The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2005

Bush set for second inaugural celebration

Country, Notre Dame still divided

By MADDIE HANNA **News Writer**

As President Bush begins his second term in office today, national polls as well as Notre Dame professors and students find the nation just as politically divided as it was during November's contentious elec-

A Pew Research Center poll for Jan. 5-9 cited Bush's approval rating as 50 percent and disapproval rating as 43 percent, which political sciprofessor David Campbell described as "histor-

see BUSH/page 6



President Bush's second inauguration takes places in Washington, D.C. today. Both the nation and Notre Dame remain in disagreement about the president and his views.

Ceremony stands out historically

By MADDIE HANNA News Writer

President Bush's inauguration today will mark the official beginning of his second four years in office, placing him in the growing - and challenging — category of second-term presidents.

"The inauguration is a reminder that this change is part of a broad transition. It's really important to do this,' film, television and theatre professor Susan Ohmer said.

According to Ohmer, the inauguration's ritual and ceremony send the message that,

see SPEECH/page 6

Princeton rankings not all bad

Despite low grades in some areas, ND ranks high in athletic categories

By KATTE PERRY News Writer

This year, Notre Dame was one of the most featured colleges in the Princeton Review's "Best 357 Colleges" book listings, appearing in 10 of the 64 total categories. While much of the attention following the rankings' release was dominated by the University's controversial first-place ranking in the category of "Alternative Lifestyles Not an Alternative," many of its other top finishes never got a second look.

The annual rankings provide direction and information for many-college bound high school students and their parents. To rank the schools, the Princeton Review selects what they consider to be the top schools - 357 made the cut this year — and categorizes them into top-20 lists focusing on different criteria.

According to the Princeton Review's Web site, rankings are based on approximately 300 surveys administered either electronically online or via paper over a period of three

years. In a pledge posted on their website, the Princeton Review vows to deliver an unbiased and uncensored view" of the featured universities and adds that rankings are generated from "the real experts" - current college students.

Among the University's favorable rankings, one-third directly involved athletics. Notre Dame took top honors in the categories "Everyone Plays Intramural Sports"

see REVIEW/page 4



Despite negative rankings in some categories, Notre Dame earns high marks from the Princeton Review for athletics.

Building collapses on CJ's Pub

Nearby demolition causes problem

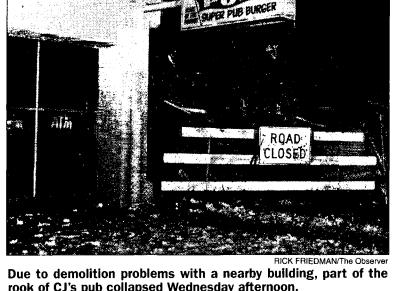
By KATE ANTONACCI Assistant News Editor

Three employees of CJ's Pubon North Michigan Street were unharmed Wednesday afternoon when demolition on the Gateway apartment complex next door went wrong, causing part of the six-story building to collapse onto the roof of the pub.

Though CJ's has long been a popular restaurant and bar for Notre Dame students, only a cook, waitress and bartender were inside at the time of the collapse.

"We'd been working with a demolition company on [the

see CJ'S/page 4



rook of CJ's pub collapsed Wednesday afternoon.

STUDENT SENATE

Members strive for African solidarity

Effort made to bring Bono to University

By AMANDA MICHAELS Assistant News Editor

The Student Senate was focused on the "call to solidarity" with Africa at Wednesday's meeting, as presenters urged them to support plans for an "Africa Week" and endorse a letter to Bono, lead singer of U2, requesting a U2 benefit con-

Emily Chin, Laura Feeney and Meghan Hanzlick asked Senate to back their efforts to continue the mission of raising the awareness about Africa started last year when a group traveled to Nigeria with "The Call to Solidarity."

They showed a video with clips from the Nigeria trip, set to a rock version of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," featuring Africans speaking to the importance of different cultures joining together in brotherhood.

Hanzlick then explained the purpose of Africa Week - tentatively set for mid-

"It'd be about bringing the

see SENATE/page 6

Inside Column

A day in the life

From the time I was five, I've known I wanted to be a teacher. I was the child who always wanted to "play school" in real time — from the moment my older brother left the

house for the bus until the second he came home. I made sure to play all the important subjects — coloring, snacking, napping and occasionally, the alphabet. I loved playing school. And then last

week, it was time

for me to give up

my childhood vision of school and face reality as



Angela Saoud

Saint Mary's Editor

a student teacher. Arming myself with novels and poems, newspaper articles and movie clips, I marched into Washington High School in South Bend last Monday thinking I was ready to teach. And I am, but it takes a lot of work.

It's a little known fact that after we all left our high school classrooms, our teachers actually had to do work. And not just a little work. A lot of work. Student teaching means planning lessons for five different periods, waiting in line to use the photocopier to make handouts, writing tests and quizzes (something I always hated) and trying to devise thought provoking lessons that will really help my students to learn something about English and about themselves

While my friends are getting ready to take their Wednesday night nap before hitting State, I'm already in my pajamas, looking to Shakespeare for inspiration or discovering ways to entice my students into writing a research paper.

The task is daunting to say the least. I feel as though I have more pressure placed on me now than I have ever felt before — because if I make a mistake this time, I'm letting down 125 high school seniors and myself.

And as my friends sleep in late, and my presence on campus diminishes, I wonder if I'm doing the right thing.

But it only takes one smile from a student in the hallway, one "Hey Miss S" to let me know my heart is in the classroom with my students although it occasionally slips away to my college life.

To say my life has changed this semester would be a vast understatement. I'm in the classroom every day, leaving me a lot less time to be on campus and with my friends. But when a student writes something amazingly insightful in an essay question or says something so profound I wish I had thought of it. I get a feeling inside that I've yet to feel anywhere else — a feeling that says no matter how much work I have, or how little sleep I get or that if my social life becomes non-existent, it's not going to matter.

And when I walk into the classroom next Monday, ready to teach for the entire day, I'm going to be more than

Because when I'm teaching, I am home.

Contact Angela Saoud saou0303@saintmarys.edu.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE POET AND WHY?



Bridget Higgins freshman Cavanaugh

"Tennyson it's so romatic. I love 'The Lady of Shallot."



Jim Hyde

senior O'Neill

"Homer - it's epic."



Molly Butler

junior Pasquerilla East

"Garrison Keillor, because he wears red shoes."



Dan McSwain

senior O'Neill

"Whoever writes on the bathroom stall."



Molly Kealy

sophomore Lyons

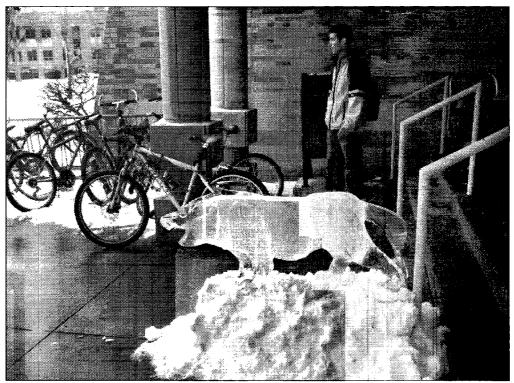
"Dr. Seuss, because I love Seuss-ical the musical.'



Kate Lenehan

sophomore Pasquerilla West

"Molly - shewrites me sonnets."



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

Food Services placed ice sculptures in front of North and South Dining Halls to celebrate "All-American Day."

OFFBEAT

Shrieking frogs unnerve Hawaiian island

HONOLULU — A tiny frog with a huge shriek has invaded the Big Island and won't shut up. Big Island Mayor Harry Kim is looking for \$2 million to begin controlling the spread of the nocturnal coqui frog, a beloved native in Puerto Rico but considered an annoying pest in Hawaii since hitching a ride over in shipments of tropical plants around 1990.

Six ways to upgrade your PC, when not to upgrade and tips on backing up.

The frogs have been mating easily — and shattering quiet island nights - ever

Aside from the noise, the frogs have a voracious appetite for spiders and insects, competing with native birds and fauna. And coqui frogs are adaptable to many ecosystems and breed heavily Hawaii, experts said.

D.A. confronts "jury pool from hell"

MEMPHIS, Tenn. -Defense attorney Leslie Ballin called it the "jury pool from hell." The group of prospective jurors was summoned to listen to a case of Tennessee trailer park violence. Right after jury selection began last week, one man got up and left, announcing, "I'm on morphine and I'm higher than a kite."

