWORKS (SONS)	-19.44	-1.30	30.10
SIRIUS SAT RADI (SIRI)	+3.32	+0.10	24.24
SUN MICROSYS (SUNW)	+0.52	+0.03	31.23
CISCO SYSTEMS (CSCO)	-0.78	-0.19	3.01
COMCAST A SPCL (CMCSK)	-3.16	-0.95	5.74

Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	+0.86	+0.42	49.39
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5-YEAR NOTE	+2.40	+0.72	30.66
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IN BRIEF

Drug at center of scandal approved

WASHINGTON — Erbitux, the drug at the center of the Martha Stewart stock scandal, won government approval Thursday as a treatment for colorectal cancer patients who have run out of other options. Erbitux is one of a new class of cancer medicines designed to specifically target and disrupt certain molecules that spur tumor growth. But it has gotten more attention on Wall Street than in hospitals, because of the Stewart case.

Manufacturer ImClone Systems initially sought FDA approval in 2001. But the agency in December of that year said the company's studies were so poorly done that scientists couldn't even evaluate whether Erbitux actually helped patients.

That rejection sent ImClone's stock plummeting. Chief executive Sam Waksal is in prison after pleading guilty to securities fraud for dumping his stock just before the news became public. Now his friend, domestic diva Stewart, is on trial, accused of lying and securities fraud after dumping her own holdings. She denies wrongdoing.

Study shows increase in tire ratings

WASHINGTON — Tires are better at resisting wear than they were in 2000, when Firestone recalled millions of tires that were prone to lose their tread and blow out, according to federal data released Thursday.

But tire ratings for traction performance and heat resistance have seen little change since 2000, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said.

Six percent of tires rated between a 500 and a 600 on resisting wear this year, meaning they can last four to six times longer than a basic tire, and at least 25 tires had a rating of 700 or higher. In 2000, there were hardly any tires with a 600 and no tires with a 700.

NHTSA has been rating tires since 1980, but made its Web site easier to search this year in response to a call from Congress to make tire information readily available to consumers. There are ratings for more than 2,200 tires, including some that have been discontinued but may still be on store shelves.

Greenspan advocates tax cut

Fed chair recommends trimming entitlement programs to make cut permanent

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said Thursday that Congress should make President Bush's tax cuts permanent and cover the \$1 trillion price by trimming future benefits in Social Security and other entitlement programs.

Greenspan told the Senate Banking Committee that Congress, "as a first order of business," should restore budget rules that cap discretionary government spending and require increases in entitlement benefits or cuts in taxes to be offset by other program cuts or other tax increases.

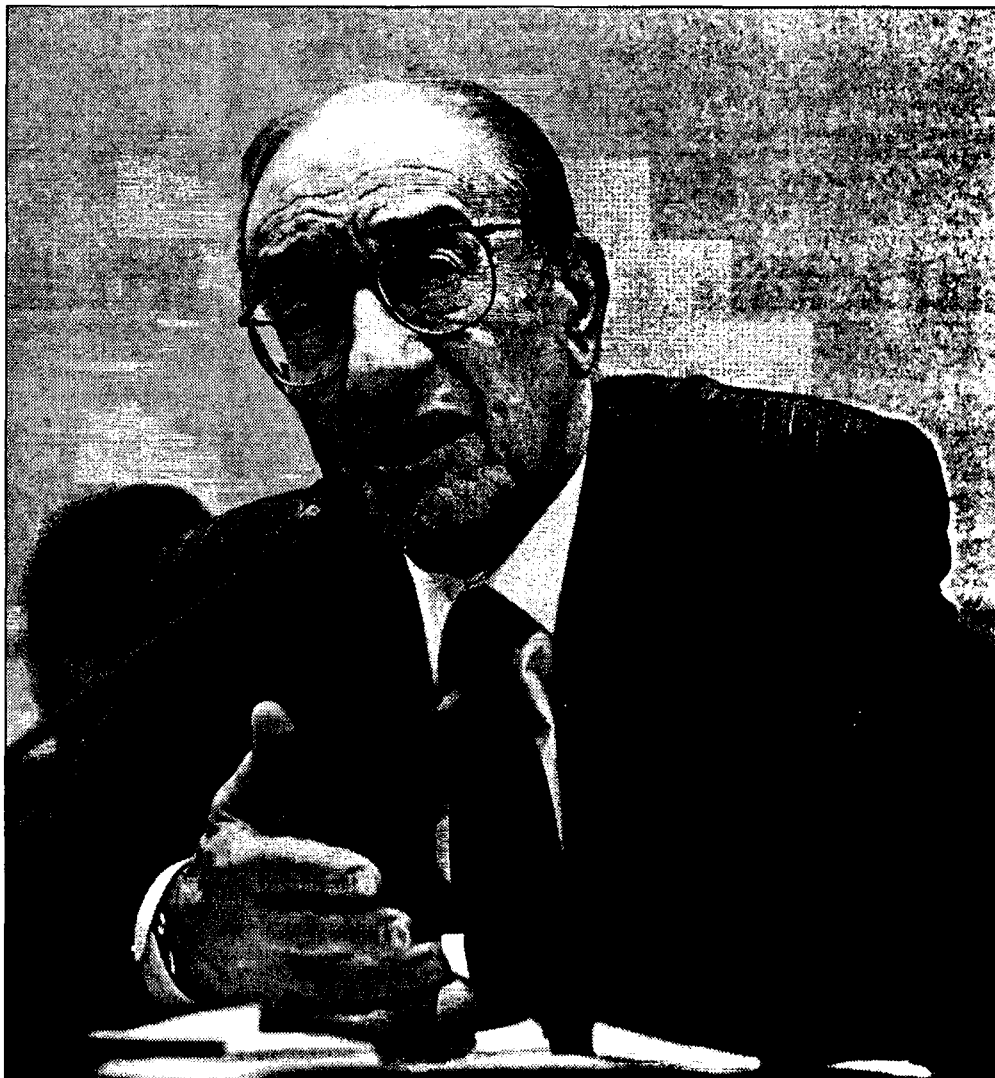
Greenspan was asked how he would come up with the decade-long cost of \$1 trillion to pay for extending the 2001 and 2003 individual tax cuts. "I would argue strenuously that it should be taken out on the expenditure side," he answered.

Greenspan, chairman of a commission that recommended solutions to a Social Security funding crisis in 1983, said he has felt for long time that the promised program benefits greatly outweighed the government's ability to pay for them.

He recommended two items for study in terms of trimming benefits: Linking the retirement age to the population's longer life spans and tying annual cost of living benefits in Social Security to a less-generous inflation index than the Consumer Price Index.

Committee members questioned whether such proposals could pass Congress, especially because they would cut benefits for the 77 million Americans in the baby boom generation who are nearing retirement age.

But Greenspan said it was precisely as a result of that looming wave of retirement that lawmakers need to update Social Security, Medicare and other entitlement programs.



Chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve Alan Greenspan testifies before the U.S. Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee on Capitol Hill Thursday.

"We have constructed a good deal of the benefit structure over the last quarter century without a real firm look at whether or not the real resources were there to meet those benefits," Greenspan said. "And I suggest that what we have to do, as difficult as it's going to be, is to relook at some of these commitments."

Greenspan said it would be far better to do that now than to discover later that the government does not have the resources to meet baby boomers' needs.

"My real concern is that when the time comes to start to pay these benefits, we're going to find that we are in very serious fiscal difficulty," Greenspan said. "I do think it's important for

the people who are retiring to have a sense of security that what is being promised to them as they retire will indeed be there."

The budget rules that Greenspan favors reinstating expired in late 2002. He wants those "pay as you go" rules to apply to both spending and taxes so the deficit does not worsen; Bush is recommending they cover only spending.

If Bush got his way, he would not have to come up with the estimated \$1 trillion needed to make the tax cuts permanent.

Greenspan came out in support of the administration on the idea of permanent tax cuts, even in the face of deficits estimated to reach a record \$521 billion

this year.

At a critical point three years ago, the Fed chairman also endorsed the president's first tax cut, at a price of \$1.35 trillion, as a good way to handle surpluses that were then projected to total \$5.6 trillion over the next decade.

Also during the hearing, Greenspan was questioned about a recent tell-all book written about former Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill, whom Bush fired in December 2002.

In the book, O'Neill said he and Greenspan had a secret agreement that Greenspan would publicly call for a mechanism to be included in the 2001 tax cut that would tie the cuts in future years to continued budget surpluses.

Microsoft source code leaked

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Microsoft Corp. said late Thursday that parts of its Windows source code — the tightly guarded blueprint of its dominant computer operating system — had been leaked over the Internet.

Microsoft spokesman Tom Pilla said in an interview with The Associated Press that some incomplete portions of the Windows 2000 and Windows NT 4.0 source code had been "illegally made available on the Internet."

Access to the source code could allow hackers to exploit the operating system and attack machines running some versions of Windows. Several versions of the operating system,

including the ones containing leaked code, are used on hundreds of millions of computers worldwide.

Such access could also provide a competitive edge to Microsoft rivals, who would gain a much better understanding of the inner workings of Microsoft's technology.

The company was made aware of the leak Thursday and was investigating, Pilla said. He did not know how much of the code had been leaked, when the leak occurred or how many people might have gained access to it. The company could not immediately pinpoint the source of the leak, and has contacted law enforcement authorities, he said.

Pilla said there was no indication

the leak was a result of a breach of Microsoft's corporate network. There was no known immediate affect on Microsoft customers, he said.

Microsoft has previously shared some of its source code with some companies, U.S. government agencies, foreign governments and universities under tight restrictions that prevent such organizations from making it publicly available. But the company has argued that the blueprint to its operating system is proprietary, and shouldn't be made public.

Still, because some people outside Microsoft have had access to the code, analysts said it wasn't too surprising for such a leak to occur.

Results

continued from page 1

Healy ticket and the Ryan Craft-Steve Lynch ticket.

"Those guys have been an amazing help since Monday," he said. "I think that just given more time to get my message out helped because I think I was ... made to look like an inexperienced ticket, which I'm not. Also, higher voter turnout definitely had a lot to do with it."

Ebersol also commented on the increased voter turnout, which is unusual for a runoff election.

"I'm very familiar with the last five elections through my research, and this is the first time there's been an increase [in voting from the primary to the runoff] in the last five years," he said. "It's a very clear indication of what students either wanted or did not want."

Poindexter informed the candidates Thursday of the procedure that will be followed. The Student Union Constitution states that if no ticket wins the required amount of votes, "the Student Senate shall convene a closed meeting and select the winner by a majority vote."

The Constitution further mandates that senators must cast their votes according to the candidate that won in their dorm. In the event the two candidates tied within a particular dorm, that dorm's senator may vote for either candidate. Finally, in the event there is a tie in the senators' votes, the student body vice president must cast the deciding vote.

This information prompted some frustration from both Ebersol and Istvan. Each said he believed that, because the votes from each dorm have already been tallied, the results should simply be made known to them.

"I think it's a misinterpretation by the Judicial Council," said Istvan. "The closed meeting policy is for those senators to cast their votes freely ... however, if it's already decided then it doesn't matter. If either of us won 15 senators straight out ... we would automatically win."

Ebersol agreed with Istvan.

"I don't agree with the interpretation," he said. "While there is a closed door session, I think the real interpretation is that it's closed in the event of a tie so the senators don't feel like they're being swayed by the candidates."

Because of the confusion, each candidate said he will look into the election bylaws if voted into office.

"I'm sure whoever wins will probably take a serious look at it to find a better way, but we have to go with what we have for now," Istvan said.

Ebersol again agreed with Istvan, although more forcefully.

"I can promise you that if I do get elected, I would definitely tear this page right out of the Constitution," he said.

The election now relies on the candidates winning a plurality of the dorms. Therefore, if Ebersol is declared the winner, he will be a president who reached office despite losing the popular vote.

"It's actually funny because a couple of nights ago, I was talking to [Istvan] and saying that I would have preferred that the elections were decided by the dorms, but at this point, I wish it was just done outright," Ebersol said. "I could see where Adam would be upset [if I won that way]."

Istvan mentioned that this arrangement hurts him, because a lot of his support came from students who live off campus.

"I think it is set up unfairly. My support came mostly from juniors and seniors, most of whom live off campus, and they only get one senator," he said. "Their vote is miniscule now. I won [the senior vote] by more than a 2 to 1 margin. It's unfortunate that the Constitution is set up in such a way that off campus students count less. However, I would never try to go against the Constitution."

While Ebersol-Leito won the freshman class 551 to 443 votes and the sophomore class 493 to 379 votes, Istvan-Bell won the junior class 490 to 323 votes and the senior class 409 to 170 votes. However, the Student Senate is set up with only one off campus senator and one senator from each dorm.

