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Solidarity debate sweeps campus

Forum debates recognition, Catholic teaching

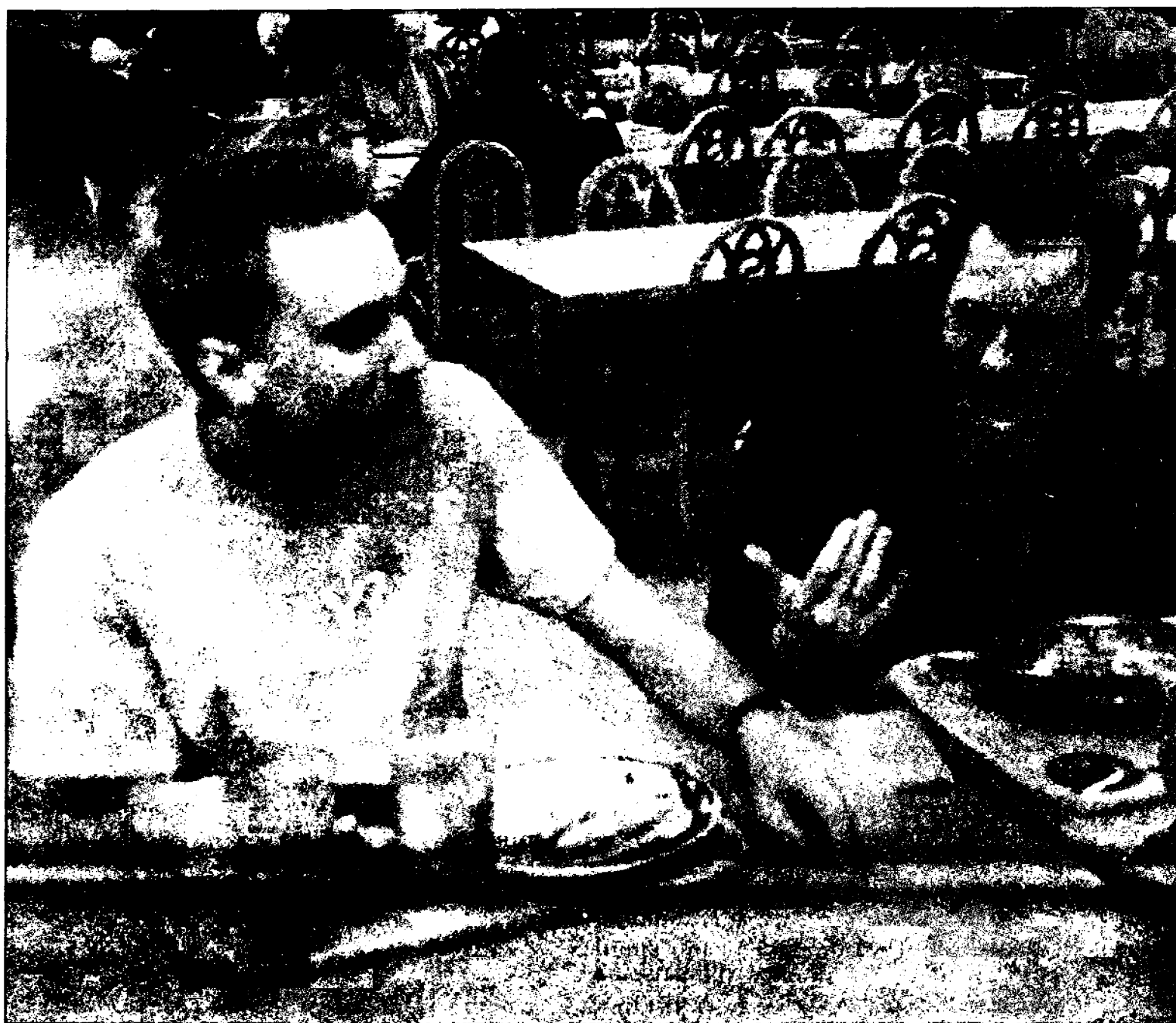
By CLAIRE HEININGER
News Editor

Following a day-long, bright orange public pledge of gay/straight solidarity, members of the Notre Dame community examined the policies of peer Catholic institution Boston College Thursday night as an example of progress made towards the acceptance of homosexuals on campus.

Michael Yaksich, Boston College's director of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Issues, addressed approximately 130 students and faculty in DeBartolo Hall, explaining his college's stance towards gay/straight student organizations and urging Notre Dame to follow suit.

"It is the Catholic obligation to provide love and support for all — especially the least among us," Yaksich said as he described the mission of Allies, Boston College's gay/straight alliance that was granted full recognition in April. "At Boston College, we've found

see PANEL/page 9



Gay Straight Alliance leader Joe Dickmann speaks to Michael Yaksich, Boston College's director of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues, during dinner at South Dining Hall Thursday.

MATTHEW SMEDBERG/The Observer

Students react to shirt campaign

By ANDREW THAGARD
Associate News Editor

On Thursday, talk about "the shirt" likely referred not to the popular kelly green number worn by students and fans during Notre Dame football games, but to a project sponsored by the unofficial Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA), also known as "United in Diversity," to promote increased tolerance of homosexual students on campus.

Hundreds of students sported the bright orange shirts bearing the slogan "Gay? Fine by me," and GSA estimates that it sold 1,600 of them in the past few days.

"This is a milestone event because it lets the supporters show who they are and lets everyone else — gay and straight, in or out — see who they are and how many they are," GSA leader Joe Dickmann said.

Dickmann started the campaign in response to a survey conducted by the Princeton Review that ranked Notre Dame first in a list of 351 col-

see SHIRT/page 4

Student remains in hospital after fall



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

St. Joseph County Police busted a party at the College Park apartment complex Wednesday, arresting six students.

By SCOTT BRODFUEHRER
Senior Staff Writer

The Notre Dame student who fell from a second-floor balcony during a St. Patrick's Day party at the College Park apartment complex remains hospitalized, and six students who were arrested during the party have been released from jail on bonds ranging from \$150 to \$250.

A spokesperson at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center said Mike Seiler, a Notre Dame senior and College Park resident, remains in stable condition

at the hospital, where he was transported by ambulance Wednesday after the fall.

St. Joseph County Police Spokesperson Jaimee Thirion said six students were arrested during the party and police detained two more students who did not cooperate with officers. Police released both students without arresting them, but sent a report on one student to the prosecutor's office, who will determine whether or not to file charges.

Keough freshman Michael

see BUST/page 8

Wave of thefts at SDH continues

By KATE GALES
News Writer

The recent thefts in South Dining Hall have continued, as NDSP reported that two backpacks were stolen from the lobby Wednesday night.

In a Feb. 23 article in The Observer, officials from Notre Dame Security/Police described a wave of thefts occurring at the Hesburgh Library and South

Dining Hall.

"There had been kind of a dropoff, but that isn't to say that [the perpetrators] have completely stopped," NDSP Assistant Director Phil Johnson said. He said that the investigation into the crimes would continue.

"Between Feb. 23 and now, students were on break for a week, and that period was relatively quiet," Johnson said. "[Wednesday], we had two

cases where bookbags were taken at the South Dining Hall."

NDSP has taken steps to protect students and their property.

"At the library, for example, we've encouraged people not to leave their materials unattended," Johnson said. He said that NDSP, as well as students, would "work with library staff to be on the alert for suspicious activity."

see THEFTS/page 6

Revelers ejected from DeBartolo

By SHEILA FLYNN
Senior Staff Writer

Approximately 40 to 50 students carrying a banner, playing instruments and singing in a makeshift St. Patrick's Day parade Wednesday were ejected from DeBartolo Hall and North Dining Hall, some receiving citations from Notre Dame Security/Police, said students and University officials.

"I don't know how we came up with the parade," said senior Paul Daday, who organized the unofficial event with his



Photo courtesy of Paul Daday

A group of students parade down Notre Dame Avenue on St. Patrick's Day. Members of the group were cited by NDSP.

see PARADE/page 8

INSIDE COLUMN

Faithful citizenship

Although it is a Friday and like me you are probably wishing it were still spring break or already summer break, I just want to share a few thoughts that have been on my mind for the past week.

Sofia Ballon

Photographer

I attended the CSC Seminar on Faithful Citizenship and the Upcoming Election in Washington D.C. for spring break. Although I did not return to campus with a tan, I certainly had a great experience and learned lots from the places I visited in your nation's capital. I'm not from the U.S., I'm from the wonderful country of Peru — where there are llamas, but we don't ride them by the way.

On Wednesday of last week, we observed a Senate session. The issue being debated was an amendment for yet another increase of the military budget. While the amendment was being presented and refuted, there were barely any senators in the room.

When it was finally time to vote they started entering the room. I was amazed seeing how easy it was for the great majority of senators to give a thumbs-up to the secretary recording the votes. Some of which were seemingly just becoming aware of the issue being voted on by talking to members of their party.

I acknowledge it is only my foreign-national-bird's-eye-view of the situation, but after visiting several organizations that explained how many Americans live in poverty and how much a small fraction of the military budget could help not only these poor but those all over the world, I certainly did not feel at ease witnessing how the politicians were amending the billions as if these were peanuts.

Yet, I did become aware of many positive things during the Seminar. I learned about the opportunities organizations and individuals have to participate in the U.S. government. Of how one can lobby or campaign for what one believes in. Of how several people in many nations, especially college-aged students have attained important socio-political changes by peaceful means.

I guess I just want to remind you of the possibilities you all have to affect a change.

Be it by voting, contacting your representatives, participating at a rally or a protest, joining an organization that fights for what you believe in or becoming more aware of the issues at stake at home and around the world. The possibilities are many; don't let the decisions be made by others.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHO IS CURRENTLY YOUR FAVORITE MUSICAL ARTIST(S)?



Caitlin Efta
Sophomore PW

"Medeski, Martin and Wood"



Valerie Efta
Sophomore PW

"Rooney."



Liz McCorry
Junior Off-Campus

"Rufus Wainwright."



Mary Ann Lukeman
Freshman Walsh

"Fountains of Wayne."



Sarah Schneider
Senior Off-Campus

"The Stereophonics."



Teresa Blackwell
Senior Welsh Family

"Ludacris."



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Jamey Stillings, a professional photographer from Santa Fe, N.M., shown here with photography professor Richard Gray, visited Notre Dame this week for a lecture with art students and a photography workshop with the studio photography class.

IN BRIEF

Looking for something free to do? Comedian **Dat Phan** is performing at 7 p.m. tonight in O'Laughlin Auditorium at Saint Mary's. Dat Phan was the winner of NBC's Last Comic Standing this past fall. The event is free and open to the public. Student comedians will open.

Student Union Board will show the movie **Timeline** tonight and Saturday at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. in DeBartolo 101. Admission costs \$3.

Professional comedian **Ty Barnett** will perform a set tonight at 10 p.m. in Legends. The event is free.

O'Neill Hall will hold its **Miss ND pageant** Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. Participants from Notre Dame's women's dorms will vie for the title.

The **Bhangra Blast**, sponsored by the Indian Association will be held Saturday from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. at the Center for Social Concerns. The event will feature Indian food, Bhangra music and dancing and free prizes. Admission is \$5 and all proceeds will be denoted to charity to provide education and healthcare for poor Indian children.

McGlenn Hall will hold its annual **Casino Night** from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday in the South Dining Hall. A raffle will occur at 1:30 a.m. The event costs \$5.

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

OFFBEAT

Couple arrested in fight after watching "The Passion"

STATESBORO, Ga. — A couple who got into a dispute over a theological point after watching "The Passion of the Christ" were arrested after the argument turned violent.

The two left the movie theater debating whether God the Father in the Holy Trinity was human or symbolic, and the argument heated up when they got home, Melissa Davidson said.

"It was the dumbest thing we've ever done," she said.

Davidson, 34, and her husband, Sean Davidson, 33,

were charged with simple battery on March 11 after the two called police on each other. They were released on \$1,000 bail.

According to a police report, Melissa Davidson suffered injuries on her arm and face, while her husband had a scissors stab wound on his hand and his shirt was ripped off. He also allegedly punched a hole in a wall.

Baby discovers battery worth \$100,000

BREWSTER, N.Y. — The D'Onofrios keep their telephones out of the reach of 21-month-old Billy, since he

likes to push the buttons and make random calls. There's tape over the television controls to keep him from changing the channel.

But the boy's inquisitive nature is no longer considered a problem since he opened the battery compartment on the television remote and uncovered a purple battery worth \$100,000.

The AAA Duracell was one of 12 labeled "winners" that the manufacturer had slipped into packages as part of a promotional campaign.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Sofia Ballon at sballon@nd.edu.

CORRECTION

Due to an editing error in Thursday's issue, a quote was left out of the hockey story in the sports section. The Observer regrets the error.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 47 LOW 41	HIGH 41 LOW 37	HIGH 49 LOW 27	HIGH 33 LOW 19	HIGH 35 LOW 24	HIGH 46 LOW 38

Atlanta 74 / 48 Boston 35 / 28 Chicago 49 / 41 Denver 76 / 48 Houston 83 / 65 Los Angeles 73 / 56 Minneapolis 48 / 32 New York 40 / 32 Philadelphia 44 / 33 Phoenix 93 / 64 Seattle 50 / 38 St. Louis 64 / 49 Tampa 83 / 58 Washington 53 / 34

Counseling Center assists students

Employees help students to overcome "perfectionist" mentality

By JENNIFER ROWLING
News Writer

Notre Dame, a small, private, highly competitive University, is comprised of students apt to suffer from disorders related to stress and a demanding schedule. Pre-Doctoral Counseling Psychology intern Helen Bowden said. Consequently, The University Counseling Center is working efficiently to assist students with the stress-related mental illnesses surfacing on campus.

Bowden said Notre Dame students presented a wider range of problems related to stress and competition than students she saw at a large liberal University where she worked previously.

Bowden recognizes the "perfectionist" mentality of the Notre Dame student and understands their vulnerability as she reflected on the makeup of the student body — 80 percent of students were captains of athletic teams, they have an average SAT score of 1380 and 25 percent of students are legacies. If the pressures aren't coming from parents or peers, students themselves are feeling guilty when they are not productive every minute, she said.

"People are like cars, if you don't have oil changes, [they are] going to break down," she said.

Stress and time management

are the main factors associated with the increase of stress-related disorders, according to Bowden. The University Counseling Center can assist students with better managing stress before further problems arise by teaching relaxation training, box breathing, meditation and adequate scheduling.

Other disorders commonly seen as a result of the highly competitive atmosphere students face include eating disorders, obsessive compulsive disorder, alcohol and substance abuse and depression. The results from students completing the intake test at the University Counseling Center indicated that 15

percent scored above the threshold for eating disorders and 20 percent for alcohol and substance abuse.

Fortunately, The University Counseling Center provides assistance for all of these disorders. Students begin by meeting individually with a counselor or psychologist for a confidential session. Then a specifically-focused group is recommended: Obsessive Compulsive Disorders, Not the Perfect Family, Eating Disorder, Interpersonal Effectiveness or Alcohol Abuse. These group-counseling sessions aid individuals in realizing that they are not alone; members assist and learn from one another.

"Feel Better Fast" focuses on students suffering from depression. Sleeping and eating are

the two issues this program stresses because they can be directly associated with decreased serotonin levels and depression. In order to produce adequate serotonin levels, food should be eaten every 4 hours and adequate sleep is necessary. Statistics indicate that most students eat only two meals a day, and Bowden said that she believes students often stay up too late.

Bowden says, "I haven't heard as many students staying up late as [I have] here. Most students stay up until 2 a.m. every evening."

Another unique program the Counseling Center offers is "Performance Enhancement" which focuses on stages of enhancing performance including attention focus, goal setting, peak performance and arousal management.

The Counseling Center sees students with a variety of disorders throughout the year; however, during the winter, depression is at its high point. Times of increased student stress levels are seen when students are going home for break and towards the end of a semester, Bowden said.

Due to the nature of the Notre Dame student, there is high probability for concern. Bowden said that if students are or know others who are suffering from any kind of disorder, they should seek help at the Counseling Center. She noted that a few moments of time may avert a more serious issue later.

Contact Jennifer Rowling at rowling.2@nd.edu

Comedian Dat Phan to visit SMC

By ANNELIESE WOOLFORD
Senior Staff Writer

Saint Mary's O'Laughlin Auditorium will adapt to a makeshift comedy club tonight as the College hosts stand-up comedian Dat Phan, recently named NBC's Last Comic Standing.

Since earning the recognition in August, Phan has appeared on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno, taped his own special airing on Comedy Central and launched a national tour. Combined, these endeavors have made Phan a recognized name in his industry and illustrate a primary reason behind the request for him to perform on campus.

"I met Dat in New York this fall ... he is very excited about coming to Saint Mary's," said Richard Baxter, director of special events. "He enjoys performing at colleges and has been quite generous with his time, wherever he goes."

Baxter first conceived of the idea to bring Phan to campus after receiving contact from an agent with whom he formerly worked. He then approached the College's Student Activities Board for co-sponsorship and assistance in funding the event. Board members sought additional sponsorship from the Pacific-Asian Club, Multicultural Events, Student Diversity Board and the Center

for Women's Intercultural Leadership.

"Comedians are always a great draw here at Saint Mary's, and we as a board thought it would be a great opportunity to bring a big name to campus," said Lauren Fabina, SAB spirit chairperson.

Board president Becca Doll added the event will provide equal publicity for both Saint Mary's and Phan's career.

"He seems really interested in our college community ..."

Becca Doll
SAB Chairman

In addition to his main stage performance at 7 p.m., Phan will meet with a playwriting class and eat dinner with members of CWIL and PAC to discuss his Vietnamese-American upbringing. He also plans to join students at Midnight Madness in the Angela Athletic Facility following his routine.

"We feel lucky to be able to set the pace for his career," Doll said. "When you show people a good time, they are likely to give back in the future. He will talk to others and continue to give Saint Mary's a good reputation, encouraging other budding names to venture to South Bend."

Contact Anneliese Woolford at wool8338@saintmarys.edu

Houses for Rent

It's not too late to find quality houses close to campus for the

2004-2005 school year

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287-1427

Coffee and Conversation

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



Tuesday, March 23rd

(and every third Tuesday of the month)

7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

316 Coleman-Morse

The Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs invites gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to an informal coffee at the Co-Mo.



Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.

Coffee and refreshments will be served

Shirt

continued from page 1

leges and universities where alternative lifestyles are not an alternative. It also served to bring attention to the Office of Student Affairs March 4 decision to deny the GSA officially recognized club status.

On Tuesday, Father Mark Poorman, Vice President for Student Affairs, wrote a follow-up letter of response, a copy of which was obtained by The Observer.

"I'm sure that the students are disappointed with the decision by the Student Activities Office to deny recognition of the group as a student club," Poorman wrote, adding that while there is no formal appeal process in place for the club to pursue, he and Dr. David Moss, direct supervisor in the Office of Student Affairs for the Student Activities Office, would welcome a continued dialogue.

However, he cautioned students against "unrealistic expectations about the likelihood of a change in the decision about recognition."

Students who chose to wear the "Gay? Fine by me" shirts expressed hope that their efforts would bring about

positive exchange.

"There's a pretty common stereotype that Notre Dame is a closed minded ... school," said Margaret Bernardin, a sophomore who wore the shirt Thursday. "Obviously, by all the people you see today that isn't true at all."

Jessica Freeman, a junior, said that she chose to wear the shirt to support some friends who participated in the campaign and to increase the profile of the issue on campus.

"I had friends who were passing out the t-shirts and I wanted to support them and their efforts to help get support from the University," she said. "It brings awareness to the general student."

A majority of students, however, did not participate in the project. Some supported the effort but were not aware of it before today, while others said that they believed efforts to promote the establishment of a

University sponsored homosexual club ran counter to Notre Dame's Catholic tradition.

"I have nothing against someone who is gay," sophomore Chris Brophy said. "I recognize that being gay is not a choice, but I think these t-shirts glorify a lifestyle contradictory to what we [as

Catholics] believe."

Other students supported the project but said they were not aware that anything of the sort was being planned and were confused about why Thursday was chosen.

"I think it's a good thing," said freshman Kyle Rokita. "I haven't heard that much about why today."

Dickmann said that many students were unaware of the project in advance.

"I discovered that in a lot of cases, people had no idea until they woke up and saw the orange," he said, adding that he received positive feedback throughout the day asking where more shirts could be ordered. The group has tentatively planned another demonstration for mid-April.

University spokesman Matt Storin declined to discuss what impact the campaign might have on Notre Dame's policies or if the number of students involved in the campaign surprised administrators.

Students, however, had their own opinions.

"So far the University hasn't been too responsive to what we say so I don't think this will have any effect at all but I hope it will," Bernardin said.

Freeman shared her opinion.

"Besides [generating] Viewpoint letters I doubt it [will affect change]," she said.

Claire Heininger contributed to this report.

Contact Andrew Thagard at athagard@nd.edu

SMC prepares for Midnight Madness

By KELLY MEEHAN
News Writer

Saint Mary's students have expressed excitement at the annual Midnight Madness festivities that will take place tonight from 9:45 p.m. until 1:30 a.m.

Students are also invited to watch the Winter Intramural Championships, an annual prelude to the Midnight Madness that pits classes against each other in various activities and sporting events. The intramural competitions will occur in Angela Athletic Facility from 8 until 10 p.m., and the Athletic department will announce the champions at the conclusion of the games.

At 9:45 p.m. the doors to Angela Athletic Facility close and Midnight Madness officially begins.

This year's Midnight Madness theme is "Behind the Madness", a concept that has inspired many new decorations and opening festivities.

"Students should expect to see new versions of some of their favorite relay races like the Obstacle Course and Sports Relay," co-head of the Midnight Madness committee Elizabeth Jablonski-Diehl said.

Other events planned include sumo wrestling, free throw shots, tug-of-war, mad dashes and balloon bursts.

The Saint Mary's dance team and cheerleading squad will perform, along with a presentation by the senior class board.

Some of the more notable aspects of Midnight Madness include prizes awarded to students throughout the evening. This year's grand prize, which is provided by the Student Activities Office, is a trip to Chicago with a night in a hotel and money for shopping. Other prizes to include electronics, number one room picks for each class, various Saint Mary's items from the bookstore and cash prizes.

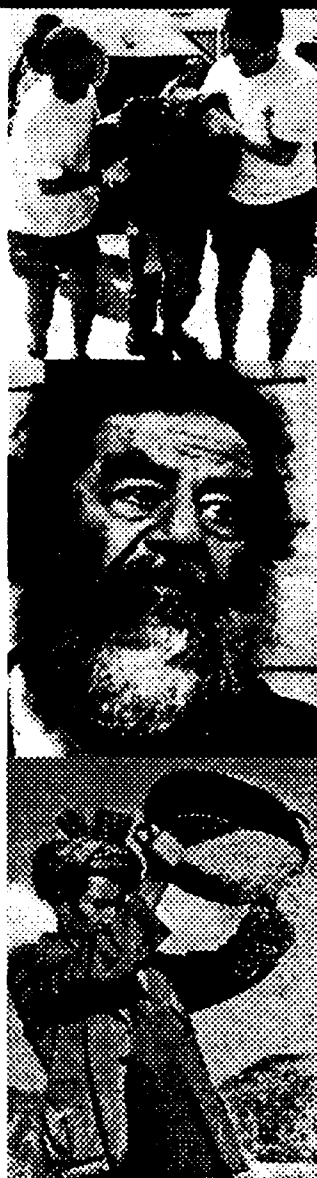
A highlight of this year's event will be the unveiling of the Saint Mary's fight song, which will be presented by a chorus of Saint Mary's women. The song will be revealed at the beginning of the evening.

The Midnight Madness Committee is made up of about 20 women and is headed by Jablonski-Diehl and Shay Jolly. Both have been working to organize the event since August and said they promise an evening full of fun, food and prizes.

The event is also open to Holy Cross and Notre Dame students, who will be eligible to win prizes and participate in all of the activities.

Contact Kelly Meehan at kmecha01@saintmarys.edu

SPIRITUAL POLITICS AND SOCIAL HEALING In an Age of Culture Wars and Terror Michael Lerner



Join Tikkun magazine editor Michael Lerner as he explores a new holistic politics that aims to transform the political vision beyond left-right divisions and the cynical realism that guides American political discourse.

Thursday,
March 25

5:00 p.m. @ 101 DeBartolo Hall, Notre Dame
7:30 p.m. @ Community Center
Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley
3202 Shalom Way, South Bend

Sponsored by the Center for Social Concerns
Call (574) 891-5289 for more information
Co-sponsored by:
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Lyons Hall

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Five more arrested in Spain attack

MADRID, Spain — Police arrested five more people in the Madrid train bombings as the death toll rose Thursday to 202, making the blasts — along with the 2002 Bali nightclub blasts — the worst terrorist strike since the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States.

The arrests brought to 11 the total suspects in Spanish custody and came as the country marked a week since the bombings that shocked Europe, led to a stunning election defeat for the government and roiled Madrid's relations with the United States.

The latest arrests added to suspicions Moroccan extremists linked to Islamic terrorism were behind the Madrid bombings. At least three of the five suspects arrested Wednesday and Thursday are Moroccan nationals, according to a Moroccan official.

South Korea cancels troop dispatch

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea on Friday scrubbed plans to send troops to the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk, citing U.S. pressure to participate in "offensive operations," but it said the promised 3,600 forces will be sent to a different location to help rebuild the country.

The dispatch, making South Korea the biggest coalition partner after the United States and Britain, had been scheduled to come as early as next month. But Friday's decision means the mission might be delayed.

The move comes as other allies in the Iraq coalition reconsider their contributions. Spain's new government threatened to pull out its forces shortly after winning elections Sunday, following terrorist bombings in Madrid.

NATIONAL NEWS

Fresno slayer's arraignment delayed

FRESNO, Calif. — Marcus Wesson's arraignment on charges he murdered nine of his children was delayed Thursday for a second time to give him more time to hire an attorney.

Wesson, 57, appeared in court with lawyer David Mugridge, who said he was still trying to determine if he'll represent Wesson, pending verification of his ability to pay.

The arraignment was rescheduled for next Thursday.

Wesson has been charged with nine counts of murder. The victims he allegedly shot to death included children ages 1 to 17, as well as his 25-year-old daughter, who was also the mother of one of the slain infants.

Lesbian minister defends status

BOTHELL, Wash. — A Methodist minister on trial for declaring herself a lesbian said Thursday that God called her into the ministry, "and I just can't believe that God makes a mistake."

The Rev. Karen Dammann, 47, has been charged with violating church law by living in a homosexual relationship, which United Methodist Church law says is incompatible with Christian teachings. She has pleaded not guilty and is being tried before a jury of 13 pastors.

Nine votes are needed for conviction, which could mean a loss of ministry.

LOCAL NEWS

Ball State killing suspect arrested

INDIANAPOLIS — U.S. marshals on Thursday arrested a man wanted on a murder charge in a Ball State University student's March 7 shooting death in Muncie.

Damien Sanders, 22, of Muncie, had been sought since shortly after the killing of 20-year-old Karl Harford of Carmel. Two others already had been arrested.

Muncie officials got a tip that Sanders was at an Indianapolis hotel, said Terry Winters, Muncie's deputy chief of police, and called the U.S. Marshals Service in Indianapolis.

PAKISTAN

Top terrorist target surrounded

Al-Qaida second-in-command al-Zawahri believed to be cornered in Pakistan

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — Pakistani forces believe they have cornered and perhaps wounded Osama bin Laden's deputy, Ayman al-Zawahri, in a major battle near the Afghan border, an area where many believe the world's most wanted terrorist has been hiding, three senior Pakistani officials said Thursday.

Pakistan President Gen. Pervez Musharraf said a "high value" target was believed trapped in South Waziristan, a semi-autonomous tribal belt that has resisted outside intervention for centuries.

Hundreds of troops and paramilitary rangers pounded several fortress-like mud-brick compounds with artillery and fired on them from helicopter gunships, as entrenched suspects fought back hard. An intelligence official said "dozens" were killed Thursday.

At least 41 people — 15 soldiers and 26 suspected militants — were killed earlier this week in fighting in the area.

The officials told The Associated Press that intelligence indicated the forces had surrounded the Egyptian-born al-Zawahri in an operation that began Tuesday, the first major break in the world's most intense manhunt in more than a year.

The region has long been considered the most likely hiding place for the top two al-Qaida leaders — but there was no indication bin Laden was with al-Zawahri. However, the two have traveled together in the past, and bin Laden and al-Zawahri appeared jointly in video tapes released shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States.

The United States has



Osama bin Laden, left, sits with al-Qaida's second-in-command Ayman al-Zawahri in this 2001 photo. Pakistani troops surrounded Zawahri Thursday.

offered a \$25 million reward for information leading to al-Zawahri's capture. On Thursday, the U.S. House of Representatives doubled the reward for bin Laden's capture to \$50 million.

"We have been receiving intelligence and information from our agents who are working in the tribal areas that al-Zawahri could be among the people hiding there," a Pakistani military official said. "All of our efforts are to capture him."