When the prosecutor asked if anyone had been convicted of a crime, a prospective juror said that he had been arrested and taken to a mental hospital after he almost shot his nephew. He said he was provoked because his nephew just would not come out from under the

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

SATURDAY

In Brief

RecSports will sponor its 19th annual Late Night Olympics. The all-night fundraiser, starting Saturday at 6 p.m. and lasting until Sunday at 4 a.m., will benefit the St. Joseph County Special Olympics.

The Notre Dame Student Film Festival will take place tonight, Friday and Saturday. Each showing, one from 7 to 9 p.m. and one from 10 p.m. to midnight, includes 18 student features and takes place at the Browning Family Cinema of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

University of Michigan economics professor will present a lecture on "The Boomers **Approach Retirement: Policies** to Prepare for Growing Old in an Aging America" Friday from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business.

Notre Dame men's and women's track teams will host their home opener Friday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Loftus Sports Center.

Organist Chris Cramer will present a concert tonight from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Reyes Organ and Choral Hall of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. Free tickets are required.

The Harlem Globetrotters will play at the Joyce Center Arena Friday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tickets are available through the Joyce Center ticket office.

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

TODAY HIGH 24

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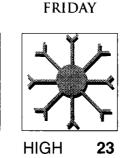
LOCAL WEATHER

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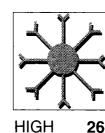
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TONIGHT



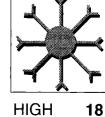
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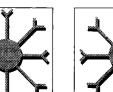
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SUNDAY



13



HIGH LOW

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MONDAY

Atlanta 74 / 62 Boston 70 / 49 Chicago 64 / 48 Denver 65 / 42 Houston 83 / 67 Los Angeles 78 / 72 Minneapolis 80 / 62 New York 70 / 49 Philadelphia 75 / 48 Phoenix 56 / 40 Seattle 61 / 48 St. Louis 71 / 58 Tampa 88 / 68 Washington 75 / 49

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Saint Mary's anticipates opening of new Student Center

Building will include space for student government, campus publications, theater, new bookstore, Internet cafe

By NICOLE ZOOK Assistant News Editor

For months, Saint Mary's students have been wondering what exactly lies beyond the brick walls of the new Student Center.

They have seen the driveway paved, brass fittings and a clock put outside, and have even been able to lift the sheet separating the dining half and the new lobby to get a quick look at the unfinished building.

According to facilities director John DeLee, they will find out

"It's scheduled for a February completion," DeLee said. "It should all be done by the 25th of February, and right now we're planning to move Student Activities, etc. [in] over break week."

The building's three levels will hold offices, meeting rooms and conference rooms for Student Activities as well as several other student groups such as student government, the Blue Mantle and a work area for The Observer. Space is also set aside for Campus Ministry, the Office of Multicultural Affairs and a new women's resource center to supplement the current LeMans Hall space.

Student activities director Georgeanna Rosenbush said the building will have everything students need.

"I've been involved since the beginning with students and faculty and other administrators to basically come up with what we need," she said. "We took a campus inventory for what we need, came up with a strategic plan."

Rosenbush, who said the plan for a student center began about five years ago, called the inventory a "wish list for students."

The list includes a brand new bookstore location, two student lounges, a First Source Bank branch, a convenience store and a theater.

The new center will also contain a cyber café, where students will have wireless Internet access. The café will feature grab-and-go style meals and an outdoor patio facing LeMans.

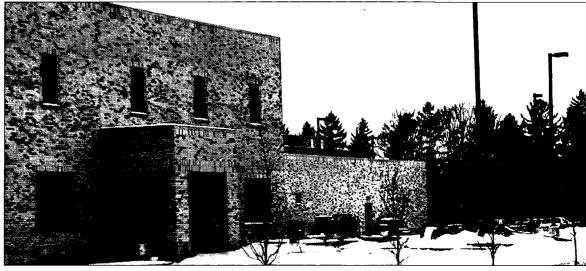
"We're hoping to get Adirondack chairs and things like that so people can sit outside and enjoy the weather," Rosenbush said. "We're very excited — it's going to be a nice facility."

The building will also accommodate two groups the Haggar Student Center did not — off-campus students and the president of the College.

The President's Dining Room will have space for dining with about 60 visiting dignitaries and guests, a preparation area for catering, and a terrace.

"We'll still have the west wing to have bigger events and dinners in there as well," Rosenbush said. "We'll have an off-campus kitchen area that will be a full kitchen for their lunch."

Senior Robin Blume said she



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

The new Saint Mary's Student Center is scheduled to open in February and will include offices for a variety of campus departments.

was especially pleased Saint Mary's was aiding students who choose not to live in the dorms.

"I'm thrilled that something on this campus is for off-campus students too," she said.

Other students compared the current construction to the building of the Noble Family Dining Hall, actually the first part of a two-phase plan including the Student Center.

"I thought there was a bigger need for a new academic hall before a new dining hall was built," senior Candace Schmidt said. "However, I think the student center was needed to fulfill SMC student, faculty, and staff needs." DeLee expects the Student Center to be well used and said students will not be disappointed when the facility finally opens after break.

"There's not going to be any part of it [students] won't like," she said

Rosenbush said the move from Haggar to the new building would help Saint Mary's feel more like a campus.

"I think the students are going to be very excited about it," she said. "I think it's also going to be a place that they're going to take a lot of ownership for, because it is called 'Student Center."

Rosenbush emphasized the Haggar College Center remains an important part of the College's history, and it will still be used for various—functions. However, Rosenbush also said she feels the new Student Center will become a place of union for the campus and its future students.

"Haggar is a wonderful gift of the Haggar family, and for 22 years it gave the students a spot, gave it a beginning," Rosenbush said. "This is where the students are going, I see that as a tribute to the leadership on our campus and the impact they have had on our campus."

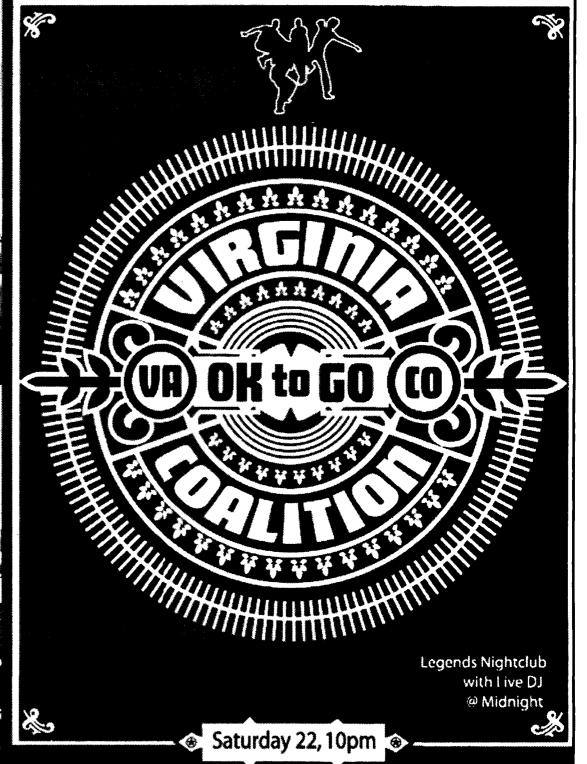
Contact Nicole Zook at Zook8928@saintmarys.edu



[There's a lot goin' on.]







Review

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the "Students Pack Stadiums," and ranked fourth among the "Jock Schools."

Richard O'Leary, director of intramurals and club sports, attributed the widespread student involvement in interhall athletics to the organizational efforts of RecSports, as well as the general enthusiasm of the student body.

'The Athletic Department has always supported the athletic interests of the entire student body," O'Leary said. "We are also blessed with a student body that requires us to provide well-rounded and complete recreational offerings."

Sophomore Ryan Ritter, an active member of intramural

sports from Sorin Hall, agreed that both the students and opportunities provided by the University itself play crucial roles in the popularity of nonvarsity athletics at Notre Dame.

"I think it's mostly the students that fuel the popularity of our intramurals, but thankfully RecSports has given the students plenty of opportunity to do so," Ritter

Ryan Ritter sophomore

"Interhall sports

have done more

than just fill a

void."