A further issue now complicating the election is that each dorm, regardless of size, will receive only one vote in the Senate meeting Sunday.

"I think it's unfortunate for the kids that live in the big dorms," said Istvan. "It's not like the federal system in the United States where you have drastically different views coming from the big

and small states. Here, we're all Notre Dame students ... we're not that much different when it comes to what students want done."

Ebersol did not share the same opinion.

"It's necessary that each dorm has an equal voice," he said. "I think it's important that each dorm has equal representation and equal voices."

Ebersol added his own speculation about how the election will turn out.

"Based on the last election ... I think the two of us can get a pretty good idea of where the votes stand," he said. "I fell about 70 votes [in the runoff], and [Istvan] gained almost exactly 1,000, but he gained a lot of off campus votes. If you look at the last election, you have a pretty good idea of who wins what dorms."

"I would willingly bet that if you looked at the last election you would be able to figure out who is going to win this election," he said.

In Monday's election, Ebersol-Leito won 22 of 27 dorms. Istvan-Bell won 3, Healy-Healy and Craft-Lynch each won one dorm.

Contact Maureen Reynolds at mreynold@nd.edu

Sharon

continued from page 1

ried," Moss said in his homily. "People like certainty. Finding Chad put an end to two months of total uncertainty, of wondering what could've happened, where he could be."

He said that the discovery of Sharon's body brought resolution of this uncertainty, but also prompted questions about the injustice of losing such a young life.

"We ask why we had to lose somebody so young, somebody so talented, somebody so happy, somebody so thrilled about being at ND," Moss said. "We don't know the reasons. We can see and not understand. But we can trust that Chad is one with the Lord, and we are one with Chad."

At the close of the Mass, Father Mark Poorman, vice president for student affairs, read a letter from Sharon's par-

ents, Steve and Jane, of Pelican Lake, Wis. Addressed to "all our dear friends at Notre Dame," the brief and heartfelt letter expressed the family's everyday struggles with the loss of their son and their efforts to fulfill his wishes.

The Sharons also wrote that they promised to return to campus again soon. After finishing the letter, Poorman told listeners that a tree would be planted in the spring to honor Chad Sharon's memory, and that his diploma would be awarded posthumously at graduation ceremonies in May of 2006.

Moss reminded those in attendance to rejoice in Sharon's life, although his time at the University had been cut short.

"He was only with us for four short months, but he certainly left his mark," Moss said. "God was ready to welcome Chad in his own embrace."

Contact Claire Heininger at cheining@nd.edu

"This country was built on the sweat and blood off our ancestors' brows. Yet we still cannot live without the impending threat of ignorant whites who are oblivious to their privilege, demeaning our successes as handouts and our failures as a character of our blackness"

—Rhea Boyd

Do YOU have an opinion on this matter?

Come Talk About It!

The Content of our Character: Is Affirmative Action Just?

Monday, Feb. 16, 2004 Faculty Debate Jordan Auditorium MCoB 7:00 pm

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2004 Student Discussion Coleman-Morse Lounge 7:00pm

Men compete for pageant title

By KATE GALES
News Writer

Missed the Mr. ND Pageant? There will be another chance to get your fill of Notre Dame's finest at 2 p.m. on Saturday, when male Notre Dame students compete for the title of "Mr. Cool Water" here on campus.

Legends and the magazine Sports Illustrated on Campus have designed a Cool Water cologne promotional event.

"[The idea] generated from Sports Illustrated on Campus," said Jonathan Jorissen, program coordinator at Legends. "Cool Water is a sponsor of Sports Illustrated on Campus, and the representatives here at Notre Dame heard about the pageant."

The campus representatives

submitted a proposal to be one of three schools hosting the event. The pageant is in affiliation with Cool Water's search for the new face of their cologne. Any male attending the event is eligible for the modeling contract, and the winning model will also win a date with a Sports Illustrated swimsuit model.

According to Jorissen, each men's dorm was eligible for one entrant in the pageant, as well as one Mr. Off-Campus. The judges will be representatives from the women's residence halls, with Cheryl Turski serving as emcee.

In addition to the title, the top three winners will receive cash prizes of \$100, \$50 and \$25, respectively.

The event will take place after the men's basketball game against Seton Hall on

Saturday, scheduled for 12 noon at the JACC.

"We're anticipating a good turnout," Jorissen said. "The guys are invited to bring support groups ... part of the competition is the crowd response, so they are encouraged to bring as many people as possible."

The event has not been heavily advertised, although all students on the Legends e-mail list received information on the competition.

Posters in residence halls have also publicized the event.

The timing of the event — after the men's basketball game — should also bring people to Legends, Jorissen said.

Contact Kate Gales at
kgales@nd.edu

Threats

continued from page 1

death threats previously, he does not consider these recent threats to be as serious in nature.

"The thing that gets me the most is that people don't want to confront me," Ebersol said. "I am right now reacting to an invisible group that is either unwilling or doesn't want to confront me and ask me questions to find out what about me they don't like. I can't defend myself."

Ebersol added that this election's issues were lost as students tended to focus more on the individuals themselves.

Reacting to Thursday's runoff election results, several students said they voted for Istvan and Bell because of their personal dislike for

Ebersol.

"I'm a CBS fan myself," freshman Dan Nickle said, referencing Ebersol's father Dick Ebersol, who is Chairman of NBC Sports.

"I've heard he's just a jerk, not that I know him personally," Nickle said.

Ebersol's running mate, Leito, said he was not the subject of personal attacks, and that he does not believe his own campaign experience — both the negative and the positive — was unlike previous campaigns.

Istvan and Bell reported an overall positive experience.

"[I have received] nothing but positive feedback," Istvan said. "If that disgusting stuff is happening to [Ebersol], I feel awful and that is not what this [election] is supposed to be about."

Contact Meghanne Downes at
mdownes1@nd.edu

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Lessons Learned—
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The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editor and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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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Festival a step in right direction

Five years ago, Notre Dame students were participating in hunger strikes to protest the University's policy toward homosexuals.

This week, department-sponsored students are running and attending the first Queer Film Festival on campus.

It's a big change — and a huge step in the right direction.

Granted, the University's policy toward homosexual individuals — both students and faculty — is still far from perfect. The same issues that prompted protests and controversy throughout the 1990s are still unresolved. Gay groups are still denied club status and the University's non-discrimination clause still does not include homosexuals.

But considering Notre Dame's outspoken, hard-core Catholic identity, its reluctance to fully and openly sanction homosexual causes or groups is somewhat understandable. The backlash from various Catholic organizations and alumni would most likely be overwhelming, and the University's cautious moves are most likely an effort to avoid such a vehement reaction.

There is a difference between preserving Notre Dame's Catholic identity and encouraging academic debate by allowing presentations that exhibit perspectives contrary

to Church teachings. By allowing the Queer Film Festival, Notre Dame shows a commitment to both academic freedom and a more accepting social attitude. If the University truly opposed the event, it undoubtedly could have refused to permit it on campus. Permitting events like the Queer

Film Festival shows the University's willingness to explore social and gender issues in the pursuit of academic enlightenment. They also show that the University's attitude is becoming more open in regard to alternative lifestyles, marking the first step toward actual, tangible progress.

Now that Notre Dame is more openly displaying this attitude, it should quicken its pace in implementing changes. Catholicism is the most identifying characteristic of the University, but that same religious commitment should be used to justify full inclusion. A main tenet of the Catholic faith is that all people are equal and love should be universal; the University should act on that tenet and include sexual orientation in its non-discrimination clause. It should be commended for its recent allowances and exhibition of a more tolerant mindset, but the administration should build upon that mindset and turn to action by taking the major steps needed to secure full equality for all people on this campus.

The Observer Editorial

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Film Festival taints Notre Dame

"I am the Immaculate Conception."

Thus spoke the Mother of God to Saint Bernadette Soubirous in 1858, just four years after Blessed Pope Pius IX solemnly proclaimed the doctrine of Our Lady's Immaculate Conception.

Our Lady was preserved from all stain of sin from the first moment of her conception so that she would be the singular vessel of devotion in which the Word would become Flesh by the power of the Holy Ghost to dwell amongst us and to redeem us on the Wood of the Holy Cross.

Our Lady saw the horror of what our sins did to her Divine Son in His Sacred Humanity as he hung on the Cross on Calvary on Good Friday. Her Immaculate Heart was pierced with the sword of sorrow that had been prophesied by the aged Simeon in the Temple at the Presentation.

Cooperating with the graces won for us on Calvary and relying upon our sinless Blessed Mother's maternal intercession, we are called to be free from all stain of sin in this life. It is thus an evil thing to persist in sin unrepentantly, worse yet to celebrate it publicly as something noble and virtuous. It is an act of utter blasphemy to connect the Holy Name of Mary with one of the four sins that cry out to Heaven for

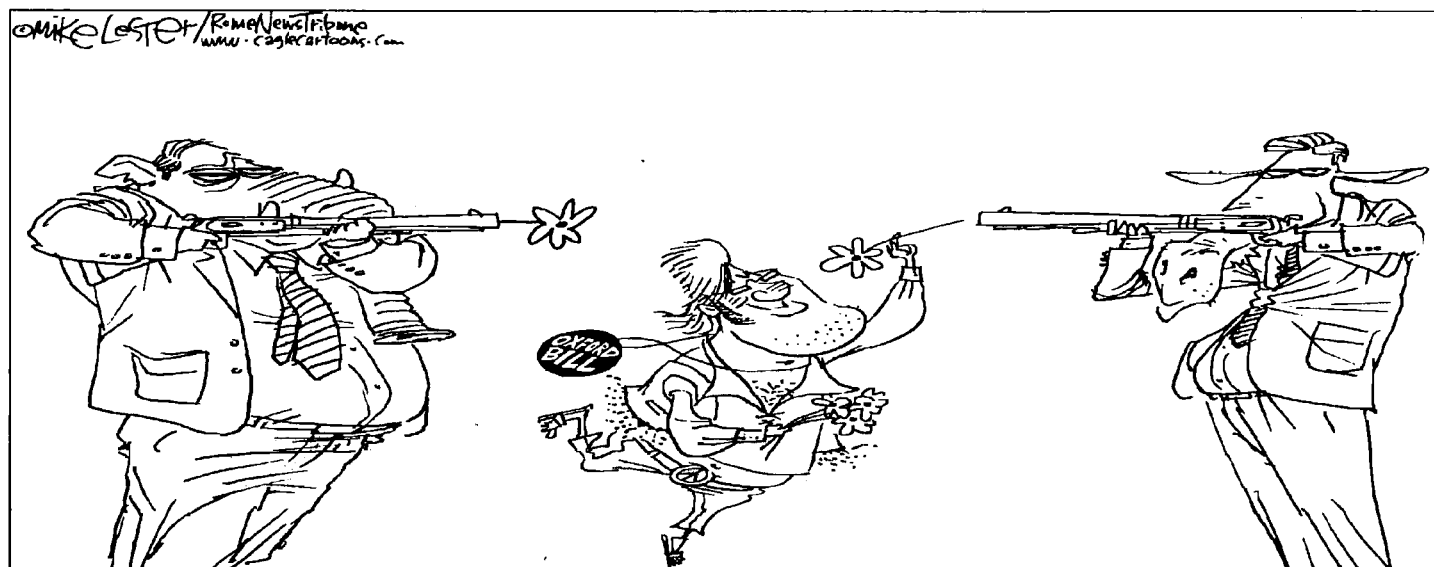
vengeance, as is being done this very week on the campus of the University of Notre Dame du Lac in Notre Dame, Indiana.

To make reparation for the "film festival" celebrating perverse evil on Our Lady's campus, Christ or Chaos, Inc., is calling upon all Catholics of good will to pray an extra set of Sorrowful Mysteries of Our Lady's Most Holy Rosary each and every day that this celebration of perversity is taking place on her campus.

Thomas Droleskey
President
Christ or Chaos, Inc.
Alumni
Class of 1974

Editor's Note: This letter was originally submitted to The Observer as an advertisement. However, because The Observer does not allow advertisements of an ideological nature, The Observer's Editorial Board rejected the advertisement and offered the author a chance to resubmit the text to the Viewpoint section.

EDITORIAL CARTOON

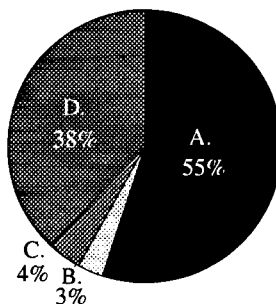


OBSERVER POLL

Do you think Notre Dame should host the "Queer Film Festival" and "The Vagina Monologues?"

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| A. It should host both | 55% |
| B. Just Monologues | 3% |
| C. Just Film Festival | 4% |
| D. It should not host either | 38% |

*Poll appears courtesy of
www.ndsmcobserver.com
and is based on 602 responses.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Pretty much all the honest truth-telling there is in the world is done by children."