An intelligence official and a senior politician in Musharraf's government both confirmed the

account. All spoke on condition of anonymity.

The intelligence official said information was also coming from some of the 18 suspects captured during Thursday's operation. Some said during interrogation that al-Zawahri was wounded in the raid, the official said. Officials said helicopter gunships and artillery would continue attacking at dawn Friday.

Musharraf told CNN that he'd spoken with the commander of Pakistani troops in the region. He said the commander reported "fierce resistance" from a group of

fighters entrenched in fortress-like buildings, and that there were indications a senior figure was surrounded.

"He's reasonably sure there's a high-value target there," Musharraf said. "They are not coming out in spite of the fact that we pounded them with artillery."

The news came the same day as Secretary of State Colin Powell announced in the capital, Islamabad, that Washington was bestowing the status of "major non-NATO ally" on Pakistan, and praised the country for its help in the war on terror.

SERBIA-MONTENEGRO

Violence, rioting erupt in Kosovo

Associated Press

PRISTINA, Serbia-Montenegro — Ethnic Albanians torched Serb homes and churches Thursday as Kosovo convulsed in a second day of rioting. The worst violence since the province's war ended in 1999 has killed at least 31 people and injured hundreds.

Serbian nationalists set mosques elsewhere on fire and threatened to retaliate with "slaughter and death." NATO sent reinforcements to quell tensions in the U.N.-run province and ease the threat of renewed conflict in the volatile Balkans.

Stung by the lawlessness that have left Serb enclaves here in ruins, peace-

keepers promised to respond to provocations with a level of force not used here in the past.

Some peacekeepers were already carrying out the orders, shooting and wounding protesters who used violence in clashes Thursday, said Col. Horst Pieper, the chief NATO spokesman in Kosovo. The number of injured peacekeepers rose to 51 since clashes began Wednesday.

"The soldiers ... will not tolerate those who seek to cause harm," said U.S. Brig. Gen. Rick Erlandson said in a statement. "My soldiers will immediately and forcefully stop anyone who violates the rule of law."

The clashes, which began

Wednesday when ethnic Albanians blamed Serbs for the drownings of two children, have killed at least 31 people and injured hundreds, officials said.

The bloodshed underscored the bitter divisions that have polarized Kosovo's mostly Muslim ethnic Albanians, who want independence from Serbia, and Orthodox Christian Serbs, a minority in Kosovo who consider the province their ancient homeland.

The violence, which spilled beyond Kosovo's borders into the Serbian heartland, also dealt the Bush administration a potential setback in efforts to reduce the number of peacekeepers in the Balkans and redeploy them to Iraq, Afghanistan and other hotspots.

Thefts

continued from page 1

The SafeWalk organization, a group that escorts students back to their dormitory rooms late at night, is also on the alert for irregular behavior.

"If you look at the kind of crime that occurs on campus," said Johnson, "the most common is larceny, or theft, and it's almost always of unattended property."

For security reasons, Johnson declined to give specifics of the ongoing investigation. He said that some items have been recovered and returned to their owners, but encouraged students to report all thefts to the NDSP.

"We'd really still like to know about these crimes so we have an accurate picture of what's going on [around] campus and know how to assign resources," he said.

Johnson emphasized the importance of students monitoring their personal belongings.

"The first line of defense

among community members is to keep track of their property," he said.

He also encouraged students to report strange behavior.

"If you're going around campus and see suspicious activity, think things aren't right, give us a call."

At South Dining Hall, students leave their belongings unattended outside, providing criminals with easy targets. Few choose to take advantage of the free lockers available downstairs.

"Obviously people feel very safe, which is a great thing, but why leave temptation for people?" Johnson said.

He also noted that many students do not lock the doors of their dorm rooms — another place valuables are stored.

"People who lose their ID, wallet or credit cards have to be aware of having the information used for identity theft or financial fraud crimes," Johnson said. "It doesn't mean that it will be used, but the possibility exists."

Contact Kate Gales at
kgales@nd.edu

AFGHANISTAN

Two American soldiers killed

Associated Press

WASHINGTON—Two American soldiers were killed and two others were wounded in fighting Thursday in central Afghanistan, the U.S. military said.

At least five attackers were killed in the battle, officials said.

In a brief statement, U.S. Central Command said the American soldiers were accompanied by troops of the Afghan National Army when they were attacked by "anti-coalition militia" in a village near Tarin Kowt.

The Americans were not identified by name or military

unit.

Because of the location, the fighting did not appear to be directly related to reports that a senior member of the al-Qaida terrorist network, possibly Ayman al-Zawahri, had been cornered by Pakistani forces near the Afghan border.

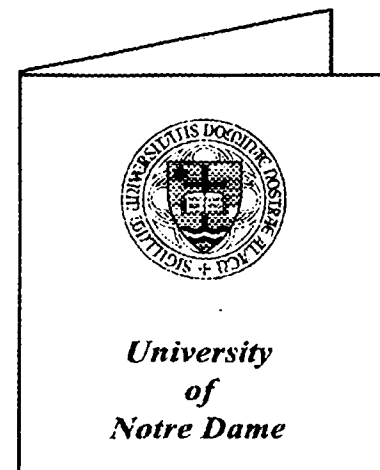
The battle in which the two Americans were killed happened in Oruzgan province on Thursday afternoon, the Central Command statement said. After being fired upon, the American soldiers fired back, killing at least five and wounding an undetermined number of others, the statement said.

The wounded Americans were evacuated to Kandahar airfield for treatment. The extent of their injuries was not disclosed. Their names were being withheld until relatives could be notified.

Central Command called the attackers "terrorists" but did not elaborate. Pentagon officials said there was no indication that they were part of al-Qaida.

The two soldiers' deaths raised to 114 the number of American troops who have died in Operation Enduring Freedom, as the war in Afghanistan is called by the military, which started in October 2001.

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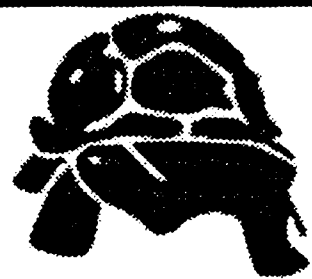
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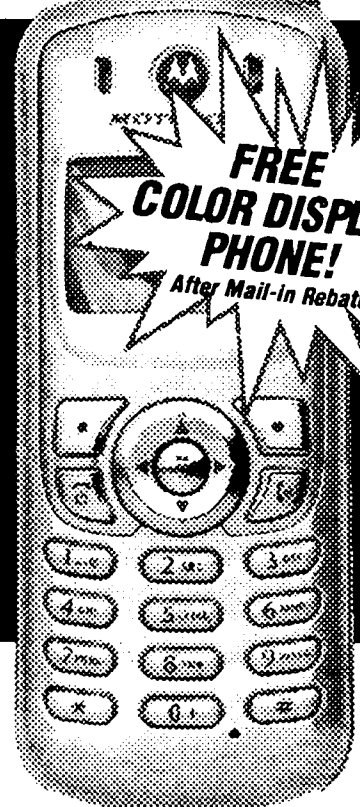
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MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	10,295.78	-4.52	
Up: 1,462	Same: 177	Down: 177	Composite Volume 1,334,412,928
AMEX	1,248.56	+9.76	
NASDAQ	1,962.44	-14.32	
NYSE	6,561.17	-6.55	
S&P 500	1,122.32	-1.43	
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	11,457.56	-26.72	
FTSE 100(London)	4,397.90	-58.90	
Commodities			
COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-0.96	-0.24	24.89
INTEL CORP (INTC)	-2.12	-0.59	27.20
ORACLE CORP (ORCL)	-2.03	-0.24	11.61
CISCO SYSTEMS (CSCO)	-1.04	-0.33	23.17
SUN MICROSYS (SUNW)	-2.80	-0.12	4.16
Exchange Rates			
YEN			106.9
EURO			0.8076
POUND			0.5455

IN BRIEF

Stocks react to terrorist capture

NEW YORK — Wall Street stumbled lower Thursday as investors wrestled with mixed economic data and news that Pakistani troops had cornered a key al-Qaida leader. Tech shares were dragged down by Microsoft's antitrust problems in Europe.

Stocks tottered in and out of positive territory after Pakistani officials said forces had surrounded Osama bin Laden's top lieutenant, Ayman al-Zawahiri, and possibly wounded him in a battle near the Afghan border.

But while the news temporarily checked selling momentum after two sessions of gains, it could not fully stanch the market's downward trend.

Investor confidence continues to sag on concerns about the sluggish job market, listless bond yields, inflationary pressures and political uncertainty at home and abroad.

"There are some who believe we've had a classic 10 percent correction and that this is a good buying opportunity, but I tend to think we'll see the market correct a bit more" said Michael Palazzi, managing director of equity trading at SG Cowen Securities.

U.S. charges China before WTO

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration announced Thursday that it was filing the first trade case against China before the World Trade Organization, charging that the Asian country is using its tax code to unfairly discriminate against American semiconductor manufacturers.

The action, the first case brought against China by any country since it joined the WTO in late 2001, is another step in the administration's effort to show it is taking action to deal with America's surging trade deficit with China, which last year hit \$124 billion, the largest trade gap the United States has ever recorded with any nation.

The U.S. trade complaint, announced by Trade Representative Robert Zoellick, contends that China is violating WTO rules against discriminatory treatment by providing a preferential tax rate for integrated computer circuits produced in China that is much lower than the tax paid by U.S. and other foreign companies.

EU, Microsoft settlement fails

EU leaders announced plans to sanction Microsoft Corp. over antitrust charges

Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The European Union announced its intention Thursday to sanction Microsoft Corp. after the software giant balked at demands that could have prevented it from adding new features to future versions of Windows — a restriction it avoided in the landmark U.S. antitrust case.

Frenzied settlement talks that accelerated this week with the arrival of Microsoft chief executive Steve Ballmer in Brussels collapsed over the EU's insistence on a broad deal in exchange for allowing Microsoft to avoid being found guilty of monopolistic behavior.

EU Competition Commissioner Mario Monti said he would now proceed with a precedent-setting ruling against the world's largest software company on Wednesday. The EU also plans to hit Microsoft with a fine expected to reach hundreds of millions of dollars.

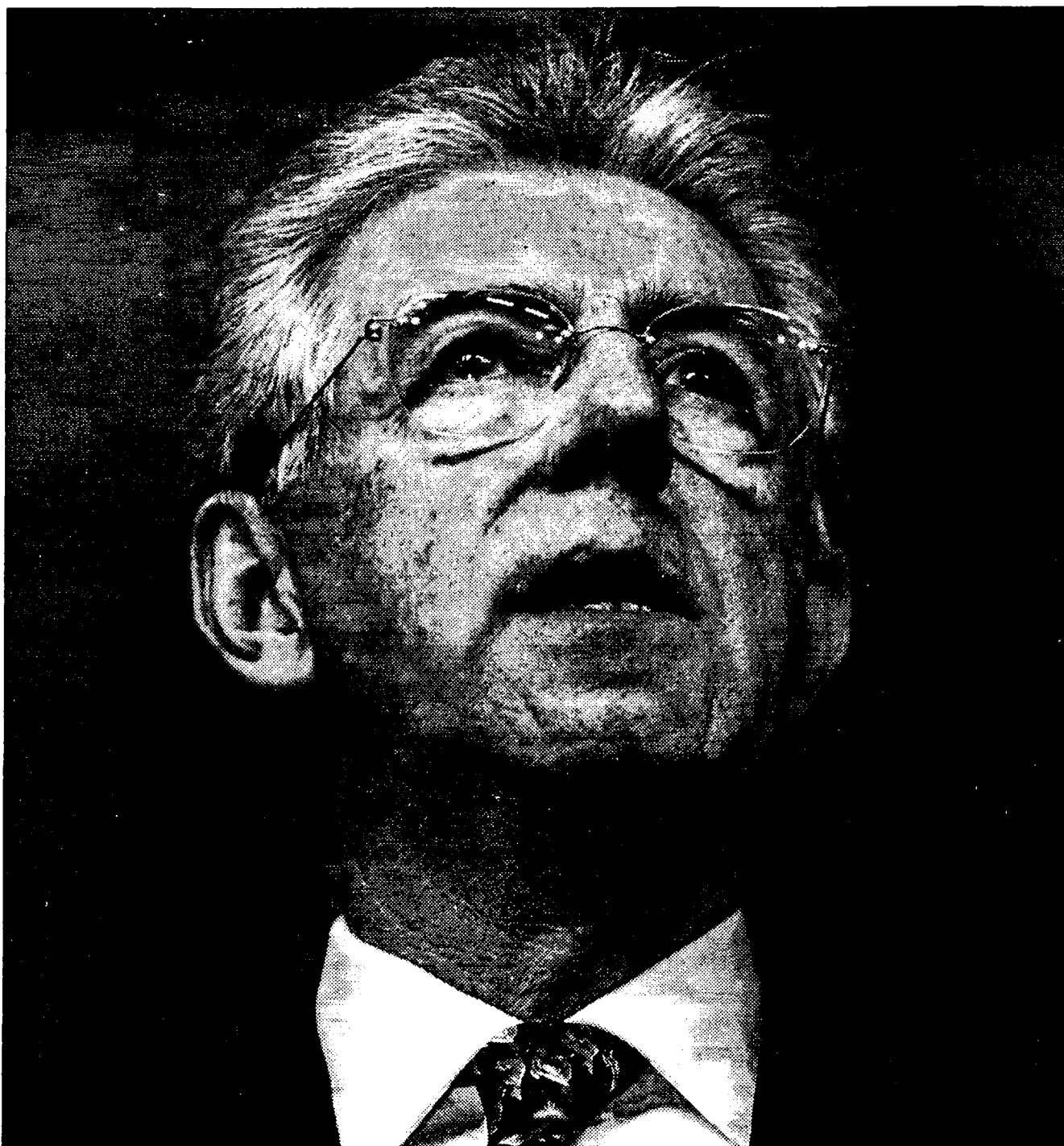
"We made substantial progress toward resolving the problems that had arisen in the past, but we were unable to agree on commitments for future conduct," Monti said. "It was impossible to achieve a satisfactory result in terms of setting a precedent."

Hours later, Ballmer said he believed the issues in the current case — involving digital media players and the server software market — had been resolved.

"But we were unable to agree on principles for new issues that could arise in the future," he said in a statement.

Microsoft lawyers said the company would appeal any negative decision to European courts.

An EU order could force Microsoft to make costly changes in its software — potentially on a global scale — in a matter of months unless it wins a suspension from the court pending appeal, which can take years.



European Competition Commissioner Mario Monti announces that the EU and Microsoft have failed to reach an agreement settling antitrust charges Thursday.

In afternoon trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market, Microsoft shares were down 44 cents, 1.75 percent, at \$24.69.

Monti will present the proposed fine Monday to an advisory committee of national regulators before going to the full European Commission, the EU's executive branch, on Wednesday for a final decision.

After winning unanimous backing from the 15 EU governments last week, the ruling is expected to pass easily.

Microsoft is accused of unfairly grabbing market share from rival companies by bundling its own Media Player with Windows — the operating system in nearly every personal computer worldwide.

Microsoft contends that benefits consumers, but rivals claim it is unfair competition that stifles innovation and aims to drive them out of business.

The charge was similar to the 1990s Internet browser war in the United States, where Microsoft was found guilty of using illegal means to protect its Windows monopoly. But a 2001 settlement with the Bush administration allowed it to continue integrating its Internet Explorer with Windows.

Sources familiar with the case say the EU's draft ruling finds Microsoft guilty of monopolistic behavior — setting a precedent in Europe — and goes beyond the U.S. remedies.

The EU is demanding that Microsoft offer computer

makers in Europe a discounted version of Windows without Media Player so that rivals like RealNetworks Inc. and Apple Computer Inc. have a better shot at reaching consumers.

In addition, the draft is expected to require the company to release more underlying Windows code so rival server software companies including Sun Microsystems Inc. can operate better with computers running Windows.

In exchange for a settlement, Monti was seeking commitments that could have affected Microsoft's business not just in Europe but globally — and helped to resolve other EU antitrust cases pending against the company, the sources said on condition of anonymity.

FTC shuts down 'Idol' phone scam

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal regulators settled a case Thursday with companies that took advantage of thousands of "American Idol" fans trying to vote for their favorite contestants on the TV show.

According to the Federal Trade Commission, three Utah-based companies bought dozens of phone numbers very similar to the toll-free numbers that "Idol" fans call to place their votes.

Viewers who misdialed and got one of the numbers were directed to dial a 900-number to place their

vote. A message on the 900-number then gave the correct toll-free number to call.

The FTC said about 25,000 consumers were charged up to \$3 per call during the 2002 and 2003 seasons.

The three companies have agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$40,000 for engaging in deceptive conduct and violating federal law, the commission said.

"These defendants tried to mislead fans of 'American Idol,' but found they got harsh reviews from the FTC," Howard Beales, director of the FTC's Bureau of Consumer

Protection said in a statement. "If you find suspicious pay-per-call charges on your phone bill, report it to the FTC. We are not fans of deceptive behavior."

The complaint names: Telemarketing Inc., which also does business as Univoxx; Apex Investments LLC, also known as Operator Directory Service and Northwestern Atlantic; and Universal Innovations LLC.

Apex and Universal have no phone listings, and could not be reached for comment. Phone lines for Telemarketing Inc. were busy for several hours.

Parade

continued from page 1

housemates at 609 St. Pete Street. "We just came up with the idea and it sounded like a lot of fun, and we wanted to get our friends involved."

Participant students said they began their parade around 11:15 a.m. on St. Peter's Street and made their way to campus via Route 23 and Notre Dame Avenue. Led by a banner that read "parade" and accompanied by four trumpets and a saxophone, the marchers were "singing, dancing [and] singing the fight song," said senior Chele Carney, one of the five musicians. When the revelers extended their march into DeBartolo, however, they were thrown out from the building — twice.

"I probably expected to be shooed out," Carney said, citing the fact that classes were underway.

The group entered DeBartolo through the doorway closest to the Mendoza College of Business, and they reached the middle of the building before being asked to leave, Carney said. The parade then proceeded outside and circled around to the most frequented student entrance, Daday said, where they stopped and played for an enthusiastic audience.

"Everyone was singing along and cheering," Carney said. "It was really cool."

When the rowdy paraders decided to re-enter DeBartolo, however, they were ejected for a second time, and NDSP officers arrived on the scene.

"We did answer reports over there," said NDSP director Rex Rakow. "I know there were people with open alcohol containers."

"We got names and we'll forward them on to ResLife," Rakow said, adding that NDSP did not file a report about the incident.

Senior David Harmon was one student given a ticket for drinking out of an open container.

"The cop came up behind me and grabbed my arm and took my beer and brought me over to his car," Harmon said. "He was pretty nice about it."

Harmon said he knew of another student who also received a citation for the same offense.

While Carney said many parade participants had consumed alcohol before the

march began, she said very few were drinking during the actual procession.

"I'd say not the majority [were drinking during the parade]," Carney said. "Maybe five or six."

Despite the clash with NDSP, however, a splinter group of paraders continued on to North Dining Hall.

"About half the group got left behind," said senior Will

Fayen, who continued with the parade to the dining hall — where their reveling resulted in ejection once again. The students said that, after entering the dining hall somewhat rowdily, they were warned to calm down.

"When we got to our table, one of the managers said we were fine and would not get in trouble as long as we kept quiet," Daday said.

Although students said they believed they altered their behavior, another staff member approached them and asked to see ID cards.

Students said they refused, an altercation ensued, and they were told to leave the building.

"There were some students that came into the dining hall that were very disruptive and intoxicated," said Dave Prentkowski, director of food services. "They were asked to leave by the management staff."

He said students are rarely removed from the for intoxication, especially during lunch.

"In 13 years, I've never seen it at noontime before," Prentkowski said.

The parade then dispersed, but students said they still considered the event a success despite the difficulties they encountered with security.

"I've always loved parades, since I was like four, and this was my first chance to be involved in one up close," Fayen said.

"I think it should become an annual tradition."

Contact Sheila Flynn at sflynn2@nd.edu

"I know there were people with open containers ... We got names and we'll forward them to ResLife."

Rex Rakow
NDSP director

"There were some students that come into the dining hall that were very disruptive and intoxicated."

Dave Prentkowski
Food Services director

Bust

continued from page 1

Burke, Keough sophomore David George, Knott junior Peter Mahoney and Breen-Phillips junior Tiffany Muller were all charged with minor in consumption and released from St. Joseph County Jail on a \$250 bond. Off-campus seniors Betsy Laydon and Katherine Murphy were charged with public intoxication and were released from jail on a \$150 bond.

St. Joseph County Chief Deputy Prosecutor Ken Cotter said that minor in consumption and public intoxication are Class B misdemeanors,

carrying a range of punishments if convicted, including a fine of up to \$1,000 and zero to 180 days in jail. Cotter said that probation is also an option, depending on the circumstances.

"[It] can be anything the court believes is appropriate — community service or counseling, especially for alcohol violations," Cotter said.

Cotter said the fact that the students were placed in jail as opposed to being issued a citation should not affect sentencing, because it is up to the discretion of the police officer when a misdemeanor crime occurs whether he will issue the citation or place the person under arrest.

The bond, minus a 15 percent processing fee, would be returned if students were found not guilty. Otherwise, it will be applied to court costs, which Cotter said are usually more than the amount of the bond.

LouAnn Susan, property manager for Paramount Management, the company that owns College Park, said Paramount likely would not take action against tenants as a result of the party.

"We are just hoping everything is okay with the gentleman that got hurt," Susan said. "Hopefully everyone learned a lesson."

Contact Scott Brodfuehrer at sbrodfue@nd.edu

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Panel

continued from page 1

that justice comes from recognition."

Notre Dame's March 4 refusal to grant similar recognition to "United in Diversity," a proposed gay/straight alliance, sparked passionate arguments and reactions throughout the forum, titled "The Catholic Church and Changing Times: Perspectives on Homosexuality at Notre Dame."

Sister Mary Louise Gude, chair of the Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs, said Catholic universities find themselves on the "horns of a dilemma" when making decisions about their policies on homosexuality.

"There is a real tension between educating young people to live and work in our society and treating them within the teaching of the Church,"

she said. "There really is a lot of goodwill, but strictures arise with the University vis-à-vis the Catholic Church and that's not about to change — but I firmly believe that creativity is the vehicle to success."

While several audience members echoed Gude's ideas and suggested creative approaches to achieving the goals of a gay/straight alliance without receiving official approval — such as continued publicity efforts by unrecognized homosexual student group OUTReachND and making the most of current Campus Ministry activities such as a monthly coffee hour — the overwhelming consensus among both the audience and the panel members was that recognition was irreplaceable.

"There's an emotional, impressive, symbolic meaning to approval," said Dan Myers, chair of the department of sociology, which helped sponsor the forum along with the departments of psychology and

anthropology, OUTReachND and the psychology club.

Ava Preacher, an assistant dean in the College of Arts & Letters, agreed that students would not, and should not, settle for less.

"Students want recognition, and there's no taking that away," she said. "We need to continue to raise awareness until awareness is so high that it cannot be denied."

Preacher also related a personal story as she extended the debate to another point of contention — the University's exclusion of sexual orientation from its legal non-discrimination clause.

When a fellow faculty member approached her with the idea of a forum to discuss GLBT issues a few years ago,

Preacher said this policy made her response discouragingly easy.

"I told her that the second we have a sexual orientation phrase in our non-discrimination clause, then we'll have our forum," Preacher said. "You

need to feel safe in your community."

Maureen Lafferty, an openly homosexual staff psychologist at the University Counseling Center, jumped in, immediately adding the community had been "not only safe — but validating and

celebrating of my experience."

"But we need that to happen for everyone," she said.

Current student body president-elect Adam Istvan and vice president-elect Karla Bell proposed a way to make the University community feel more welcoming from the bottom up, suggesting that all student clubs and organizations amend their own mission statements to include a promise that "students will not discriminate against students."

Istvan said the move would at least make student feelings of acceptance heard, if not recognized, by the administration.

"We've been given the strong indication that there will not be a student-run homosexual organization at Notre Dame as long as the current administration is there," he said. "Basically we've been told that it would be a meaningless effort ... but even if the admin-

istration won't change, it's the statement that counts."

Dave Wyncott, a former co-chair OUTReachND, strongly asserted his support for adjusting non-discrimination clauses on all levels and reiterated the need for a sense of safety on campus.

"It comes down to being able to say to your roommate, 'I might be gay,'" he said. Wyncott remembered attending high school in South Bend in the mid 1990's and then coming to Notre Dame in 1997, a time when campus tensions ran high about both official club status and the non-discrimination clause. He told the audience about a hunger strike, sit-in protests and spray paint and flier demonstrations to protest these policies.

"It was an awful place to be and it had been for an incredibly long time," he said. "There was a lot of anger on campus."

Most forum attendees agreed the University community's attitude toward homosexuality has changed significantly since those years of turmoil but said the administration has refused to change along with the community, and students had to take the lead in pushing for recognition.

Calling herself an "eternal optimist," Preacher expressed hope that official status would eventually be achieved, and closed the forum by setting a high standard for the entire campus to aspire.

"We need a widespread effort to teach respect," she said.

"Period."

Contact Claire Heininger at cheining@nd.edu

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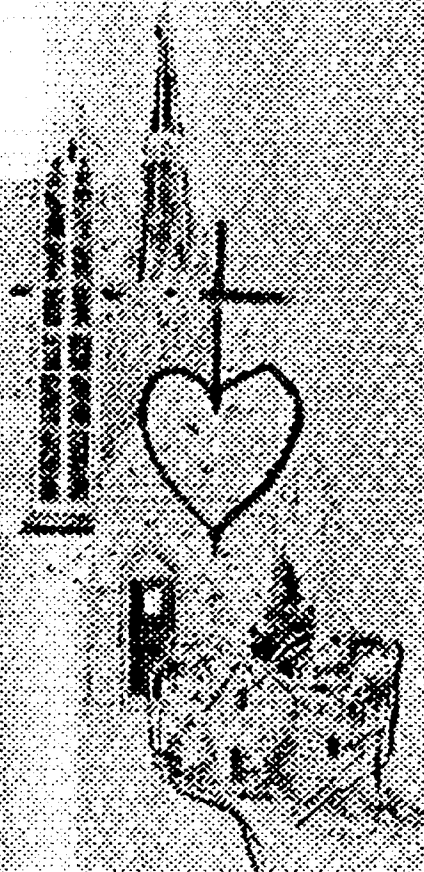
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The Scripture

March 19

An invitation to trust in God's love for you as the first step

The Prodigal (Luke 15, 1-3, 11-32)

Professor John Cavadini

March 26

An invitation to be freed from the past to live a new life

The Woman Caught in Adultery (John 8, 1-11)

Father Bill Simmons, C.S.C.

April 2

An invitation to understand the depth of God's love and the call to discipleship

The Passion According to Luke (Luke 22, 14-23, 56)

Professor Robin Darling Young

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Teen charged with attempted murder

Associated Press

MALCOLM, Neb. — A teenager was charged with attempted murder after police found him outside school with 20 homemade bombs, a rifle and a note saying he wanted to injure everyone at his high school except for three friends.

Authorities believe they averted what could have been the worst school shooting since the 1999 massacre at Columbine High School.

Josh Magee, 17, was arrested Tuesday in the parking lot of Malcolm High School after a staff member saw him swigging liquor from a flask and putting on a black overcoat.

Police who searched Magee's car found a bolt-action rifle, several rounds of ammunition, small bottles of propane and rigged containers of a petroleum-based propellant.

"It had the potential of going badly," said Superintendent Gene Neddenriep. "With this student, at this school, on this particular day, we were successful. We got lucky."

Parents and school officials in this tiny town north of Lincoln said Magee often spoke about Columbine, where Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold killed 12 students and a

teacher before killing themselves.

"He asked them in class last week if they knew who Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold were," said Julia Lostrah, whose daughter is Magee's classmate. "Then he said, 'I know them.'"

The arrest came in the same week that authorities in another rural town in the heartland avoided a potentially violent school encounter.

Two second-grade boys and an 11-year-old schoolmate were arrested Wednesday in Forsyth, Mont., on charges that they buried a loaded handgun in a playground sandbox and plotted to shoot and stab a third-grade girl during recess. Authorities said the boys intended to harm the young girl because she had teased two of them.

No one answered the door Thursday at Magee's red-brick home just down the road from the school in Malcolm, a town so small that its downtown streets are unpaved.

School and law enforcement officials said his mother works as a chef in Lincoln, and his

father is serving in Afghanistan in the military.

Magee, who has attended Malcolm schools since kindergarten, was always been on the district's radar, Neddenriep said.

"All the way through, he was just a little different," he said. "He liked to be alone, he didn't

take part in many things. His enjoyment was weapons."

The superintendent said he wasn't aware of reports that Magee was a target of bullies. "There were never any inci-

dents reported," he said.

When students began reporting to faculty that Magee bragged of making and testing explosives at home, Neddenriep said, the school paid close attention to the teen.

Magee then began showing some interest in school activities, he said.