Notre Dame is characterized by the above-average athleticism of its student body, as each year it accrues a large

number of former high school ath-letes. The spirited nature of the interhall sports program serves to fill a void for those who have previously participated in competitive sports, O'Leary

"Our intramural program may be filling a competitive desire that has been carried over from their high school days," he said.

Ritter argued that Notre

Dame can allow formerly competitive students to rediscover a sometimes overlooked outlook on sports.

"Interhall sports have done more than just fill a void," Ritter said. "I've found that they also bring back the reasons most of us started playing in the first place - having fun."

The importance of dorm pride also lends itself to the popularity of intramural sports at Notre Dame, as students band with their hall communities rather than self or randomly-assembled teams. Dorm pride helps to fuel competition, Ritter said.

Because many Notre Dame students are athletes themselves, they have a marked appreciation for intercollegiate athletics. University's firstplace ranking in the category of "Students Pack the Stadiums" shows students

enjoy playing the role of athlete as well as that of spectator.

The athletic history of many Notre Dame students allows them to recognize the importance of fan support at athletic events.

"I feel a certain responsibility and desire to do whatever I can to help our sports teams because I've played on many teams myself, and I know full well that fans play a large role in any game," freshman Kyle Meade said.

The large number of intramural athletics participants and varsity sports attendees helped Notre Dame rank among the

top five "Jock Schools" in the nation.

Another category in which Notre Dame was placed among the top 10 was "Students Pray on a Regular Basis," Junior Amanda Murillo said that while Notre Dame provides ample opportunity for prayer, it is the students themselves who drive the religious devoutness on campus.

"There are so many opportunities to become involved in religious activities, and students at Notre Dame are eager to grow in their faith," Murillo said. "They encourage each other and support one another

"There are so

many opportunities

to become involved

in religious

activities."

Amanda Murillo

junior

to grow spiritual-

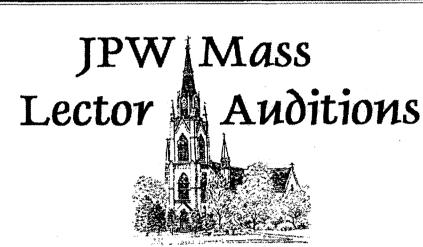
Numerous clubs, organizations and retreats organized through Campus Ministry other religious programs school opportunities for prayer and personal religious

reflection for the students of Notre Dame. Murillo is an active member of many of these programs, including Society of the Ivory Tower — which studies the theology of the body and Eucharistic Adoration.

"I try to be involved in things that will encourage growth in my prayer life," Murillo said.

Other categories featuring Notre Dame in the top 20 include "More to Do On Campus" and "Great Campus Food."

Contact Katie Perry at kperry5@nd.edu



JPW Lector auditions will take place in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on each of the following dates:

> Monday, January 24th at 5:00pm Tuesday, January 25th at 5:00pm

Please attend one of the two auditions. For further information, please contact Harv Humphrey at 271-7289 or by email at hhumphre@nd.edu



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CJ's

continued from page 1

building] and this was kind of a surprise this afternoon," said Ruth Linster, media relations manager for

Memorial Hospital and Health Systems, which owned Gateway and hired Warner and Sons, Inc. of Elkhart to tear down the building.

'I had gone by about five minutes before this thing happened and everything looked like it was going smoothly," she said. "I don't know the total damage, but I understand that CJ's is not functioning right now. We're looking into it and trying to figure out what happened with that demolition crew."

Rick Medick, owner of CJ's Pub, spoke with WNDU after the accident.

"It sounded like a bomb was going off," he said. "I was just walking into the building. I missed the whole collapse by about 10 seconds."

The Observer was unable to reach Medick on Wednesday.

Following the accident, a crew began clearing the rubble and removing excess debris. The total damage will be evaluated once the cause of the collapse is determined, Linster said.

Memorial Hospital released a statement Wednesday afternoon saying that they will be working with a contractor and insurance company to investigate the accident and determine how to best restore CJ's, Linster said.

Memorial Health System was demolishing the complex with the intention of putting new buildings up in the space in the future.

'It had been a hotel and apartment building years ago. Sometime in the 80s it was converted into office space,' Linster said. "We've owned it for the past few years and there was just too much that needed to be done to rehab it for our uses so we'd been planning on taking it down and temporarily using it as a parking lot.

"It was bizarre because we had just had a news conference about a different building we were going to put up and we knew this was coming down at the same time, but not in the way we did.

"I would imagine that this has an effect on students.'

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonac@nd.edu

Write for news. Call Claire at 1-5323.

Concert Sponsor: Diane and Paul Herman | Guest Artist Underwriter: AM General

Compiled from The Observer's wire services

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Palestinians promise quick action

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — The top Palestinian security commander said Wednesday he will deploy forces on Gaza's border with Israel to prevent rocket attacks, the first concrete step to rein in militants since Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas took office over the weekend.

Later, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon decided to resume security talks with the Palestinians — lifting a threat to retaliate for an attack last week that killed six Israeli civilians at a Gaza checkpoint.

Security officials from the two sides were to meet later Wednesday to discuss ways of stopping Palestinian rocket fire in the northern Gaza Strip, Israeli officials said. Palestinians confirmed the talks, saying they would take place at the Erez checkpoint between Gaza and Israel.

U.N. calls for new warning system KOBE, Japan — With multiple nations put-

ting forward projects for a tsunami-warning system, the United Nations said Wednesday it should set up the system and extend it globally, but the United States voiced doubts about the U.N. ability to run such a program.

The Asian tsunami disaster demonstrated with terrifying power the need for an alert system in the Indian Ocean and other parts of the world, but the outpouring of support to build one has generated a plethora of overlapping proposals.

Amid the confusion, U.N. officials at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe, Japan, called Wednesday for coordination of efforts — and insisted on their own central role in marshaling the expertise and setting up the system.

NATIONAL NEWS

FBI alerts Boston police of suspects

BOSTON — The FBI notified law enforcement officials Wednesday to be on the lookout for four Chinese nationals described as possible terror suspects who may be headed to the Boston area.

Federal law enforcement officials said they had received a tip about an unspecified threat against Boston, and released photographs of the two men and two women they were seeking. Authorities said none of the names had been on previous watch lists of

The investigation stirred a frenzy of media reports and prompted Gov. Mitt Romney, who had gone to Washington to attend Thursday's presidential inauguration, to decide to return to Massachusetts later Wednesday.

Four suspected of terror ties

WASHINGTON — Authorities have arrested four people accused of having ties to suspected terrorists and blocked 12 more from entering the United States in the first two weeks of this year, according to government

Daily reports from the Homeland Security Operations Center do not contain classified information. But they are not distributed publicly and generally intended to remain secret.

They offer a glimpse into what national security officials are doing to prevent an attack, detailing arrests, criminal incidents and law enforcement tips.

LOCAL NEWS

Governor proposes tax increase

Hoosiers with taxable incomes of more than \$100,000 would pay a temporary 1 percent surtax on this year's income under a proposal made Tuesday night by Gov. Mitch Daniels to help eliminate the state's deficit.

The added tax would bring the state \$290 million, earmarked for next year's estimated \$645 million budget hole, Daniels said in his first State of the State speech.

Judge throws out couple's lawsuit

Same-sex marriage law upheld in lawsuit filed by gay Massachusetts couple

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — In what is believed to be the first ruling of its kind, a judge on Wednesday upheld the federal law letting states ban same-sex marriages, dismissing a lawsuit by two women seeking to have their Massachusetts marriage recognized

Attorneys for conservative groups hailed the ruling by U.S. District Judge James S. Moody as an important first step, but the plaintiffs promised to appeal

This is a legal shot heard 'round the world,' said attorney Ellis Rubin. who filed the lawsuit on the women's behalf. "But we are not giving up. ... This case is going to be resolved in the U.S. Supreme Court, and I have said that since the day I filed it."

Although several federal cases are challenging the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act, attorneys said Wednesday's ruling was the first by a federal judge on a direct challenge to the law.

Moody sided with former Attorney General John Ashcroft, who argued in court filings that the government has a legitimate interest in allowing states to ban same-sex marriages, namely to encourage

"stable relationships" for the rearing of children by both biological parents.

The Justice Department did not immediately comment on the ruling.