Oliver Wendell Holmes
American poet, essayist, novelist

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A letter from the Sharons

We just wanted to write and let you all know how much we really appreciate all that you have done for us and for Chad. There are no words that can express how thankful we are to have caring people like all of you at the University and the surrounding community. We could not imagine how we would have handled a tragedy like we've been through without all of your love and caring. You have done all that you could do for us and then a lot more.

We just want to let you know that we are doing okay. Every day seems to bring about some sort of challenge to deal with. But we will deal with each and every one, as we know Chad would want us to. We still wonder every day what really happened that day that Chad was taken from us. But we know someday we can ask him. We have to just trust that God is taking good care of him.

I promise we will be back to see all of you again. Until then remember, as we do, that Chad is watching all of us, and one thing we all can do for him is make him proud of all of us. We sure were proud of him. Now it's our turn to show him. Take care and God bless everyone.

Steve and Jane Sharon
parents of Chad Sharon
Feb. 11

Dispelling myths about Bush's economy

Despite what you hear from Democratic presidential hopefuls and Republican pundits, the Bush administration can take little responsibility for the state of the American economy since January 2001.

Complex macroeconomic trends, business cycles and even the meaning of the words "gross domestic product" often elude the understanding of average Americans, and those with a party stance to push can pick and choose their statistics to shove down our throats to either disparage Bush or glorify him. Consequently, a number of myths have evolved regarding Bush's connection to economic developments that must be addressed.

Myth number one: "Bush has lost millions of jobs since he took office." This claim not only ignores economic developments at work even before Bush took office, but also assumes that Bush is directly responsible for every business's personnel decision made immediately after his inauguration. The stock market bubble and ensuing tech crash, followed by the shock of Sept. 11, took a devastating toll on American business that had already experienced a recession inherited before Bush even took office.

The recession and bubble-burst took a double toll on employers; cutting or freezing hiring during periods of negative growth is a common practice, but an entire sector faced downsizing as over-investment in tech stocks reduced to rubble, causing the substantial rise of unemployment that is currently declining.

Myth number two: "Bush has allowed the outsourcing of countless jobs to foreign countries." Corollary to myth number one, this myth is not so much a falsehood as it is a misunderstanding of the nature and motivation for outsourcing jobs. Until recently, hardly any politicians seemed to pay much attention to outsourcing factory and tech jobs, but as the practice increased over the last few years, elected officials now perceive it as a potential hot issue, and pending legislation is piling up. The Senate passed a bill in late January banning the outsourcing of government technical jobs to India that Bush will likely sign into law, but the president also has intimated that he approves of outsourcing as a necessary practice.

Is Bush in the pockets of his corporate cronies, or does he simply possess a better understanding of the global economy than those who decry outsourcing entirely? Bush, who possesses a Harvard MBA, undoubtedly understands that for any business to grow, it must find ways to cut costs in the short run, including jobs. One consideration that opponents of outsourcing overlook is that businesses require ways to trim costs to grow and ultimately provide more jobs both at home and abroad. Taking a hard-line stance against out-

sourcing could discourage certain businesses from creating any jobs at all.

Also overlooked is the existing business atmosphere that causes outsourcing itself. Compared to Third World countries, we pay higher wages, maintain tighter environmental regulations and provide a friendly environment for unionization, so businesses jump on the opportunity to move factories to a friendlier locale. Wedging businesses between strict restrictions and broad based laws that prevent outsourcing could lead to yet another recession, so legislators must find a way to balance the two conflicting forces at work.

Myth number three: "Bush has created the highest deficit in United States history." Bush's record of high spending since he took office is indisputable, but this claim is not true when analyzing the deficit as a percentage of GDP, a measure that takes the current level of growth and the current size of the economy into account. During the early to mid '80s and the early '90s, the deficit as a percentage of GDP was higher than the most recent fiscal year. Both periods of high deficits preceded periods of sustained growth, and critics of yesteryear echoed those of today who claim that the deficit will run the economy into the ground. History proved the critics wrong, and if the country's growth continues, the deficit will likely decrease to more manageable levels.

Republicans once claimed to be the party of deficit hawks, but as their commander-in-chief spends like an old-school liberal, the opposition party must naturally fill the void and champion a platform of balancing the budget or at least curbing federal spending. As the election draws near, the Democratic candidate must present a sound fiscal policy that addresses purportedly excessive spending by the incumbent.

Will the candidate propose to limit military spending while the country is at war? Will he overturn Bush's massive Medicare expansion? Will he take the unpopular stance of raising taxes? More to the point, after Bush has spent the last two years spending like a Democrat, will the Democrats respond by reversing their usual platform of funding a wide variety of social programs?

Even if Bush does not serve a second term, he has stuck a hefty thorn in Democrats' side, where they must either embrace conservative spending principles or risk increasing the deficit to even higher levels. Perhaps there is method in the madness of Bush's spending after all.

Bill Rinner is a junior economics major studying at the London School of Economics. For Valentine's Day, he decided to write a column that had as little to do with love as possible. His column appears every other Friday, and 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.

Settling the far-left conspiracy against marriage

Today, Friday the Thirteenth, is unlucky for the American principle of equality, as the Massachusetts state legislature marches on with zeal to "defend" the institution of marriage from its state supreme court. This political non issue, however, nicely fits the president's political agenda. It will be tragic and pathetic if Americans allow such acrimony to control the political landscape this year.

When President Clinton, a man for whom I worked, signed the Defense of Marriage Act conceived by congressional Republicans, he caved on a tough political issue. Deep down inside, all of us knew it was a political stunt. Yet Clinton wanted to avoid the political baggage he suffered early in his term on the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. He refused to stand up for principle and surrendered the issue to its opponents.

Democrats are now skirting the issue again in an effort to neutralize it in the election. Today's atmosphere is reminiscent of the politically-charged fervor that steamrolled our rush to war against Iraq. Regardless of the outcome of this year's political efforts, many who avoid the issue know its irrelevance and how fundamentally wrong it is in this nation dedicated to equality and freedom. The issue is as outrageous as suggesting that one way streets threaten our system of commerce.

Last October, President Bush proclaimed a week as "Defense of Marriage Week" and began his steady schedule to wink and nod at his self-righteous, intolerant religious base. Bush set the stage to energize the fundraising efforts of right-wing religious leaders like Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson, who see themselves as political beacons of conservative light in the mucky sea of liberalism.

They preach that their specific method of worship and strict belief of being born again on earth is the only path toward salvation. They are the types who cannot fathom the notion that God may have actually used the evolutionary process to create our world. These closed-minded types do not generally care for Catholicism but politically welcome Catholics to join their anti-abortion efforts. They definitely ignore our "wrong" Catholic version Bible, our belief in a Virgin Mother and our "worship" of people we deem as saints. In short, they are only tolerant when others think and act as they do.

Tomorrow, as President Bush winks and nods again to the NASCAR folks at the Daytona 500 race, he may feel smug at a social wedge issue for his campaign this year. But we liberals are secretly formulating our counter punch

that embraces the notorious Bouvier sisters, Selma and Patty, as role models for the far-left's alternative solution. What better example than the sisters who are regular characters on the weekly television comedy "The Simpsons?" After all, our solution is based on a television series which places its characters in a church setting more than any program on television.

Supporters of the alternative, like their conservative counterparts, have also chosen to ignore the fact that no religion will be forced to marry same-sex partners. Rather, this far-left approach attempts to appeal to the secular qualities that Selma and Patty's casual cigarette usage, two divorces, 14-year stature as Emmy winners and celebrity icons has brought into American homes. Focus groups found their television roles as public servants at the motor vehicles office blurs with viewers who place patriotism above any insignificant civil liberty.

The far-left proposal is simple and neat to administer. It bestows the identical rights afforded to a married couple upon anyone who chooses to live together ... legalities absent any religious connection or recognition. Patty and Selma, as sisters, currently share survivorship rights, but cannot share health insurance, pensions or a host of other rights that a

married couple enjoys. The so-called "Selma and Patty Benchmark" is based on a person's dwelling arrangement similar to common law marriage precedents.

Whether a person resides with a mother or sister, with a boyfriend or girlfriend, or a complete stranger of either sex, that person could share health insurance portability and other legal rights. That person's life would be legally equal to a married couple or common law couples without diminishing traditional institutions or violating the sanctity of marriage.

This alternative, based on the imaginary lives of these two professed "sisters," dramatically standardizes and simplifies a better quality of life for Americans through any number of combinations of living arrangements devoid of any religious infringements. The nation can turn from this distraction to more important election year issues such as war and peace, life and death, or the decline of American prestige throughout the world.

Overall, Americans are big winners leaving the fundraising efforts of Falwell and Robertson as big losers.

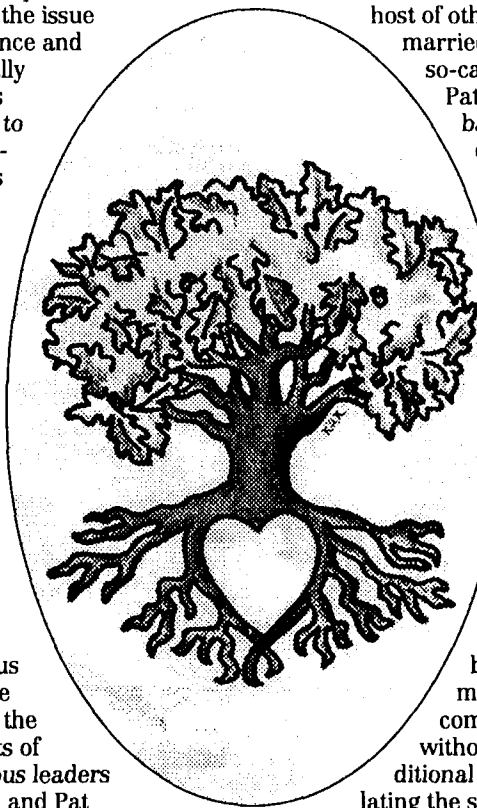
Now that's what anyone would call a far-left conspiracy.

Gary Caruso served as a public and legislative affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at hottline@aol.com.

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

Gary Caruso

Capitol
Comments



ALBUM REVIEW

Norah Jones avoids sophomore slump

By EMILY TUMBRINK
Assistant Scene Editor

Since its release, *Come Away With Me*, Norah Jones' hugely successful debut album, has sold more than 17 million copies worldwide, won the "Big Three" at the Grammys in 2003 (Best New Artist, Album of the Year, and Record of the Year), and remains in the top 25 after 101 weeks on the Billboard charts. Despite the incredibly high expectations for this young artist's sophomore follow-up, Jones has bravely

released *Feels Like Home*. Already ranked number one on the Amazon.com sales chart, Jones' second release is sure to be both a financial and popular success.

On this album, Jones, who moved to Manhattan in 1999, has returned to her Texas roots, which would perhaps explain her choice for the title. *Feels Like Home* combines the sultry jazz sound made famous on *Come Away With Me* with a more country/bluegrass twang. Despite this slight stylistic change, *Feels Like Home* feels like a continuation of her previous album, which would be considered a good thing by most listeners.

Six of the 13 tracks on *Feels Like Home* were written or co-written by Jones herself. She has also included covers of Townes Van Zandt's "Be Here to Love Me" and Tom Waits and Kathleen Brennan's "The Long Way Home," and revised Duke Ellington's instrumental, "Melancholia," by adding her own lyrics and renaming it

"Don't Miss You At All."

While most of the songs on *Come Away With Me* focused on Jones' voice surrounded by soft and spare instrumentation, *Feels Like Home* offers the more tangible presence of The Handsome Band, Jones' back-up group. Also, the tracks included on *Come Away With Me* were generally very slow, mellow and soothing. *Feels Like Home*, on the other hand, features several songs that are upbeat, but still manage to possess the dreamy lounge quality of *Come Away With Me*.

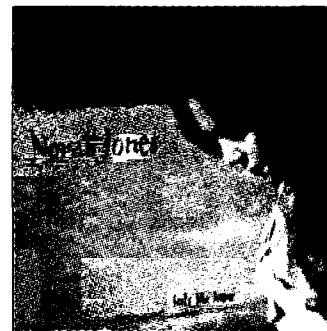
The first single from *Feels Like Home*, "Sunrise," was released to radio stations in early January and is sure to gain increasing airplay. This song feels the most like those released on *Come Away With Me* and is appropriately located at the beginning of *Feels Like Home*, easing the transition from one style to the next while subtly setting the stage for the rest of the album.

"Creepin' In," the most country-flavored inclusion on the album, features Dolly Parton providing backup vocals, and feels more like an old country ditty than what is played on today's country radio stations.