Lostrah, who is also the school district's administrative assistant, said Magee joined the cross-country team and was an impressive musician.

"He was very talented," she said.

"All the way through, he was just a little different."

Gene Neddenriep
school superintendent

Second-graders plotted to shoot, stab classmate

Three minors arrested in attack plot at recess

Associated Press

FORSYTH, Mont. — Two second-grade boys and an 11-year-old schoolmate were arrested after they buried a loaded handgun in a playground sandbox and plotted to shoot and stab a third-grade girl during recess, authorities said Thursday.

Sheriff Tim Fulton said the boys intended to harm the young girl because she had teased two of them.

The plot included a .22-caliber revolver and a box of bullets that were hidden on the playground of the small school in rural eastern Montana, authorities said. One of the boys was carrying a knife.

The boys apparently brought the weapons from home to school on Wednesday morning, prosecutor Michael Hayworth said. The intent was to assault the girl over the recess hour that day, he said.

"You think about what could have happened. It could have been ugly," said Brenda

Stabelfeldt, who has a daughter in the fifth grade and went to the school over the lunch hour Thursday to give the girl a hug.

Fulton said a classmate of the two younger boys, both 8, was the one who alerted the school of the plot.

"I need to commend that young man for such a brave act," the sheriff said. "He saved the lives of who knows how many people."

The boys were identified in court records as Clint Cook and Levi Strait, both second-graders, and Blake Belgarde, a fifth-grader. They were charged Thursday in juvenile court with conspiracy to commit assault with a weapon.

In Montana, the names of juvenile suspects are public if the crimes they are accused of committing are felonies in adult court.

Forsyth is about 100 miles east of Billings. The school has about 200 students in kindergarten through the sixth grade.

"Needless to say, it is a frightening experience for a community and our schools," Superintendent Dave Shreeve said.

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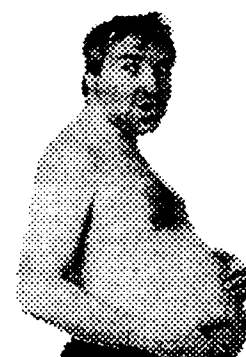


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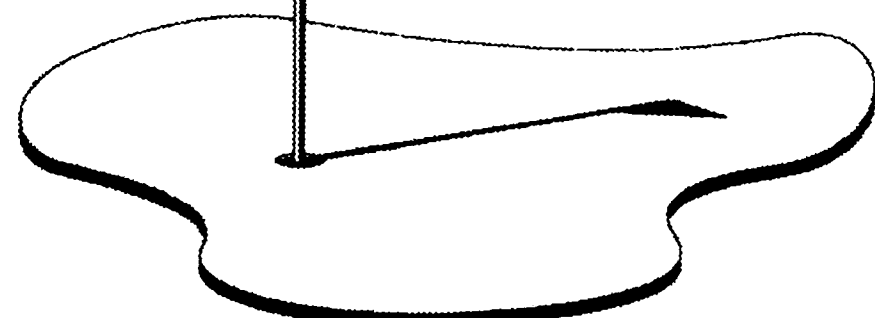
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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 12

Friday, March 19, 2004

THE OBSERVER

The Independent, Daily Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

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024 South Dining Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556

EDITOR IN CHIEF

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AD DESIGN MANAGER: Kelly Nelson

WEB ADMINISTRATOR: Todd Nieto

CONTROLLER: Paula Garcia

CONTACT US

OFFICE MANAGER & GENERAL INFO

(574) 631-7471

FAX

(574) 631-6927

ADVERTISING

(574) 631-6900 observad@nd.edu

EDITOR IN CHIEF

(574) 631-4542

MANAGING EDITOR & ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR

(574) 631-4541 obsme@nd.edu

BUSINESS OFFICE

(574) 631-5313

NEWS DESK

(574) 631-5323 obsnews.1@nd.edu

VIEWPOINT DESK

(574) 631-5303 viewpoint.1@nd.edu

SPORTS DESK

(574) 631-4543 sports.1@nd.edu

SCENE DESK

(574) 631-4540 scene.1@nd.edu

SAINT MARY'S DESK

(574) 631-4324 smc.1@nd.edu

PHOTO DESK

(574) 631-8767 photo@nd.edu

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TODAY'S STAFF

News

Joe Trombello
Scott Brodfuehrer
Amanda Michaels

Graphics

Graham Ebetsch

Sports

Chris Federico

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Nicole Clery

Illustrator

Katie Knorr

Kate Gales

Steve Coyer

Scene

Ken Dineen

Homosexual community deserves equality

They made their point. Now, will the University take action? Approximately 1,700 Notre Dame students and scattered faculty members joined together and wore blaze orange T-shirts Thursday that boldly stated "Gay? Fine by me."

Regardless of the individual decisions behind wearing the shirts, the collective message of support for homosexuals was unmistakable. The members of the Gay/Straight Alliance — also known as United in Diversity, an organization that was denied official University club status on March 4 — should be commended for their efforts to bring approximately 20 percent of the University together in a show of solidarity for a group whose place in the community has not always been clear.

No administrative stance in recent Notre Dame history has elicited such overwhelming numbers to contest it. The alcohol policy changes couldn't do it. Parietals couldn't do it. But injustice towards Notre Dame's homosexual community has.

The avenues currently provided by Notre Dame emphasize individual counseling, which serves to only further classify homosexual students as outcasts in the community.

Yes, the University appointed a Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs. Yes, the University provides homosexuals with Campus Ministry resources. But concerning both the official recognition of a student organization and the inclusion of homosexuality in the University's legal non-discrimination clause, the answer has been a firm no.

Now is the time for the administration to take notice of both of these issues, and deliver a long overdue yes.

The Princeton Review's recent distinction of Notre Dame as the most homophobic campus in the United States, therefore, seems to apply more to the administration that perpetuates this mentality on campus than to the actual students who try to curtail it and speak out against it.

The show of support Thursday began to dispel this sense of homophobia, but both recognizing a gay student organization and expanding the nondiscrimination clause are necessary to extending acceptance on that essential group level. After turning down United in Diversity, Vice President of Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman wrote that while he welcomes the opportunity to talk to students who proposed the club, he does "not want to create unrealistic expectations about the likelihood of a change in the decision about recognition."

Talk and good intentions will only take the University so far.

The Observer Editorial

Notre Dame aims to be the national leader among both Catholic and academic peer institutions. However, Boston College approved its first gay/straight alliance, Allies, on April 15. Duke University, the Princeton Review's last campus before Notre Dame to hold the "alternative lifestyles are not an alternative" distinction, initiated the T-shirt campaign. In a dialogue critical to the Catholic Church and the intellectual climate of the future, Notre Dame is falling behind.

The first step towards true progress lies in changing the non-discrimination clause. The Spirit of Inclusion statement that currently stands in its place walks a fine line — on the surface, it values gay and lesbian members of the community, but still reserves the legal right

to discriminate based on sexual orientation. The Board of Trustees voted down the expansion of the clause in 1997 and again in 1999 at a time when members of the community supported the expansion. Since then, Notre Dame's homosexual and support community have advanced even further, with Thursday being evidence that this marginalized group is gaining followers — and that students do not accept blatant exclusion, perceived excuses or silent ignorance.

Notre Dame's Catholic identity has been cited as the crux of University policy towards homosexuals. While Notre Dame's Catholic identity is central to its purpose, the University must also realize that it would not exist if it was not an academic institution first. And academic institutions at their foundation are open to free expression, intellectual growth and equality.

The arguably successful Notre Dame Queer Film Festival occurred in part because several departments courageously supported it in the name of intellectual expression and academic freedom. As the Festival proved, discussion of homosexuality is not limited to Church teaching. Notre Dame's administrative policies concerning it shouldn't either.

To further its Catholic purpose, Notre Dame aspires to promote peace, justice and reconciliation. But as long as it fails to promote acceptance, equality and recognition, the real ideals of Catholicism and intellectualism cannot be achieved. Gestures such as the Spirit of Inclusion statement reveal respectful intentions, but stop just short of a true justice and a true embrace.

Thursday, a sea of orange reached out with open arms.

The University should follow suit by accepting this diverse student group and giving them club status.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Classifying Adams as a terrorist is foolish

Before I begin addressing the points made by Derek Webb, I want to emphasize that I detest terrorism or violence in any circumstance. That said, Webb's letter concerning the visit of Gerry Adams is symptomatic of the foolish, moralistic approach to foreign policy promulgated by the Bush administration. Webb calls the IRA "a terrorist organization that has plagued the northern six counties for decades." This is an overly simplistic analysis of the group and is indicative of ignorance about the history of British occupation in Ireland.

For many years, Irish Catholics in the North of Ireland lived as second-class citizens in a Protestant-dominated society. Northern Ireland was designed to be a Protestant state for Protestant people. With the RUC and the British Army actively assisting Protestant thugs in their repression of Catholics, the Catholic community had no recourse but to turn to the IRA. The British Army had initially been sent to Northern Ireland to protect Catholics from loyalist violence. Instead, these soldiers massacred unarmed demonstrators in Derry on Jan. 30, 1972. The IRA began its campaign against the forces of the oppressive government because Catholic citizens had no one to protect their basic human rights.

I do not condone terrorism, but I certainly understand the plight of the Catholics of the North. My own father was born and raised in West Belfast and has had firsthand experience with the discrimination and hatred from the government there. I implore people like Derek Webb to stop seeing the world in black and white. Of course the Ulster Unionists do not support Gerry Adams; his very goal is to end their repressive hegemony and policy of discrimination in the six counties.

To exclude men like Gerry Adams from the peace process is absolutely foolhardy. Sinn Fein has become the largest nationalist party in Northern Ireland, and Gerry Adams, himself, has been instrumental in engineering the peace process, from the cease-fire of 1994 to the signing of the Good Friday Agreement. In order to achieve lasting peace in Ireland, the voices of all sides must be heard.

Brendan Magee

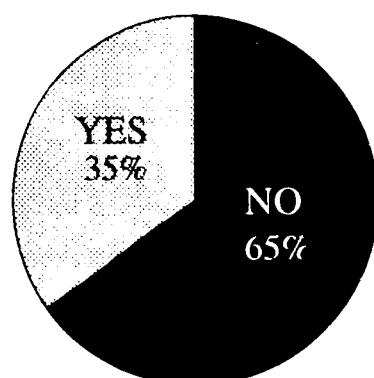
senior

Dillon Hall

March 18

OBSERVER POLL

Do you think Notre Dame should recognize the Gay-Straight Alliance as an official organization??



*Poll appears courtesy of
www.ndsmcobserver.com
and is based on 34 responses.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It is not fair to ask of others what you are not willing to do yourself."

Eleanor Roosevelt
American diplomat

Adventures in Welfare Radio

On March 31, the new liberal talk radio network, "Air America Radio" will debut across the nation, and I eagerly await the opportunity to listen.

The network is the brainchild of wealthy financiers, including Democratic National Committee advisor Mark Walsh and a number of anonymous donors willing to fund the venture even if it proves unprofitable. Essentially, they aim to put liberal views on "radio welfare," as some conservative critics have suggested. Liberals who dare not tune the radio to AM — unless the preset station is National Public Radio — can finally find a forum sympathetic to their ideology that was marginalized from talk radio years ago.

The explanation for why talk radio is dominated by conservative viewpoints is more complicated than some Clear Channel-led plot to only present conservative Republican viewpoints on the airwaves.

To be sure, during the mid- to late-1980s, talk radio had a small market of less than 200 stations nationwide that was diminishing as television news grew in popularity. A swarm of political correctness and unabashed liberalism was the tone of major newsrooms that were biased toward the Left not as a conspiracy, but because Democrats held such a vast majority in the newsrooms as they still do today.

On one occasion, Dan Rather reported, "The new Republican majority in Congress took a big step today on its legislative agenda to demolish or damage government aid programs, many of them designed to help children and the poor." His blatant partisan spin echoed the tone of so many networks' coverage of conservatives whose views are completely alien to their understanding of the world.

Such repeated incidents echoed a wider bias that only fueled the conservative talk radio revolution, largely led by Rush Limbaugh, whose incendiary show provoked calls to the police from citizens appalled by his complete disregard for political correctness. Limbaugh is a talented comedian and commentator, but he never would have succeeded in talk radio, a communications medium that seemed completely antiquated, if the television and print media took a more balanced approach to news reporting. His appeal resonated with that portion of the American populace that was disgusted by the condescending liberal attitudes that seemed all too transparent to conservative viewers.

As conservatives made inroads into talk radio, and the number of stations expanded toward the current number of about 1,200, liberal listeners flocked from the market. Instead of an organized conspiracy against opposing views, radio stations and their executives gave liberal talk show hosts plenty of opportunities in test markets where they could work

their way up to prime slots during the day, but the pool of primarily conservative listeners largely rejected their message, and few succeeded since liberal listeners had tuned out long ago.

The success of Air America Radio depends on two factors: first, it must be able to conjure actual entertainment while still projecting an air of intellectual capability; second, it cannot be too radically Leftist.

The first requirement will possibly be fulfilled by Al Franken, who once set himself at odds against Limbaugh and Bill O'Reilly, with his new three-hour show, "The O'Franken Factor." While he once was nothing more than a comedian with an axe to grind about the self-proclaimed voices of conservatism, Franken has devolved into just the type of pundit which he frequently lambastes. Few question his comedic talent, and his books are quite entertaining, but he must demonstrate the political acumen required to give a reasoned analysis instead of name-calling.

The second requirement is a task facing the entire Democratic Party today, which knows that the word "liberal" has developed a negative connotation in recent years. Many use the alternative label "progressive," which sounds more compassionate and hospitable though its agenda is essentially the same.

Even Democratic contender Howard Dean loved claiming to be a "fiscal conservative," and when the non-partisan National Journal rated John Kerry the most liberal senator in America, he responded that we "shouldn't use labels." Actress Janeane Garofalo, also set to host her own three-hour show, will face a challenge attempting to portray herself as a centrist Democrat when she comes from the Hollywood mold of rabid conservative haters. If she aspires to be a voice for mainstream Democrats, her

rhetoric, such as her straight-faced comparisons of Bush's regime to Hitler's, may require some toning down.

Predicting the network's success is a difficult task. If they can focus more on entertaining the listener through comedy and intellectual stimulation, they will succeed, and liberalism will regain a niche in talk radio. If the network takes a tone of condescension, strict political correctness and thinly veiled hatred, then its potential listeners will laud the effort but stick to FM radio. After all, radio listeners sitting in their office cubicles rarely wish to be treated to constant discussion of every social injustice from poverty to workplace discrimination.

Should the well-funded experiment fail to gain listeners and instead rely on donations from concerned liberal citizens, then Air America will live up to the name "Welfare Radio."

Bill Wrinner is a junior economics majors studying at the London School of Economics. His column appears every other Friday. 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.



A new train of thought

I suppose I should blame my parents for the fact that I was born with legs. Faulty genes are also responsible for my poor eyesight and probably my lack of coordination. But at this moment what I most bemoan is my bipedal existence. I am crammed in aisle 14 of a United Airlines 757.

John Infranca

Dissident Poetry

Thirteen aisles of "economy plus" are in front of me. Their ample leg room gave me a tinge of excitement that abruptly vanished when I arrived at my own seat in the first row of "economy minus." It is not actually called that, but it became apparent that the extra room for the passengers in front of me was provided at my expense, and that of the legions of fellow steerage passengers, as I folded myself into my seat. Perhaps I should stand so that the folks in "economy plus" can fully recline. Instead I sit quietly as the circulation in my legs slowly ebbs.

It was not always like this. There was a day when air travel was civilized. People wore ties, real meals were served, there were "lounges" on board and you could even smoke. Perhaps not all of these are substantial losses. Still, I can not help but feel that most flight experiences amount to little more than fragile struggles to maintain one's human dignity.

After nearly stripping to your boxers to pass through security, you shuffle down the aisle into your tiny seat. Often I am fortunate enough to arrive at my aisle seat with no one sitting next to me. The entire plane appears full, but I have found favor with the gods. As door to the gate begins to close, and I strike up a conversation with the attractive young woman in the window seat, I stare hopefully into a blissful future of delightful banter over complimentary pretzels and Bloody Mary mix. Then, suddenly, at the last possible moment, a rather large, hairy man in a tank top bursts through the plane's door. Slowly, he make his way down the aisle, looking intently at his ticket until, his journey complete, he stops at my row. And so it begins.

I feel partly responsible for this whole sordid mess: the meals you now have to pay for, the bag of pretzels that slowly grows smaller and smaller, creeping towards the day where it will be referred to simply as "a pretzel in a bag." The only thing airlines do not seem to skimp on these days is napkins. Every drink or snack inevitably arrives happily perched upon a napkin. During a recent flight I asked for a napkin and was given it on top of another napkin. It all seemed redundant.

I think that I caused all of this. My

searching the Internet for an incredible fare across the country for 200-something dollars might bear some connection to the cramped quarters in which I now find myself. Americans love to travel. We also love our space: our cars large, our recliners wide and our stomachs increasingly pronounced. But perhaps most central to our collective personality is the love of a bargain that keeps Target and Wal-Mart in business and situates us like sardines as we ferry across the skies.

There is an alternative that might combine our love of space with our desire to save money. Train travel is cheap and the seats are spacious. You can find more than ample sustenance in the snack or dining car and eat like a king with the money you save. Train travel is also remarkably more environmentally friendly than other modes of transportation. According to a recent article in Sierra Magazine, train travel produces on average one-sixth of the pollution per passenger per mile traveled of an airplane and one-third that for an automobile.

Train travel is also slowly becoming faster. While many countries have long boasted high-speed rail service, the United States has only recently begun to establish the infrastructure necessary to operate such trains. Amtrak's high-speed Acela train currently operates between Boston, New York and Washington, DC, and there are plans to develop similar service in ten other corridors across the country. In California, the state has provided significant funding for a fast train that would link major cities. The technology available for train travel is also rapidly advancing. Magnetic levitation trains, which average speeds of 240 miles per hour, are being developed and studies are being made regarding the possibility of such service along the East Coast.

Adequate support for train travel has, unfortunately, always been an issue. No passenger system in the world is profitable without some subsidies, but unfortunately highways and airlines in the United States receive far greater subsidies than train travel. Changing this will rely in part on increased support of passenger trains, both commuter lines like the South Shore to Chicago and longer service home on breaks via Amtrak. Such travel can prove to be more frugal, more civilized and more sustainable than air or automobile travel. It can also leave you free to stretch your legs.

John Infranca is a theology graduate student. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at jinfran1@nd.edu.

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

Howard's stories unfamiliar to younger readers

Comic writes about famous people he's met
throughout his life

By BECCA SAUNDERS
Scene Critic

Television head writer and stand-up comedian Trustin Howard knows famous people. That is the general gist of Howard's autobiography called "My Life with Regis and Joey and Practically Everyone Else."

Throughout the chronically unorganized novel, Howard takes the reader on an interesting, yet lengthy journey through his life working first as a comedian and then as head writer for "The Joey Bishop Show" (the late night show that competed with Johnny Carson's "The Tonight Show"). The book is a quick read and has some funny anecdotes, but overall it just seems like Howard takes himself a bit too seriously. So seriously, in fact, that he chose to write an entire novel on just that subject: himself.

"My Life with Regis and Joey and Practically Everyone Else" is generally one-third interesting, one-third boring and one-third just plain irrelevant. Howard has a voice in his writing, but he also jumps around a lot, with numerous chapters beginning "Which reminds me..." He then proceeds to jump into an entirely random story that completely disturbs any illusion of "flow" that the writing may have possessed.

Approximately 20 of the novel's last pages are dedicated to Howard's dealings with his comedian friend, Lenny Bruce. If you are familiar with Bruce or have seen him perform, these chapters may interest you. As for the rest of the readers, the story of Bruce is by no means one that is remarkable enough to elicit interest.

Howard is clearly of an age of older

Hollywood stars, which he admits in his novel. This reality makes it very hard for any college student who is not well versed in the players of an older generation of Hollywood to relate to and be interested in Howard's tales of meeting the "stars." A story pertaining to a show he wrote about Bette Davis is not going to impress any college student.

While most students recognize Carson's name, not many have a clue who Bishop is. Because of this generation gap, the book is harder to relate to for college students and is generally more appropriate for an older audience.

Howard's work is not entirely without merit. Besides going into two-page explanations of certain jokes he wrote for "The Joey Bishop Show", his explanation of the time he spent with the show is intriguing. Howard lets the reader into the world of a comedy writer who never knows if they are going to have a job in three weeks.

The reader sees the backstage reality of "show-biz," and Howard has a lot of great insights into the nature of "show-biz" and the ways it has changed. In one chapter Howard points out the difference between the need for raw talent today and in those old days when if you weren't quick and witty, you would be booted of the stage. He compares the two saying, "Today, you have non-talents painting their faces, putting on freak outfits, switching on some lasers and lights, singing the same one line of a supposed song about 58 times, mixed in with a couple of spastic steps, breaking a guitar or two and really overwhelming an audience of brain-dead children."

There are interesting insights of this nature throughout "My Life with Regis and Joey and Practically Everyone Else." However, there are also some extremely strange parts. On page 226 Howard offers tapes of some of his sci-fi shows on reincarnation, meditation and voodoo for \$25, along with his address so you can send the check there. He's unique, but not in a good way.

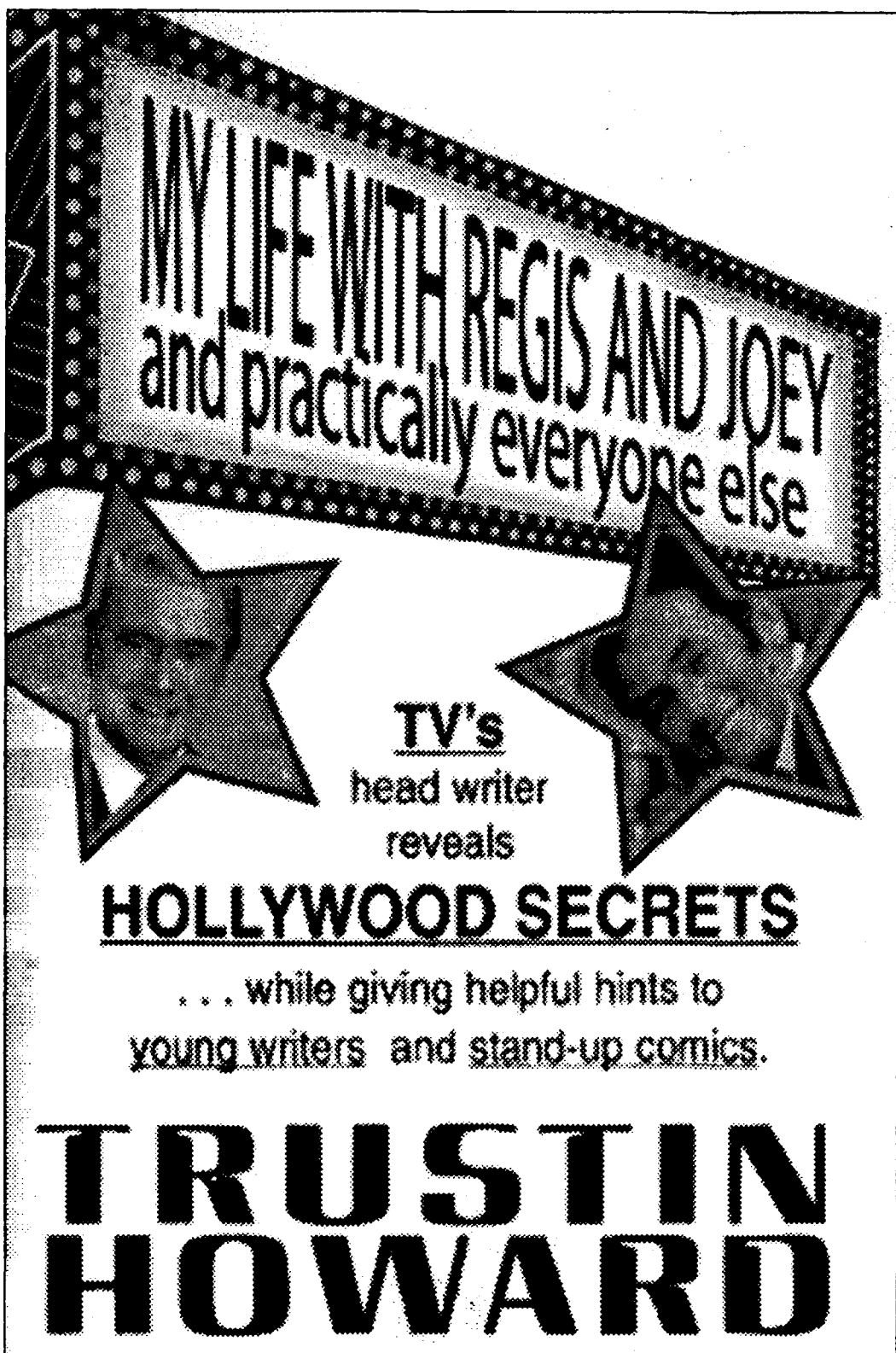
As the title promises, Regis Philbin is one of the main characters in the autobiography, and it does seem that Howard and Philbin were in fact good friends.

The University of Notre Dame even gets a mention while Howard is describing Philbin's parents. Regis is presented well and worked with Howard for a good part of Howard's career.

"My Life with Regis and Joey and Practically Everyone Else" is vaguely interesting and an overall quick read. Howard makes some good points here and there, but the majority of the novel is fluff about his life in "show-biz" and is generally not entertaining.

Howard's autobiography is worth reading if you are really interested in being a stand-up comic or working in the television industry. But if you are just looking for a good read or even some insight into the "real" Philbin, your time would be better spent watching him on TV with Kelly.

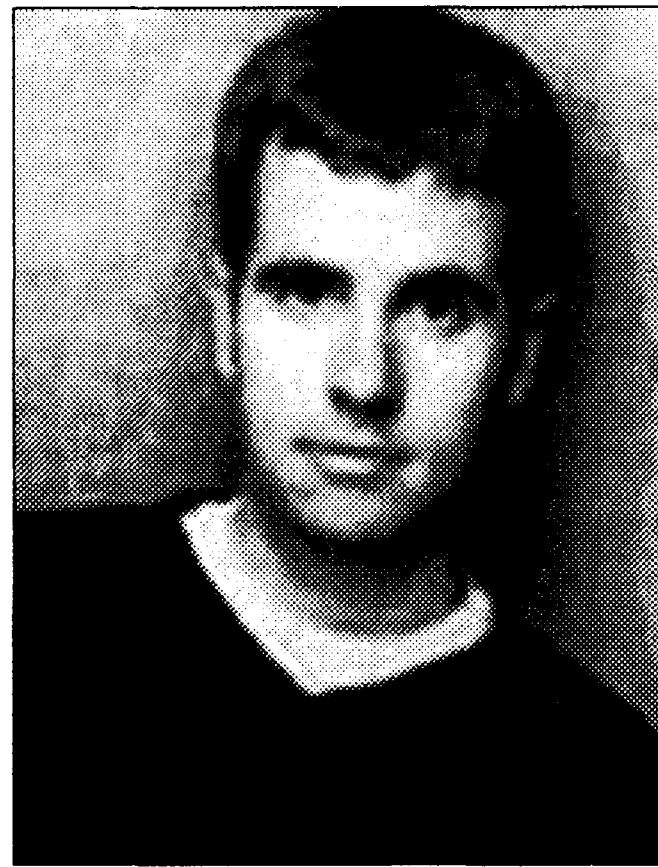
Contact Becca Saunders at
rsaunders@nd.edu



Trustin Howard's book gives an inside view of the work of a comic and Hollywood writer while revealing stories of the famous people he met along the way.

iIMPROVable makes fi to Notre Dame

By MARIA SMITH
Scene Editor



Agent D-Train
aka Dennis Otoole



Agent Cavalry
aka Mike Betette

For the past four years the improv group Mission iMPROVable has brought top-notch comedy to colleges around the country.

Although the Chicago-based group focuses mainly on schools in the Midwest, Saturday night will be the first time the artists will perform at Notre Dame.

Mission iMPROVable is scheduled to perform at 7:30 p.m. in DeBartolo 141. The show will be free and open to all students.

The fresh-faced young actors of Mission iMPROVable have been called "the Backstreet Boys of Comedy" and the "N'Sync of Improv." However, this group has also been praised for the intelligent, subtle and insightful humor that probably goes farther towards making them popular on the college circuit.

Since starting their college tours, the group has not performed regularly in Chicago. This is a change of pace for the members of Mission iMPROVable, who began their career in 1998 as regular performers at Improv Olympic. Improv Olympic, an organization that works with improv comedy much the same way that Second City works with sketch comedy, has helped start the careers of many prestigious performers such as Mike Myers and Tina Faye.

The six founders and six new members of Mission iMPROVable now alternate going on tours, sending five members of the group for every performance.