The plaintiffs, Nancy Wilson and Paula Schoenwether, a couple for 27 years who live in Tampa, were married in Massachusetts in July. They wanted their union recognized in marriages to exist only Florida, where state law between men



Rubin filed a lawsuit in Tampa, FL on behalf of a lesbian couple.

specifically bans samesex marriages.

The women argued that the Defense of Marriage Act was unconstitutional

"This is a legal

shot heard 'round

the world."

Ellis Rubin

prosecuting attorney

because it diswas criminatory on the basis of sex and violated their fundamental rights.

u Moody disagreed, saying the law

was not discriminatory because it treats men and women equally and that the government met its burden of stating a legitimate interest for allowing

Moody said he could not declare marriage a "fundamental right," as the lawsuit urged him to do, and that he was bound to follow legal precedent.

"The legislatures of individual states may decide to overturn its precedent and strike down" the law, Moody wrote. "But, until then, this court is constrained to hold [the law] and the Florida statutes ... constitutionally valid."

Wilson, a minister for Metropolitan Community Churches, one of the world's largest congregations of gay Christians, said in a statement she challenge to the Supreme

"Despite this ruling, we are still married in our hearts, and legally married in Massachusetts," she said. Her partner added: "No civil rights movement was lost on one bad court decision.'

Conservative Christian groups applauded the

"Today we have witnessed a significant victory _ for marriage and democracy," said Tom Minnery of Focus on Family. The group is pushing for an amendment to the Constitution that would ban same-sex marriages.

"Unfortunately, at any time, marriage in any was prepared to take her jurisdiction is only one judge away from being ruled unconstitutional."

Bush 'eager' to start second term

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a city brimming with pageantry under fortress-like security, President Bush looked ahead Wednesday to his second inauguration, pledging to forge unity in a nation divided by political differences. "I am eager and ready for the work ahead," Bush declared.

In his inaugural address Thursday, Bush will tell the country that events and common sense have led him to one conclusion: "The survival of liberty in our land increasingly depends on the success of liberty in other lands. The best hope for peace in our world is the expansion of freedom in all the world.

The White House on Wednesday night released excerpts of the speech Bush will give after his swearing-in at the Capitol.

The threat of terrorism prompted what authorities promised would be the tightest inaugural security ever deployed. A half-million people were expected to throng the city for the swearing-in and the traditional parade along Pennsylvania Avenue from the Capitol to the White House.

The thunder of fireworks on the Ellipse began an inauguration-eve night of pageantry and parties for Bush, his wife, Laura, Vice President Dick Cheney and his wife, Lynne. With a fresh snow blanketing city streets and the temperature in the low 20s, the Bushes and Cheneys sat outdoors on a heated stage at a musical extravaganza called "A Celebration of Freedom."

'This is the cause that unites our country and gives hope to the world and will lead us to a future of peace," Bush told the crowd. "We have a calling from beyond the stars to stand for freedom, and America will always be faithful to that cause."

Inauguration is a time of unity for our country, the president said.

Speech

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"We're still here, we've overcome difficulties and we're still going.'

But the inauguration also signifies Bush's transition into his second term, which has proved problematic for many presidents.

"Second-term presidencies, historically in the later 20th century, tend to be very disappointing and crisis-ridden," political science professor Peri Arnold said, noting the troublesome second terms of Presidents Eisenhower, Johnson, Nixon and Reagan. "The problem looks like presidents enter the second term full of hubris ... [and] find that the mandate they thought they had was not a

The number of second-term presidents in recent years poses challenges for their critics and their constituents. Because the trend of presidents winning second terms has become fairly consistent in the past 25 years — out of the four most recent presidents, three have been reelected — Americans may come to expect it, Ohmer said.

"If you read a second term as stability, we've had a remarkable continuity in the last quarter century," which could mislead people into considering two terms the normal length for a presiden-

cy, Ohmer said.
"When people don't get reelected in the future, will that become troubling to us?" she asked.

The prevalence of second terms has also allowed the media to gain influence over the public's perception of a presidency. News coverage of policies and proposals can often center on comparisons between the two terms, Ohmer pointed out.

"The extent to which [the media does | that can influence how we see the second term," she said.

Even the president himself can see the nation through a different lens during his second term than he did during his first. Ohmer said a greater awareness of the office and the country comes with a second term.

"When a president has a second term, he develops an understanding of broader trends," she said. "Once you've been in there for a while, you have a bigger picture, a stronger sense of his-

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

◆ Finally, the Senate passed a

resolution from the Committee

on Residence Life commend-

ing the Office of Information

Technologies for its efforts in

starting a Dorm Printer Pilot

Program that will install

printers in five different resihalls.

Pasquerilla West, Stanford,

Keenan and Welsh Family will

◆ Committee on Academic

Affairs chair Vijay Ramanan

Readership pilot program -

bringing students three

national newspapers for free

The pilot program itself will

cost the student government

nothing, but they are still

looking into funding for the

Contact Amanda Michaels at

amichael@nd.edu

would start in February.

a

be the trial dorms.

announced

Carroll,

College

Bush

continued from page 1

ically low" for a secondterm president.

Campbell cited approval for Presidents ratings Clinton, Reagan, Nixon, Johnson and Eisenhower from Pew or Gallup polls all conducted during a similar time. The lowest — Clinton's 59 percent — was still significantly higher than Bush's.

"What appears to have happened is as we go through the post-election period [is] we've kept that sense of divisiveness," Campbell said.

Similar to the Pew poll, a Washington Post-ABC poll for Jan. 12-16 found Bush's approval rating to be 52 percent and disapproval rating to be 46 percent.

When broken down into subcategories, the poll showed only 33 percent of Americans "approve strongly" of Bush, while a full 35 percent "disapprove strong-

iy."
"He's not beginning, in reality, with a big wave of support," political science professor Peri Arnold said.

Regarding public opinion, "nothing's changed" since the bitter election season, said American Studies professor Tom Guglielmo.

And while tempers always subside following an election, Campbell said, the president is not likely to benefit.

"There's going to be no honeymoon Bush,' for Campbell said.

American Studies professor Robert Schmuhl agreed.

'We're certainly divided," Schmuhl said. "There are a number of reasons for that in part because of some of the figures who have been most prominent politically in recent years.'

Tom Rippinger, co-president of College Republicans, noted the contentious atmosphere that still prevails after the November election.

"The political climate's still polarized because of Iraq, with the war still going on, and the violence," he said.

Nicola Bunick, co-president of College Democrats, said the liberal opposition to Bush was still thriving.

"A lot of people do still feel that opposition," Bunick said.

While Bunick acknowledged that some members of the general public are "put off and tired" after the intensity of the election, many liberals still have energy and a desire to push for reform.

The more vocal elements on the left want to make it clear to the public that this stuff hasn't changed, it's still going on," she said, referring to issues of liberal focus during the election.

Reflecting upon the vehemence present among some members of the Democratic Party, Arnold said the polarization was based not just on party, but also on Bush him-

"George Bush is a lightning rod," he said. "Liberal Democrats see

"There's nothing

Bush can do —

except not be

Bush."

Peri Arnold

political science

professor

Bush as objectionable because of his style, open invocation of appeals religion, the veiled appearance and references to the notion that, there's

divine intervention in politics that he represents, and policies aimed at undoing the 70 years of accumulated policies from the New Deal.'

Arnold saw limited possibilities for Bush to unite the country.

There's nothing Bush can do - except not be Bush," he

However, some of the division is overstated, according to Campbell.

"Often from the press we hear references to red and blue states, polarization, the sense of a divided country,' he said. "It's easy to overplay that. Looking back over the entire span of history, we're not much more so.

Professors and students both said they thought the second term would progress much like the first term.

"He's going to keep doing what he's doing, pleasing about 53 percent of the population and making the other 47 percent pretty mad, Campbell said.

Campbell said when Bush

entered office in 2000, the speculation in Washington, D.C. was that he would be middle of the road, reaching out to Democrats in a bipartisan fashion.

"But the exact opposite happened," Campbell said. Bush signaled publicly that he considers himself to have a mandate.

Arnold also questioned the idea of a mandate.

"Does he have a mandate in major change for Social Security? Of course not," he said. "But the President is the biggest megaphone in public

Although Bush will have a Republican Congress during his second term, it is unclear how much ability he will have

to enact significant change. "It will be possible, but dif-

ficult to sign all Republicans onto one issue - I think his chances are less than a coin toss," Arnold said.

Lauren Galgano, president of Notre Dame Right to Life, said she welcomed the president's term.