Feels Like Home

Norah Jones

Blue Note Records



Although *Feels Like Home* most likely will not live up to everyone's expectations, it is simply because those expectations are too high. The album is a solid release with many great songs and is not likely to disappoint fans, but it cannot quite live up to the standard set by *Come Away With Me*. While *Come Away With Me* offered a haven in a music world filled with pop stars and boy bands, the need for an album like *Feels Like Home* is no longer quite as urgent since Jones has paved the way for many other talented and unique artists to achieve popularity. Despite this lack of urgency, *Feels Like Home* remains a welcomed release and will probably achieve quiet success in the typical Norah Jones fashion.

Contact Emily Tumbrink at
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Photo courtesy of vh1.com

Norah Jones' latest release combines the sultry jazz sound from *Come Away With Me* with a country/bluegrass twang.

ALBUM REVIEW

Dizzee Rascal is like no other

By KENYATTA STORIN
Scene Music Critic

London MC Dizzee Rascal may only be 18 years old, but his debut, *Boy in da Corner*, showcases a unique style that most veteran musicians do not achieve five albums deep into their careers. His music combines aspects of both hip-hop and electronica, but it is almost impossible to classify him under one or the other. And despite comparisons to 2Pac and 50 Cent, the truth of the matter is that even when you take away his British accent and slang, Dizzee simply sounds like nobody else, past or present.

Virtually all of the production is done by Dizzee himself, and to say his beats are different from the norm is an understatement. Aside from the old school hip-hop beat of "Fix Up, Look Sharp," most of the production sounds like strange combinations of

disjointed, spacey beeps and bleeps of a Playstation 2 with heavy, droning thumps of a bass in the background. Many listeners will be immediately turned off by this, since it is not particularly catchy and is often just plain weird. If you are looking for the next "In Da Club," you will not find it here. Nonetheless, if given an open mind and some time, the uniqueness of Dizzee's sound can be readily respected and enjoyed.

However, to truly appreciate Dizzee, you must decipher his lyrics. His British accent is so thick that even simple words like "girl" can sound cryptic, and his cultural slang will go over your head unless you are well versed in British street lingo. But if you have the patience, or perhaps online written lyrics, you will find that Dizzee's rhymes are worth your time.

Dizzee gives you the lowdown on the streets of East London, but it goes beyond just talking about how tough he is, how nice his rims are and how many girls he can get like your average gangsta rapper. He discusses the trials and tribulations of his life but is not afraid to show con-

flicting emotions and weaknesses. On "Brand New Day," he laments the difficulties of his life, saying, "Looks like I'm losing sight / Coz I'm looking at the future, it ain't right," but then says in the chorus, "But it's a brand new day / New opportunities, what can I say?"

Similarly, on "Do It" he says, "Sometimes I wake up wishing I can sleep forever / I spend my whole life trying to pull myself together," and then says in the chorus, "Sleep tight, everything will be alright." Other notable tracks are "I Luv U," which discusses underage sex, "Jezebel," a sad tale of a prostitute, and "Round We Go," where Dizzee talks about his girl problems.

Boy in da Corner is certainly not for everyone, but Dizzee's talent is undeniable. In fact, most hip-hop fans will likely want to skip *Boy in da Corner* because it lacks catchy beats and is difficult to understand. If you are

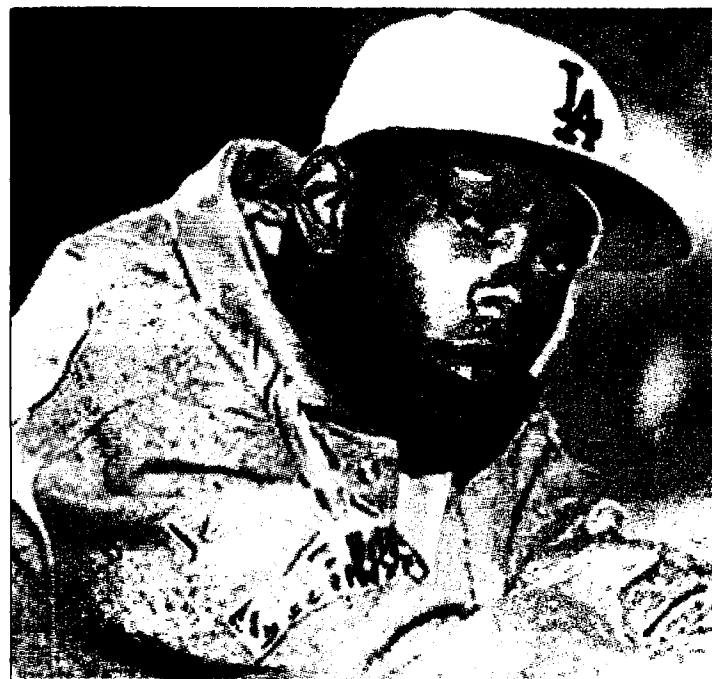


Photo courtesy of mtv.com

British rapper Dizzee Rascal's music is often just plain weird, but its uniqueness can be respected and enjoyed.

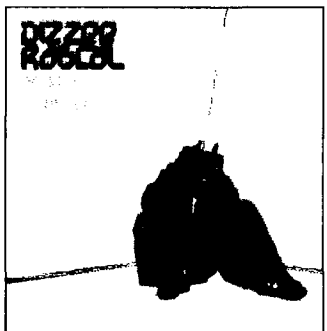
looking for some hardcore rap to blare in your stereo while you party, this is not for you. But if you have an open mind and want a fresh style to put into your CD player, then Dizzee is your man. Who knows? He may very well be the future of hip-hop and electronica.

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Boy in da Corner

Dizzee Rascal

Matador Records



ALBUM REVIEW

Sarah McLachlan continues to glow

By REBECCA SAUNDERS
Scene Music Critic

There are not many artists who can cross the generation gap like Sarah McLachlan. It would be difficult to find a person who did not have at least a singing-along knowledge of one of her songs. Sarah McLachlan's angelic voice crooning lyrical poetry to a melodic



Photo courtesy of vh1.com

Sarah McLachlan includes more jazz-like rhythms on her latest release.

piano is something everyone can appreciate, at the very least. While *Afterglow* is reminiscent of the old familiar hits from the *Surfacing* album, a whole new side of McLachlan's talent is exposed throughout her new album.

Afterglow is the first album McLachlan has released in seven years, when her three-time Grammy winning album *Surfacing* made her a world-wide name. In that seven years, much happened in McLachlan's life — her mother died, and her daughter, India, was born five months following that death. Thus, the tracks on the album are a mix of love songs, songs of despair and songs of hope. McLachlan summarizes the album by explaining, "When you look up 'afterglow' in the dictionary, it is defined as 'the glow or light that remains once the sun is gone.' You're used to this bright, shiny, beautiful glow but the moment the sun disappears, all of a sudden you have to readjust everything. It's a very transitional moment. A lot of these songs are about transition ... the turning over of the rock, what's underneath, the murky, shadowy uncertainty where everything looks very different."

McLachlan ends up looking different to her fans on this album, in which there is a more jazz-like rhythm to many of her songs with a greater mix of instrumentation throughout the album. One of the strongest songs on *Afterglow* is the current single,

"Fallen." Not a happy or hopeful song, the lyrics still speak to everyone on some level as all people, at some point, try hard and still mess up. McLachlan's daily

sings, "Though I've tried I've fallen / I have sunk so low / I messed up / Better I should know." "Fallen" also conveys the moderately depressing, but most likely true concept that "We believe that we can change ourselves / The past can be undone / but we carry on our back the burdens time always reveals." "Fallen" is not recommended as an addition to the party mixed CD, and if someone were feeling depressed, "Fallen" would probably just make that feeling worse; all that said, however, it is a still a terrifically beautiful song.

The other major strong, — and more hopeful — point of the album is found in "Push," a love song that doesn't fall prey to the clichés. Love and life aren't easy, and that is essentially what

Afterglow

Sarah McLachlan

Arista Records



McLachlan conveys through "Push:" "Even when I have to push just to see how far you'll go / You won't stoop down to battle but you never turn to go." As a beautiful song about unconditional love, "Push" reminds Sarah McLachlan fans why they have listened to *Surfacing* for the last seven years, waiting for the next McLachlan song to appear and speak to their lives.

Afterglow comes closer to leaving one crying versus glowing, but in the end it remains a spectacularly well-done album and a must-have for every fan who grew up on *Surfacing*. It is not her best work, but it is better than just about anyone else's in this genre.

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ALBUM REVIEW

The Pale, rock's lighter side

By BRIAN FOY
Scene Music Critic

Sometimes you have to wonder how a state like Washington can turn out great music. When people think of the great state of Washington, it may be easy to think of the rainy weather rather than the music. It has been more than a decade since the days when Nirvana, Pearl Jam and Soundgarden ruled the airwaves and spread the grunge movement across the country, but the state can still produce music capable of starting the next trend in music. The case and

point to this claim is the indie band The Pale, which hails from Bellingham, Wash.

The Pale's third album, *Gravity Gets Things Done*, is an ironic piece of pop/rock goodness. It is ironic, because, if The Pale were on a major label, these songs would be all over TRL and radio stations across the country; people would probably even end up hating the band because they would be played everywhere. However, The Pale is on the independent label SideCho records, so instead they are a great band most people have never had the opportunity to hear before.



Photo courtesy of thepalemusic.com

Indie band The Pale is a great pop/rock band that most people have never had the opportunity to hear before.

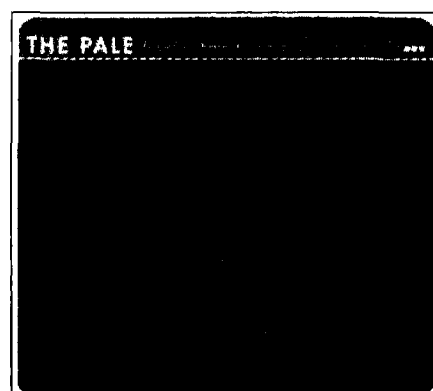
Their newest disc, *Gravity Gets Things Done*, contains catchy songs in the spirit of their pop/rock forefathers Weezer and The Cars. However, the disc is a bit more progressive than today's pop hits because

of the depth and attention to detail that The Pale pay to their sound. The Pale are led by Gabe Archer and his cousin Cameron Nicklaus, who have honed their craft enough over the years to create a layered effect with their guitars, but have also managed to create incredibly catchy melodies and choruses for their songs. The cousins later added Greg Swinehart and Lance Fisher to round out the full and eclectic sound that makes The Pale much more than the run-of-the-mill pop/rock band.

Gravity Gets Things Done excels for a plethora of reasons, but the most obvious might be the lyrics and melodies of Archer. The honesty of his lyrics, like those in the title track "I am the one / who can solve all your problems / a savior with only you to save" allows the listener to connect on a much deeper level than most bands. Additionally, Archer mixes in

Gravity Gets Things Done
The Pale

SideCho Records



catchy rhymes that flow off the tongue, such as: "All the while / with your big dumb smile / and not a hint of worry on your face" from "Big Dumb Smile." Whether its heartfelt lyrics are catchy ones that rhyme, it is clear that Archer's lyrics get things done.

The greatest accomplishment of *Gravity Gets Things Done* is its listenability. The album is rare in this day and age, because you can listen to it all the way through without having to skip around the songs that aren't up to par with the rest. The disc is multi-dimensional in that it is perfect to relax to, or you can be like Frank Ricard in *Old School* and have some dinner and pop it in like the Siso CD. Either way, *Gravity Gets Things Done* is sure to be music to your ears.

Contact Brian Foy at bfoy@nd.edu

NHL

Tampa Bay, Lecavalier defeat Montreal Canadiens 5-3

Associated Press

Not even a dismal start could slow the Tampa Bay Lightning.

Vincent Lecavalier scored the go-ahead goal with 5:04 left, and the Lightning overcame a two-goal deficit to beat the Montreal Canadiens 5-3 Thursday night.

Tampa Bay scored four goals on 23 shots during the third period in winning for just the second time when trailing after two (2-13-2).

"We came in sound asleep ... we weren't ready to play," Lightning coach John Tortorella said. "The team stayed together. We just kept coming."

Lecavalier, who also had two assists, was positioned in the low slot when he redirected Darryl Sydor's shot past Jose Theodore.

"Obviously, it feels good coming back," Lecavalier said. "It proves we've got a lot of character. Everybody stepped up to the plate."

Martin St. Louis and Brad Richards each scored two goals for the Lightning. St. Louis got Tampa Bay even at 2 with bad-angle goal in the second and third periods.

The Lightning are 8-1-1 in their past 10 games.

Saku Koivu had a goal and two assists for the Canadiens. Andrei Markov and Jan Bulis scored the other Montreal goals.