Mission iMPROVable is also working on turning their stage show into a television program. Original group member Aaron Krebs is currently living in Los Angeles to work on designing the show, and the group plans to send camera crews to some of their shows to collect live footage. The group is not yet sure when their show will air or which network will air it, but more information will be available on their Web site at www.missionimprovable.com.

Like many improv groups, Mission iMPROVable uses short games and audience participation to keep their shows lively. For an extra twist the performers take on secret agent names for the performance.

As with any comedy group, the interaction group dynamic is as important to Mission iMPROVable as the individual performers.

"It's about all of us setting each other up, so we all come out looking the best," four-year Mission iMPROVable member Sean Monahan said.

"I think we all just love taking the stage to make people laugh," Monahan said. "Our goal is to have as much fun as possible, because if we are having fun the audience will too."

Contact Maria Smith at msmith4@nd.edu



Young and energetic Mission iMPROVable stops at Notre Dame as part of its college tour. iMPROVable began with six members in 1998 and provides intelligent and insightful humor.

rst visit



Photo courtesy of missionimprovable.com

Agent Sling Shot
aka Sean Monohan



Photo courtesy of missionimprovable.com

Agent Sliver
aka Pete Shukoff

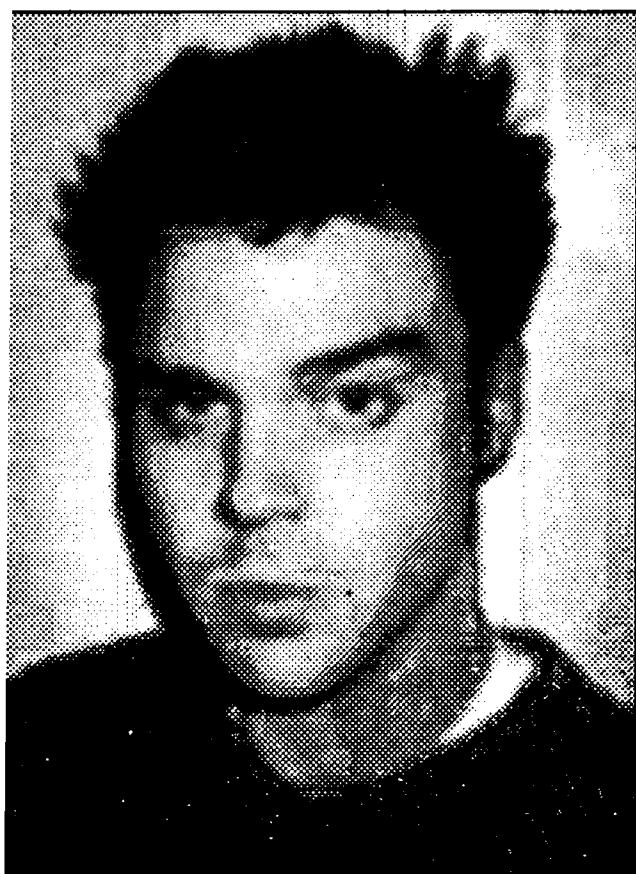


Photo courtesy of missionimprovable.com

Agent Chopper
aka Sean Casey

Goran Kralj comes to Legends

*Energetic Kralj will be playing songs off of his new solo album
Saturday night*

By PATRICK VASSEL
Scene Writer

Milwaukee, Wis. is not exactly the alternative music capitol of the world. For those in the alternative scene, however, a band emerged from the Brewery City in the early 90s and quickly established a reputation with heartfelt songs and a refreshing energy.

The band was The Gufs, and the lead singer and songwriter was Goran Kralj. After landing a deal with Atlantic Record in the 90s, the group released two albums, both of which received critical and popular acclaim across the country. With 10 years of experience, unbelievable live shows and solid albums recorded, The Gufs were flying high into the new millennium.

In 2002, however, The Gufs disbanded, much to the dismay of the legions of fans the group had acquired since they first started out. In the year that followed, Kralj realized he couldn't stop writing and still had too much energy to simply stop performing. Though the songs he wrote were all intended to be Gufs songs, Kralj realized the band just wasn't going to get back together. Quickly putting together a group of performers, Kralj decided to strike out on his own and continue with the sound he had developed with The Gufs over the last decade.

After a year of work the new band, called Goran, emerged with his first solo effort "Any Day Now." Fans of The Gufs will be pleased to hear many of the band's signature musical elements maintained in Kralj's sound. Most obvious is the distinct and versatile voice of Kralj. He has the ability to go from a quiet, almost raspy whisper, to an intense volume riding over guitar riffs. Many alternative critics complain of songs on an album all sounding the same, but Kralj has furthered his song-writing skills even from the best days of The Gufs.

The album is decidedly more upbeat than the second Gufs album, "Holiday From You." The songs are catchy without being tacky, and Kralj crafts pop melodies that match the versatility of his voice. From the mellow "Don't [let the sun go down]" to the punching guitar hook of "To Be Me," Kralj delivers an album that reminds fans of the best times of the Gufs, yet also distinguishes himself as a solo artist and an exciting new force in alternative music.

As Goran's Web site (www.goranmusic.com) describes, during the recording of "Any Day Now," Goran was so struck by the attacks of Sept., 11th, he released a song shortly afterward. The single "Where Are You Now?" combines Goran's almost haunting voice with the gorgeous accompaniment of a piano and cello to create a sound uniquely appropriate in memory of the victims. It also exposed many people to the artist who normally would have never known who or what The Gufs were.

In their biography section of the web-site, Goran describes the theme of "taking chances" that is heard throughout the new album. Though he continued to write after the break-up of The Gufs, Goran didn't think of picking up a guitar to play the songs until a college roommate insisted he try it.

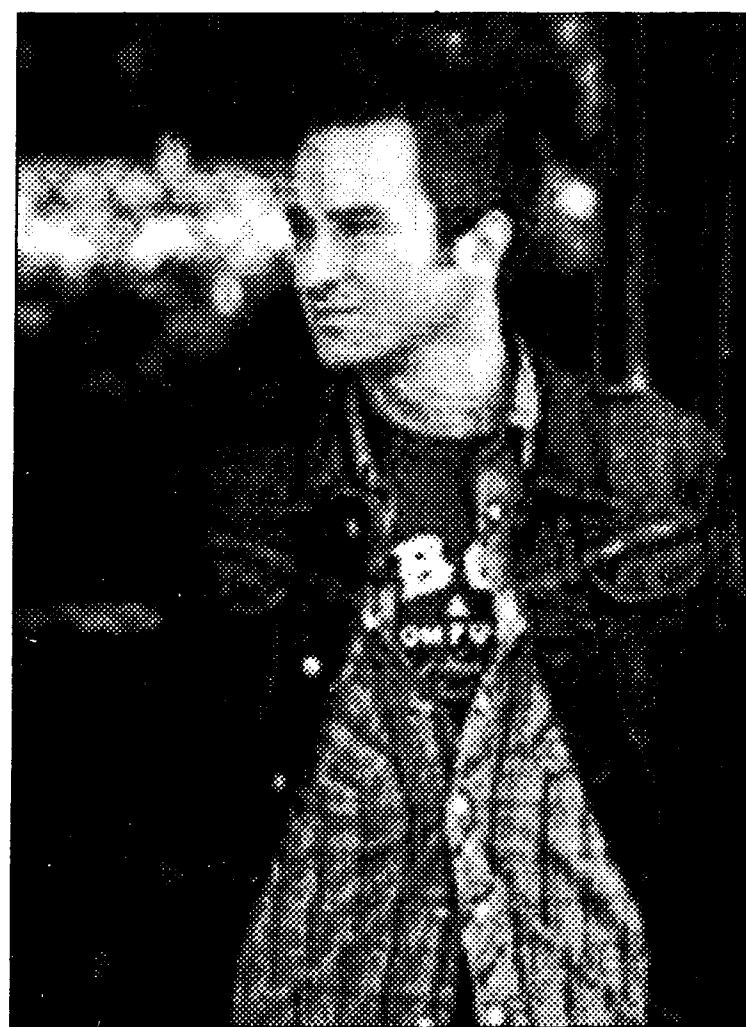


Photo courtesy of goranmusic.com

Former member of the Gufs, Goran Kralj recently released his first solo effort "Any Day Now."

"Don't be afraid of taking chances," Kralj says of the album and the songs he's written. "Ready to Fall" tells the story of a girl who consistently rushes into love no matter what has happened to her in the past. In "I'll Be Around", Goran sings of someone who gives up everything to be with the one they love.

The result of Goran's experience, his often surreal but always believable voice, his diverse and sincere songs, and an unmatched energy will be available in concert this Saturday night at Legends, with doors opening at 9:45 p.m. Followers of The Gufs were often known to follow The Gufs around the country, often seeing dozens of shows a year. Goran is guaranteed to show all those in attendance what it's like to truly connect with a musician. His energy in concert has been described as mesmerizing, spiritual and exciting. Goran is definitely one of the most exciting acts to come through Legends' new doors this year.

Fifteen years ago alternative music defined itself in Seattle, but today one of its most powerful voices is that of a kid from Milwaukee. Few can dispute his talent, and Goran hopes his new album and new life as a solo artist will only further the work he achieved with The Gufs.

Contact Patrick Vassel at pvassel@nd.edu

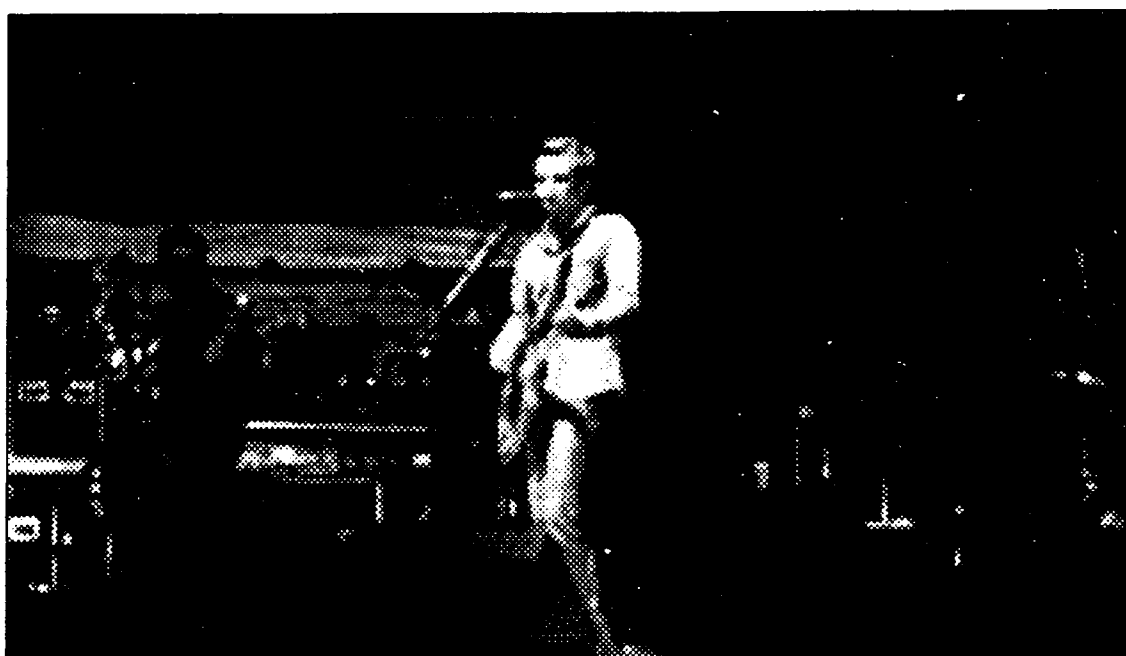


Photo courtesy of goranmusic.com

Goran Kralj performs at Summerfest in Milwaukee. Kralj will be playing at Legends Saturday night with doors opening at 9:45 p.m.

NCAA TOURNAMENT

Pattaway lifts Alabama over Southern Illinois

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Alabama coach Mark Gottfried predicted it would take an upset to beat Southern Illinois, even though his team was expected to win all along.

It sure felt like an upset in the end when Antoine Pettway hit a 6-foot runner with 5 seconds left and the Crimson Tide pulled off a 65-64 victory in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

Southern Illinois had a chance to win, but Darren Brooks missed a long jumper for the Salukis as time wound down.

The Crimson Tide (18-12) had to scrape just to make it in this year, finishing 8-8 in the SEC and losing to Florida in the conference quarterfinals.

"When you look at it, the only reason people expected us to win the game is because we play in the SEC and they play in the Missouri Valley," Gottfried said. "They're an excellent basketball team. Darren Brooks could be a great player in our league."

"It's a great win for our program."

Southern Illinois came into the game ranked No. 23 in the final Associated Press poll. The Salukis ran off 17 straight wins in the MVC before losing the regular-season finale to Northern Iowa.

The Salukis (25-5) lost to Southwest Missouri State in the conference tournament semifinals, but received an at-large berth to make the NAAs for a third straight season.

"We knew coming in that we'd be playing a great team. We knew they had a 25-4 record. We knew they had to be a good team," Pettway said. "We just focused on the Salukis and let everything else take care of itself."

Shelton scored 18 points for eighth-seeded Alabama, which advanced to face top-seeded Stanford in the second round of the Phoenix Regional.

Texas Tech 76, Charlotte 73

For one day, Bob Knight found something to enjoy about Buffalo.

Senior Andre Emmett and freshman Jarrius Jackson each scored 11 points to lead a first-half surge and Texas Tech held off Charlotte in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

The game turned out much better for Knight than his last trip here, when he lost to Pepperdine in his final game as coach of Indiana in 2000.

"I'm glad the outcome of this

game replaces the outcome of the last game in Buffalo," Knight said after the 43rd tournament victory of his career, fourth all-time and one more than Lute Olson and Denny Crum. "I feel pleased for our kids to have the chance to go on."

So did Emmett, who still remembers a first-round loss to Southern Illinois two years ago.

"It feels better than my sophomore year," said Emmett, whose steal and fast-break layup in the final minute turned out to be the game-winner. "We came in with a different attitude and were fortunate to come out with a win."

Texas Tech (23-10), the eighth seed in the East Rutherford Regional, will play top-seeded Saint Joseph's in the second round. Saint Joseph's beat Liberty 82-63.

Charlotte (21-9), the ninth seed, never managed to get its up-tempo game going, shooting 6-of-24 from beyond the arc.

Wake Forest 79, VCU 78

Chris Paul was in complete control in his first NCAA tournament game.

The Wake Forest freshman star had 22 points and made several key plays to lead the fourth-seeded Demon Deacons past Virginia Commonwealth.

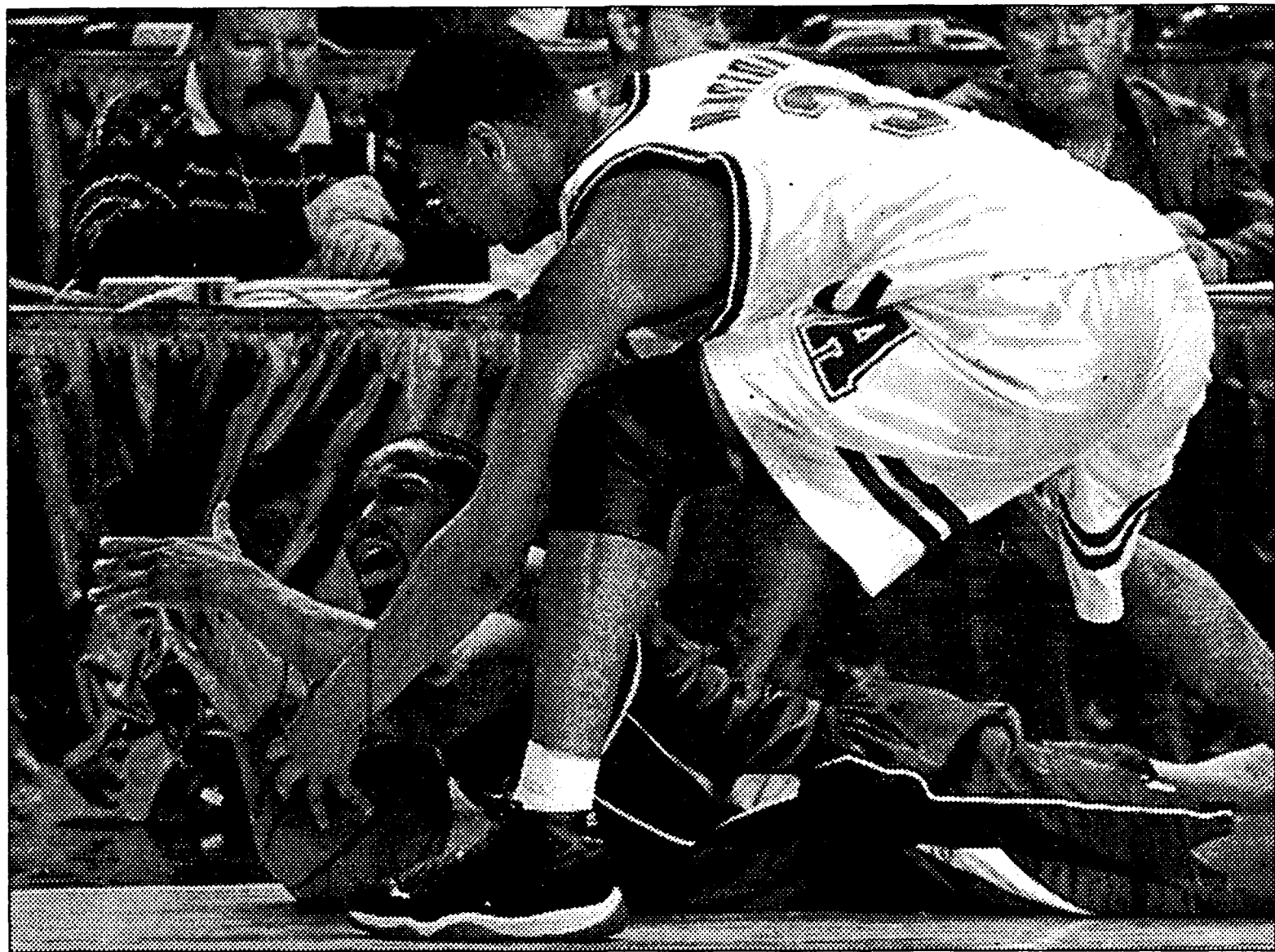
Justin Gray scored 15 points to help the Demon Deacons (20-9) advance to the second round for the third straight year. Jamaal Levy overcame a sprained left knee to add 10 points and 10 rebounds, including the go-ahead basket.

Wake Forest will face 12th-seeded Manhattan, a 75-60 winner over fifth-seeded Florida, in the second round of the East Rutherford Regional.

Paul assisted on Levy's go-ahead basket with a minute left and hit four free throws in the final seconds to help the Demon Deacons survive their second first-round scare in as many years. Last year, second-seeded Wake Forest held off ETSU 76-73 in the East Regional.

Paul — the Atlantic Coast Conference's rookie of the year — went 12-for-15 from the line Thursday, and had seven assists against two turnovers in 37 minutes.

"Coach (Skip) Prosser and my teammates have the ultimate confidence in me," Paul said. "A lot of times I say they have more confidence in me than I have in myself. At the end of the game, Coach kept giving me the ball, so I thought it was my



AP Photo
Darren Brooks of Southern Illinois battles Alabama's Kennedy Wilson for the ball in the first half of the first-round matchup Thursday.

responsibility to come through."

Domonic Jones had 22 points and seven assists for the Rams (23-8), who were making their first NCAA appearance in eight years.

Syracuse 80, BYU 75

Gerry McNamara added to his reputation as a clutch shooter — especially in the NCAA tournament.

McNamara hit nine 3-pointers and had 43 points, helping the defending national champions hold off pesky Brigham Young in the first round.

He made six 3-pointers in last year's championship game against Kansas and was even better in this one, finishing 9-for-13 for the third-highest total in NCAA tournament history.

"Gerry had as good a performance as I've ever seen in college basketball," said coach Jim Boeheim, who tied Denny Crum for 18th all-time with his 675th win.

"Gerry was just in another world today. I don't think you'll see the likes of that kind of game too many times ever."

Syracuse (22-7) shot 53 percent and got 20 points from Hakim Warrick but couldn't breathe easy against 12th-seeded BYU until McNamara hit three free throws in four attempts in the final 16 sec-

onds.

The Orangemen, the fifth seed in the Phoenix Regional, advanced to face Maryland in the second round Saturday in a matchup of the last two national champions.

They can thank McNamara, who made his first six 3-pointers and added three more in six attempts in the second.

"Right from the beginning, from that first shot I took, it felt good," said McNamara, who is 15-for-23 from 3-point range in his last two NCAA tournament games. "So when you have it, you have to roll with it. You have to keep throwing it up there."

BYU (21-9) got off to a strong start from the perimeter and had plenty of help inside from Rafael Araujo — 24 points and 12 rebounds — but still couldn't get past the first round for the fourth straight time. The Cougars haven't won an NCAA tournament game since beating Southern Methodist in the first round in 1993.

Duke 96, Alabama State 61

Duke came into the NCAA tournament dinged up and maybe a little bit vulnerable. Alabama State was hardly the team to take advantage of it.

Shavlik Randolph scored 20 points to help the top-seeded

Blue Devils beat the Hornets 96-61 and advance to the second round of the Atlanta Regional.

Duke (28-5) will play Arizona or Seton Hall on Saturday, where surely a better test awaits.

Alabama State (16-15), seeded 16th and ranked 230th in the latest RPI rankings, never had a chance in this one despite Duke's supposed shortcomings.

Malcolm Campbell scored 26 points to lead the Hornets.

Typical of many Nos. 1-16 matchups, Duke put in one of those performances that looked great in a lot of ways, but will also give coach Mike Krzyzewski just enough to worry about before the next outing.

Senior guard Chris Duhon started despite bruised ribs he got last Sunday in the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament final, a 95-87 loss to Maryland that added some questions about Duke's readiness for this tournament.

But all is not perfect there: Duhon, the emotional center of the team and possibly its best defender, barely played in the second half and didn't score at all.

His backcourt partner, J.J. Redick, was a mixed bag.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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Another Thursday goes by... without Scholastic. Does anyone remember the last time they published?

I just have one question... why?

Za delivers rule.

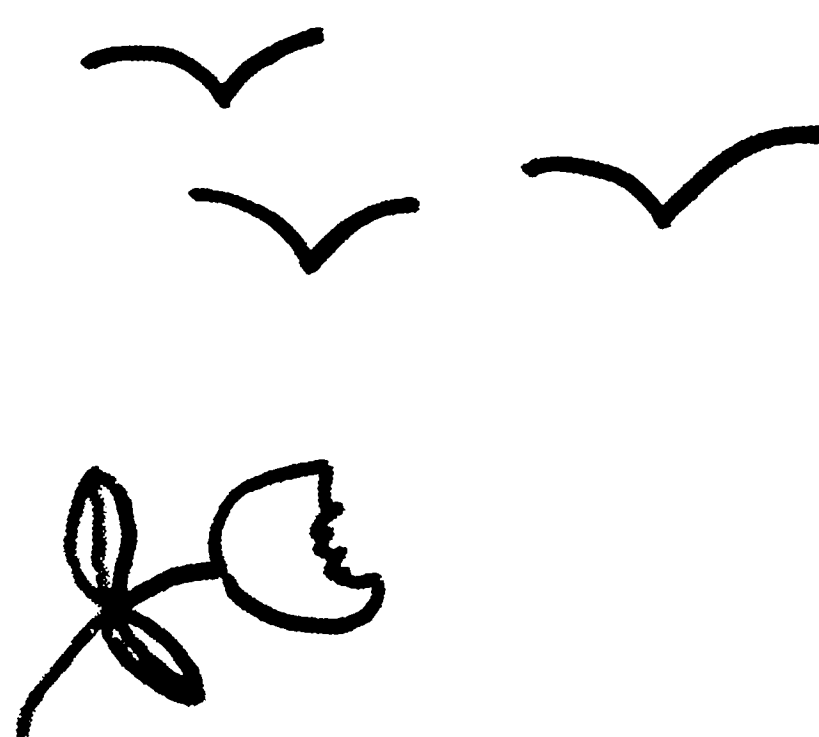
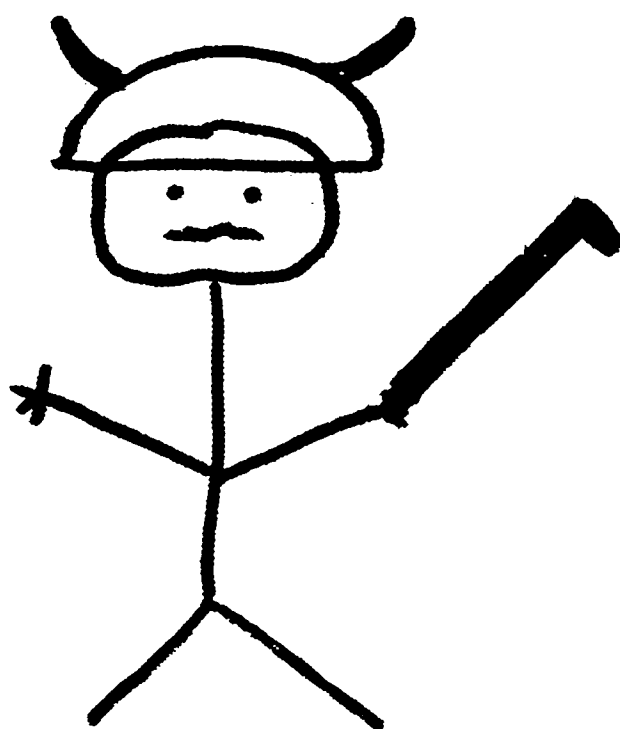
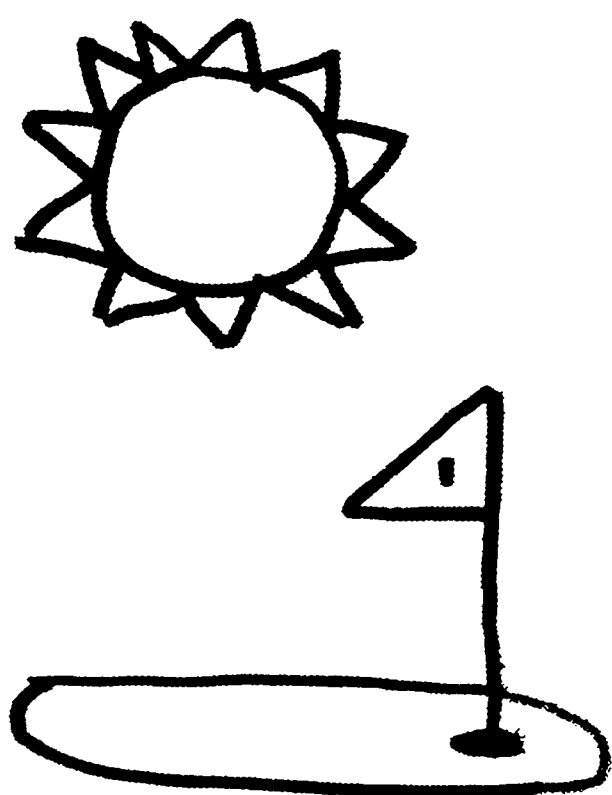
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AROUND THE NATION

page 18

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Friday, March 19, 2004

NBA

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
New Jersey	41-25	.621	6-4	-
New York	31-37	.456	5-5	11
Miami	31-37	.456	6-4	11
Boston	31-38	.449	8-2	11.5
Philadelphia	28-41	.406	5-5	14.5
Washington	21-46	.313	3-7	20.5
Orlando	19-51	.271	3-7	24

Eastern Conference, Central Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Indiana	50-17	.746	8-2	-
Detroit	43-25	.632	9-1	7.5
New Orleans	36-32	.529	4-6	14.5
Milwaukee	34-33	.507	4-6	16
Cleveland	31-36	.463	8-2	19
Toronto	29-38	.433	4-6	21
Atlanta	22-46	.324	3-7	28.5
Chicago	18-49	.269	2-8	32

Western Conference, Midwest Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Minnesota	46-21	.687	5-5	-
San Antonio	44-24	.647	6-4	2.5
Memphis	42-25	.627	8-2	4
Dallas	42-25	.627	5-5	4
Houston	39-27	.591	7-3	6.5
Denver	36-33	.522	4-6	11
Utah	34-34	.500	6-4	12.5

Western Conference, Pacific Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Sacramento	49-19	.721	6-4	-
LA Lakers	45-23	.662	7-3	4
Portland	34-34	.500	5-5	15
Seattle	29-38	.433	3-7	19.5
Golden State	27-40	.403	2-8	21.5
LA Clippers	27-41	.397	2-8	22
Phoenix	22-26	.324	4-6	27