"I am excited to see what the team can accomplish with the new dynamics," she said. "I wouldn't say President Bush has a mandate by any means, but he should certainly feel confident that the majority of the nation supports his leadership.'

Galgano said she is confident Bush will stand firm on his anti-abortion stance.

"[He will] nominate competent judges who not only uphold the sanctity of life, understand Constitution as it was intended to be read by our Founding Fathers," she said.

Bunick said during Bush's second term, Democrats want to draw media attention to problems they see occurring.

"There are unjust policies that I know a lot of Americans don't want to happen," Bunick said. "It's not something that can be dropped now that the election's over."

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

Senate

continued from page 1

student body together for one week under one cause, and it would be amazing," she

Chin then spoke about the letter to Bono — originally introduced to the Senate by Hanzlick in November — that invites U2 to play a benefit concert as what she called "the icing on the cake" for Africa Week.

Feeney emphasized Africa Week would go on with or without U2, but they should at least try to spark Bono's interest with a display of student support by way of a mass amount of signatures.

The letter, once approved by Senate, would be sent to Bono as an initial expression of interest, and booths would be set up soon thereafter to collect the signatures.

Though senators expressed their support of the idea, there was concern over the tone of the proposed letter, and they voted to have it rewritten for next week in favor of a "more professional style."

After the presentation, Judicial Council president Brin Anderson spoke to Senate about the upcoming student body presidential and vice presidential elections. Petitions were due Wednesday and candidates will be officially announced next week, she said.

"It's also my job to inform you of any campaign procedure violations," Anderson said. "Consequently, we've already had one, regarding campaigning prior

approval.' Though she did not specify which candidates were involved in the violation, Anderson said that a hearing was already held and sanctions were issued.

In other Senate news:

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THE OBSERVER BUSINESS

MARKET RECAP

	Stocks	
Dow 10. Jones	,539.97	-88.82
Up: San 1,323 13	ne: Down: Co 6 2.047	omposite Volume: 1,497,165,312
AMEX	1,399.07	-1.53
NASDAQ	2,073.59	-32.45
NYSE	7,059.27	-55.26
S&P 500	1,184.63	-11.35
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	11,405.34	0.00
FTSE 100(London	4,818.30	-5.60
COMPANY	%CHANGE \$	GAIN PRICE
SIRIUS SATELLITE R (SIRI)	-6.89	-0.43 5.81

NASDAQ 100 TR SER I (QQQQ)	-1.65	-0.64	38.08						
AASTROM BIOSCIENCE (ASTM)	+20.90	+0.70	4.05						
CISCO SYS INC (CSCO)	-3.15	-0.59	18.15						
INTEL CP (INTC)	-1.48	-0.34	22.60						
Treasuries									
30-YEAR BOND	-0.43	-0.20	46.69						
10-YEAR NOTE	-0.19	-0.08	41.87						
5-YEAR NOTE	0.00	0.00	37.17						

-0.62	47.86
-0.20	423.30
+0.55	93.93
2 5	
	-0.20

Exchange Rates								
YEN	102.8400							
EURO	0.7686							
POUND	0.5346							
CANADIAN \$	1.2271							

IN BRIEF

GM to launch new China models

SHANGHAI, China — Boosting its lineup in an increasingly competitive market, General Motors Corp. announced Tuesday that it will launch a new series of made-in-China Chevrolets next month.

The new small and mid-size models will roll out in late February and will be sold through a network of 100 dealerships to be set up across China to sell and service the vehicles, the world's largest automaker said in a statement.

GM has invested than \$2 billion in China since 1998 in joint ventures that now make domestic brands as well as Buick sedans, Chevrolet Blazers, minivans and other models. It claims about an 8 percent share of China's vehicle market.

GM China expanded its import lineup in 2004 to meet strong demand for premium and luxury vehicles. It introduced the Saab brand in May and Cadillac a month later.

DuPont to close its Indiana plant

ROUND ROCK, Texas Photomasks Inc., one of the world's top makers of photomasks for the computer-chip industry, Tuesday said it will cut about 100 jobs, or about 6 percent of its work force, as it moves to close a photomask factory in Indiana in an effort to save money.

The plant, in Kokomo, Ind., is DuPont Photomasks' oldest factory. The company expects it to shut down in the quarter ending June 30.

Photomasks, a key component of semiconductor production, are etched plates of glass used by chip makers to transfer circuit patterns onto silicon wafers.

DuPont Photomasks spokesman Tom Blake said the photomasks made at Kokomo are becoming increasingly obsolete. Major customers such as Texas Instruments Inc. are shifting to the smaller photomask standard of 130 nanometers or less.

DuPont Photomasks, which is based in Round Rock, will be left with eight factories located near customers' semiconductor fabri-

cation and chip-design centers. Five of the plants will focus on manufacturing the leading-edge photomasks, and three will concentrate on making the older products, Blake said.

Report says economic activity up

Shopping, tourism, job numbers continued to expand nicely in last few months

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Shoppers and tourists kept salespeople busy, factories for the most part hummed and the jobs picture brightened over the last few months, fresh signs that the economy is moving solidly ahead.

Those were some of the developments contained in the Federal Reserve's latest snapshot of economic activity, released Wednesday. The Fed's survey of business conditions around the country also suggested that inflation isn't currently a danger to the economy.

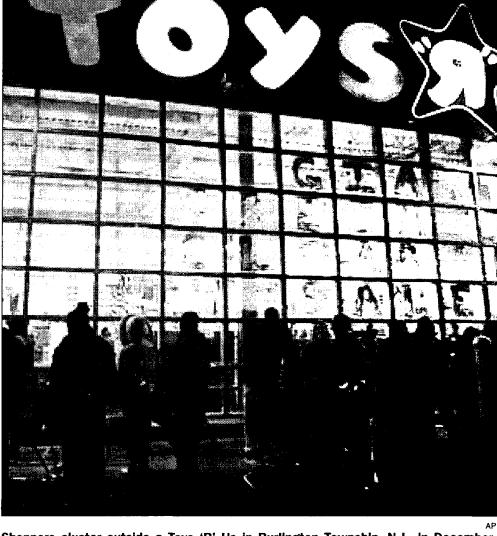
Eleven of the Fed's 12 regional districts characterized economic activity from late November through early January as expanding, the Fed survey said. The Cleveland district, however, reported that activity in its region was mixed.

The report is dubbed the Beige Book for the color of its cover, but the signals that it sent were anything but drab. These indicators of an improving economy will be discussed when Fed policy-makers meet for the first time this year, on Feb.

Economic analysts are predicting that the Fed probably will boost a key short-term interest rate by one-quarter percentage point — to 2.50 percent at that time.

The Fed report suggests that "the idea of measured tightening remains the order of the day," said Stuart Hoffman, chief PNC economist at Financial Services Group. "The Beige Book didn't signal more concern about inflation or about the economy. That's a perfect recipe for another quarterpoint rate hike," he said.

Fed policy-makers raised rates five times in 2004_ with each increase by a quarter-point. It was part of a campaign that started



Shoppers cluster outside a Toys 'R' Us in Burlington Township, N.J., in December. Growing retall sales and job numbers in recent months indicate a recovering economy.

what had been an extraordinarily low level to a more normal one now that the economy has recovered from the 2001 recession and terror attacks.

The Fed survey said that spending "consumer increased in most districts" since its last survey released early in December. Consumer spending is important because it accounts for roughly two-thirds of all economic activity in the United States.

Sales of luxury goods were strong in the Kansas City, Philadelphia and San Francisco districts, while retailers in the Atlanta, Chicago and Kansas City

tronics and jewelry sold well during the holiday season," the report said.

Gift cards sold briskly in some markets, although sales of automobiles were mixed, the survey noted.

"Adding to the strength in household spending was an increase in tourism in several districts," the report said.

Hotel occupancy rates were up in the Fed districts of Boston as well as San Francisco, where the number of Japanese visitors to Hawaii has returned to pre-September 11, 2001, levels, the report

In the New York region, tourist activity was higher in June to move rates from districts reported that elec-both upstate and in New

York City, where Broadway theaters set a box-office record during the last week of the year." In the Atlanta district, tourism also was strong. "Central Florida theme parks were filled to capacity," the survey noted.

On the manufacturing front, factory activity generally strengthened. "Looking ahead, manufacturers expected conditions to remain positive in coming months," the survey said. "Most districts reported that manufacturers intend to increase their capital spending in 2005.