"It's always OK if you get some points," Koivu said. "But when you blow the lead, it's pretty frustrating."

After wasting a two-goal lead, the Canadiens went up 3-2 on Bulis' goal at 7:45 of the third. The Lightning tied it when Richards scored at 13:37.

Richards scored his second of the game into an empty net with 15.4 seconds to go.

"We did what we had to do," said Tampa Bay's Ruslan Fedotenko, who had three third-period assists. "We started shooting the puck. We just tried to dominate and keep putting the puck in the net. It paid off."

Montreal is 22-3-0 when leading after 40 minutes.

"We just lost our composure," coach Claude Julien said. "We seemed like a team that was panicking for whatever reason. It ended up costing us. It's as simple as that."

The Canadiens took a 2-0 lead in the first period on goals by Koivu and Markov.

Koivu scored on a backhand after Tampa Bay defenseman Pavel Kubina blocked his pass during a two-on-one at 4:28. Koivu then assisted on Markov's power-play goal from the top of the right circle with 3:06 left.

St. Louis made it 2-1 with a power-play goal at 6:22 of the second. The right wing's shot from along the goal line went in off Theodore.

Just 36 seconds after Richards hit the post, St. Louis tied it at 2 at 4:44 of the third when his shot from near the boards just in front the goal linedeflected off Koivu.

Capitals 3, Hurricanes 3

Pavel Brendl scored late in the third period Thursday night to lift the Carolina Hurricanes into a 3-3 tie with the Washington Capitals.

Marty Murray and Sean Hill each scored for the Hurricanes, who are 0-5-2 in their last seven home games. Kevin Weekes had 18 saves for Carolina, which outshot Washington 41-21.

Jeff Halpern had a goal and an assist for the Capitals, who had won the previous four meetings this season. Anson Carter and Mike Grier each scored for the Capitals, while Olaf Kolzig had 38 saves.

Carolina's four previous losses to Washington this season came by a combined score of 18-6, but this game was competitive and physical throughout.

The game featured 17 penalties in the second period alone — including game misconduct penalties to Washington's Darcy Verot and Carolina's Bruno St. Jacques — and several tussles on the ice.

Carter put the Capitals ahead 3-2 with a power-play goal. Standing in front of the crease, Halpern flipped the puck back to Carter on the left goal line while battling for position.

Carter beat Weekes, who had come out when the puck was in front of net, at 8:03 of the third.

Brendl answered with his fourth goal of the season, grabbing a rebound off a shot from Eric Staal and putting it in from the left side at 14:57.

Carolina dominated the second period and took a 2-1 lead on Hill's straightaway shot on the power play. The Hurricanes swarmed around the net, outshooting the Capitals 16-3 in the period, and would have led



Saku Koivu of the Montreal Canadiens is embraced by his teammates after scoring a goal in the first period of their game against the Tampa Bay Lightning. The Canadiens went on to lose, 5-3.

by more if not for Kolzig's solid play.

The netminder turned away close shots by Jeff O'Neill, Justin Williams and Niclas Wallin in the period to keep Washington in it.

The Capitals tied it when a shot by Peter Bondra bounced off the skate of Halpern, ricocheted off Weekes and went in the net. Halpern was credited with the power-play goal at 16:59 of the period.

Maple Leafs 4, Blue Jackets 1

The Columbus Blue Jackets

just didn't have the energy to rally against the Toronto Maple Leafs.

Gary Roberts and Darcy Tucker scored power-play goals, and the Maple Leafs beat the Blue Jackets 4-1 on Thursday night.

Columbus beat the Los Angeles Kings in overtime the previous night.

"It was just a case of us playing last night," Columbus coach Gerard Gallant said. "We looked tired. We worked hard and competed, but our top scorers just didn't get the scoring chances they usually get."

Ed Belfour made 18 saves in his first start in almost two weeks. Belfour, who missed three games with a back injury, was rarely tested, but he did stop Todd Marchant on a partial breakaway after Marchant skated between two defensemen in the first period.

"They played the night before. Maybe being tired was the case today," Belfour said.

Marchant scored the lone goal for the Blue Jackets, who have the worst road record in the NHL (3-17-4-2). Columbus' Rick Nash, the NHL's leading goal scorer, admitted his team

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NFL

Quarterback Henson tries to impress NFL scouts

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Drew Henson tried to show NFL scouts Thursday he can hit a receiver better than he could hit a curveball.

Representatives from 20 teams gathered at the Houston Texans' practice bubble to watch the former Michigan quarterback throw about 75 passes.

"I felt good," said Henson, a third base prospect for the New York Yankees until his release last week. "I threw as good as I could have hoped today."

Said Miami Dolphins general manager Rick Spielman: "He had an extremely good workout. He showed very good arm strength and he was very accurate with all of his throws."

Henson last played football in the 2001 Citrus Bowl. The Texans, who have a young quarterback in David Carr, took Henson in the sixth round of last year's draft and are trying to trade his rights.

A deal can't happen until March 4 under NFL rules. And if there's no trade before the April 24 draft, he goes back into the hopper, where he's been projected as a late first-round pick.

Henson's workout came near Reliant Stadium, where the quarterback he once backed up at Michigan — Tom Brady — was the Super Bowl MVP two weeks ago.

Head coaches Mike Sherman of Green Bay and Mike Mularkey of Buffalo were in attendance. So was Houston-area resident Roger Clemens, one of Henson's former Yankees teammates.

Henson never developed into the star the Yankees projected when they lured him from football with a \$17 million, six-year deal in 2001.

The Texans scheduled this audition — a day before his 24th birthday — after Henson agreed to forgo \$12 million remaining on his baseball deal.

The Bills were the most conspicuous presence, sending Mularkey, general manager Tom Donahoe and new quarterbacks coach Sam Wyche.

"You don't make any final decisions on these, you can only eliminate guys," Wyche said. "I don't think anyone eliminated him today."

Texans general manager Charley Casserly won't say what the Texans want, although a first-round pick isn't considered out of the question. Besides the Bills, the Packers, Kansas City, Miami and the New York Giants are considered prominent suitors.

Most teams sent scouts or assistant coaches. Giants GM Ernie Accorsi watched the workout.

Henson threw everything from little squareouts to 60-yard fly patterns. Henson threw to four receivers, including free agents Sylvester Morris and Joel

Makovicka, themselves hoping to impress teams.

"After this, Drew, myself and [agent] Tom Condon will sit down, find out who's interested," Casserly said. "We'll start talking about contract, which will involve Tom Condon, and we'll talk trade, which would be myself."

Under rookie contract rules, the most he can make initially is \$238,000. However, Casserly and Condon believe Henson and a team could use some creativity to earn him a larger package.

Henson hit .234 with 14 home runs, 40 doubles and 78 RBIs for Triple-A Columbus last season. He struck out 122 times and made 22 errors.

In a six-year minor league

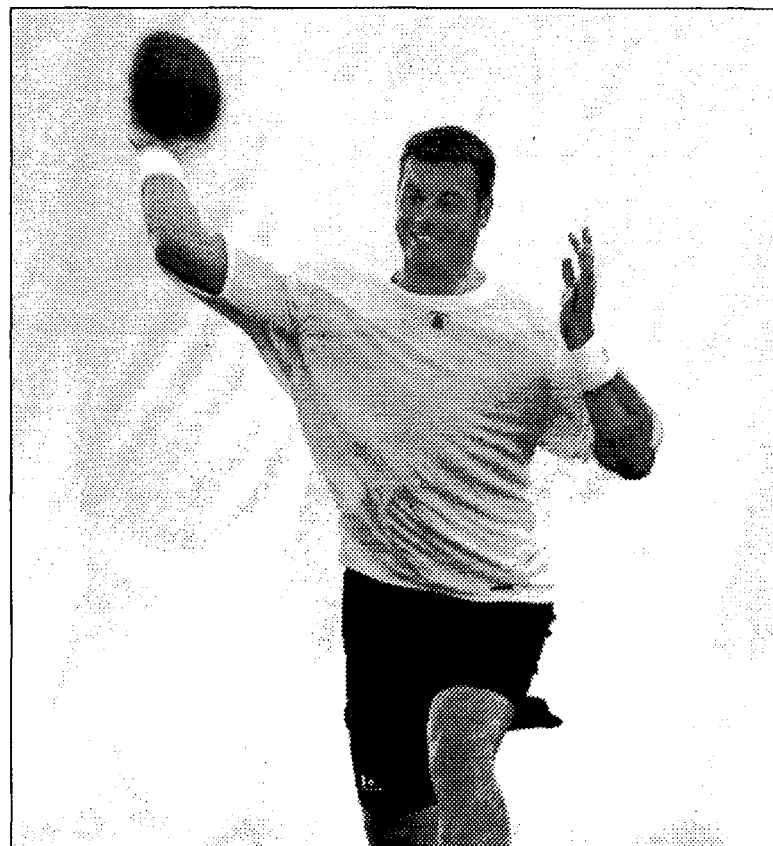
career that began on a Yankees rookie league team in 1998 and spanned 501 games, Henson hit .248 with 67 homers, 274 RBIs and 556 strikeouts. During that span, the Yankees traded him to Cincinnati and reacquired him from the Reds.

Henson was 1-for-9 and scored three runs for New York. He was a September callup by the Yankees in 2002 and 2003.

Henson left Michigan before his senior season. As a junior, he completed 146 of 237 passes for 2,146 yards. He had 18 touchdowns and four interceptions.

New York Jets offensive assistant Dick Curl acknowledged some teams watched the workout mainly to scout a future opponent. He was aware that two AFC East rivals — Miami and Buffalo — could have Henson next season.

"In this profession, you have to do your homework because you never know what's going to happen," Curl said.



Icon Sports

Drew Henson works out at the Texans' indoor facility in Houston, Tex., hoping to impress the NFL scouts present.

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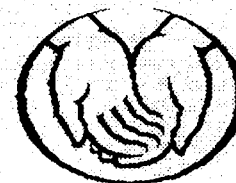
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WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish to meet No. 14 Virginia Commonwealth this weekend

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

A competitive No. 14 Virginia Commonwealth will be the first of three stops this weekend for the women's tennis team.

The Irish are set to meet Virginia Commonwealth on Friday and will move on to play Boston College Saturday and Virginia Tech Sunday.

"This weekend is going to be really important for us. They're all big matches for different reasons," said coach Jay Louderback. "We're playing some Big East teams and someone ranked ahead of us. The girls are also really excited to play a team ranked ahead of them."

The Virginia Commonwealth Rams (6-0) are returning from a 4-3 win against Old Dominion Sunday. This weekend's match will be the first time the Irish have met the Rams, who went undefeated until the NCAA tournament last year.

"They'll definitely be our toughest competition this weekend," sophomore Lauren Connelly said. "We all look at it as an opportunity to get our confidence going as we

begin the season."

From Virginia Commonwealth, the Irish will travel three hours to compete against Boston College (2-0) in Blacksburg, Va. Last year's match between the two resulted in an Irish 6-1 victory. The Boston College Eagles are also fresh off a win against Columbia 6-1 last weekend.

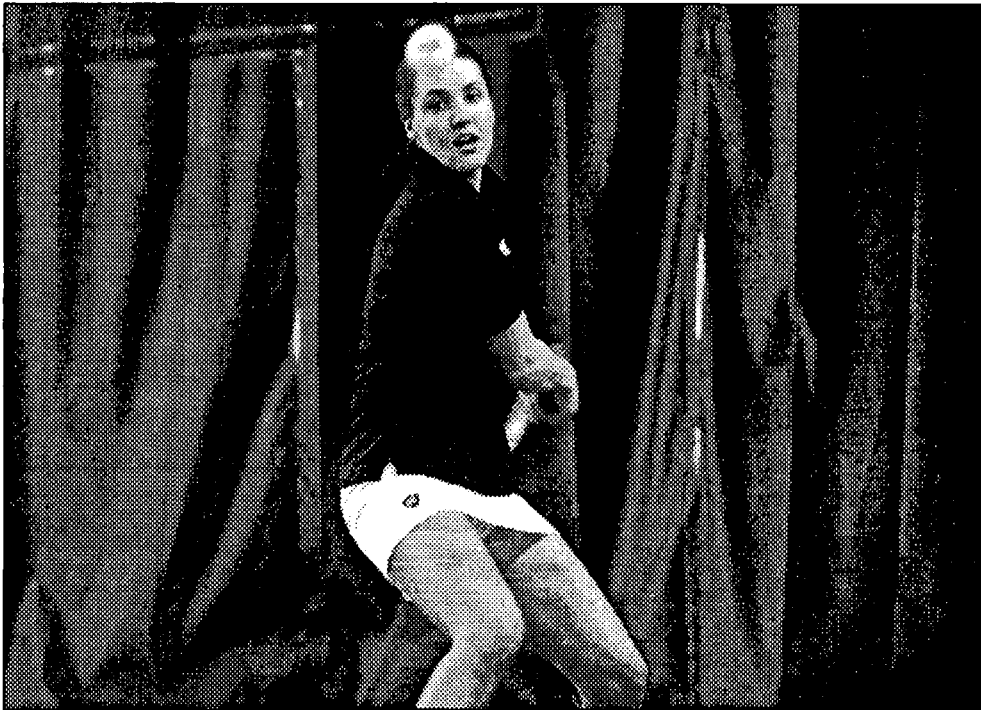
Despite their history of victories against the Eagles, Connelly anticipates a competitive match.