Baseball News Top 30

	team	record	points
1	Louisiana State	15-2	496
2	Stanford	15-3	494
3	Texas	23-2	493
4	South Carolina	17-0	492
5	Arizona State	17-3	490
6	Miami	15-3	488
7	Rice	14-4	487
8	NOTRE DAME	12-1	486
9	Wichita State	6-0	483
10	Auburn	16-2	480
11	Mississippi	14-1	478
12	Florida	18-3	473
13	Texas A&M	18-2	471
14	Florida Atlantic	18-2	469
15	Long Beach State	13-5	467
16	Florida State	16-5	464
17	Tulane	12-5	460
18	North Carolina State	14-3	457
19	Tennessee	16-2	452
20	Virginia	17-2	449
21	Mississippi State	10-2	445
22	California-Irvine	14-5-1	443
23	Nebraska	8-4	440
24	East Carolina	16-3	438
25	North Carolina	12-4	431
26	Southern Mississippi	14-2	429
27	Oral Roberts	13-3	427
28	Lamar	15-4	424
29	UNC-Greensboro	12-3	420
30	Vanderbilt	13-2	418

around the dial

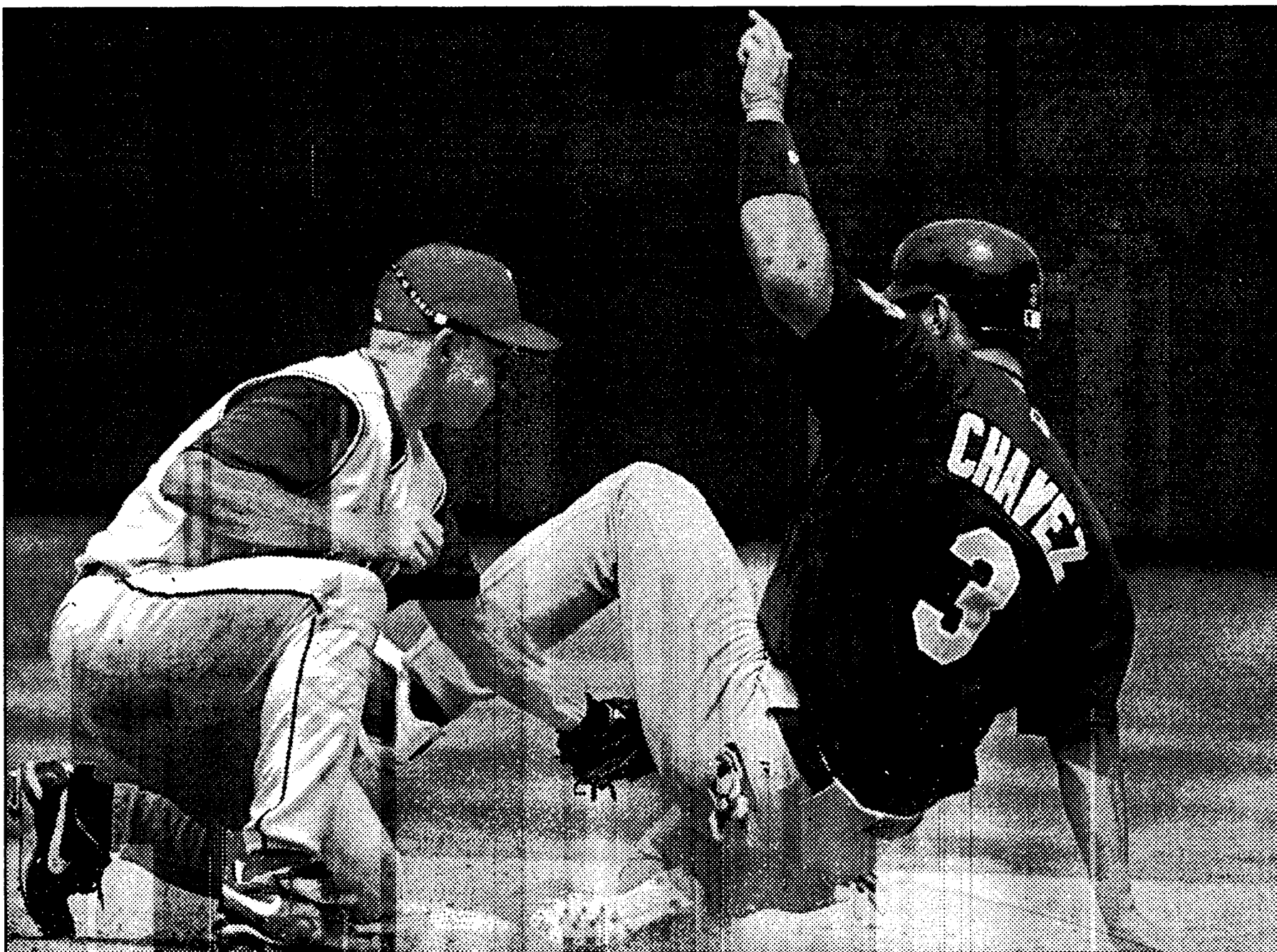
NBA

Boston vs Dallas, 8 p.m., ESPN
Houston vs Golden State, 10:30 p.m., ESPN

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Murray State vs Illinois, 12:25 p.m., CBS
Northern Iowa vs Georgia Tech, 2:50 p.m., CBS
Florida A&M vs Kentucky, 7:10 p.m., CBS
Central Florida vs Pittsburgh, 9:40 p.m., CBS

MLB



Darin Erstad of the Angels, left, tags out Eric Chavez of the Oakland A's during a game last season. Chavez received a \$66 million contract extension marking the biggest deal in A's franchise history.

A's sign Chavez to \$66 million extension

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Eric Chavez had no desire to follow Jason Giambi and Miguel Tejada out the Oakland Athletics' revolving door.

The A's finally retained one of their stars, signing the third baseman to a six-year contract extension worth \$66 million on Thursday. Though it's the biggest deal in franchise history, it's slightly less than the probable market value for a player with Chavez's combination of statistics, youth and potential.

But Chavez wants to be a leader and a cornerstone for the A's, who have won

three AL West titles during four straight playoff seasons — and he was willing to make a small financial sacrifice for the chance.

"It's a real honor standing here, considering the guys that have gone by, and I'm the one standing here," Chavez said. "It's kind of unbelievable, really. ... I'm grateful that they see me as a centerpiece."

Chavez, a three-time Gold Glove winner and the AL's top power-hitting third baseman last season, would have been eligible for free agency after the season.

But instead of allowing the 26-year-old infielder to follow MVPs Giambi and

Tejada out of Oakland, general manager Billy Beane worked out a deal with Dave Stewart, Chavez's agent and Beane's former teammate with the A's.

"With [Chavez], it was never about being the richest guy in the world," Beane said. "In my opinion, with all due respect to Mr. Rolen in St. Louis, this is the best third baseman in baseball. You're going to make us all look very bright over the next few years."

The deal includes a \$12.5 million club option for 2011 with a \$3 million buy-out. Chavez will make \$5.2 million this year under his

previous contract.

Manager Ken Macha, the A's bench coach for four seasons until his promotion before last season, gave Chavez what probably was his first major-league nickname: Will Hunting, after the math prodigy played by Matt Damon in his Oscar-winning movie.

"When you lay out all the ways he can impact a game, he's got it all," Macha said. "He's going to be a plus guy in the field." If I give him the green light a little more, he can steal in double digits, no problem. Obviously he can hurt you with the home run. He's got a chance to be a great player."

IN BRIEF

Cowboys finalize deals with Henson, Johnson

IRVING, Texas — The Dallas Cowboys finally acquired Keyshawn Johnson Thursday reaching agreement on a deal that will send Joey Galloway to Tampa Bay.

On the same day the NFL told the team it would approve their eight-year contract with quarterback Drew Henson, owner Jerry Jones said Dallas has a handshake deal to send receiver Galloway to Tampa Bay for Johnson.

Jones said the Cowboys had agreed on a handshake deal with Tampa that involves Dallas reworking Galloway's contract.

Johnson agreed weeks ago to a four-year, \$20 million contract with a \$4 million bonus.

As for Henson, the league approved the contract, but has not officially announced it within the NFL. It did inform the Cowboys, however, that it had been approved.

"We're pleased that the technical aspects of the league approving the agreement is behind us," Jones said. "We're all set here."

Henson is returning to football after three years of pro baseball.

Ellis fired as Auburn coach after 10 seasons

AUBURN, Ala. — Auburn coach Cliff Ellis was fired Thursday after 10 up-and-down seasons with the Tigers, who were shut out of post-season play for the second time in three years.

Ellis is the second-winningest coach in Auburn basketball history. He was with his team longer than any other current coach in the Southeastern Conference.

"I am aware of the many accomplishments of coach Ellis in his tenure here," said Auburn interim president Ed Richardson, who met briefly with the coach. "I appreciate what he has done with the program. It is simply time for a change."

Artest excused from Pacers practice

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana Pacers forward Ron Artest missed practice on Thursday, but will not be punished because the absence was excused.

Pacers coach Rick Carlisle said Artest missed practice to attend to family issues and would be in the starting lineup for Friday's game against the visiting Sacramento Kings.

"Everything happened today," Artest said, without elaborating further.

Artest was benched for the start of a game against New Orleans in February for missing practice while returning from All Star Weekend in Los Angeles.

NHL

Leetch's pair of goals lift Maple Leafs to victory

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Brian Leetch scored his first two goals with Toronto, lifting the Maple Leafs to a 3-2 victory Thursday night over the Philadelphia Flyers.

Ed Belfour made 26 saves and Gary Roberts added a goal for Toronto, which had lost six straight games against Philadelphia.

John LeClair and Kim Johnsson scored for the Flyers, who had been unbeaten in their past four games.

The Flyers outscored the Maple Leafs 15-2 in three wins this season. Belfour surrendered 14 of those goals and was

pulled after only 11 minutes in a 4-1 loss on Jan. 16.

But Belfour played well this time, carrying a shutout into the third period and stopping several shots in the final minute to preserve the victory.

Toronto took a 1-0 lead with 4:07 left in the first period on a short-handed breakaway by Roberts. With the Flyers on a five-on-three power play, a blocked shot by Leetch slid to Mats Sundin just as Roberts emerged from the penalty box.

Roberts broke free and lifted a backhander over Robert Esche for his first short-handed goal of the season.

Leetch, acquired March 3 from the New York Rangers,

made it 2-0 during a two-man advantage early in the second period with a low slap shot that beat Esche. He was screened on the play by Roberts.

Belfour preserved the lead with several tough saves in the second period, twice stopping Sami Kapanen and stoning Mattias Timander on a 7-foot wrist shot.

Leetch added his second goal 4:01 into the third with a slapper from just inside the blue line that Esche badly misplayed.

With Esche pulled for an extra attacker, LeClair rammed home a rebound on a power play for his 22nd goal. Johnsson took a pass from Mark Recchi and wristed it in to cut the lead

to a goal with 2:58 left to play.

Recchi and Tony Amonte had scoring chances in the final 30 seconds, but Belfour made a pair of saves to seal the game.

Esche lost for the first time in his last six starts.

Senators 2, Avalanche 0

Peter Schaefer and Wade Redden scored first-period goals and Patrick Lalime made 23 saves for his first shutout in over two months to lead the Ottawa Senators to a victory over the Colorado Avalanche.

Schaefer scored on a power play 12:31 in, and Redden beat goalie David Aebischer 59 seconds later to put Ottawa up by two at 13:30.

Lalime, beaten for five goals on 22 shots in a 5-2 loss Tuesday at Minnesota, recorded his fourth shutout of the season — his first since Jan. 13.

The Senators, who had lost two in a row to end a 2-3 trip, extended their home point streak to 22 games. They are tied with Toronto with 92 points, one behind Northeast Division-leading Boston.

Ottawa, which played its second of three home games in March, hasn't lost in regulation at home (17-3-2) since a defeat against Boston on Dec. 13.

Colorado lost its second straight following a four-game winning streak. The Avalanche, who lost 4-2 in Montreal on Tuesday, dropped just four of 36 road games through regulation before this three-game Canadian trip that concludes Saturday in Toronto.

The Senators converted their only power-play opportunity of the opening period after defenseman Rob Blake was penalized for playing the puck with a broken stick midway through the first.

With eight seconds remaining in the ensuing power play, Schaefer scored his 15th goal when Greg de Vries' point shot off a faceoff in the Avalanche zone deflected to him off the leg of Senators forward Chris Neil.

Redden scored his 16th just under a minute later when he jumped on a rebound of Jason Spezza's shot and caught Aebischer out of position to

score into an open left side.

Rarely tested through the first two periods, when Ottawa held a 23-15 shots advantage, Lalime came up with a pair of big saves while the Senators were shorthanded in the third.

Lalime stopped Joe Sakic while Colorado enjoyed a five-on-three advantage for 54 seconds after Senators defenseman Wade Redden was sent off at 7:23 while Radek Bonk was already in the penalty box.

Bonk had just returned to the ice when Lalime stuck out his right pad to deny Milan Hejduk's shot and rob the Avalanche of their best scoring chance.

Lightning 3, Sabres 1

Dave Andreychuk and Tim Taylor turned a little trickery into a game-winning goal.

Taylor snapped a tie 52 seconds into the third period, leading the Tampa Bay Lightning past the Buffalo Sabres.

Andreychuk set up the goal with a special faceoff play. Instead of pulling the puck back toward the point after winning the draw against Daniel Briere, Andreychuk sent the puck forward, went around the Buffalo center and sent a pass to Taylor in the slot.

"I can't give you the secret code," Andreychuk said. "We've tried it before a few times this year. It worked out pretty well for us."

Andreychuk won 13 of 18 faceoffs. Briere lost six of eight.

"He was beating me pretty much all night on the faceoffs," Briere said. "I tried to switch it up a little bit and try to be more aggressive. I'll take the blame for it. It was my fault on that goal."

Sabres goalie Mika Noronen went down to the ice thinking Andreychuk would shoot the puck.

"He made a great pass," Noronen said. "I couldn't get my feet under me. I was just trying to reach it with my stick and I just couldn't get there."

Martin St. Louis added an empty-net goal with 10.3 seconds left for his 86th point this season, tying Brian Bradley's team record set in 1992-93.

disability awareness

Notre Dame
Disability Awareness Week
 March 22-26, 2004

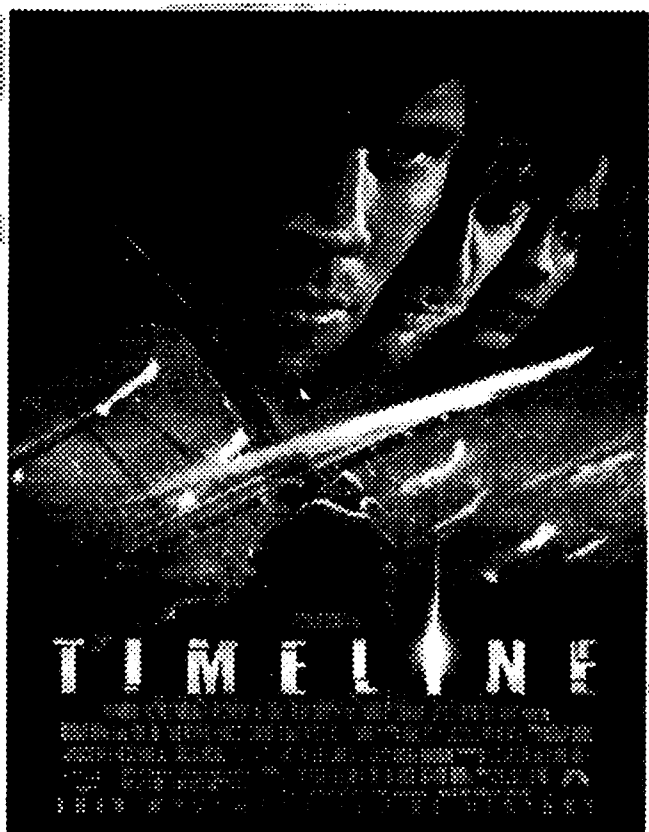
Monday, 3/22
 5:15p.m. Mass at the Basilica

Tuesday, 3/23
 8p.m. at Reckers **Panel Discussion** by students with disabilities

Wednesday, 3/24
 9:30p.m. at Legends **Theology on Tap Discussion**
 Is there such a thing as wrongful life?

Thursday, 3/25
 7p.m. at DeBartolo 101 **Autism Lecture** by Patricia Stacey, author of the book, *The Boy Who Loved Windows, Opening the Heart and Mind of a Child Threatened with Autism*. Free Admission.
www.nd.edu/~bbuddies

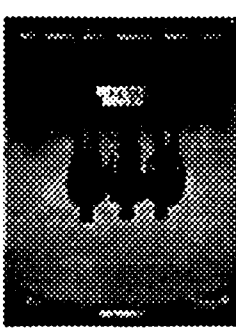





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Stop by the Student Activities Office, 315 LaFortune Student Center, email sa@nd.edu or call 631-7308 for nomination details

NBA

Nets score 71, still not enough to top Pistons

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The Detroit Pistons' five-game sub-70 streak came to an end, though the New Jersey Nets went a bit overboard in their attempt to halt it.

The Nets committed an intentional foul to stop the clock with 13.1 seconds left, and Aaron Williams made a tip-in with 1.1 seconds remaining in an 89-71 loss to the Pistons.

Williams pumped his fist after he scored.

"Maybe that was bigger to them than winning the game. That's what it seemed like to us," Rasheed Wallace said. "They were down there cheering, so hey, let them worry about that. We got what we came for."

Detroit gained a split of the season series and moved two games ahead of New Jersey in the conference standings — important if the teams, all but locked into the Nos. 2 and 3 seeds, meet in the second round of the playoffs.

Chauncey Billups scored 20 points, Rasheed Wallace had 16 and Richard Hamilton 15 for the Pistons, who held the Nets to 35 percent shooting, forced 17 turnovers and outrebounded them 47-37.

"They're not better than us," New Jersey's Kenyon Martin said. "They had a decent ball-game today, and we had some

careless turnovers, but they're not better than us by any means. Hopefully we'll see them down the line and show them who's the better team."

On the chalkboard in the locker room, Brown had written the message: "Make them a shooting team, not a layup team." He listed five keys to winning, including limiting the Nets' fast-break points and taking away their backdoor cuts and lob passes.

Detroit did not allow a fast-break bucket in the first half while opening a 19-point lead, nor did the Pistons allow the Nets to attempt much of anything from inside 15 feet throughout the game.

The Pistons' sub-70 streak was unprecedented in league history, as no team had ever done it three times, much less five.

Detroit's defensive intensity began to get to the Nets in the second quarter as they forced six turnovers in the first 5 1/2 minutes and began to pull away. A fast-break layup by Mike James produced the first 10-point lead, 35-25, and a 3-pointer by Billups completed a 25-6 run that put the Pistons ahead 48-29.

"There was a period in the second quarter when we defended as well as you could ever defend," Brown said.

The Nets had trouble closing the gap as the Pistons continued

to outwork them in the third quarter. Billups hit a 3-pointer for a 59-46 lead after Detroit grabbed three offensive rebounds on one possession, and the Nets didn't get their first fast-break basket until Martin's dunk with 5:03 left in the period.

Detroit took a 68-56 lead into the fourth quarter, and the Nets missed their first six shots.

Richard Hamilton ended a Pistons' scoring drought that lasted more than seven minutes by making a 23-footer for a 70-59 lead before Richard Jefferson hit consecutive jumpers to cut the Nets' deficit to seven.

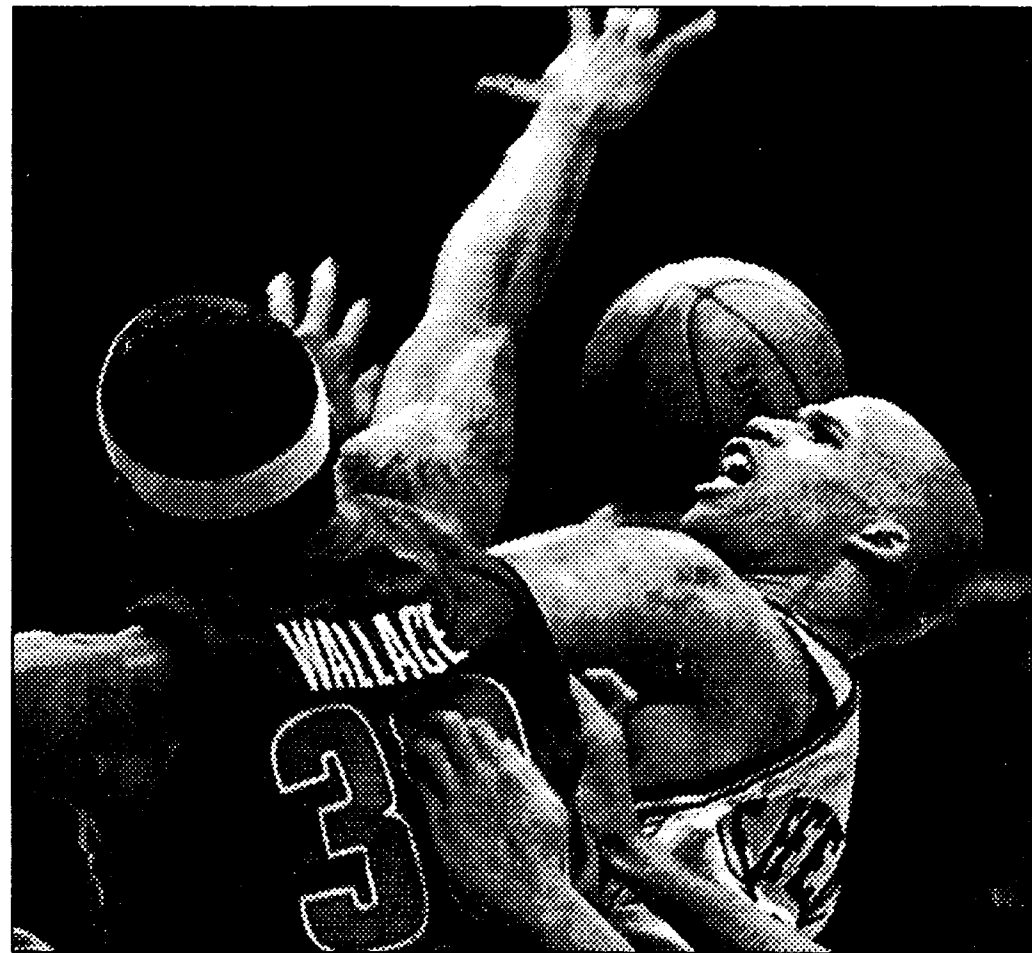
Rasheed Wallace answered with a 3-pointer, Ben Wallace stole an entry pass by Kidd and Corliss Williamson converted a fast-break layup. Ben Wallace then drew a charge against Martin, and Williamson scored over two defenders on a post-up.

The lead was back to 15, and the only question after that was whether the Nets would reach 70.

SuperSonics 97, Grizzlies 94

Vladimir Radmanovic and Ray Allen had 19 points each, leading the Seattle SuperSonics to a victory over the Memphis Grizzlies.

The SuperSonics led until the fourth quarter, when the Grizzlies staged 14-2 run to take a 78-76 advantage on a dunk by



AP Photo

New Jersey's Richard Jefferson attempts a shot with Detroit's Rasheed Wallace in his face Thursday.

Pau Gasol with 6:10 left.

Seattle regained the lead for good at 90-88 with 1:33 left on a jumper by Radmanovic.

The SuperSonics ended the scoring with two free throws by Antonio Daniels.

Gasol tried a desperation 3-pointer with about two seconds left, but the ball bounded off the rim.

Brent Barry had 13 points for

Seattle, while Rashard Lewis had 12 and Vitaly Potapenko added 11.

The Grizzlies were led by Gasol with 21 points and 15 rebounds. James Posey had 13 points for Memphis and Stromile Swift added 12.

The Grizzlies outrebounded the SuperSonics 43-33, but shot 43 percent from the field to 52 percent for Seattle.



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SMC TENNIS

Belles set to start conference play

By RYAN DUFFEY
Sports Writer

After going undefeated in conference play during two of the last three years, Saint Mary's looks to start off its season strong when it hosts Adrian College Saturday.

The MIAA league champion Belles have already had some non-conference and exhibition experience, but Saturday's match represents the first chance to begin defense of their title.

"It's our first conference match, and we want to start the season out positively," said sophomore Kristen Palombo, who won the No. 2 singles championship and earned All-MIAA second-team honors as a freshman last year. "Because it's been almost a week since we played, the important thing for us is to keep the momentum going from spring break."

Over spring break, the Belles

flew to Orlando for seven exhibition matches, including contests against some tougher Division I schools.

"We really worked hard during spring break," senior Jeannie Knish said. "I think we came together as a team, and we've gotten to know each other really well. I am pretty confident about this team right now."

Knish headlines the Belles' powerful squad as a two-time singles champion. She returns to her familiar No. 1 spot from last year and will look to live up to her status as a member of the all-MIAA first-team Saturday, an honor she has held the last two years.

"We've been practicing hard for our first conference opponent, and we're excited to get

started," Knish said. "We're looking forward to our first match on our home courts."

All the Saint Mary's players seem to be happy to be playing at home again. The question at this point appears to be whether the weather will allow it to be a successful one.

"We are hoping for good weather,

"Because it's been almost a week since we played, the important thing for us is to keep the momentum going."

Kristen Palombo
Belles sophomore

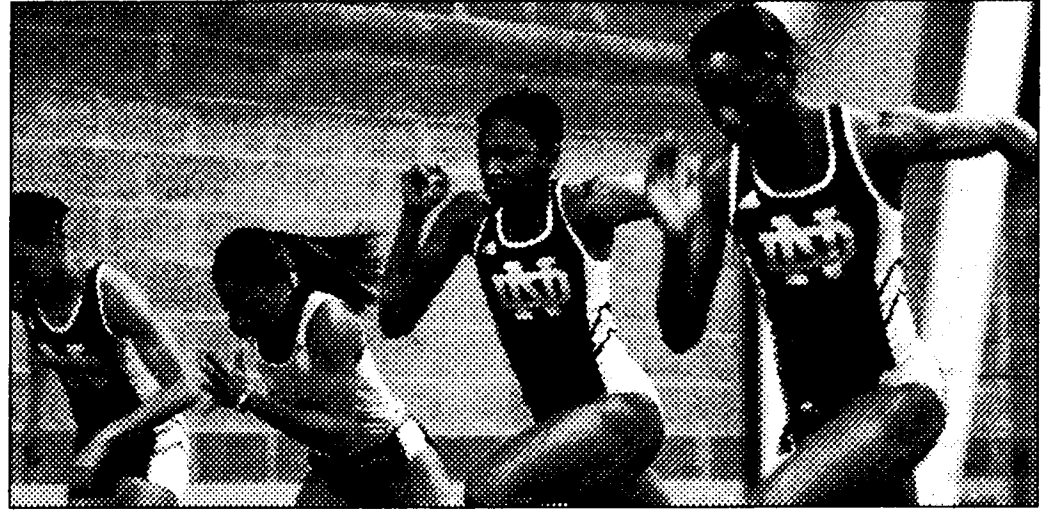
because it will make the transition from sunny Orlando to frigid South Bend a lot easier," Palombo said. "It's hard to adjust your game to such a big change in temperature."

No matter the weather, the Belles are eager to take their first steps toward another con-

Contact Ryan Duffey at
rduffey@nd.edu

ND TRACK & FIELD

Outdoor season will open for Irish runners



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Notre Dame runners start the 60-meter dash at a meet in January. They are set to compete in Arizona this weekend.

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame track and field team will forego the controlled temperature of the Loftus Center this weekend and head for the dry heat of the desert as they compete in the Baldy Castillo Open in Tempe, Ariz.

The competition will be the first meet of the outdoor season for the Irish as the team finished the indoor portion of their schedule last weekend at the NCAA Championships in Fayetteville, Ark.

Molly Huddle and Kerry Meagher were the only Irish to earn All-America honors at last week's meet, as Huddle placed third in the 5000-meter run and seventh in the 3000-meter race. Meagher was a seventh-place finisher in the mile run.

Megan Johnston, Kristen Dodd, Stacey Cowan and Lauren King also ran last week helping the Irish women to a 21st-place finish.

Selim Nurudeen was the sole competitor for the men, as the junior placed 15th in the 60-meter hurdles.

Arizona State will host this weekend's meet and Notre Dame is one of eight Division I schools participating. Among the competition will be Ohio State, Kansas State, George Mason, UC Santa Barbara and Northern Arizona.

The field should challenge the Irish as there are a few nationally-ranked competitors. One of the best races should be the women's mile as Northern Arizona's Johanna Nilsson goes up against Meagher and King. Nilsson took second-place last week and Meagher and King are expected to give her a close race this weekend.

Huddle will also be facing one of her rivals in Northern Arizona's Ida Nilsson. Nilsson, the sister of Johanna, finished third in the 3000 meters last weekend, four places ahead of Huddle.

Irish high jumper Stacey Cowan will try to outleap Kansas State's Morgan High. High finished three spots behind Cowan last week in 13th place.

Nurudeen will have a tough draw in the 60-meter hurdles as he runs against Richard Phillips of George Mason. Phillips placed sixth last week with a time of 7.72 seconds. Nurudeen ran the distance in 7.84 seconds.