If that happens, that could bode well for stronger hiring in the

United pilots agree on new contract

Associated Press

CHICAGO — United Airlines and its pilots' union reached tentative agreement on a revised new contract Tuesday, 11 days after a judge dismissed the previous deal as unfair to other unions.

The pilots' union leadership endorsed the agreement and sent it to the approximately 6,400 United pilots for ratification. Balloting is to begin Thursday and go until Jan.

Neither the company nor union would release details, but United said the savings were similar to those outlined in the previous deal, in which pilots had agreed to a 15 percent pay cut. The pilots planned to discuss the new contract on Wednesday.

If approved, the latest agreement will help United in its push to rewrite all its labor contracts to save costs for the second time in its 25-month bankruptcy. The Elk Grove Village, Ill.-based airline says it needs to cut wages and benefits by \$725 million annually — on top of the \$2.5 billion in annual reductions made in 2003 - andeliminate defined-benefit pensions.

The previous contract would have provided United with \$180 million in annual savings and paved the way for it to terminate the traditional pensions. Pilots agreed not to fight the pension move in exchange for additional financial considera-

But the flight attendants' and machinists' unions, joined by the government's pension agency and a committee of United's unsecured creditors, successfully opposed that deal. Bankruptcy Judge Eugene Wedoff ruled in their favor on Jan. 7, saying it unfairly forced the other unions to join the pilots in letting United end their pension

United said Tuesday that the new pact will provide the permanent labor cost savings it needs to complete its restructuring.

'We believe that this agreement addresses fully the concerns raised by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court," spokeswoman Jean Medina said.

IEWPOINT

The Observer

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POST OFFICE INFORMATION

rver (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exaction periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$100 for one academic

The Observer is published at: 024 South Dining Hall Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779 Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER Send address con The Observer P.O. Box 779 024 South Dinin

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Death penalty is never right

If the trial judge approves the jury's recommendation, Scott Peterson will die for the murder of his wife, Laci, and their unborn son, Conner. But don't expect Peterson to check out too soon. The 641

inmates on California's death row wait an average of 16 years to die.

Right or Wrong?

Charles Rice

Some die of old age rather than lethal injection.
If the Catholic Church had its way,

none of them would ever be executed. Question: Why is the Church so protective of murderers, even of one like

The "primary aim" of punishment is redressing the disorder introduced by the offense." Catechism, no. 2266. This is retribution, restoring the balance of justice. Other purposes are rehabilitation of the offender and deterrence of the offender and of others.

Pope John Paul II, in Evangelium Vitae (EV) and the Catechism, affirmed the traditional teaching that the state has authority to impose the death penalty and that retribution remains the "primary aim" of punishment. But he has developed the teaching on the use of that penalty, so that neither retribution nor any other purpose will justify the use of the death penalty unless it "is the only possible way of ... defending human lives against the unjust aggressor." In other words, if it is the only possible way of keeping Scott Peterson from killing more people. "[N]on-lethal means," continued John Paul, "are more in keeping with ... the common good and ... the dignity of the human person. Today, ... as a consequence of the possibilities which the state has for ... rendering one who has committed an offense incapable of doing harm — without definitively taking away from him the possibility of

redeeming himself — the cases in which ... execution ... is an absolute necessity 'are very rare, if not practically non-existent." Catechism, no. 2267, quoting EV, no. 56.

This severe restriction arises from the importance of the conversion of the criminal. St. Augustine and St. Thomas agree "for a just man to be made from a sinner is greater than to create heaven and earth." S.T., I, II, Q. 113, art. 9.

Whether execution is such an "absolute necessity" depends on the ability of the prison system to confine this prisoner securely. That involves a prudential judgment. But John Paul's development of the teaching on the use of the death penalty is a universal, and not a prudential, criterion. It applies everywhere and to all states.

Even under this teaching, one could still argue for the death penalty in some cases, for example, if a life inmate, already in maximum security, murders another inmate; or if the state is unable to confine inmates securely.

EV and the Catechism discuss the death penalty in the context of "preventing crime," and the "system of penal justice." Perhaps this teaching might not apply to a military tribunal which applies the "laws of war" outside the usual criminal process. In a just war, the state has authority to kill intentionally, subject to the restrictions of proportionality and non-combatant immunity. Or perhaps execution of a terrorist leader could be justified even under John Paul's criteria if his continued imprisonment would incite further terrorist attacks. On the other hand, the martyrization of such a leader by executing him might have the same inciting effect. Or, could a terrorist be treated as a spy and rightly executed pursuant to the laws of

war? Whatever the answer to such hypothetical cases, John Paul's teaching fully applies to all prosecutions under ordinary criminal law, including that of Scott Peterson.

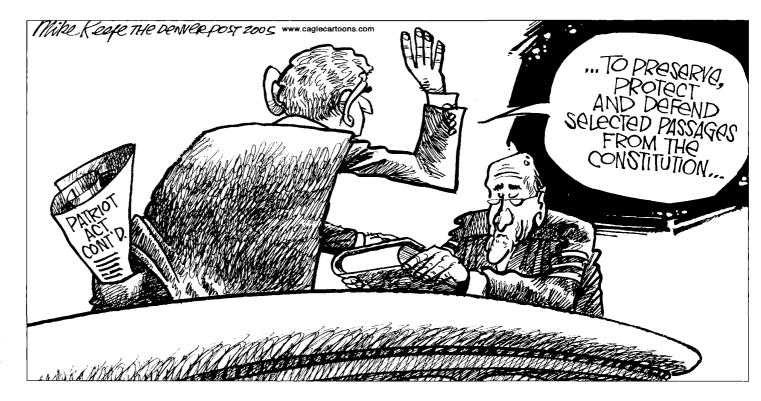
This teaching cannot be dismissed as merely John Paul's personal opinion he put it in the Catechism. At the least, it is a teaching of the authentic magisterium or teaching authority, whether or not the Pope has proclaimed it definitively. As Vatican II declared, "loyal submission of will and intellect must be given, in a special way to the authentic teaching authority of the Roman Pontiff, even when he does not speak ex cathedra." Lumen Gentium, no. 25. The Code of Canon Law, no. 752, codifies this requirement so that such teachings, even if not proclaimed "with a definitive act" are binding in that "the Christian faithful are to take care to avoid those things which do not agree with it.'

This teaching is an aspect of John Paul's advocacy of a "culture of life." We have developed instead a "culture of death" in which the intentional infliction of death is readily accepted as a problem-solving technique, as in the death penalty, war, euthanasia and, of course, abortion. Scott Peterson may die for killing the unborn Conner. But Laci could have legally killed him to solve a problem or for no reason. John Paul instead appeals "to each and every person, in the name of God: respect, protect, love and serve life, every human life!" Even the life of a guy like Scott Peterson.

Professor Emeritus Rice is on the Law School faculty. His column appears every other Thursday. He can be contacted at plawecki.1@nd.edu.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

How do you feel student government has done this year?

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Leadership to me means duty, honor, country. It means character, and it means listening from time to time."

> George W. Bush **President**

THE OBSERVER IEWPOINT

Hats off to hats — why a hatless America started

As a child this was always one of my favorite times of year. Although it was bitterly cold at times, the winters in Chicago proved to be an exciting time when each morning held the possibility of waking up

For several years I have fondly referred to this time of year as "hat season" despite the fact that I myself never wear hats. I always know it has arrived when I see middle-aged men donning Irish walking

Nobody Likes a Dumb Blonde

Molly Acker

caps or little boys wearing their navy-blue Chicago Bears hats with the orange ball on the end, before going outside to play.

During winter break the book "Hatless Jack" by Chicago Tribune columnist Neil Steinberg caught my attention. I learned that traditionally, hats were not only used to keep warm in frigid weather, but also to mark one's style. In addition to winter, there were several other "hat seasons" throughout the course of the year. Sept. 15 was designated as our national Hat

Historically, to wear a summer straw hat after this day was a grave fashion faux pas; much like wearing white after Labor Day is today. Steinberg provides accounts of hat-wearers having their haberdashery stolen or even being beaten up for sporting straw hats after Hat Day. He also discusses the shame of losing your hat or having to chase after if it blew away in a chapter aptly titled "Never run after your

The book attributes the demise of hat-wearing in this country to the late President John F. Kennedy. Much to the chagrin of the "hatters", the young president often refused to wear hats despite their constant attempts to outfit him in one. Kennedy was photographed bare-headed from the very beginning of his political career.