"We just go out and play hard every match," Connelly said.

No. 69 Virginia Tech (6-0) will be looking for their seventh win of the season after defeating Radford 7-0 last weekend. Also at stake for the Hokies this weekend will be the retribution of last year's 6-1 loss to the Irish last year. To secure success this weekend, it will be essential for the Irish to win the doubles point.

"It's a lot more important than it used to be to get the doubles point," Louderback said. Everyone is getting so good that it's becoming hard to win four singles matches."

Contact Ann Loughery at
alougher@nd.edu



Notre Dame's Allcia Salas prepares to return the ball in a match against Wisconsin on Feb. 1 at Eck Tennis Pavillion.

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AROUND THE NATION

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COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Friday, February 13, 2004

Women's Lacrosse Top 25

	team	record	points
1	Princeton	0-0	296
2	Maryland	0-0	270
3	Virginia	0-0	268
4	Duke	0-0	260
5	Loyola	0-0	229
6	Georgetown	0-0	221
7	Dartmouth	0-0	207
8	James Madison	0-0	174
9	Ohio State	0-0	157
10	Penn State	0-0	138
11	North Carolina	0-0	135
12	Boston University	0-0	121
13	Syracuse	0-0	109
14	Stanford	0-0	99
15	Cornell	0-0	89
16	Vanderbilt	0-0	88
17	NOTRE DAME	0-0	72
18	Yale	0-0	56
19	Old Dominion	0-0	51
20	Johns Hopkins	0-0	48
21	Richmond	0-0	17
22	Ohio University	0-0	12
23	Delaware	0-0	9
24	Northwestern	0-0	7
25	Connecticut	0-0	5

Women's Basketball Polls

AP	Coaches
team	team
1 Texas (29)	Connecticut (28) 1
2 Connecticut (18)	Texas (11) 2
3 Tennessee	Tennessee 3
4 Duke	Duke 4
5 Purdue	Purdue 5
6 Louisiana Tech	Louisiana Tech 6
7 Texas Tech	Texas Tech 7
8 Penn State	Penn State 8
9 Kansas State	Kansas State 9
10 Minnesota	Minnesota 10
11 Stanford	Stanford 11
12 Colorado	Colorado 12
13 DePaul	DePaul 13
14 Auburn	North Carolina 14
15 North Carolina	Michigan State 15
16 LSU	LSU 16
17 Michigan State	Georgia 17
18 Baylor	Auburn 18
19 Georgia	Virginia Tech 19
20 Florida	Baylor 20
21 Virginia Tech	Houston 21
22 TCU	TCU 22
23 Southwest Mo. St.	Miami 23
24 Arizona	Oklahoma 24
25 Houston	Boston College 25

Women's College Basketball MIAA

team	conf.	overall
Hop	12-1	21-2
Calvin	10-1	17-3
Albion	9-3	19-4
Kalamazoo	5-5	13-9
Alma	4-7	11-10
Adrian	3-8	8-13
Olivet	2-9	8-14
SAINT MARY'S	1-10	6-16

around the dial

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Seton Hall at NOTRE DAME, noon Sat, ESPN
Indiana at Purdue 4:30 p.m. Sat, WHME
Duke at NC State State 6:30 p.m. Sun., FSN

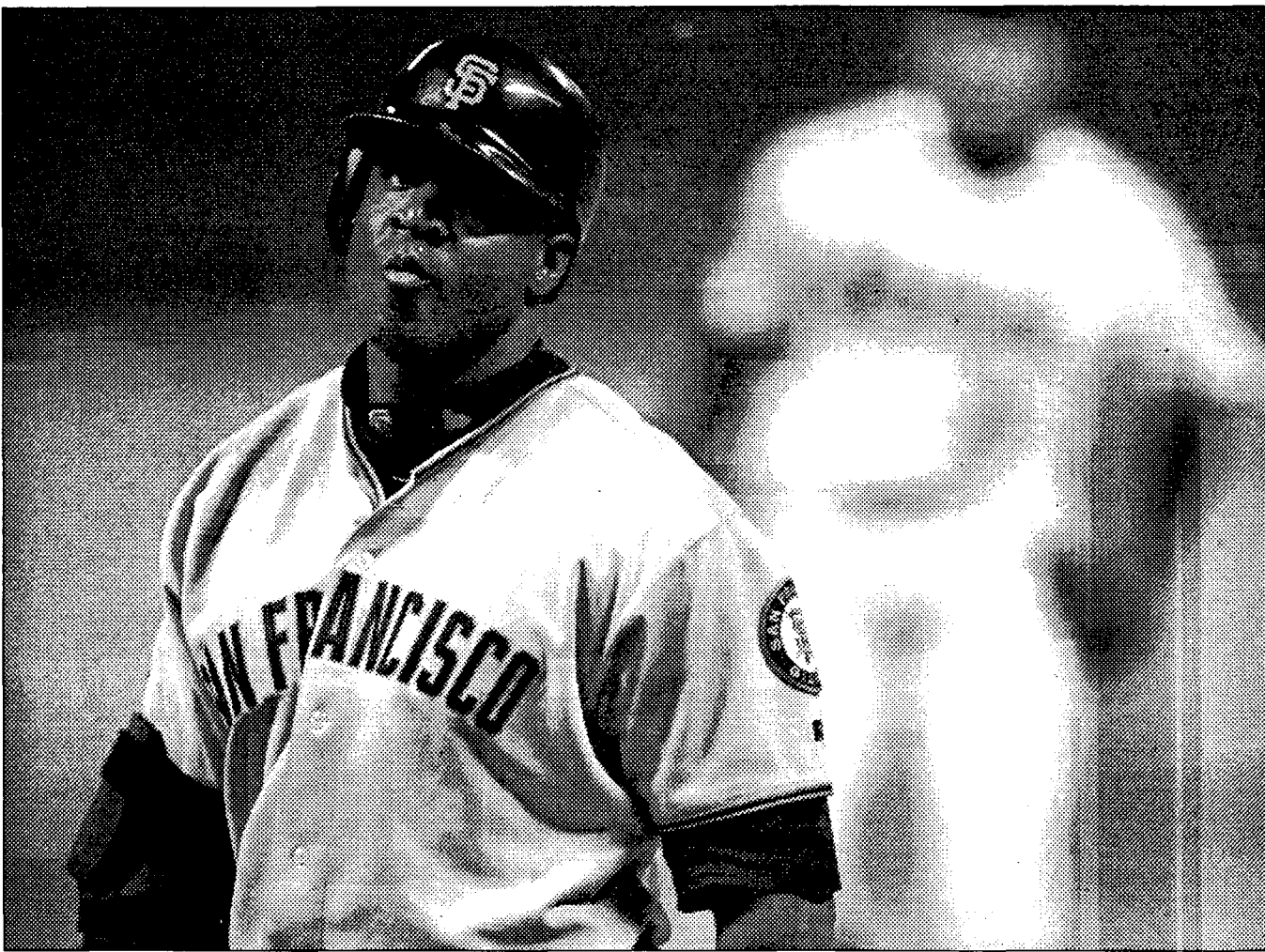
NHL

Kings at Devils 8 p.m., ESPN

NBA

NBA Rookie Challenge 9 p.m., TNT
NBA All-Star Game 8:30 p.m. Sun, TNT

MLB



Barry Bonds reacts after swinging for a strike. His personal trainer has been charged in a steroid indictment.

Bonds' trainer charged in drug indictment

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Barry Bonds' personal trainer, a track coach and top executives of a San Francisco-area nutritional supplements lab were charged Thursday with running an illegal drug distribution operation.

The 42-count federal indictment returned by a grand jury in San Francisco and obtained by The Associated Press alleges the scheme provided anabolic steroids, human growth hormone, EPO and other drugs to major league baseball and NFL players, as well as

track and field stars.

None of the athletes was charged and none was named in the court documents.

A news conference was scheduled for later Thursday at Justice Department headquarters to announce the indictments. Attorney General John Ashcroft was expected to be joined by Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Mark McClellan, Internal Revenue Service Commissioner Mark Everson and California law enforcement officials.

The indictment names as defendants Victor Conte

Jr., the president and chief executive officer of the Bay Area Lab Cooperative, or BALCO, and its vice president, James J. Valente. Also indicted were Bonds' personal trainer, Greg F. Anderson, and Remi Korchemny, coach of world champion sprinter Kelli White of the United States and European sprint champion Dwain Chambers of Britain. White and Chambers have flunked drug tests, as have other athletes coached by Korchemny.

The charges include conspiracy to distribute steroids, possession of human growth hormone,

misbranding drugs with intent to defraud and money laundering.

According to the indictment, the four were involved in the scheme between December 2001 and Sept. 3, 2003, in which steroids were distributed to athletes on six different occasions.

One steroid, called "The Cream," included a substance that masked an athlete's use of the drug during testing. Another, called "The Clear," was sold to the athletes as a substance that would provide steroidlike effects without causing a positive drug test.

IN BRIEF

Two MLB veterans win arbitration

Baseball players evened their record in salary arbitration when Anaheim shortstop David Eckstein and Pittsburgh shortstop Jack Wilson won their cases Thursday.

Eckstein received a raise from \$425,000 to \$2.15 million, and Wilson got an increase from \$335,000 to \$1.85 million.

Anaheim had proposed Eckstein be paid \$1.6 million, but arbitrators Roger Kaplan, Stephen Goldberg and Jack Clarke ruled for the player, a day after hearing the case in Phoenix. Eckstein hit .252 last season with three homers, 31 RBIs and 16 steals.

Pittsburgh had submitted a \$1.4 million salary for Wilson, but that was rejected by arbitrators Dan Brent, Elisabeth Neumeier and I.B. Helburn. Wilson, who hit .256 last year with nine homers and 62 RBIs, was the first Pittsburgh player to go to a hearing since third baseman Jeff

King lost in 1993.

Players and owners have split the four cases decided thus far, with Montreal first baseman Nick Johnson and Cincinnati pitcher Chris Reitsma losing last week. Eight players remain scheduled for hearings through Feb. 20.

Outfielder Jay Gibbons and Baltimore split the difference, agreeing to a \$2.6 million one-year contract. Gibbons, who hit .277 with 23 homers and a career-best 100 RBIs last year, had asked for \$2.8 million and had been offered \$2.4 million.

Clijsters advances to Gaz de France quarterfinals

Top-seeded Kim Clijsters needed just 39 minutes to beat Maria Sanchez Lorenzo 6-1, 6-0 Thursday and reach the Gaz de France quarterfinals.

In her first match since losing the Australian Open final, Clijsters showed little sign of the left ankle injury that hampered her in Melbourne.

"I felt nothing," said Clijsters, who had tape on her ankle. "I played really well."

Her next match comes against seventh-seeded Silvia Farina Elia, who beat Tina Pisnik.

Two seeded players lost. Dinara Safina beat No. 3 Patty Schnyder 4-6, 6-2, 6-1, and Elena Bovina defeated No. 4 Jelena Dokic, 4-6, 7-6 (5), 6-0.

Dokic was two points from victory at 5-5 in the tiebreaker.

"I should have won it right there," Dokic said. "It was just one of those days."

In the quarterfinals, Safina plays No. 5 Francesca Schiavone, who eliminated Karolina Sprem 7-6 (4), 6-3. Bovina meets two-time major champion Mary Pierce, who beat No. 8 Magui Serna 6-2, 6-4.

French teen Tatiana Golovin moved into a quarterfinal against second-seeded Elena Dementieva when Daniela Hantuchova withdrew from the tournament, citing an upper respiratory infection.

MEN'S TENNIS

Irish ready to face Wisconsin

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

The Irish remain at home this weekend, as they face the University of Wisconsin Badgers in a contest Sunday at noon.

The unranked 2-1 Badgers boast the nation's No. 8 doubles team of senior David Hippee and junior Alex Kasarov.

However, the No. 49 Irish enjoyed a week-long rest after a commanding victory over No. 53 Purdue last weekend. Wisconsin is scheduled to play at Western Michigan on Saturday, facing Notre Dame on the last leg of its road trip.