This is the first of a pair of western road trips for the Irish, as they will head to Palo Alto, Calif., next weekend for the Stanford Invitational. The lone home meet for Notre Dame this outdoor season will be the Spring Opener April 3.

Contact Mike Gilloon at
mgilloon@nd.edu

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Cornett

continued from page 28

have a low-post presence again."

So confident is Brey in the sophomore forward — who played scant minutes in most Big East games — that the Irish are back to the point where they run their offense through the post.

And that's fine with Cornett, who is basking in the extended minutes he received in Notre Dame's Big East tournament loss to Connecticut and its NIT win against Purdue.

"If I'm on the floor, I want my teammates to depend on me," he said. "They know I'm not going to make too many stupid decisions with the ball. When I get it, if I'm double-teamed, I'm going to kick it back out."

That's what he did with devastating effectiveness in Notre Dame's 71-59 win against Purdue Wednesday. In between

banging bodies with a physical Boilermaker defense, Cornett grabbed six rebounds in 26 minutes on the court while impressing Brey with his ability to catch difficult passes from driving guards.

"Some of the catches he made of tough passes, scrapping them off the floor, were, quite frankly, amazing," Brey said.

After wins against DePaul and Connecticut, Brey thought that Cornett — considered by the coaching staff to be the most improved player in the off-season — had finally turned the corner that would allow him to be a major contributor.

Yet the sophomore still languished on the bench, pulled off the court for mistakes attributable to inexperience. Indeed, Cornett drew Brey's ire Wednesday when he launched an ill-advised outlet pass to Chris Thomas that resulted in an Irish turnover.

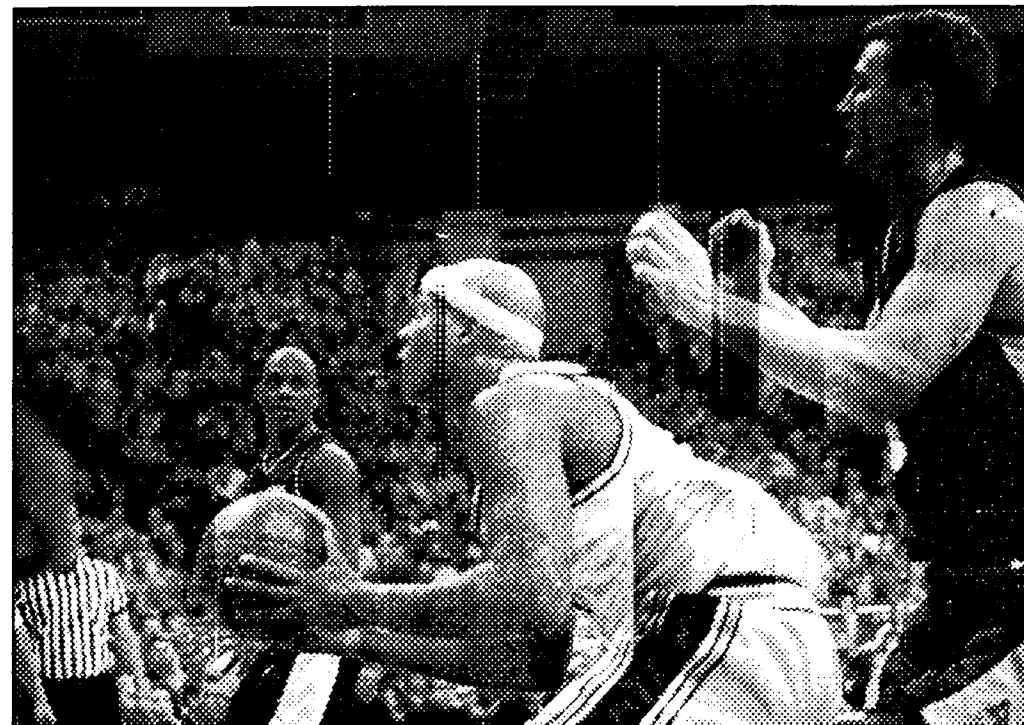
But now, the player who approached Irish coaches on

Super Bowl Sunday wanting more playing time has established himself with his actions, rendering pleas for more minutes moot.

Glances at the post-game box scores reveal Cornett's improvement. In his last two games, he has missed just one of 14 free-throw attempts. The sophomore has also been Notre Dame's second-leading scorer.

"That's one of the reasons I don't want to stop playing him, because he keeps getting better," Brey said. "I don't want to put the balls away because I want this young man to keep blossoming."

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu.



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

Notre Dame forward Rick Cornett looks at the basket in Notre Dame's 71-59 win over Purdue Wednesday.

HOCKEY

Komadoski captures Humanitarian award

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame defenseman Neil Komadoski was named the winner of the CCHA's fourth annual Mike and Marian Ilitch Humanitarian Award as the league's top citizen. Komadoski received the prestigious honor Wednesday night at the annual CCHA awards banquet held at the Fox Theatre.

Komadoski was recognized for his community service work performed in both the Notre Dame and South Bend communities. For the last three years, the senior defenseman has been involved with the Notre Dame Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), serving as chairman of SAAC's community service committee this year.

Last May, Komadoski represented Notre Dame at the 2003 NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Conference in Orlando, Fla.

Along with his teammates, the 22-year-old alternate captain has been involved with the

team's yearly pediatric Christmas Party, Christmas in April, Habitat for Humanity and the annual Downs Syndrome Buddy Walk.

The Mike and Marian Ilitch Award is presented each year to the league's top citizen based on their contributions off the ice as well as on, to his team, his program, his school and his community.

Earlier this season, Komadoski was named as one of 14 nominees for college hockey's Humanitarian Award that goes to college hockey's top citizen.

The league also presented its major awards Wednesday night with four members of the Irish hockey program being named finalists in their categories.

Senior defenseman Brett Lebda was one of three finalists for the league's top offensive defenseman award. Team captain Aaron Gill was a finalist for the league's top defensive forward and goaltender David Brown was one of three finalists for rookie of the year.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Irish off to best start in 8-year team history

Special to The Observer

The Notre Dame women's lacrosse team, off to the best start in the program's eight-year history, moved up to No. 3 in the national rankings after knocking off No. 2 Duke and No. 6 James Madison last week.

The Irish are ranked No. 3 in the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA) poll and third by Inside Lacrosse magazine. That is the highest ranking the Irish have ever had since the program started in 1997.

The previous highest ranking that the Notre Dame women's lacrosse team has had was No. 7 at the end of the 2002 season.

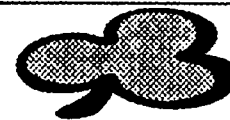
The Irish have won five straight games to start the season and have won four straight over nationally ranked teams through the first three weeks of the season. To date, Notre Dame has beaten No. 15 Stanford, No. 19 Cornell, No. 2 Duke and No. 6 James Madison.

Combined with four wins at the end of the 2003 season, the Irish have now won nine consecutive games.

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ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish positive despite slow start

By ERIC RETTER
Sports Writer

Irish coach Debby King still remains very optimistic about her women's golf team. Even witnessing them turn in their worst performance of the 2003-2004 campaign last weekend, King is still enthusiastic about her team's chances of competing in their first NCAA tournament.

"I still feel very confident about the season," King said. "I think we can make a nice recovery in Texas."

The Irish need to improve their play as they travel to Boerne, Texas, to compete in the prestigious Baylor/Tapatio Springs Shootout at the Tapatio Spring golf resort.

King's team will face stiff competition from 19 teams this weekend and 14 from their own central region. The Irish, ranked 50th in the most recent Golf Week/Sagarin

index ratings, will face three higher-ranked teams in Missouri (30), Baylor (39) and Indiana (46). Twelve teams in the field, including Notre Dame, can boast top-100 rankings in the Golf Week polls.

To improve on their eighth place finish last year at this event, the Irish hope for another strong Shootout performance from sophomore Katie Brophy, who led the team last year with a 19 over par 235 at this event.

"It's too early to say anything for sure right now" King said. "Katie's been playing really well."

King also had good things to say about freshman Noriko Nakazaki, who leads the team in stroke average, with just under 75 strokes a round.

"She's really been great for us," King said about her budding first-year star.

Rounding out her scoring five, King made some alter-

ations from last weekend's lineup, replacing senior co-captain Shannon Byrne and freshman Stacey Brown with sophomores Lauren Gebauer and Sarah Bassett, who both participated last weekend as individuals. If they play as well as they did last weekend, this move should strengthen the Irish team. Gebauer turned in a team-low 237 to tie for 19th, with Bassett right behind her tied for 24th after her 239, second best on the team. Junior Karen Lotta will also join them in competing for Notre Dame's scoring five.

The tournament begins this morning and will last through Sunday. Play will begin at 8:30 a.m. each day, with seedings and tee times for Saturday and Sunday determined by each team's standings at the end of the previous day.

Contact Eric Retter at eretter@nd.edu

ROWING

Spartans, Vols fall to women's crew team

By CHRISTINE ARMSTRONG
Senior Staff Writer

Over spring break, the women's rowing team kicked off its 2004 season with races against No. 8 Michigan State, No. 13 Tennessee and No. 18 Duke in Tennessee.

The team fared well against tough competition, which will continue as the Irish face a Top 20 team in every race this season.

On Saturday, the Irish won six races against the Spartans and Lady Vols on Lake Lanier in Knoxville, Tenn. Notre Dame triumphed in all three second varsity four races and won in each of the three first novice eight heats.

The Irish second varsity four crew of Caitlin Rackish, cox, Katie O'Hara, stroke, Danielle Stealy, Kristin Henkel and Tricia David won their first heat in 5 minutes, 17.62 seconds, over nine seconds ahead of Tennessee. In the second race, the crew beat the Spartans with a 5:21.38 finish. Finally, in the third race, Notre Dame's boat finished in 5:21.38, topping Michigan State's 5:29.29.

The Irish first varsity eight of Maureen Gibbons, cox, Natalie Ladine, stroke, Alice Bartek, Meghan Boyle, Rachel Polinski, Melissa Felker, Katie Chenoweth, Danielle Protasewich and Jacqueline Hazen gave the nationally-ranked Lady Vols a scare. Tennessee squeaked out a victory finishing in 4:36.53, two seconds ahead of the Irish.

Overall, Irish coach Martin Stone was pleased with the weekend's performances.

"I think the base pace of our race was our strength," Stone said. "The start and finish part were our weakest point of the race, especially against Duke. Our number one performance goal is to reach the NCAA's as a team. In order for that to occur, each person must make individual improvements to add to the team's speed."

Later, the Lady Vols once again snatched a victory away from the Irish, this time the difference came down to Tennessee's time

of 4:19.59 and Notre Dame's 4:20.67. The first varsity four crew of Kathryn Long, cox, Pamela Jefson, stroke, Meredith Thornburgh, Alyssa Close and Kristen Mizzi secured a second-place finish in all three of their races while the Spartans collected three victories.

"After spending all winter indoors, it was exciting to see how quickly we came together to face these teams," Irish captain Natalie Ladine said. "We have two weeks until we face Michigan. In that time, the coaches are working on lineups, and the rowers are working hard to improve each day."

On Sunday, Notre Dame's second varsity four soared to win the their race by more than nine seconds over the Irish's first varsity four boat with finishing times of 7:46.12 and 7:55.14, respectively. Duke followed in 8:04.87, and the third Irish varsity four boat of Shannan Lettieri, cox, Sarah Keefer, stroke, Julie Lewis, Ann Mulligan and Jana Miller took fourth with an 8:23.88 finish.

The Irish first varsity eight crew secured a close second second-place finish in 6:49.25, falling four seconds short of Duke's time.

The novice teams also boasted strong performances over the weekend. Saturday, the Irish won all three heats in their regatta against Michigan State and Tennessee, and the first novice eight was also victorious over the Blue Devils Sunday.

Notre Dame's boat of Eileen Froehlke, cox, Sarah Kate Hafner, stroke, Ariel Klingaman, Danielle Potts, Beth Hatch, Shannon Cassel, Sarah Shaw, Meghan Chidsey and Colleen McCotter finished in 7:14.19, while Duke's crew finished almost a full minute behind in 8:12.06.

Bridget Osetinski, cox, Audrey deGuire, stroke, Alicia Cooper, Samantha Glass and Kaitlin Sharkey of Notre Dame's novice four crew had a triumphant finished in 8:32.22, eight seconds ahead of the Blue Devils.

Contact Christine Armstrong at carmstro@nd.edu

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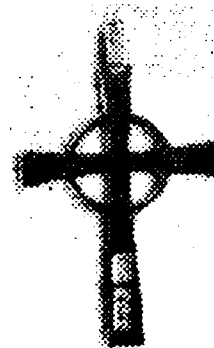
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SMC SOFTBALL

Belles come home for first series

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Sports Writer

Coming off a solid spring break trip, Saint Mary's will look to win its first home game of the season today, when they host Goshen College.

The matchup with Goshen will be the Belles' first of four non-league games before they begin conference play against defending MIAA champion Alma March 28.

"We are looking forward to playing Goshen tomorrow, because last year we dropped a doubleheader to them, and we played very poorly," Belles coach Anna Welsh said.

Following today's game, the Belles visit Rose-Hulman, St. Mary of the Woods and Purdue-North Centra.

Saint Mary's played well on its four-day trip to Fort Myers, Fla., going 5-2 before dropping their final two games to Ursinus College (Pa.) and Webster (Mo.). In their five wins, they outscored opponents 31-9 and had two shutouts in the process.

"Overall, I am pleased with the outcome of our spring trip. Each game we were able to turn into a learning experience, both

positive and negative," Welsh said. "If we can improve on the things that we didn't do as well and keep hitting like we did for the most part we are going to have a successful season."

The Belles are coming off a 15-17-1 record last year, where they finished sixth in the MIAA, going 4-8. The team is young this year, returning just four seniors. The rest are freshmen and sophomores.

Returning for the Belles on offense are seniors Marnie Welsh and Katrina Tebbe. Welsh batted .301 with three home runs and 13 RBI's in 21 games last season. Tebbe, who batted .276 and started all 19 games she played in, will look to improve upon her statistics in order to solidify the team's chances in the MIAA.

Possibly most important to the success of the Belles this season will be the continued development of sophomore pitcher Bridget Grall. As a freshman, Grall started seven games and finished the season with an impressive 2.76 ERA. Her 42 1/3 innings were second on the team only to Libby Wilhelmly, and her 25 strikeouts to only seven walks was best on the team.

Grall also batted .284 in 67 at-bats. Her 19 hits were second on the team to Welsh. These impressive statistics led to her selection as all-MIAA second-team in her first collegiate season.

Wilhelmly led the Belles last year in innings, strikeouts and wins and was 4-5 with a 4.29 ERA in 56 2/3 innings.

Welsh is optimistic heading into this season, but said the Belles need more offensive to be victorious.

"It's hard to expect a pitcher to hold teams scoreless when we don't produce offensively. That is something we are really going to focus on for [Goshen] and the rest of the games," Welsh said. "If we can put seven innings together offensively and defensively, then we will be hard to beat."

Today's first pitch between Saint Mary's and Goshen will be at 3 p.m.

Contact Bobby Griffin at
griffi3@nd.edu

MEN'S LACROSSE

Tough schedule continues to challenge No. 10 Irish

By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer

After an impressive win over Penn State to begin the regular season, the Irish suddenly find themselves in a bit of a slump.

The season-opening win over Penn State shot the Irish to No. 5 in the national rankings. Unfortunately, the team has fallen since then to two top-10 teams that have dropped the Irish to No. 10 in the nation. No. 3 Syracuse handed the Irish their first loss of the season with a 19-13 defeat. Four days later, No. 9 North Carolina defeated Notre Dame 14-11.

This weekend, the Irish are facing their fourth consecutive top-20 ranked opponent. No. 16 Loyola University in Baltimore will challenge the Irish after dropping its latest match to Duke 11-3.

Loyola's top players include Stephen Brundage, who has scored eight points in three games. Other notable players include Matt Cassalia and Andrew Spack who have won 41-of-61 face-offs for the team.

Notre Dame has several notable players including All-American attack Pat Walsh. Walsh contributed three goals and three assists against North Carolina. Other key players that have helped the Irish this season are Matt Howell, Matt Karweck and Matt Ryan. All three players combined for six goals against North Carolina.

Notre Dame must win in order to position themselves for postseason play. Although it is still early in the season, only 16 teams make the play-offs every season.

Contact Dan Tapetillo at
jtapetil@nd.edu

Beyond Liberty and Equality: Some Confucian Reflections on the Place of the Family in Health Care

Friday, March 19, 2004

This presentation defends a strong role for family autonomy in medical decision-making. It draws on a Confucian appreciation of the interplay among social bonds, rituals, virtues, and responsibilities. The goal is to bring you to appreciate a moral vision in which families have the authority to determine the health care of their members.

This vision is in dramatic tension with the individualist view of liberty in-force in the 20th century. By making liberty itself a value, not liberty as a means to achieving the good and human flourishing, this individualist view offered each person the opportunity to define her own version of self-satisfaction and self-realization and has been core to American bioethics and its understandings of informed consent. The state has been assigned the moral authority to ensure every individual equal opportunity for self-realization through state-imposed strategies, including welfare programs. However, a robust understanding of the integrity and autonomy of families threatens equality health care. Families tend to develop hierarchies and embrace illiberal values; most of all, families want their own members to flourish and behave as the family sees fit, not the individual. Accordingly, this individualist view of liberty and equality and its practice downplays the role of the family in health care.

This presentation invites you to reconsider key elements in this standard American individualist account of bioethics. First, you are encouraged to undertake an evaluation of the individualist commitment to liberty and free choice. Second, you are invited to critically reconsider your commitments to fair equality of opportunity. This will be done by rehearsing the incompatibility of a sincere commitment to the integrity and autonomy of families and a commitment to regnant Western understandings of liberal social-democratic justice. Finally, these critical considerations regarding liberty and equality will be tied to an account of familist informed decision-making, drawing heavily on Confucian moral and social insights.

Keynote Presenter
Ruiping Fan, BM, Ph.D.



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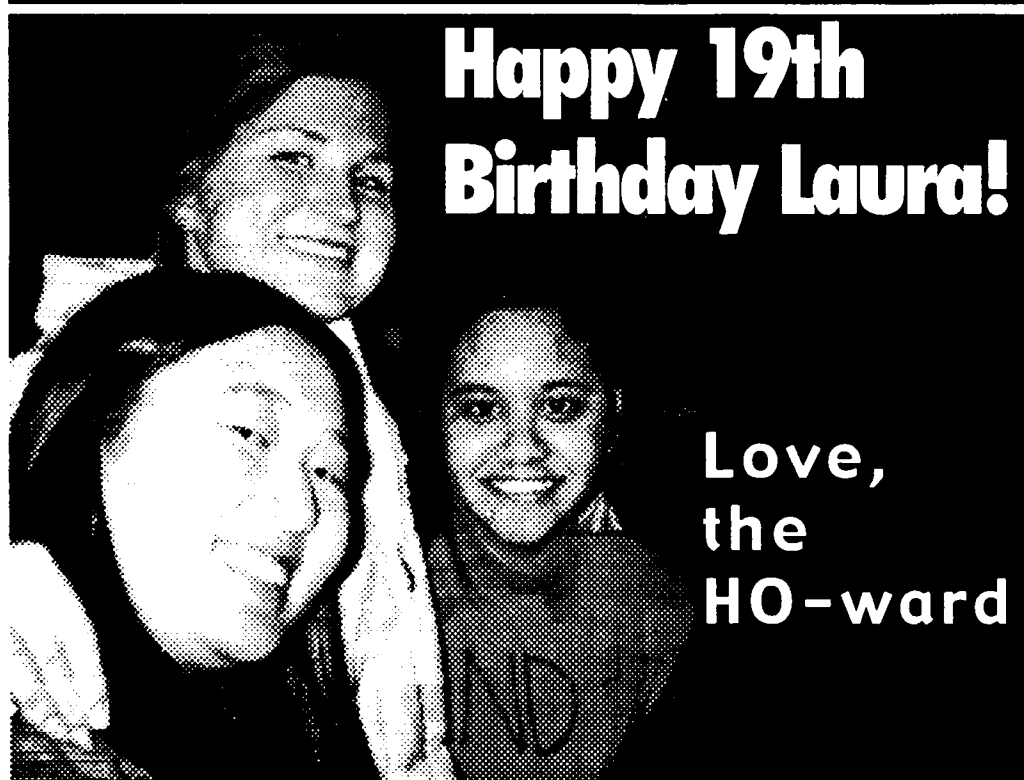
**Happy 21st
Birthday,
Kevan and
Brendan!**

Love, Your
Ladies



**Happy 19th
Birthday Laura!**

Love,
the
HO-ward



LAX 101

Meet the coaching staff and
players, get autographs, and
run drills with the men's
lacrosse team!

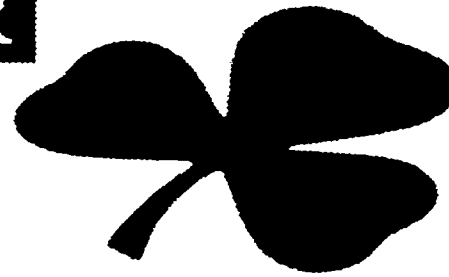
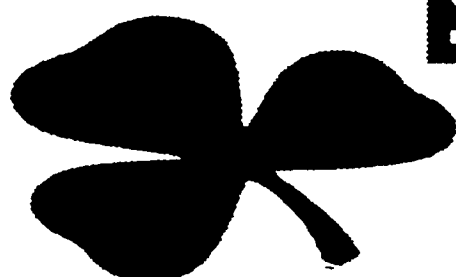
**Sunday • March 21st, 4:00–5:00pm
@ North Quad/Farley Hall**

2 Lucky students will win Brine Lacrosse Sticks
& one dorm will be selected for a **SUBWAY**
Lacrosse Tailgate on March 31st
#10 Notre Dame vs. Ohio State.

SOFTBALL HOME OPENER

Saturday, March 20th 1:00 & 3:00 pm
Notre Dame vs. Eastern Michigan
@ Ivy Field

****FREE ADMISSION****



Ousted

continued from page 28

goalie was out of position.

Despite coming into the game with the CCHA's leading penalty kill, the Irish were unable to stop the Ohio State power play, as the Buckeyes quickly tied the game back up with power play goals by Rod Pelley and Dave Steckel.

Notre Dame responded with a power play goal of its own with 1:30 left in the first period, as Aaron Gill scored on a slapshot from just outside the left circle. The teams went into the intermission with the score 3-2 in favor of the Irish, in a wacky first period that saw a combined 31 shots on goal (Notre Dame with 15, Ohio State with 16).

The Buckeyes only needed 16 seconds to score the first goal of the second period and tie the game again. Scott May skated unimpeded to the middle of the ice and whipped a shot over Irish goalie David Brown's glove.

Notre Dame managed to retake the lead at 4:43 of the second, as Gill scored his third goal of the game off a Ohio State turnover. A Buckeye defenseman tried to pass the puck from behind the Ohio State net, but instead it went to the middle of the ice and Gill was able to poke it home.

The Irish took their second two-goal lead of the game a little less than 6 minutes later, as forward Mike Walsh picked up a rebound of a Gill shot and pushed it past Betz. Dave Caruso replaced Betz in goal after Notre Dame's fifth score of the game.

The change energized the Buckeyes, who cut the lead to one before the end of the sec-

ond period as Matt Beaudoin scored on a rebound of a Tyson Strachan shot.

The Irish tried to hold on in the third period for the victory, but Beaudoin scored his second goal of the game at 17:34 of the third period and sent the Irish to their second straight overtime game.

With the loss, Notre Dame's record currently sits at 20-14-4. The NCAA selection committee will meet Sunday to decide if the Irish continue to play this season or not.

OHIO STATE 6, NOTRE DAME 5 at the JOE LOUIS ARENA

	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	Total
OHIO STATE	2	2	1	1	6
NOTRE DAME	3	2	0	0	5

SCORING SUMMARY

First Period

ND — Rob Globke (unassisted), 5:32.
ND — Aaron Gill (unassisted), 6:56.
OSU — Rod Pelley (Matt Beaudoin), 13:59 PP.
OSU — Dave Steckel (Beaudoin), 17:30 PP.
ND — Gill (Globke, Neil Komadoski), 18:40 PP.

Second Period

OSU — Scott May (Matt Waddell), 0:16.
ND — Gill (Globke), 4:43.
ND — Mike Walsh (Gill, Globke), 10:14.
OSU — Beaudoin (Tyson Strachan, Thomas Welsh), 16:28 PP.

Third Period

OSU — Beaudoin (Doug Andress), 17:34.

Overtime

OSU — Tyson Strachan (Andress, Andrew Schembri), 9:49.

Shots on goal: Notre Dame 34, Ohio State 49. **Power plays:** Notre Dame 1-of-5, Ohio State 3-of-5. **Goalies:** David Brown 43 saves out of 49 shots (ND), Mike Betz 14 saves out of 19 shots, Dave Caruso 15 saves out of 15 shots (OSU).

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu.

Irish

continued from page 28

The No. 2 doubles tandem of sophomore Lauren Connelly and senior Alicia Salas were first off the courts, defeating Chelsea Glynn and Russian Anastasia Zhukova 8-2 to disrupt their four-match losing streak.

"[Connelly] really served well today," Louderback said. "When she serves well, they play well and [Salas] returns well."

Junior Sarah Jane Connelly and sophomore Kristina Stastny clinched the doubles point, besting Bulgarian Deni Alexandrova and Hilary Tyler at No. 3. The duo rallied from behind to even the score at 6-6 and quickly gained control of the match.

At No. 1 doubles, freshmen Meg Racette and Hillary Mintz outlasted No. 37 Catrina and Christian Thompson 9-8, (7-5). The Thompsons took an early 5-2 lead in the tiebreaking match before Racette and Mintz earned five consecutive points for the win.

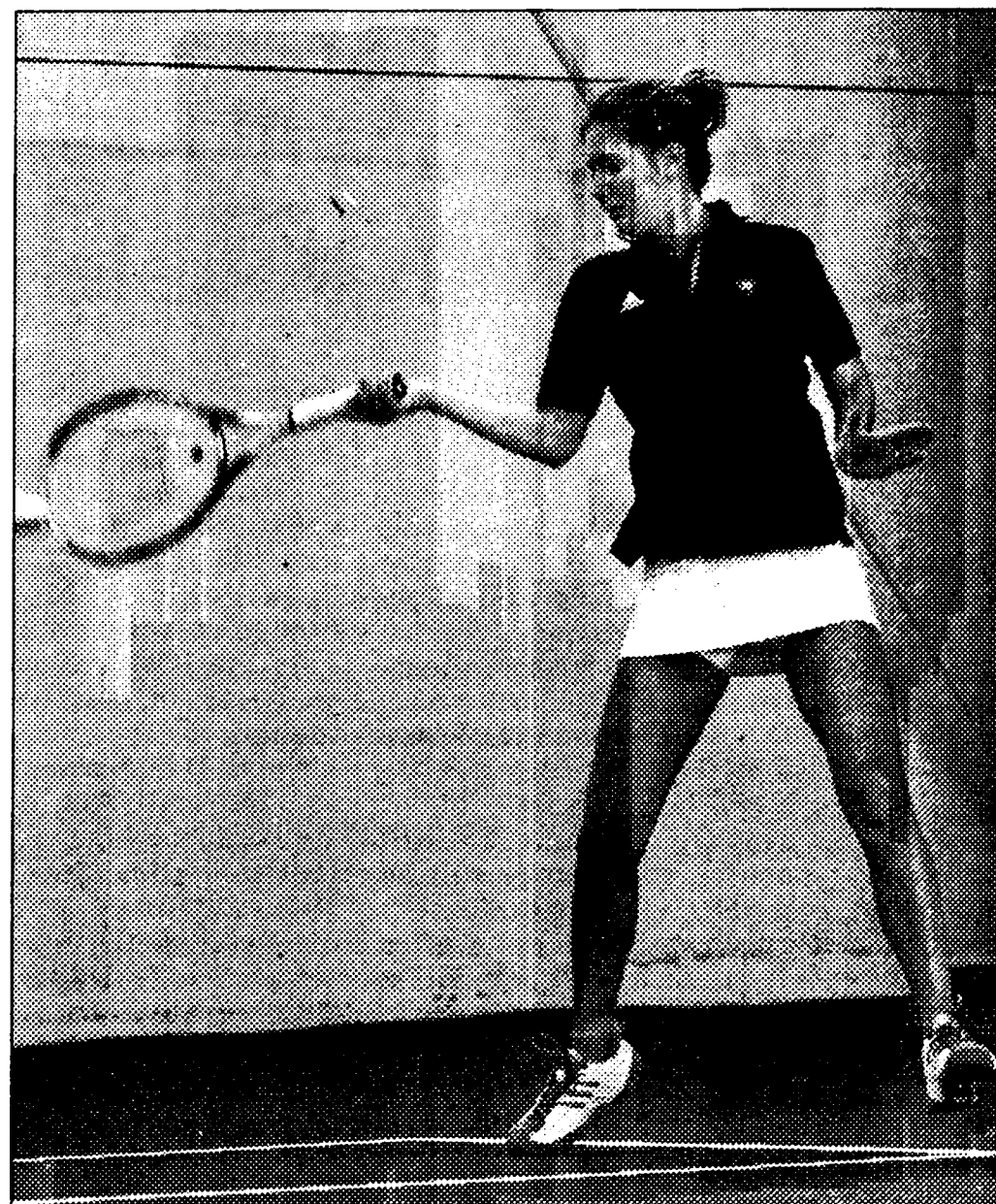
In singles, No. 13 Salas earned the first point for the Irish with a quick 6-4, 6-1 win against Racette at the No. 1 position. This match was the sixth consecutive win for the senior, who is 10-2 in dual matches.