On the rare occasion that he did wear a hat, it often made front page news. At one point Kennedy was photographed on the family yacht in casual sportswear with the sun reflecting on his copper tresses, and this was soon deemed as the 'new American look."

To many the decline of hat wearing was a pressing social issue in the '60s. Although the decline of hat-wearing helped to eliminate the possibility of being beaten up for wearing the wrong had during the wrong season, it also decimated the hat-making industry, which had been rather lucrative up to

Moreover, it raised questions as to how a gentleman should conduct himself in a hatless world. How could he look respectable in public without wearing a hat? How could he properly greet someone without the tip of a hat? How could a man show interest in or acknowledge a woman without a hat to

Clearly, the country needed only to look to its President for guidance in this time of crisis. As we now know, President Kennedy had few problems "acknowledging" women.

The American people took note of their hatless president and gradually began to follow his example. If this man could be elected the leader of the free world, while at the same time disregarding the social guidelines surrounding proper hat-wearing, then maybe there really wasn't any need for Americans to end up chasing their fedoras down the street on a windy day.

Today both men and women still wear hats, but usually for more functional purposes. Other than supporting your favorite sports team or college and whether it be worn sideways, backwards or forward, hats today express very little

about their wearer. Hats no longer carry the same significance they did only a few decades ago, when one's hat was ultimately an extension of oneself. Hats not only epitomized one's own sense of personal style, but also provided our nation with certain social norms to be followed.

I think a certain part of our nation's charm died with Kennedy's refusal to wear hats and the subsequent demise of hat-wearing. Never will we see young men approach young women with the tip of a hat, and never will we have to check a hat at a nice restaurant. Just watch today's Inauguration chances are that President George W. Bush will not wear a top hat, which had for many years been an Inaugural tradition. This serves as yet another reminder that hats no longer rest atop America's fashion sense.

Molly Acker is a junior communications and humanistic studies double major at Saint Mary's. Her column appears every other Thursday. She can be contacted at acke6785@saintmarys.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WMD are not the only reason for the war in Iraq

The University of Illinois has a pretty good basketball team this year. After Chuck Prochaska's column "No WMD? So What?," I have to guess that this is a reflection of extremely low admissions standards. Prochaska demonstrates an amazingly limited grasp of the debate over the war in Iraq. His lack of knowledge and lack of concern for opposing viewpoints is incredible. He argues that weapons of mass destruction were not the reason for the war but rather lists several atrocities of Saddam Hussein's regime as the real cause. In fact, if I remember correctly, though two years ago is becoming a bit foggy, the assertion that there were weapons of mass destruction was the main justifying reason for invading Iraq. If the historical atrocities were enough, what was the use of Colin Powell testifying to there existence before the U.N.?

By far my favorite part of Prochaska's article, though, is the part where he asserts that, despite the fact that no weapons were found, they were there. Despite the efforts of a U.N. search team before the war and our illustrious U.S. army afterward both of whom failed to find evidence of weapons of mass destruction, Hussein most certainly did have them. Prochaska is sure. In fact, if the liberal media wouldn't cover things up, plain Americans like us would know about them right now instead of hearing these made up reports. This terrible piece of writing and argument deserves no place in an intelligent debate.

> Joseph Boyle junior Keenan Hall Jan. 19

This is not a victory

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt celebrated his inauguration in 1945 with cold chicken salad and pound cake. Today, President George W. Bush will celebrate his inauguration with three days of concerts, balls and candlelight dinners. The total cost of the event is expected to surpass \$40 million. Yet while the first family and their generous corporate amigos plan to square dance at tonight's "Black Ties and Boots" hoedown, we can't help but ask ourselves, exactly what are we celebrating?

This is not a victory for American foreign policy, especially after the president very quietly admitted to the end of our failed attempt at finding any weapons of mass destruction. This is not a victory for the Iraqi people, who, now free from Saddam's oppression, face the tyranny of wondering whether they'll survive the day. This is certainly not a victory for the over 100,000 Iraqi civilians who now lay dead as a result of Bush's war.

This inauguration is not a victory for the over 150,000 undersupplied American troops in Iraq who are forced to use scrap metal to insure their Humvees are properly armored due to poor planning.

This is not a victory for those who believe in the Republican values of nonintervention, limited government or fiscal

Nor is it a victory for Catholics, who face the very un-Christian policies of massive tax cuts for the rich and wars of aggression while abortion remains legal, without much complaint from the presi-

Perhaps most depressing, this is not a victory for any future generations who will undoubtedly grew up in a world of increased hostility towards Americans. Indeed, with recent leaks of administration plans to bomb Iran before the end of this summer, it is hard to imagine that the next few years will be any better than the previous four.

No one should celebrate this day. Instead, we should pray for a better

Unfortunately, we have become very good at that over the past four years.

> Stephanie Gharakhanian Mike Peterson

Co-Presidents of the Notre Dame Peace Coaltion

U-WIRE

School's out for ... never

In high school, I used to jokingly say I'd be a professional college student when I was older. Now that I'm a college senior frantically tallying my credits, I'm realizing that what started as a joke (intended to freak

out my parents about Murnane finances) is becoming

more of a reality. While I plan to graduate in the spring within an infrequent Columbia record of

Columbia College The Columbia Chronicle

exactly four years - I just don't think that'll be enough for me. Sure, I'd love

to finish school and jump right into my high-paying dream magazine job, but I just don't see that happening. As much as I'd like to go from scraping up change to ride the el to traveling all over the world to interviewing high-profile people, I have to be realistic. So, I'll just keep going to school.

But, until I land my dream job from writing this column, I can be found, well, trying to land a dream job while writing this column. I've decided to go to grad school. Well not go to grad school. It's more like stay to grad school, as I'm planning on attending

right here. That is, if I pass Senior Seminar this semester and the grad school admissions office accepts my application.

I can't take any more "final projects" based on my "reflections on the world in which I live" and things I'm passionate about while somehow incorporating my major.

For example, I'm now choreographing my interpretive dance piece on the quantitative study of dreams using only movements to create letters spelling out a story I wrote about where I see myself in journalism in 12.3 years, and how

Columbia has helped me achieve my goals of bettering the world with "media arts" — for my math class. I'll get extra credit if I use visual aides — like photos or maybe gum sculptures. Actually, the more I think of staying for grad school, the crazier I think I am.

This column originally appeared in the Jan. 19 issue of the The Columbia Chronicle, the daily publication at Columbia College.

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

STHE OBSERVER CENE

ALBUM REVIEWS

Nas shows he's still got it

By KENYATTA STORIN

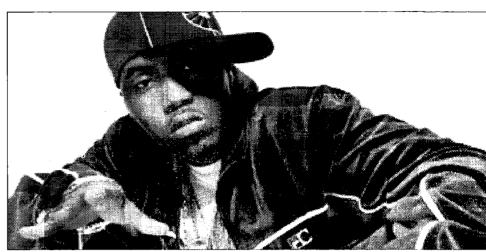
Assistant Scene Editor

At this point in his career, rap veteran Nas will probably never be able to eclipse his arch-rival Jay-Z in both fame and success, but his new double album, "Street Disciple," shows he still has something left

In 1994, Nas came out with his stunning rap debut, "Illmatic" — an instant classic that immediately catapulted him to the top of the rap game. But in the years since, Nas' stock has wavered greatly, for while he has shown flashes of brilliance over the years and is undoubtedly a very talented rapper, he has never been able to duplicate the power and skill of his debut. As a result, in many people's eyes he has always been somewhat of a disappointment in hip-hop, much like what Derrick Coleman is to the NBA. The recently released Detroit Piston was the first overall pick in the draft by the New Jersey Nets in 1990, and although he turned out to be a very good player, he never became the huge star everyone thought he would

Although Nas still does not have the esteemed status he once had, he has managed to revitalize his career over the past three years due to increased media attention from his feud with Jay-Z and improved material on his last two albums, "Stillmatic" and "God's Son." While both albums were far from perfect, they had their share of highlights, proving Nas could still flow with the best of them. "Street Disciple" continues this positive streak of albums, and while it is not on par with "Illmatic" by any means, it is a solid release.