Head coach Bobby Bayliss has been working particularly hard with the doubles side of the game.

"We worked on doubles a lot [this week], and they're still a work in progress," he said. "We may change up the combinations to give more punch and balance."

Despite a talented team overall for the Irish, the doubles teams have seen some difficulty this year.

"We feel that we can do better than we've done so far, so we're working on fine tuning the doubles," Bayliss said.

The team is not intimidated by the Hippee/Kasarov duo.

"They're good," Bayliss said. "They beat the No. 1 team in the country earlier this year, which



TIM KACMAR/The Observer
Brent D'Amico goes for a backhand shot earlier this season against Purdue at Eck Tennis Pavilion.

helps their ranking a lot, but I don't think they're out of reach."

Luckily, senior tri-captain Luis Haddock will return to the lineup after missing last weekend's match to play in the Davis Cup for his native Puerto Rico.

"He practiced with us yesterday, and it's great to have him back," Bayliss said of his No. 1 singles player. "He had a little bit of a hard time with the bounce yesterday after playing on different courts ... but was fine by the end."

Haddock lost a close match to Mark Merklein of the Bahamas in a tiebreaker third set in the Davis Cup.

His freshman doubles partner, Ryan Keckley, is of questionable

status for Sunday after sustaining an ankle injury against Duke two weeks ago.

"It's not impossible that he could play some doubles, but I would guess he is a little doubtful at this point," said Bayliss. "I would think that he is going to be ready at least for doubles the following weekend."

The Irish face a tough stretch of five matches in nine days, starting with a visit to Northwestern on Feb. 21.

"Really, what we want is to be ready for that stretch of matches," Bayliss said.

Contact Kate Gales at
kgales@nd.edu

TRACK AND FIELD

Irish to travel to Ontario for meet this weekend

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Writer

Most members of the Notre Dame track and field team will get to spend this Valentine's Day weekend at home, but the rest will make the short bus ride across the border to Windsor, Ontario to compete in the Windsor Team Challenge.

Mostly sprinters will be making the trip, as the track at the University of Windsor is a 200-meter "flat" track.

"The track is very fast, and hopefully it will be beneficial to our runners," Piane said.

Piane hopes to see more than a few team members improve their times and qualify for the Big East Championships if they haven't already. The Big East meet will take place next weekend, Feb. 21 and 22, in Syracuse, N.Y.

Piane also reflected on last week's Mevo Invitational. The event was one of the largest in the country, as Notre Dame played host to athletes representing 63 different schools. The Mevo was very productive for the Irish; numerous Notre Dame competitors qualified for the conference meet.

"The Mevo Invitational compared pretty favorably with

both the Big East Meet and Nationals," Piane said. "There is stronger competition at the Mevo than at the Big East, and the atmosphere, especially during the mile run, was very intense last weekend."

Junior Trevor McClain-Duer agreed with his coach.

"The Mevo was a great meet, as it enabled us to run against some different competition," he said. "We've been facing a lot of the same teams the whole year, and running against some new competition will help us as the year goes on."

McClain-Duer will make the trip up to Windsor along with almost all of the sprinters. The junior from Olmstead Falls, Ohio, has already qualified for the conference meet with times of 48.00 in the 400 meters and 1:03.29 in the 500 meters.

The Irish men won their first Big East Conference title last year, while the women finished second to the University of Miami. According to McClain-Duer, the men are up to the challenge of winning again.

"We want to repeat," he said.

Contact Mike Gilloon at
mgilloon@nd.edu

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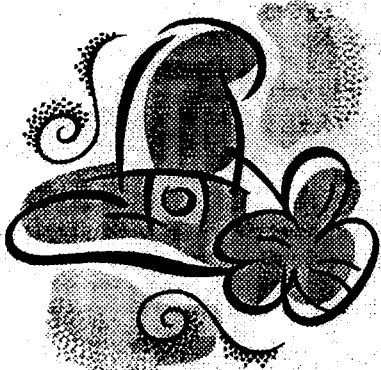
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SMC BASKETBALL

Belles hoping to finish season on strong note

By STEVE COYER
Sports Writer

The Belles entered the 2003-04 season with high expectations, and, despite a 6-16 overall record, the team has still accomplished many of its goals.

Saint Mary's faced its share of disappointments this year, but in the process the Belles have matured to become a closer knit group. Since the Belles will lose only one senior, the outlook for next year seems encouraging.

However, the Belles' focus has always been on winning games this present season. In this struggle, they have come together to form a unified team.

"This team has really gotten close throughout the season," head coach Suzanne Bellina said.

"We started out with a pretty young team with just one senior, but the players have matured a lot as the season has progressed."

The Belles have had to overcome difficulties all season, including a demoralizing seven-game losing streak. In addition, the Belles have faced tough competition in their conference, the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

"The top of the conference seems to be more even than in the past," Bellina said. "I think the league, as a whole, has raised their level of play."

Junior forward Emily Creachbaum, who emerged last year as a leader for the Belles, has led the teams in points and rebounds so far this season.

A big positive this year has been the energy and depth of the bench. In a victory last Monday against Olivet College, the Belles bench combined to score 32

points.

"We have really stressed going all out when players are in the game because we have depth," Bellina said. "We also want players coming off the bench and providing a spark either with a hustle play or great defense."

Key contributors off the bench have been freshman Bridget Lipke and sophomores Bridget Boyce and Anne Hogan.

Although the bench has taken pressure off the starters this year, the Belles have still had problems maintaining their stamina.

The Belles lost 67-51 on Wednesday after giving up a half-

"We have a group that is going to continue and battle and work hard for the remainder of the season."

Suzanne Bellina
Belles head coach

time lead in a collapse that Bellina thinks was caused by fatigue.

"The effort was there in the second half," Bellina said. "I think we just ran out of gas."

This Saturday the Belles will

play Alma College on the road. The last time the two teams met, Alma held off a second half comeback to defeat the Belles 70-67.

Alma forward Karen Hall dominated that game and her team shot 60 percent from three point range. Bellina wants to prevent a repeat of this performance.

"We have to be ready to defend their post and Karen Hall as well as their outside shooting," Bellina said.

With only three regular season games left, the Belles want to finish the year on a positive note.

"We are looking at each game one at a time with the thought that all the games are winnable," Bellina said. "We have a group that is going to continue to battle and work hard for the remainder of the season."

Contact Steve Coyer at
scoyer@nd.edu

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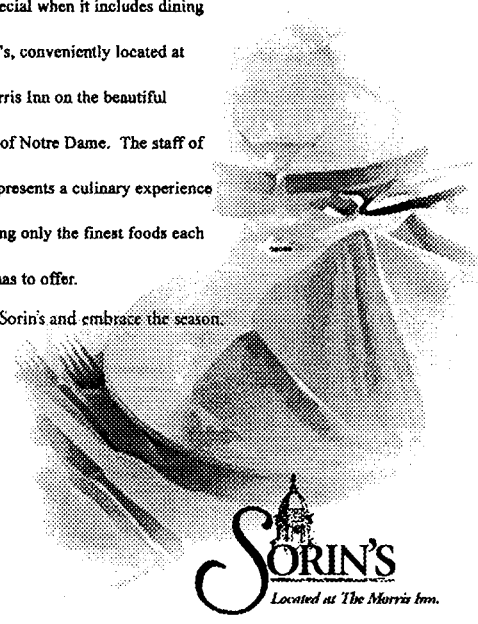
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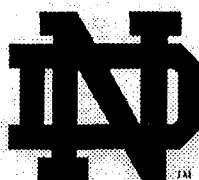
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Men's Lacrosse vs. Team Canada (exhibition)
12:00 PM @ Loftus Sports Center

Hockey

continued from page 24

ning record on the road right now.

"That shows you right there that this is a league where it's tough to win on the road. You've got to protect your home ice."

The next Irish win will be a milestone one, as Notre Dame currently has a record of 299-245-42 (.546) at the Joyce Center in the team's history.

"That's pretty fun for me, because I've been here for some of those as a player and some as a coach, as well," Poulin said. "Obviously, there were

other coaches like Lefty Smith who had a hand in getting those wins, and it'll be a real honor to hit that milestone."

To get that win, the Irish will face a Ferris State team which currently sits in ninth place in the CCHA with 19 points, two points behind the eighth-place Irish. That's a far cry from last season, when the Bulldogs won the CCHA title.

"I think that really shows just how competitive our conference is," Poulin said. "They're still a very good

team. You really need to have all cylinders clicking in this league, and right now Miami and Michigan [the first and second place teams] are doing that, but after them, this league is wide open.

"I still think you're going to see a lot of movement yet in the standings over the last four weeks of the season."

This weekend's series is big for both teams, who are fighting to finish in at least sixth place to guarantee home ice in the first round of the CCHA playoffs.

This season, the Irish have had 37 of their 73 goals (50.7 percent) scored by three players — Rob Globke, Aaron Gill and Mike Walsh. If the team is to make any late-season run, Poulin said that more players will have to contribute on the offensive side

of the ice. "There's no question that we need more scoring from more people," he said. "I think we've got good players who are going to score at this level but we need their goals now."

"We really need to take some of the pressure off our three big guys."

The Irish face Ferris State at the Joyce Center Friday at 7:35 p.m. and Saturday at 7:35 p.m.

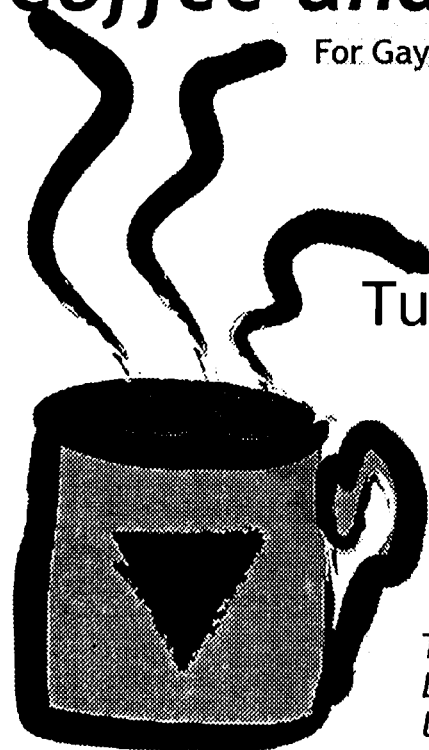
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"I still think you're going to see a lot of movement in the standings over the last four weeks of the season."

Dave Poulin
hockey coach

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Pirates

continued from page 24

could put my finger on it and bottle it because I would come back to it," Brey said. "We stayed positive. We can't get down. We have to keep plugging; there's a lot of basketball to be played."

The Irish had just lost to No. 4 Pittsburgh after taking a 15-2 lead very early in the contest. Two nights later against Connecticut, the Irish stayed close to the Huskies the entire game and finally made a run late.

The Irish continued to follow the game plan of slowing down Connecticut's prolific transition game and shortening the contest.

"In the Pittsburgh game, I think we ran out of energy and firepower. That's not acceptable by any means,"

Notre Dame forward Jordan Cornette said. "[Against Connecticut] we didn't pace ourselves, but we played our style of basketball, our tempo. We worked for a good shot when we needed one instead of taking a bad one."

Despite taking 21 shots, guard Chris Thomas had good shot selection because the Irish needed his individual offensive creativity on a night without forward Torin Francis and an injured Chris Quinn.

The 31 points show Thomas didn't let his performance over the past four games shoot down his confidence, which his teammates never questioned.

"I'm so happy for him. He was going through a little bit of a slump. A lot of guys started doubting him, but we never doubted him," Notre Dame guard Torrian Jones said. "We went to him every single time down the stretch,

and he delivered. He made big shots and I saw him do it every day in practice, so I knew he could do it in the game."

Besides Thomas breaking out offensively, the Irish played solid on both ends of the floor for 40 minutes. At times, the offense became stagnant, and the Huskies might have gotten an easy shot. The Irish only shot 39 percent and had five fewer rebounds than the Huskies.

But they figured out a way to win, and that's what they need to remember for the next three weeks.

"I think we learned some things about ourselves on both ends of the floor that hopefully we can carry over on Saturday and see if we can get number six," Brey said.

Saturday's tip-off is scheduled for 12 p.m.

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu



Observer File Photo

Junior Megan Ciolli, a centerfielder who batted .356 with four home runs last season, takes the plate last year.

Softball

continued from page 24

Wisn and Steffany Stenglein and sophomore Heather Booth pitched 362 of 373 innings for the Irish last year.

Booth was the Big East rookie of the year in 2003, collecting a 21-10 record with a 1.93 ERA while holding the number one starting spot all season. The Irish hope for a similar rookie impact from freshman Kenya Fuemmeler, who broke the career prep strikeout record while in high school in Missouri.