"Alicia played really well today," Louderback said. "That girl she played is tough. She doesn't make errors."

Stastny followed with a 6-3, 6-2 defeat of Alexandrova at No. 5.

"She's really been coming through for us this spring," Louderback said. "She put us up 3-0 and made it tough for Iowa to come back after that."

Christian Thompson secured victory for the Irish, edging



CHIP MARKS/The Observer

Sophomore Lauren Connelly returns a shot in a match against Wisconsin Feb. 1. The Irish beat Iowa 6-1 Thursday.

out Mintz 2-6, 6-2, 6-2 at No. 2. In her first career dual match, sophomore Liz Donohue defeated Tyler at No. 6, rallying from a loss in the first set 2-6, 6-1, 6-3. Tyler was 5-0 this spring heading into Thursday's meet.

"[Donohue] has played really well in practice, and she's worked hard," Louderback said. "I think she was nervous at first, but she settled down after the first match."

NOTRE DAME 6, IOWA 1 at the ECK PAVILLION

SINGLES

No. 1: No. 13 Alicia Salas (ND) d. Meg

Racette (I) 6-4, 6-1.

No. 2: Christian Thompson (ND) d. Hillary Mintz (I) 2-6, 6-2, 6-2.

No. 3: No. 84 Catrina Thompson (ND) d. Chelsea Glynn (I) 6-3, 7-6 (7-5).

No. 4: Anastasia Zhukova (I) d. Lauren Connelly (ND) 7-5, 7-5.

No. 5: Kristina Stastny (ND) d. Deni Alexandrova (I) 6-3, 6-2.

No. 6: Liz Donohue (ND) d. Hilary Tyler (I) 2-6, 6-1, 6-3.

DOUBLES

No. 1: Racette/Mintz (I) d. No. 37 Thompson/Thompson (ND) 9-8 (7-5).

No. 2: L. Connelly/Salas (ND) d. Zhukova/Glynn (I) 8-2.

No. 3: S.J. Connelly/Stastny (ND) d. Alexandrova/Tyler (I) 8-6.

Contact Anne Loughery at alougher@nd.edu.

The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools is evaluating the University of Notre Dame for continuing accreditation.

There will be an open meeting for students with selected members of the NCA accreditation team on:

**Tuesday, March 23,
from 5:00-5:45 p.m.
at McKenna Auditorium.**

All students - undergraduate and graduate - are invited to attend.

The NCA accreditation team wants to hear your ideas about how Notre Dame can continue to improve as a university.

The Notre Dame Department of Music Presents a Faculty Arts Series Concert

Karen Buranskas, cello

Associate Professor of Music, University of Notre Dame

Lori Sims, piano

Associate Professor of Piano, Western Michigan University

Featuring an ALL-BRITISH program

Works by John Ireland, Frank Bridge, and Benjamin Britten

Sunday, March 21, 2004

2:00 pm, AnnenbERG Auditorium

Snite Museum of Art

University of Notre Dame

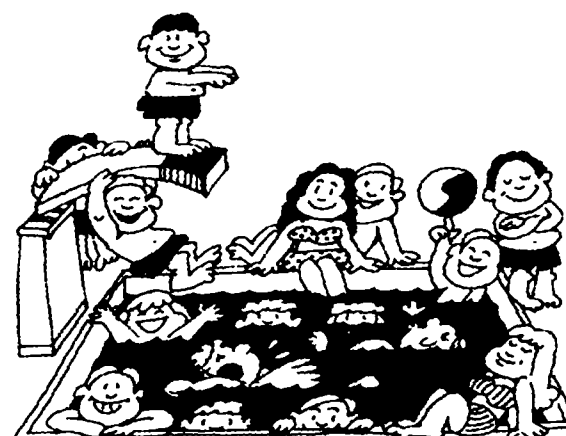
Tickets: \$10 G.A.; \$8 ND/SMC faculty & staff
\$6 Senior Citizens; \$5 Students
(574) 631-8128
VISA/MasterCard accepted



This concert sponsored in part by a grant by the Boehnen Fund for Excellence in the Arts, Institute for Scholarship in the Arts, College of Arts and Letters, University of Notre Dame

Family Swim

**Friday, March 19th
7:00-9:00
Rockne Memorial**



**Organized Games
Free Play
Refreshments**

ND SOFTBALL

Home season will begin on Saturday with doubleheader

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

After playing tournaments on the road in warm climates, the Irish come home this weekend to cold and snow flurries in their home opener.

"It's going to be cold," Irish outfielder Megan Ciolli said.

Notre Dame (17-9) opens its home schedule against Eastern Michigan (8-8) in a Saturday doubleheader.

"We love playing at home," Ciolli said. "Our parents and friends will be here. You can't beat playing at home."

The Eagles come to South Bend after a doubleheader split with IUPUI. Nikki Denman leads Eagle hitters with a .388 batting average, including 10 RBIs. Meanwhile, their pitching staff is led by ace Michelle Lloyd, who boasts a 1.99 ERA and is 3-1 on the year.

Sunday, the Irish travel to Kalamazoo, Mich., where they face Western Michigan (10-11). The Broncos are fresh off a doubleheader split as well at the Indiana University Classic last weekend. Jaymie Voss hits .322 on the year with two doubles.

"The Midwest trip will fine tune our skills," Ciolli said. "We need to be consistent, and that will come."

Notre Dame is led offensively by Ciolli, who is hitting .395 with 11 steals. Meanwhile, infielder Meagan Ruthrauff has been the Irish RBI leader, with 21, and has four home runs and a .348 batting average.

The Irish, who were picked to win

their third straight Big East title at the beginning of the year, have also been keyed by clutch pitching. Heather Booth leads the way with her 9-3 record. She has given up just 71 hits and 28 runs in 96 1/3 innings, good for a 1.38 ERA. No. 2 starter Steffany Stenglein is 5-6 with a 2.58 ERA.

As the Irish return home, they look to build on last week's disappointments.

Notre Dame was at Florida Atlantic for the FAU/Worth Invitational the weekend of Mar. 6. There, the Irish lost their first two games to Florida International, 2-1, and to Massachusetts, 4-2.

But, Notre Dame went 5-2 at the Florida State Invitational, losing to No. 11 Michigan 3-0 and Texas A&M 2-1.

"We fought back and played well at FSU — nobody's making excuses," Ciolli said. "That showed a lot of character. Coming off preseason, we have a lot to build on. It's been a great preseason. It's not where you start, it's where you finish."

And for the Irish, who have played one of the toughest preseasons in the country, nothing could be more true.

"I love [the tough schedule]," Ciolli said. "It's great for our program. People are starting to respect our program. This team just has so much character."

Game time is set for 1 p.m. Saturday at Ivy Field.

Contact Heather van Hoegarden at
hvanhoeg@nd.edu

BASEBALL

Irish take on Salukis

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Senior Staff Writer

In the first game of its spring break road trip to Texas, No. 8 Notre Dame (12-1) and Southern Illinois (2-12) met in an epic back-and-forth slugfest. In the end, the Irish prevailed 12-11 in 11 innings.

This weekend, the Salukis will get a shot at revenge as they host the Irish for a pair of games Saturday and Sunday.

The Irish have been one of the hottest teams in the nation to start the season this year. Last week, they got their first taste of defeat in a 17-9 loss to Texas-San Antonio, but bounced back to rattle off five straight wins in the Alamo City Irish Baseball Classic and the Round Rock Collegiate Classic.

"The trip [last week] was outstanding for our team," Irish coach Paul Mainieri said. "I think we found out a lot about ourselves this week. I think we showed some signs that great teams have. That is to be able to win a game either way — a low-run, well-pitched game or a slugfest. We found ways

to win both types of games."

For their tough play during the week, the Irish were ranked as high as eighth by Collegiate Baseball Newspaper and the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association and as low as 12th by Baseball America. The Sports Weekly/ESPN Top 25 Poll has the Irish slated ninth.

Much of a reason for Notre Dame's hot start has been the play of left-handed pitcher Tom Thornton. Last week, the sophomore was named Big East Pitcher of the Week for his eight innings of shutout work in a 6-1 Irish victory over Texas Tech. Thornton allowed the Red Raiders only one hit in his time on the mound.

"So sooner or later I think people have to admit that [Thornton's play] is not a fluke," Mainieri said. "He's the real deal, and he's pitching great. It's been the biggest shot in the arm for our team."

Offensively, the Irish bats have been alive through the first 13 games of the season. As a team, Notre Dame is

hitting .324 and averaging over nine runs a game.

Third baseman Matt Edwards leads the way at the plate for the Irish with a .435 average. The junior also has set the pace for the squad in RBIs (17), home runs (four), slugging percentage (.783) and walks (10).

While the Salukis struggled at the beginning of the season, they have begun to improve of late. In addition to their strong effort against the Irish, the Salukis have won their last two games — a 12-9 victory over Penn State and 22-6 drubbing of Murray State Thursday.

On the season, Southern Illinois has posted only a .234 average as a team with 4.4 runs per game. Things aren't much better for the Salukis on the hill either, as they have posted a 6.27 ERA on the year, with opponents batting .325 against them.

Saturday's game is scheduled for 2 p.m., and Sunday's will be at noon.

Contact Chris Federico at
cfederic@nd.edu

STUDENT INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COUNCIL

invites you to the

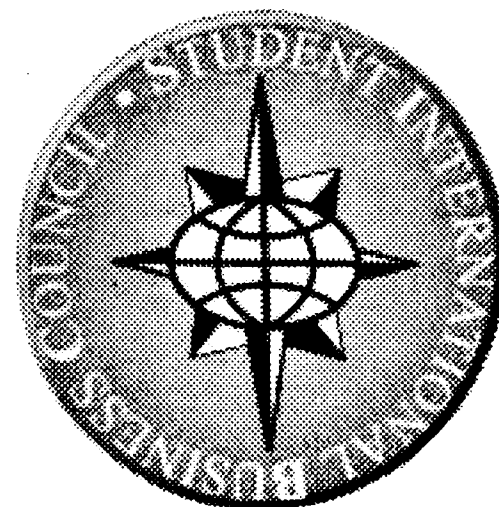
15th ANNUAL SPRING FORUM

Saturday, March 20th beginning at 10:30am
Hesburgh Auditorium

Invited Speakers Include:

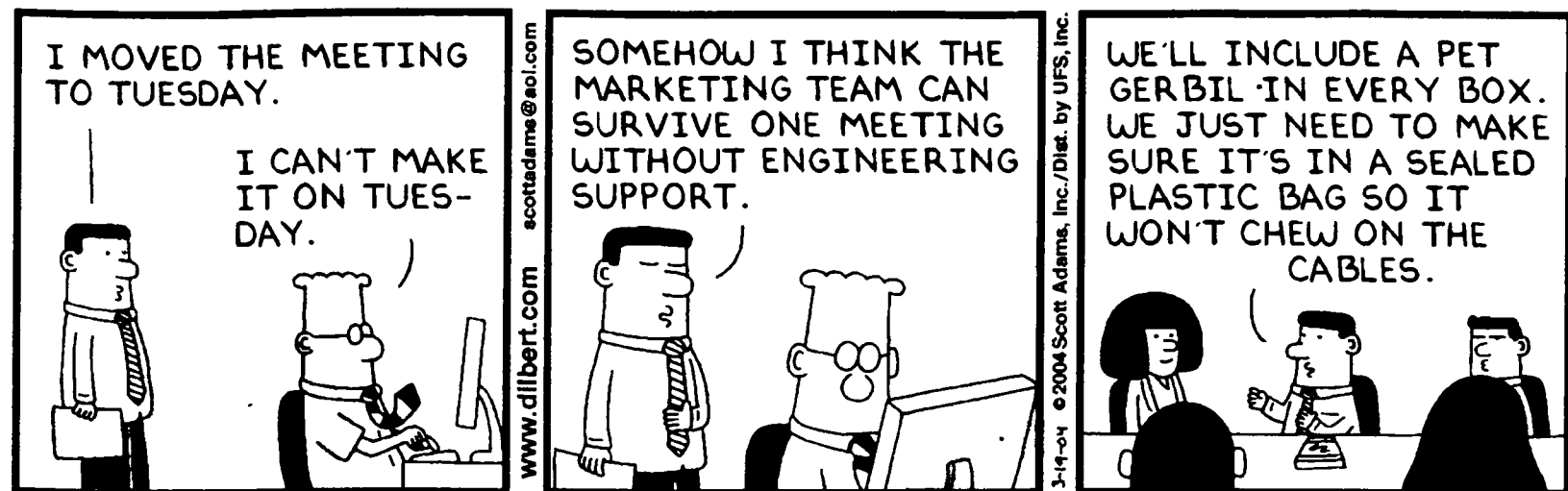
- Mr. Tim Boddy, Trustee and Managing Director, Goldman Sachs - 10:30am
- Mr. Robert Mulhall, PricewaterhouseCoopers - 12:00pm
- Ms. Chandra Johnson, Notre Dame Administrator & Assistant to the President - 1:15pm

- T-shirts, Prizes, and Refreshments will be provided -



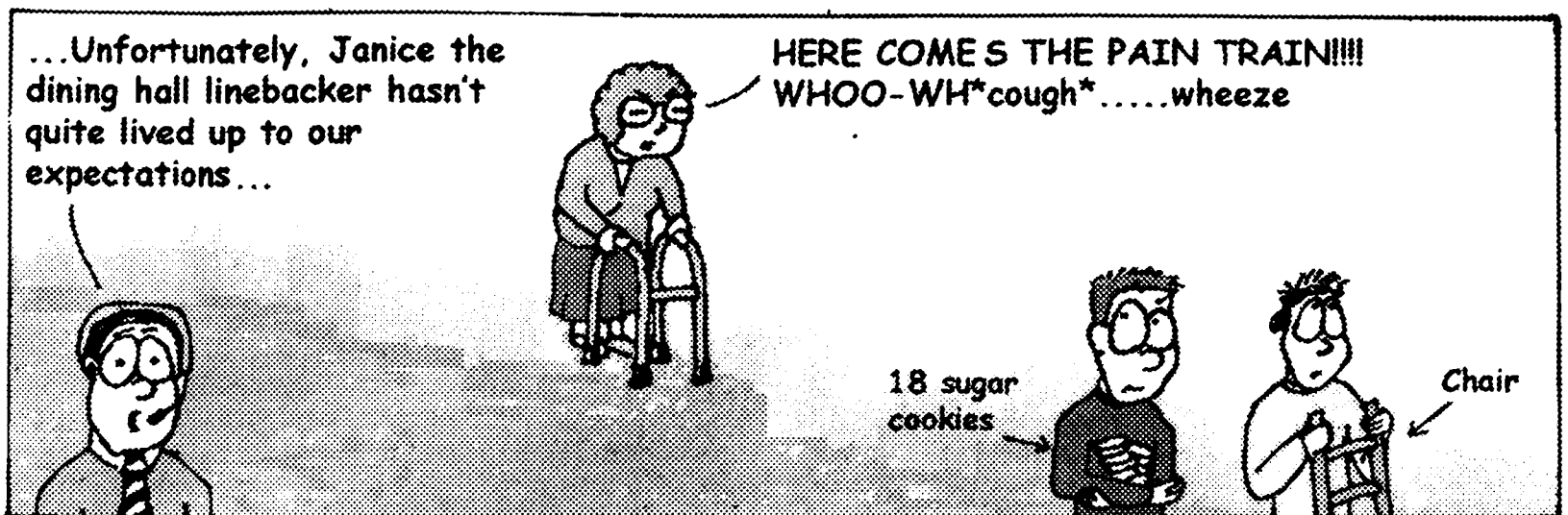
DILBERT

SCOTT ADAMS



FIVES

BRETT CAMPBELL & DAN ZYCHINSKI



JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

VILIC
CAUDT
HIRSLE
PARMEC

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



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

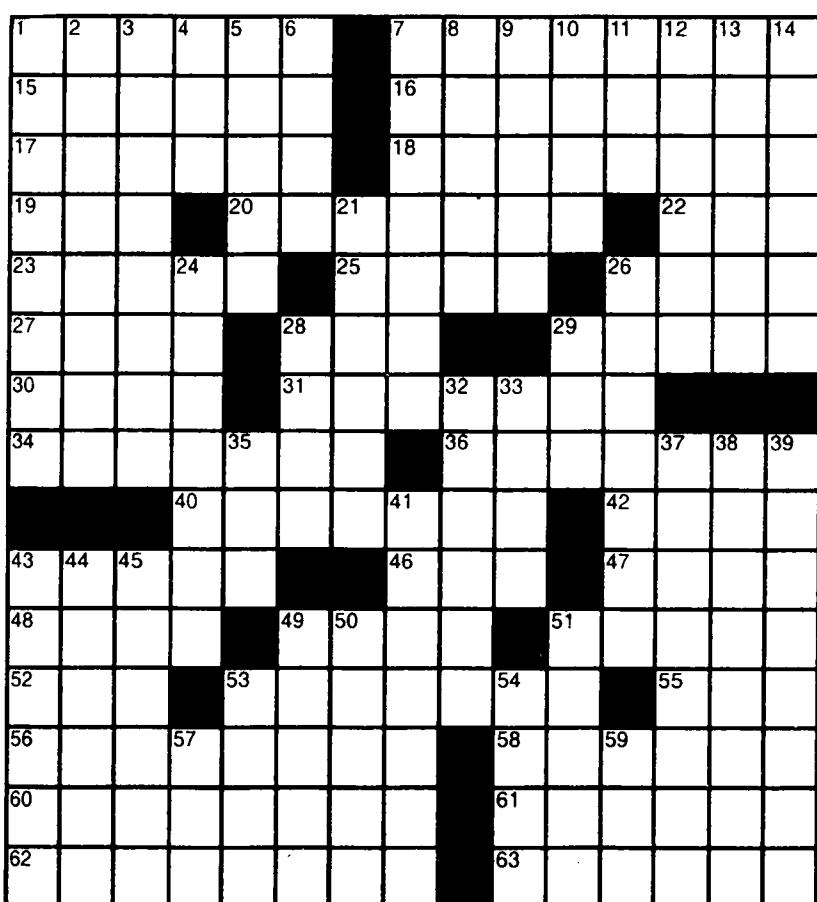
Ans: "C O O L E D" THE "C O O L E D"
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: JUROR SUITE COSTLY EXHORT
Answer: The barber was good at this — SHORT CUTS

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Galoot
 - 7 Come undone, as a robe
 - 15 Israeli author of "Where the Jackals Howl, and Other Stories"
 - 16 Possible psychotic symptom
 - 17 Sort of
 - 18 Food on which Charles Lamb wrote an essay
 - 19 Architect's add-on
 - 20 Bars
 - 22 ___ meeting
 - 23 Throw for ___
 - 25 Tempting spot
 - 26 Face
 - 27 What many a word has
 - 28 Film "Angel" player
 - 29 Hall of Fame jockey Earl
 - 30 Deliberate
 - 31 Not necessarily real
 - 34 Roof adornment
 - 36 Men's fashion accessory
 - 40 Galena
 - 42 Miss O'Neill
 - 43 Nag
 - 46 Seabiscuit jockey ___ Pollard
 - 47 Lets mistakes pass
 - 48 Pick up
 - 49 Unprosperous time, metaphorically
 - 51 Press conference sights
 - 52 Dot follower
 - 53 Breezy competition
 - 55 Evil spirit
 - 56 Bronzes
 - 58 Unkeyed
 - 60 Delta Center team
 - 61 Destroyer of the town Nicolosi in 1669
 - 62 It's off-limits
 - 63 Make fun of
- DOWN**
- 1 They're seen with T-shirts
 - 2 "Sorry, none left"
 - 3 Escaped
 - 4 Hair color
 - 5 "The only poor fellows in the world whom anyone will flatter": Pope
 - 6 Book that tells of the reign of Cyrus the Great
 - 7 Pumped
 - 8 Dig deeply
 - 9 Rimes of country music
 - 10 Off
 - 11 Literary adverb
 - 12 1992 U.S. Olympic Dream Team member
 - 13 Went out
 - 14 Void
 - 21 Like butterfly wings
 - 24 Brown competitor
 - 26 1909 Physics Nobel
 - 28 1970 Kinks hit
 - 29 Inquire (about)



- Puzzle by Joe DiPietro
- 32 Still
 - 33 Having colored patches
 - 35 Bench
 - 37 Check out
 - 38 Popular
 - 39 Bomb, for one
 - 41 Lining material
 - 43 Bygone military leader
 - 44 Regarding this point
 - 45 Disheveled
 - 49 Cover again, as a road
 - 50 Staring
 - 51 "What'sa ___ you?"
 - 53 Indian royal
 - 54 Press down
 - 57 Cable choice
 - 59 "___ courtiers' knees ...": Shak.

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.
Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.
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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Bruce Willis, Glenn Close, Ursula Andress, Wyatt Earp

Happy Birthday: You'll have high energy and be eager to take on the world. Slow down; you are likely to run yourself ragged this year. Pick and choose carefully. If you spread yourself too thin you'll fall short of your goals and miss out on the accomplishments you can make this year. Focus on your best attributes, put them to good use and you'll find yourself moving in a positive direction. Your numbers: 3, 5, 18, 27, 36, 46

- ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Don't hesitate to make career changes. They look positive and profitable. Listen to the advice given by those with more life experience. Disruptions in your home are likely. ***
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): This will not be the day to go shopping or to spend money on others. Your lack of patience will be frowned upon by older and younger family members alike. **
GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Infatuations may be a little confusing. Try to keep your love life in perspective and don't be too willing to commit to someone who hasn't shown you their true colors. ***
CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't let your personal life interfere with your productivity at work. You can make gains if you work well in conjunction with colleagues. Your home environment will be unstable today. ***
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Complete those self-improvement projects that you've been diligently working on in order to improve your self-image and raise your esteem. Social activities should be on your agenda. ****
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Delays concerning mail and shipments are probable. Take advantage of any travel opportunities that arise. Don't try to solve personal problems today. ***
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Friends will bring you opportunities. Don't hesitate to ask for advice or favors. New love interests will surface if you get involved in groups. Your charm will entice possible mates. ****
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Friends and relatives will not be sympathetic today. It is best to keep your thoughts to yourself. Try to take care of any legal matters that have been hanging over your head. ***
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You will be in hot water if you have been evading issues regarding your personal intentions. It is best to sit down and open up to the one in question. You will have to be precise. ***
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Someone may not have your best interests at heart. Be aware that secret enemies may try to steal your thunder. Be blunt when dealing with your boss. Don't get taken for granted. ***
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't hold yourself back by refusing to get involved in activities that could bring you in contact with important individuals. Stabilize your situation by discussing your future plans. ***
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You will find it difficult to relate to your partner today. Don't try to manipulate the situation. It is best to work on projects that will improve your living quarters. ***

Birthday Baby: You are wise beyond your years, always observing what everyone around you is doing for future reference. You are a high-energy little tyke and this can certainly wear your parents down. You're full of spunk and quick to react to anything and everything.

Need advice? Try Eugenia's website at www.eugenialast.com

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

HOCKEY

One and done

Ohio State's 6-5 overtime win knocks Irish from Super Six

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

DETROIT - Another year, another early exit from the Joe.

Ohio State forward Tyson Strachan ended Notre Dame's stay at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit as he scored at 9:49 of overtime, sending the Irish home with a 6-5 loss Thursday night.

It is the third straight time that the Irish have lost in the first round of the CCHA Super Six.

"From a spectator's standpoint that was a pretty good college hockey game," Irish coach Dave Poulin said. "From a coach's standpoint, though, our strengths all year have been defense and penalty killing, and we give up six goals and three on the power play. It's a little disappointing."

"We had our chances in overtime, but just couldn't capitalize."

The Irish now have to wait to see if they will receive an NCAA at-large bid. With 20 wins on

the season, Notre Dame has an impressive resume that includes wins over several ranked teams.

"We talked before the game about not wanting to put our NCAA future in someone else's hands, and keeping it in our own hands," Poulin said. "We're certainly still going to practice on Saturday morning preparing as if we're going to keep playing."

It didn't take long for the Irish to get going, as they scored the first goal of the game just 5 minutes, 32 seconds into the first period. Forward Rob Globke showed off his skating ability, taking the puck down the left side while avoiding several defenders, and whipped a low wrist shot past Ohio State's Mike Betz that beat the goalie to the stick side.

Notre Dame increased its lead to two goals just a little over a minute later, when Betz gave up a long rebound to the slot and Aaron Gill buried the puck in the back of the net while the

see OUSTED/page 25



Irish right wing T.J. Jindra brings the puck up the ice in a game against Alaska-Fairbanks Jan. 30.

ANDY KENNA/The Observer

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish slam Hawkeyes 6-1 at Eck

By ANNE LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

The No. 47 Hawkeyes proved they were anything but a pushover at Thursday's meet.

Iowa (8-3) extended three of the six singles matches to tiebreaking sets, posted a point after a victory at No. 4 singles and claimed a win at No. 1 doubles.

But their window of opportunity was quickly slammed shut.

No. 21 Notre Dame demonstrated its staying power with a 6-1 win, improving its record to 8-4. The talent-laden Irish secured the vital doubles point after defeating their opponents at Nos. 2 and 3 and nearly sweeping singles.

"We really competed today," Irish coach Jay Louderback said. "We really fought for each point."

see IRISH/page 25

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Thrust into the spotlight

With Francis out, Cornett is thriving in his new role as the Irish post presence

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Senior Staff Writer

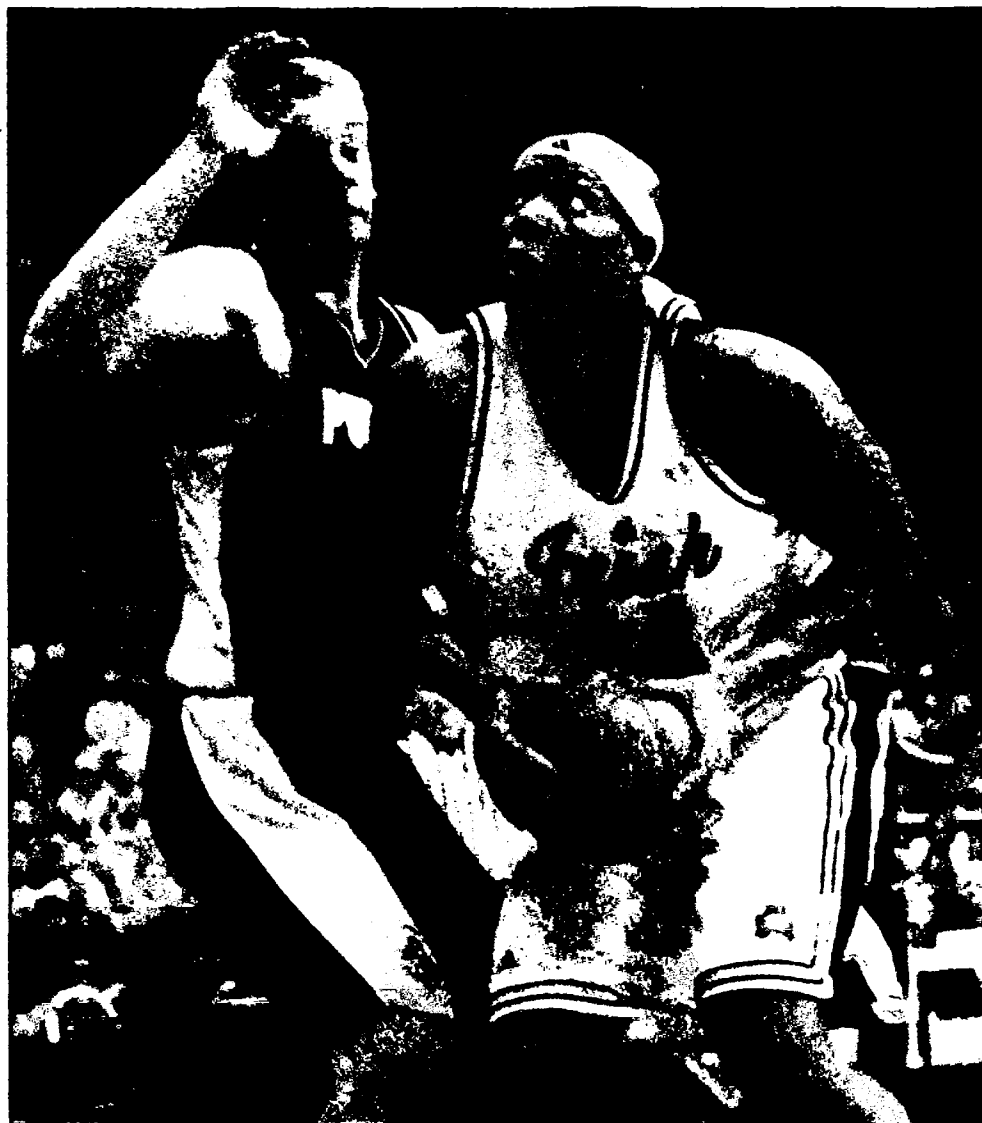
When Torin Francis' back injury knocked him out for the season, Irish coach Mike Brey looked at the lack of a true low-post presence and reluctantly told his team to become more perimeter-oriented.