The infield will feature junior Liz Hartmann at third base, sophomore Sara Schoonaert at shortstop, freshman Stephanie Brown at second base and sophomore Meagan Ruthrauff at first. Hartmann will move to the infield after spending her first two seasons as the left-

field starter.

The outfield should be a strength for the Irish, especially offensively. Junior Megan Ciolli, who hit .356 with four home runs and 24 RBIs last season, leads the Irish outfield at her usual centerfield position. She is one of 40 players named to the USA Softball Player of the Year watch list.

Senior Nicole deFau will play left field, while sophomore Kellie Middleton will start in left. The two players combined for four home runs and 14 RBI last season.

The bench is solid, with freshmen Carissa Jaquish and Gessica Hufnagle backing up Lenn at the catching position. Junior Nicole Wicks, who transferred from Washington, will provide infield backup and Fuemmeler can play the outfield in addition to relief pitcher.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu

Friars

continued from page 24

Mentally, we're drained; we didn't have the energy to win the game. Seton Hall played well, but we weren't at our best."

The Irish hope to get back to their winning ways, however, as they host the Friars, who are winless in the Big East. Meanwhile, Notre Dame is undefeated at home this season, going 10-0.

The Irish are led by junior Jacqueline Batteast (14.7 points, 8.2 rebounds per game) and sophomore point guard Megan Duffy (11.0 points, 4.5 assists per game). But the Irish offense has struggled of late, unable to put a lot of points on

the board.

"I think what we need to do is score some points and feel good about the offense," McGraw said. "I think we've not really had an overpowering output on the offensive end, and I think that's what we need to do."

According to McGraw, the key to their offensive production in addition to Batteast is Duffy, Le'Tania Severe, Teresa Borton and Courtney LaVere. When two of those four play well in addition to Batteast, the Irish have been tough to stop.

"The games that we look the best in are the games when more people have contributed," McGraw said. "I think our transition game has been a problem; we haven't been able to score in transition. We just don't get easy baskets. We're just working

too hard for everything we've got.

But amidst their offensive woes, Notre Dame's defense has been outstanding, frequently holding opponents under 50 points. They have given up only 50.5 points per game in Big East play.

"We've been very consistent defensively, and I've been pleased with that," McGraw said.

Notre Dame hopes that this week's break has done the Irish well, as they are ready to get back on the court to face another Big East opponent.

"I definitely think we're going to be fresher mentally and physically. I think a few days off just makes a world of difference," McGraw said.

Contact Heather van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

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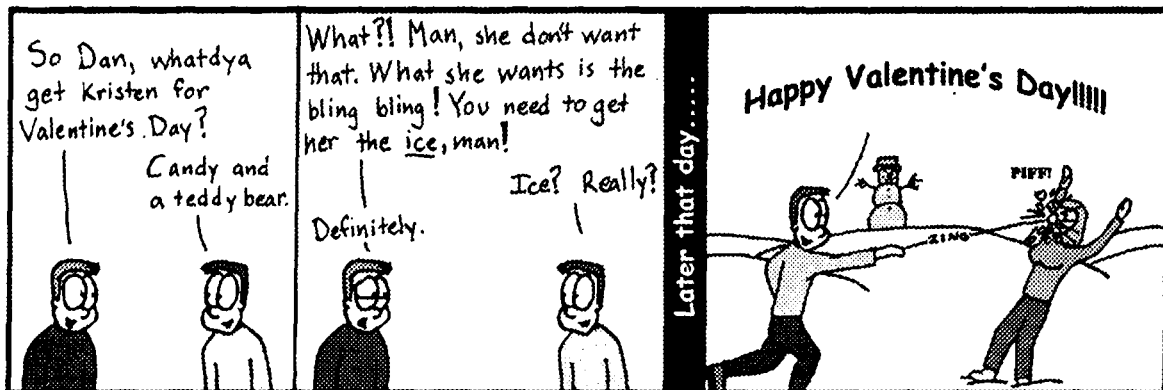
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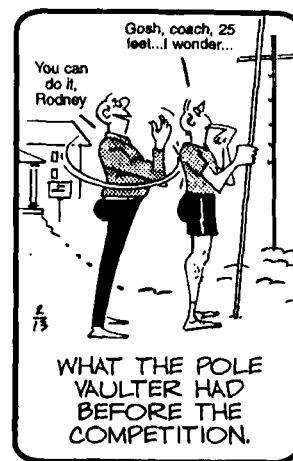
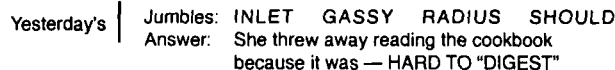
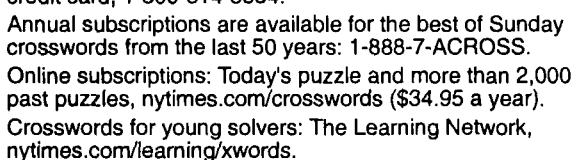
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TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't blow situations out of proportion. You will have a tendency to put on weight or be overindulgent in food and/or drink. Refrain from taking on too much. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Travel and communications will be less than pleasing today. You will find it difficult to understand other people's point of view. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will be upset if you recently loaned a friend money. Do not feel obligated to donate large sums of money. Your tendency to overspend will cause worry later ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Home-improvement projects will cost a lot more than you planned. You may exaggerate a situation that, in turn, will anger your lover. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Get together with friends or relatives that you don't get to see very often. You can make travel plans successfully. Valuable information will be made available to you. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Joint accounts and get-rich-quick schemes must be avoided. You may be a tad extravagant. Problems with ears, nose and throat are probable. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your aggressive action could work against you if you won't listen to your lover's plea. Don't react too hastily to hearsay. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You will be slightly accident-prone today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Do not lend or borrow money or

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Problems with family members may try your

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You may have a temper tantrum if your

FISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You may have a temper tantrum if your principles are threatened. Avoid confrontations at group meetings. It's best to quietly help those unable to help themselves. **

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish face another Big East test

By MATT LOZAR
Associate Sports Editor

If anybody thinks the Irish could have a letdown after their first big win of the season, just check the RPI standings.

Seeing Seton Hall ranked No. 11 shows Saturday's game is almost as big as Monday's.

After defeating Connecticut, which is around No. 8 in the RPI, the Irish (11-9, 5-5 in the Big East) jumped about 20 spots and now sit at No. 62. A win over the Pirates (16-5, 6-3) could help Notre Dame's RPI.

It's also important for the Irish to carry over the attitude from Monday's big win. The Irish never got down on themselves after losing six of eight and, for whatever reason, stayed upbeat during that difficult 48-hour stretch.

Irish coach Mike Brey now has to figure out how to keep that positive outlook for the last seven games of the regular season.

"Our body language was the best it's ever been. I wish I

see PIRATES /page 22



ANDY KENNA/The Observer

Notre Dame guard Chris Thomas goes against a Syracuse defender in a game against the Orangemen on Jan. 17. Thomas has been a key player for the Irish this year as they faced a difficult schedule in the Big East conference.

HOCKEY

Irish face Ferris State

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

Hopefully, a trip back home will spark the Irish to a solid finish this season.

The Irish (13-11-4, 9-10-3 in the CCHA) hope to put last weekend's road sweep at the hands of Miami behind them as they return home to face the Ferris State Bulldogs (14-13-3, 9-12-1) in a two-game series this weekend at the Joyce Center.

Notre Dame fell 5-2 last Friday and 2-0 on Saturday, falling below .500 in the CCHA for just the second time this season. The Irish hope a return to the Joyce Center will help spark the team back to finishing the season out strong.

"I think this is a home-dominated league. I really do," Irish coach Dave Poulin said. "Everybody's got a good home record, and there's only two teams, to the best of my knowledge, who have a win-

see HOCKEY/page 21

SOFTBALL

Irish start season against tough teams

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

While South Bend still looks like a winter wonderland, the Irish begin their season on the road at the UNLV Classic, where they will face five teams including two ranked in the preseason top ten.

The Irish face Hawaii Friday at noon and then match against No. 2 California at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Notre Dame faces No. 9 Nebraska at 4 p.m. and UNLV at 6:30 p.m. The Classic concludes on Sunday as the Irish face Portland State at 10 a.m.

Notre Dame hopes to continue its impressive string under coach Deanna Gumpf, who is entering her third season at the Irish helm. During her first two years, the Irish won back-to-back Big East championships.

Last year, the Irish went 38-17 and claimed their fifth consecutive NCAA regional appearance. Their season

came to an end at the hands of Michigan, who defeated the Irish by a score of 5-3 on May 17, 2003.

This season, the expectations are just as high for the Irish, who were selected first overall the 2004 Big East Preseason Softball Coaches Poll. Notre Dame led with 95 points, followed by Villanova with 83 and Boston College with 74 points.

If the Irish are to match the hype, they will have to do so with a much-changed team from last season. Conference player of the year Andrea Loman and three other starters graduated over the summer, leaving Notre Dame with an entirely new infield for the first time in four years.

Catcher Mallorie Lenn, who achieved second-team all-Big East honors last season, returns behind the plate and will catch mostly the same pitching staff. Juniors Carrie

see SOFTBALL/page 22

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Rest helped Irish prepare

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

No rest for the weary — that is, until this week.

Notre Dame (14-8, 7-3 Big East) takes on Providence (4-17, 0-10 Big East) at home Saturday after taking Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday off from practice. The Irish hope that the break will help them to rebound after a tough road loss at Seton Hall Sunday afternoon.

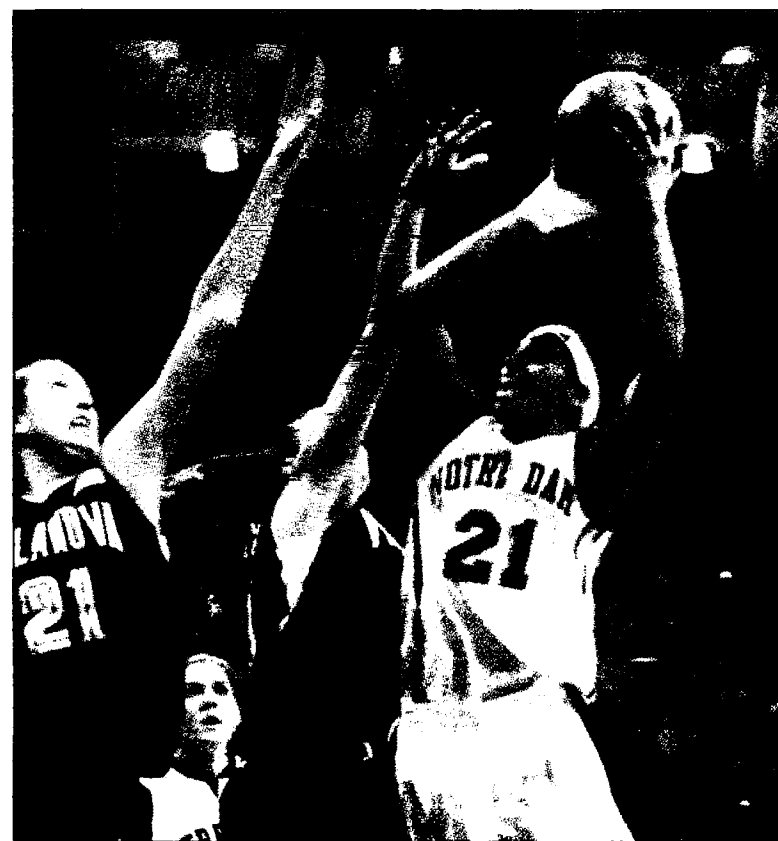
"I think the rest probably did us really good, mentally and physically," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "I think we really needed a break."

McGraw's Irish hope to get back on track in the Big East with only six games to go before the Big East Tournament Mar. 6.

Notre Dame struggled to score Sunday, as they fell 51-45.

"I think that the biggest problem in the Seton Hall game was a lack of energy," McGraw said. "It wasn't a lack of effort."

see FRIARS/page 22



CHIP MARKS/The Observer

Jacqueline Batteast of the Irish shoots over two Villanova defenders on January 24 at the Joyce Center. Batteast has been a staple for the Irish on offense and defense this year.

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

SMC HOOPS

The Belles hope to finish their season on a good note.

page 20

MEN'S TENNIS

The Irish remain at home to face Wisconsin.

page 19

TRACK & FIELD

The Irish travel to Ontario for the Windsor Team Challenge this weekend.

page 19

WOMEN'S TENNIS

The Irish meet No. 14 Virginia Commonwealth this weekend.

page 17

MLB

Barry Bonds' trainer was charged Thursday with running an illegal steroid operation.

page 18

NHL

The Lightning come back from a two-goal deficit to defeat the Canadiens, 5-3.

page 14