The move worked in wins against Connecticut, Seton Hall and Syracuse, but teams soon took advantage of the absence of a dominant rebounder for the Irish.

But now, with the rise of Rick Cornett — who is averaging 15.5 points a game over his last two games — Brey now has the Irish looking back down low.

"It's funny how our team has changed," he said. "We now

see CORNETT/page 22



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

Irish forward Rick Cornett makes a move to the basket against a Purdue defender Wednesday night.

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

NCAA meet produces pair of All-Americans

By MATT PUGLISI
Sports Writer

While only a pair of Irish athletes competed on the first day of the three-day NCAA Division I women's swimming and diving championships Thursday, they certainly didn't disappoint.

Senior diver Meghan Perry Eaton and freshman Katie Carroll both turned in All-American caliber performances as the Big East Championship's Most Outstanding Diver finished third on the 1-meter board and the Big East Championships Most Outstanding Swimmer recorded a ninth place finish in the 200-meter individual medley.

After placing fourth in the preliminaries with a score of 290.40, 18 points behind Alabama's Lane Bassham (308.40), Perry Eaton boosted her score by over 13 points in the finals, posting a 303.90.

South Carolina's Allison Brennan won the event with a

307.20 on the lower board.

The third-place finish garnered Perry Eaton All-American honors a year after she received an All-American honorable mention for finishing ninth on the one-meter board.

Carroll posted a time of 2:13.43 in the preliminaries to place 11th and become the first Irish swimmer to qualify for the finals of the 200-meter individual medley.

Like Perry Eaton, Carroll was even better in the finals, recording a time of 2:12.28 to win the consolation finals and finish ninth overall.

The performance earned Carroll All-American honors.

Carroll races in the 400-meter individual medley today and the 100-meter freestyle Saturday, while Perry Eaton competes on the 3-meter board today.

Preliminaries are at 11 a.m. with events finals scheduled for 7 p.m.

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

ND SOFTBALL

Eastern Michigan at Notre Dame

Saturday, 1 p.m.

The Irish begin their home season Saturday with a doubleheader.

page 26

BASEBALL

Notre Dame at Southern Illinois

Saturday, 2 p.m.

The Salukis look for revenge against No. 8 Notre Dame.

page 26

SMC SOFTBALL

Goshen College at Saint Mary's

Today, 3 p.m.

The Belles begin their home schedule today against Goshen.

page 24

MEN'S LACROSSE

Notre Dame at Loyola

Saturday, 1 p.m.

The Irish look to get back to winning ways against Loyola.

page 24

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Notre Dame at Baylor/Tapatio Spring Shootout

Today-Sunday

The Irish try to bounce back in Texas.

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ROWING

The Irish kicked off their 2004 season with strong performances against Michigan State, Tennessee and Duke.

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BACK TO WORK

Monique Hernandez
and Jeneka Joyce
return for another
year in the NCAA
Tournament

Batteast has been key in successful season

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

When Jacqueline Batteast steps onto the court Sunday afternoon, the Irish crowd will see a different player than the one who scored just 13 points in three games in last year's NCAA Tournament.

Instead, they will see a more mature Batteast, who has learned to play in a dominating fashion. But it wasn't always like that. Batteast, who struggled to find consistency last season, has found her stride in her third season.

"I've been able to shoot well," Batteast said. "I've shot the best I have in my entire career."

Batteast has been dominating, but not just on the offensive end. She is among the Big East leaders in scoring, rebounding, double-doubles, field goal percentage and blocked shots. This season, Batteast has registered seven double-doubles in Big East play and ten overall, good enough to earn her first team All-Big East. She has also been named a finalist for the Naismith Award and the Kodak/WBCA All-America Team.

"I feel very honored and I'm glad to see that my name is out there with some of the top players in the country," Batteast said. "But I think that I've a really good job and I've helped Notre Dame stay where they were after their championship year, so it's good that everybody in the country is starting to notice that too."

Batteast, a quiet player, realized her potential Jan. 13 when the Irish knocked off then-No. 4 Connecticut. She scored 23 points and grabbed 11 rebounds, on 10-for-13 shooting. The entire game, if Batteast got the ball, she scored, helping the Irish score when they couldn't seem to put points on the board. She ended the game with a block of Huskies' star Diana Taurasi, despite having four fouls. Batteast was the reason the Irish were able to pull off the home upset, the biggest of the regular season.

"In the UConn game, I saw that I

pretty much could do whatever I wanted to do against one of the top teams in the country, so if Diana Taurasi and company couldn't stop me, I wasn't going to let Pittsburgh or St. John's stop me," Batteast said.

On the year, Batteast is averaging 15.4 points, 8.3 rebounds and 1.28 blocks per game, while shooting 44.8 percent. She was named to the WBCA Classic All-Tournament Team Nov. 15 after scoring in double figures in all three games, including 27 points against then-No. 22 Auburn. So what has been the difference this season in her domination?

"Shot selection and not shooting as much," Batteast said. "The less shots, the more go in, so that's good."

Most recently, she dominated against Rutgers in the Big East Tournament, dropping 22 points and grabbing eight rebounds. But despite her eighth 20 point game of the year, the Irish were unable to pull off the win.

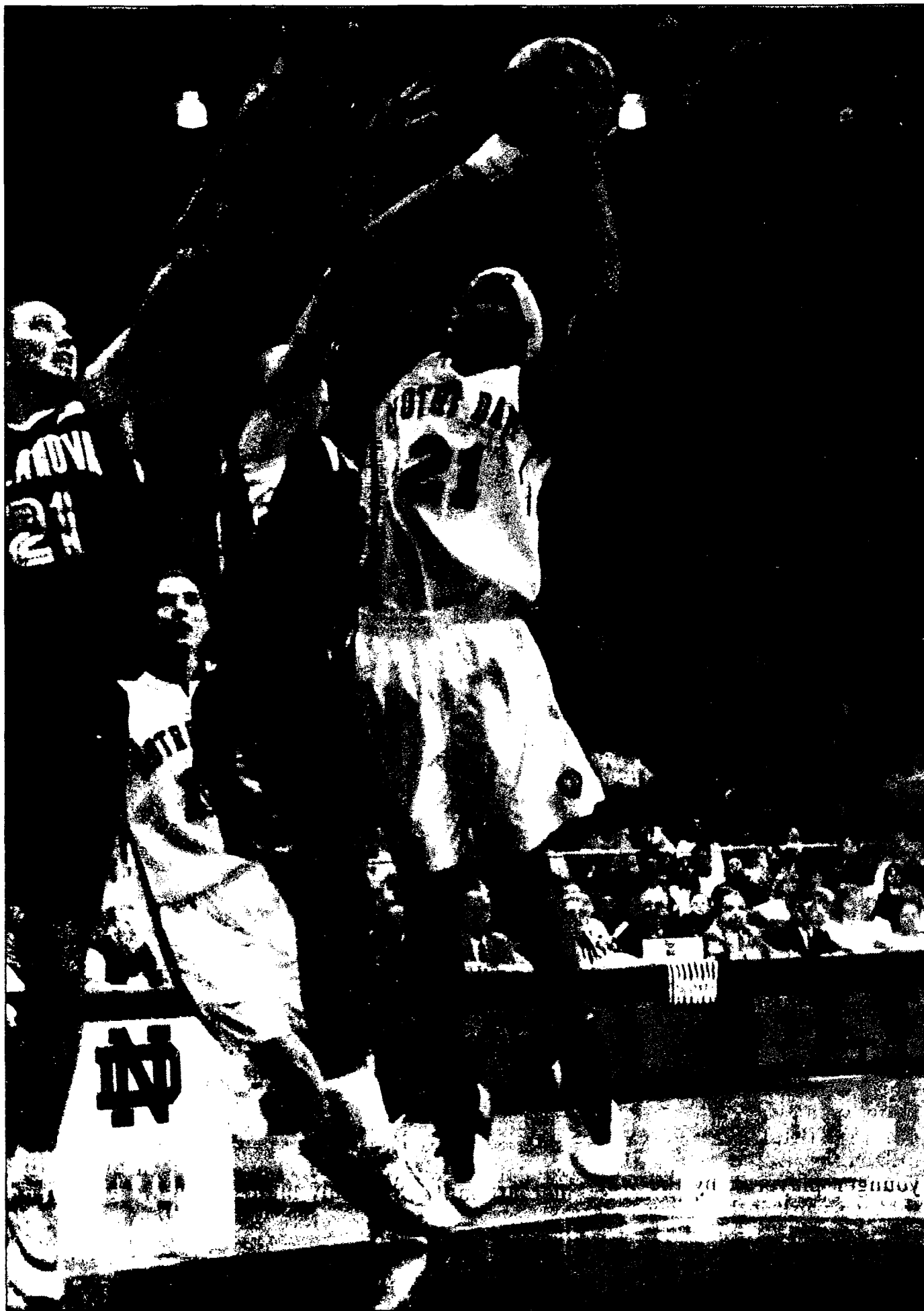
But as Batteast already knows, the postseason is a different story. In last year's first two rounds, she went 2-for-26, scoring just five points in two Irish wins over Arizona and Kansas State. This year, she hopes things will be different, as she is more confident in her game than ever.

"I want to play a lot better than I did last year," Batteast said. "Hopefully, shoot better — I rebounded well, but I just want to be as consistent as I have been all season."

And if Batteast plays the way she is capable, the Irish have nowhere to go but back to Hartford, Conn., the site of the Sweet 16, and where Notre Dame lost to Rutgers in the Big East Tournament two weeks ago.

"It's all about the defense," Batteast said. "We've been pretty good about that this year. I think anything less than Sweet 16 will be a disappointment. I like where we're at."

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu



CHIP MARKS/The Observer
Jacqueline Batteast goes up for a shot against Villanova Jan. 25. Batteast has led the Irish all season with her consistent play.

	COACHING	STYLE OF PLAY	POST PLAYERS	PERIMETER PLAYERS	BENCH	INTANGIBLES
NOTRE DAME	McGraw has led Notre Dame to nine straight tournament appearances and five Sweet 16 berths. She has tournament experience and won the 2001 national title. She also has 14 20-win seasons at Notre Dame.	Notre Dame relies on its defense to shut down other teams, while their offense has struggled at times. Batteast doesn't always get help on the offensive end. The defense has been consistent all season.	The Irish have solid inside players, including Big East first-team forward Jacqueline Batteast. Notre Dame should have a size advantage and may also have to defend outside of the key to limit the Bears 3-point attempts.	Joyce is Notre Dame's prominent 3-point threat and she's knocked down over 40 percent of her attempts. Duffy also adds an outside threat. Hernandez, Duffy and Severe have all played tough defense throughout the season.	All but two players average double figures in minutes for the Irish. They have a rotation of post players that are all good. The team has a nice mix of role players on the bench that McGraw can use on offense or defense.	Notre Dame is undefeated at home this season — 13-0. They play drastically better at the Joyce Center than on the road. The crowd should be pumped for this first-round matchup.
SMS	Abraham-Henderson is in her second year at SMS after taking the Bears to the first round of the NCAA Tournament last year. This is her first head coaching position after being an assistant since 1990 at various schools.	SMS loves shooting 3-pointers and they'll chuck up a lot of them. The Bears can stay in any game because of their ability to shoot the 3 so well. They average 78 points a game and shoot over 40 percent from beyond the arc.	The Bears don't do their damage in the paint, but might need to score more inside if the Irish take away the perimeter shooting. Tierney averages 12 points a game and is the main inside threat for the Bears.	Koch averages 17 points and leads a Bears team that has six players shooting over 40 percent from 3. Everyone shoots. The Bears attempt the most and make the most 3-pointers of any team in the nation.	SMS only uses a six and sometimes seven person rotation. The Bears bench doesn't make huge contributions, but have the ability to score points off the 3-point shot. But SMS relies on strong performances from its starters to win.	SMS wasn't happy about its seeding after going 28-3 and winning both their conference regular season and tourney titles. They have a chip on their shoulders and something to prove.
ANALYSIS	McGraw has much more experience and a better record. She has extensive tournament experience and knows what it takes to win. Abraham-Henderson is still inexperienced in tourney play and has never advanced past the first round.	Notre Dame plays outstanding defense, but SMS is a great shooting team. This matchup could be interesting especially if the Irish defense fails to stop the three-pointer. But in the end, it will be a close game.	Notre Dame should handle the SMS post players. The Irish have Batteast and an array of other talented forwards that will give the Bears a lot of problems. The Irish must take advantage of their size and skill to pound the Bears in the paint.	While Notre Dame held opponents to the lowest 3-point shooting percentage in the Big East, SMS has too many weapons. Pretty much every player can make a trey and they'll all shoot. The Irish must limit the Bears damage from behind the arc.	Notre Dame uses more players and McGraw uses them effectively. Gray, Erwin, Flecky and Joyce all have made impacts at different points throughout the season and all can be difference-makers for the Irish.	The Irish are just too tough at home this season. The crowd will be excited, and the Irish are a confident team in South Bend. Notre Dame shoots better, rebounds better and flat out plays better at the Joyce Center.

Coming back strong

Jeneka Joyce and Monique Hernandez have battled back to play important roles in the success of Notre Dame this season

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Writer

When they're in the game, Jeneka Joyce and Monique Hernandez make Notre Dame better in very different ways.

Joyce roams the perimeter, waiting for any opportunity to catch the ball, spot up and bury a 3-pointer. Hernandez gets in a ball-handler's face, plays lockdown defense and hustles every second she's on the court.

But no matter how they do it, the senior guards have been two keys in helping Notre Dame finish the regular season 19-10 and earn a No. 5 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

Now the seniors hope they can use their considerable tournament experience to lead Notre Dame deep into the postseason, starting with Sunday's first-round game against No. 12 Southwest Missouri State at 2:30 p.m.

"You can't teach [tournament experience] to somebody," Hernandez said. "Having us on the team, even though we're younger, we were still there and we still know what it took [to win a national title]. So it's really important that we show [the younger players], by the way that we work in practice, that it's going to take a lot more than our efforts during the season."

While they are leaders this season, one year ago, Joyce and Hernandez may have been two of the most unlikely candidates to be significant contributors in pushing Notre Dame toward a serious title run.

Overcoming injuries

Two things followed Joyce to Notre Dame — a great 3-point shot and numerous injuries.

Joyce refined her outside shooting after tearing her ACL as a freshman in high school. While rehabbing, Joyce practiced shooting 3s at home with her dad and at practice with the team.

"Coming off of that injury, I played a lot and shot a lot because I couldn't do much else but shoot," Joyce said.

As a freshman, Joyce hit 38 percent of her 3s and was an integral part of Notre Dame's championship team. But she played in just 25 games because of numerous leg and ankle injuries. The guard came back from those injuries to score 14 points in a second-round NCAA Tournament game against Michigan State, and added five points in the national semifinal matchup against Connecticut.

"[Joyce has] the experience of playing in a final game and being a contributing player in the NCAA Tournament and going to a championship," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

Joyce started eight games as a sophomore and continued to shoot well from behind the arc, making 35.3 percent of her attempts. She only managed to play in 24 games that season because of injuries.

Then last season, Joyce severely sprained her ankle in the summer and had tendonitis in the tendon around the ankle. Instead of playing off-and-on all season, Joyce decided to sit out the year and fully recover for this season.

Even with the season off,

there were no guarantees Joyce would be able to play a lot in 2003-04. Many times, Joyce has grimaced in pain while on the court, but she has always played as much as her body will allow.

"She came here as a freshman and wanted to finish," McGraw said. "She didn't want to quit even when her body has told her it was time to quit. She has really persevered. She's really battled and still is. But when the team looks at her they know she's been through so much."

Joyce said that she always planned on finishing her career, even with all the injuries.

"I made a commitment to play here, to graduate from here and to contribute as much as I could," Joyce said. "I'm definitely going to follow through with that even though I've had a lot physical ailments."

That's been good news for Notre Dame as McGraw admits that without Joyce this season, the Irish would almost surely have a few more losses.

"She won the St. John's game and the Pitt game," McGraw said. "She hit so many shots in those games to win those for us. She's just been a great threat to have and we're so happy to have her back."

Against the Red Storm Joyce made 5-of-10 3-pointers and ended the game with 15 points in Notre Dame's 69-56 win. The next game against the Panthers, Joyce drilled 5-of-8 3s for 16 points as the Irish escaped with a 72-68 victory.

"It's been awesome to make [an impact]," Joyce said. "Especially if I get some openings when my ankle is OK for a little bit, I'll be able to go for longer stretches. If you keep me in the game, I'll be able to get more shots up. So that's the most rewarding — when I get to play my minutes and don't have to worry about my ankles nagging me."

Starting over

Before her junior season, Hernandez decided to transfer to New York University in hopes of increased playing time. But for whatever reasons, NYU and Hernandez weren't a good match, and the New Mexico native found herself wanting to return to Notre Dame.

After contacting a player on last year's squad, then assistant coach Carol Owens, Hernandez finally talked to McGraw about the possibilities of returning to the Irish. McGraw said she could be on the practice squad for the remainder of the season. Hernandez agreed and participated on the practice squad in January.

"We were really happy she wanted to come back," McGraw said.

When this season arrived, Hernandez played limited minutes in Notre Dame's first 12 games before not playing at all in a 76-73 loss at Georgetown. The next day at practice Hernandez didn't complain, instead she worked



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Monique Hernandez goes up for a shot Nov. 21 against Valparaiso. Hernandez is known for her defense this season.

harder than anyone else on the team. After practice, McGraw decided to give the senior a chance at the starting lineup and the move has paid huge dividends for Notre Dame.

Since entering the starting lineup, the Irish are 11-4 and Hernandez has provided a significant spark.

"That is what we love about her — her intensity," McGraw said. "She's going to be in your face. She's not going to back down. She's not afraid of anyone. She plays without fear and is relentless and aggressive and we need that."

While Hernandez has also shown the ability to score — posting double figures in points against Dayton and Miami and making 43 percent of her field goal attempts this season — she understands her role on this team. Players like All-American candidate Jacqueline Batteast score the points, but Hernandez knows she's in the game to play defense.

"I think it's really important to have somebody, preferably more than one person on any team, that's always going to play hard no matter what — if they're scoring, if they're not," Hernandez said. "I think it takes a lot of pressure off others. It's really hard to be a great defensive player... That's my job."

McGraw said Hernandez's teammates gravitate toward her. At practice Hernandez jokes around a lot and keeps the mood of the team light.

"They love Monique. This

team loves her," McGraw said. "The fans love her and the coaches love her. You have to get behind someone who has persevered like she has."

Making a run

Unlike the 2001 championship run, Joyce and Hernandez will be asked for a lot more from their coaches and teammates in this year's tournament. The two will rely on their extensive tournament experience to captain Notre Dame during this difficult tournament, starting with the team's first round game against No. 12 Southwest Missouri State Sunday.

"[Hernandez] and I have been through it. We've played in those six games and traveled. What's important now is what we do in practice because that's going to really dictate how we will do in the tournament," Joyce said after Tuesday's practice. "We've been trying to focus and be really intense in practice and hopefully that'll carry over into the game we'll be able to do those things there and win."

The road to the Final Four won't be an easy trip for Notre Dame, but Joyce and Hernandez know the territory well. They didn't come back to Notre Dame just to compete. These two have won in the past and want to win in the present.

That chance begins this weekend and, hopefully for Notre Dame, ends in New Orleans on April 6.

Contact Joe Hettler at
jhettler@nd.edu

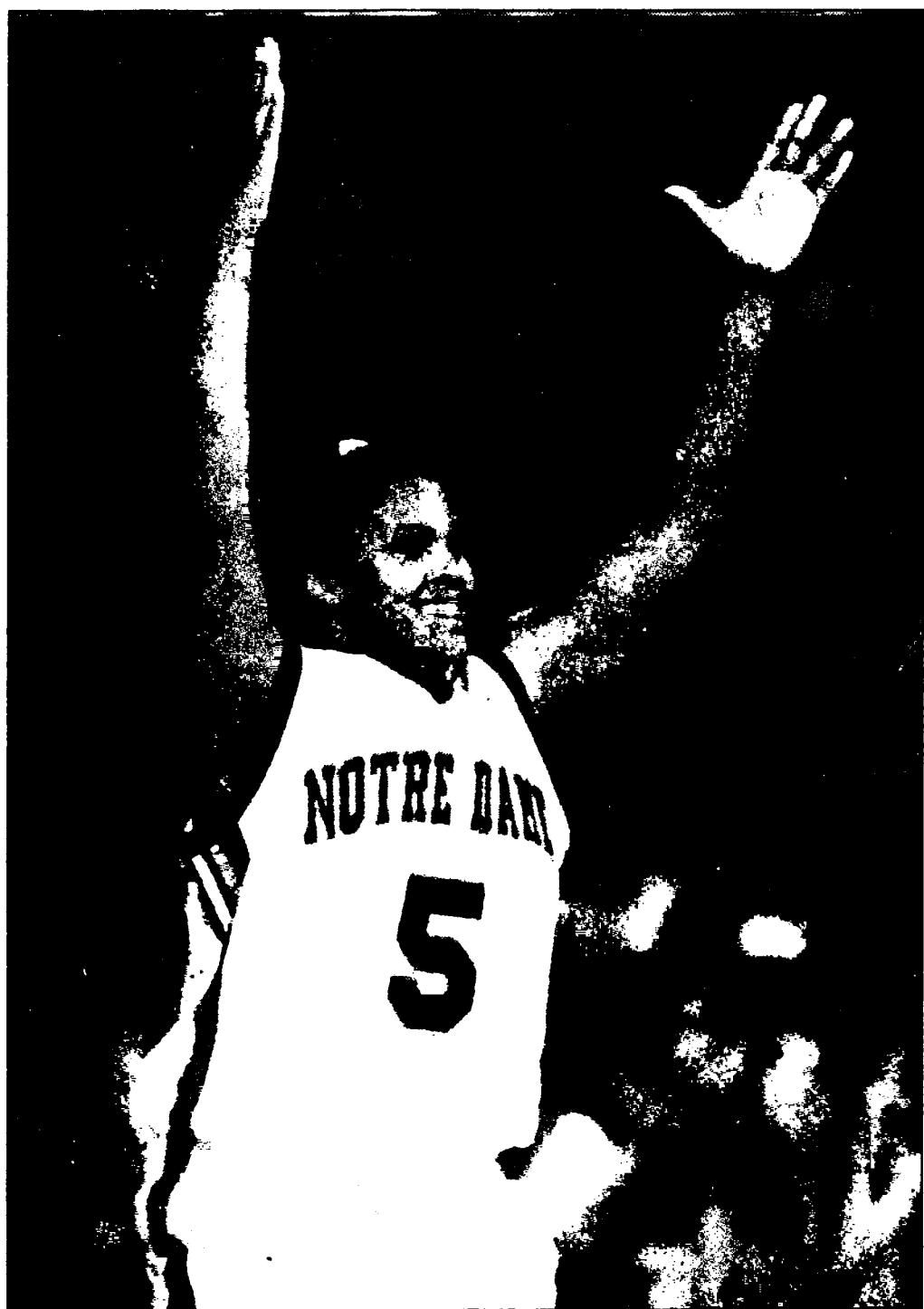


Photo courtesy of Notre Dame Sports Information

Jeneka Joyce celebrates after hitting a 3-pointer against Virginia Tech earlier this season at the Joyce Center.

Crunch time

Notre Dame has a lot to be excited about in this year's NCAA Tournament, and not just because of its somewhat surprising No. 5 seed.

For the first time a handful of teams, including the Irish, have a legitimate chance of winning the national championship.

Women's college basketball has lacked across-conference parity for years — until this season. In past seasons the Connecticut and Tennessees of the world would always be in the Final Four and always play for a national title.

But with increased national exposure of women's basketball and better players coming through the junior high and high school systems, more upsets are happening and more good teams have a chance to make a run at the championship.

"This tournament is so wide-open," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

There are plenty of examples of the increased parity this season.

Connecticut didn't receive a No. 1 seed in the tournament for the first time in six years.



Joe Hettler

Sports Writer

Smaller conferences like Conference-USA received more bids (4) to this year's tournament, than traditional powerhouse conferences like the Pac-10 (3).

The Irish are a prime example of this parity. Notre Dame rolled through much of its January schedule, beating five ranked opponents, including then-No. 4 Connecticut by 15 points. But the Irish also lost to lowly Georgetown by one point, a decent West Virginia club and a sub-par Seton Hall team.

Notre Dame ended the regular season at 19-9 overall and 12-4 in conference — good enough to finish second, behind Connecticut. The Irish earned a No. 2 seed in the Big East tournament, but lost in the quarterfinals to Rutgers 51-45.

Still, the team went an impressive 7-3 against Top 25 opponents, which seemed to help them gain a No. 5 seed in the East Region. The only catch is that the East is arguably the most difficult region in the tournament. Joining Notre Dame are Penn State, Houston, North Carolina, Colorado, California at Santa Barbara, Iowa and Auburn.

And if the Irish manage to get to the Elite Eight, they could face Connecticut in Hartford which is a daunting task for any team.

Notre Dame could easily make a run through that tough bracket, or they could easily lose in the first round if they

don't play well. Notre Dame has the advantage of playing its first two games at the Joyce Center, where the team is a perfect 13-0 this season.

Their first-round opponent, Southwest Missouri State, won't be an easy matchup. The Bears attempt and make the most 3-pointers of any team in the country. They shoot over 40 percent from behind the arc as a team and have the ability to beat Notre Dame.

If the Irish dispose of the Missouri Valley Conference champions and head into the second round, they likely will face No. 4 North Carolina. The Tar Heels will be a tough second-round foe and it won't get any easier from there with possible matchups against No. 1 Penn State and No. 2 Connecticut.

For these reasons, McGraw is probably more anxious than usual before the tournament this season. She knows that her team has all the pieces needed to make that run through the field, but she also knows with the increased parity, any team has the capabilities to knock the Irish out for good.

"Anybody can beat anybody," McGraw said. "In [the 2001 national championship season], we're going 'We know we can beat them' and now you can't say that about anyone."

All season, the Irish have shown promise by beating good teams, and then slipping up against lesser foes. In the tournament, they won't have



MEGAN DAVISSON/The Observer

Guard Megan Duffy looks to pass against Syracuse Mar. 3. Duffy and the Irish play Sunday in the first round of the NAAs.

the luxury of a slip against anyone.

There are no mulligans on the road to a national championship.

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu.

THE EAST REGIONAL

BLACKSBURG, VA.

No. 1 Penn State

The Nittany Lions grab the top seed despite some doubters.

No. 16 Hampton

Hampton enters the tournament with a 17-12 record.

No. 8 Virginia Tech

The Hokies hope to make some noise after a disappointing regular season.

No. 9 Iowa

Iowa has been playing well lately and is a team to watch for in the East.

SUNDAY
2:30 P.M.

SUNDAY
12 P.M.

SOUTH BEND, IND.

No. 5 Notre Dame

The Irish return home to a court where they haven't lost this season.

No. 12 Southwest Missouri State

Southwest Missouri State leads the nation in three-point shooting.

No. 4 North Carolina

The Tar Heels are young and athletic and could make some noise this year.

No. 13 Middle Tennessee State

The Raiders won the Sun Belt Tournament to earn a bid.

SUNDAY
2:30 P.M.

SUNDAY
12 P.M.

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

No. 2 Connecticut

After some struggles, the Huskies hope to regain their form in the NAAs.

No. 15 Pennsylvania

The Quakers won the Ivy League tournament to earn a right to play here.

No. 7 Auburn

Auburn likes to run and could be one of the best defensive teams in the country.

No. 10 North Carolina State

After starting off slow, the Wolfpack have rebounded to have a good season.

SUNDAY
9:30 P.M.

SUNDAY
7 P.M.

SANTA BARBARA, CALIF.

No. 3 Houston

Since winning just ten games in four years, the Cougars have improved.

No. 14 Wisconsin-Green Bay

Despite losing two starters, the Phoenix earned their third consecutive berth.

No. 6 Colorado

The Buffaloes have to be one of the high-energy teams if they are to make a run.

SUNDAY
9 P.M.

SUNDAY
11:30 P.M.

No. 11 UC Santa Barbara

The Gauchos are led by 6-foot-8 center Lindsay Taylor and dominate in the paint.