Not surprisingly, like all hip-hop doubledisc albums, "Street Disciple" has too much filler and lags at times, but overall the good outweighs the bad. For the most part, Nas avoids making concessions to the pop market by generally avoiding catchy pop hooks, allowing Nas to put himself to the forefront and showcase his rapping talents. Salaam Remi, Chucky



Nas' "Street Disciple" is an ambitious double-disc album, but it would be stronger if it was cut down to one.

Thompson and L.E.S. handle the production (with the exception of a few beats done by Nas himself), and the results, while not stunning, are diverse and refreshing.

Lyrically, Nas keeps things fresh by going all across the board, rapping about politics, sexual exploits, racism, his childhood, past musical influences and marriage, among other things. He takes shots at several people throughout the album, like Condoleeza Rice on "American Way," where he raps, "Tell [Rice] if she ever really cared about poor schools / About poor children, then she gotta prove / that she ain't just another coon Uncle Tom fool." In contrast to this, he is less serious on other songs, like the catchy party jam, "Virgo," (featuring Ludacris and Doug E. Fresh) with the chorus, "Hey girl, just come and hold my hand / Won't you come and just chill with the Virgo." Nas also shows he still has plenty of bite in his rhymes too, as shown by his attacks on 'Suicide Bounce:" It's obvious you don't know how I react / Like, I don't know where the party's at / You're foamin' at the mouth, losin' breath / Like a cardiac arrest, but I ain't impressed."

Nas may never be able to match the potential he once showed 10 years ago, but he is still an excellent rapper that likely still has a few more albums left in him. "Street Disciple" would be a stronger album if it was cut down to one disc, but it is still an impressive release in and of itself. Nas may not rule the New York rap scene anymore, but he is still about as solid a rapper as they come these days.

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Street's **Disciple** Nas





Nouvelle Vague an exquisite mixture of genres, eras

By MATTHEW SOLARKSI

Scene Music Critic

Some concepts are born in heaven. Indeed, whoever had the brilliant idea of marrying the French chanteuse with the iconic songs of punk, new wave and goth must have a pair of feathery wings tucked beneath his or her tweed coat. Enter Nouvelle Vague, which has done just that. French for "new wave" and most popularly associated with the seminal filmmaking of Jean-Luc Godard, Francois Truffaut and others in the early 1960s, the Nouvelle Vague in question here consists of modern-day producers Marc Collin and Olivier Libaux.

These two Frenchmen, having selected a batch of songs by several of the defining artists of punk, new wave and goth (henceforth collectively referred to as simply "new wave"), set about recruiting France's finest voices to sing them. Collin and Libaux, both gifted multi-instrumentalists, crafted their

own largely-acoustic arrangements of the new wave classics, taking cues from jazz, lounge music and another "new wave" bossa nova. Then the vocalists step in, and the rest plays out like a dream. Nouvelle Vague does, however, seek to transcend mere kitsch by having the songs sung in their original English.

New wave's household names are present and accounted for: The Cure, Joy Division, The Clash and Depeche Mode all experience rebirth in shimmery lounge-pop renditions. Other acts Nouvelle Vague tackles include XTC, Tuxedomoon, The Undertones, P.I.L. and The Specials. The record's crowning moment, however, would have to be its centerpiece, a cover of a song by the Dead Kennedys. Here, singer Camille attempts to fill the sloppy shoes of Jello Biafra, several times nearly erupting into a fit of giggles. By the end Camille is uttering exclamations in her native French, and the whole track carries this same endearing spontaneity.

Camille is in fact the belle of this ball, drap-



Photo courtesy of www.nouvellesvagues.com

Nouvelle Vague does lounge-pop renditions of famous new wave bands like The Cure, Joy Division, The Clash and Depeche Mode.

Nouvelle Vague Nouvelle Vague

Peacefrog





ing her warm, evocative vocals over four of the album's 13 tracks, including a cover of the Clash's "Guns of Brixton" that in many ways rivals the original. Also exceptional is Marina Celeste's try at "A Forest," originally performed by The Cure.

One quirk in particular allows Nouvelle Vague to work its wonder: Collin and Libaux, when enlisting their femme fatales, took special care to match singers and songs on the basis of unfamiliarity. What results are unique and often-striking interpretations of classic songs, vaguely recognizable and yet imbued with a new freshness. On the cover of Modern English's "I Melt With You," singer Silja transforms the famous bridge "the future is open wide" into a sort of sultry come-on, slowing the words and slurring her speech coquettishly. The chanteuse Camille, once again, adds a new dimension of melancholy to "Making Plans For Nigel" by XTC with her dynamic vocals.

Collin and Libaux underscore several of the songs with ambient recordings, lending these tracks a satisfying sense of atmosphere. With Joy Division's "Love Will Tear Us Apart," they incorporate the purr of waves and the quiet cackle of children playing to compliment the song's balmy, carefree arrangement. The cover of Killing Joke's "Psyche," featuring the vocals of Sir Alice, is embellished by the eerie din of insects and other creatures of the night.

A literal wave is of course never actually new; it instead brings the same waters that have splashed the shoreline time and time before. In much the same way, Nouvelle Vague has culled the existing musical waters for the very best bits and carried them deftly to a white-sanded shore to caress the air-

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STHE OBSERVER CENE

ALBUM REVIEWS

Nelson proves he "Always Will Be"

By BECCA SAUNDERS

Assistant Scene Editor

Willie Nelson is a country music legend, and apparently he "always will be." Nelson's newest album "It Always Will Be" is yet another solid release. Neither revolutionary nor offensive, "It Always Will Be" is an enjoyable album from a music legend using the same formula for success he always had. While there is not really a track that stands far above the other songs, all the songs are good country songs sung by a man who has had quite a bit to do with the development of American country music as a genre.

Nelson is not the young performer he once was and much of his album is performed in a voice that lands somewhere between singing and talking the lyrics. However, if anyone can make this work, it

is Willie Nelson, and thus this quality of his voice just ends up adding to the texture of most of the songs on the album. Nelson, who is notorious for doing duets with almost anybody and everybody — including even Kid Rock and Brian McKnight on one of his more recent albums, "The Great Divide" — makes better partner choices on "It Will Always Be." The three duets on "It Always Will Be" are some of the best songs on the album and showcase Willie with Norah Jones, Paula Nelson and Lucinda Williams. The strongest duet is "Dreams Come True" with Norah Jones. The bluesy, jazzy mixed with the unique voices of Jones and Nelson produces a memorably beautiful song.

In general, the slower the song is on "It Always Will Be," the better it is. The faster songs are generally a bit cheesier, such as "Big Booty" in which Nelson sings of an



hoto courtesy of mtv.com

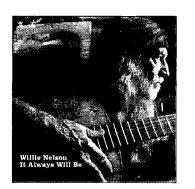
Willie Nelson's latest release, "It Always Will Be," isn't among his best, but it is still a solid album.

It Always Will Be

Willie Nelson

Lost Highway





apparently larger woman, "She said, 'I ain't gonna fix you no more sausage / Biscuits and gravy on the side / You done said the wrong thing to me, baby / And you can kiss big booty goodbye." Not the finest moment for country music lyrics. However, the lyrics are, to an extent, a part of the genre. Therefore in a slower song called "Tired" Nelson's borderline cheesy lyrics are forgivable and when performed right can be taken a bit more seriously in their message. "Tired" is about a man who has tried to live the good life but has also seen hardship and sings, "But I'm tired, Lord, I'm tired / Life is wearin' me smooth down to the bone / No rest for the weary, you just move on / And I'm tired."

Nelson's lyrics redeem themselves in the title track which is also one of the best

songs on "It Always Will Be." In a slow twanged voice made for singing folk music Nelson sings, "Sometimes I think that love is / somewhere living on an island all alone / I can see it in the darkness / I can feel it in the distance, and then it's gone." On a song that is musically one of the best songs on the album Nelson's lyrics are a bit more poignant than cheesy.

With a majority of good songs, "It Always Will Be" is an enjoyable album that sounds like any other Willie Nelson album out there. Willie Nelson is a legend, and while "It Always Will Be" may not be legendary, it certainly is worth listening too, especially for any Nelson fan.

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Stephin Merritt and his beautiful music

Associated Press

Stephin Merritt usually has a song cycling through his head.

Makes sense, given that he's one of the more captivating and eclectic singer-songwriters around, heading such bands as The Magnetic Fields and The 6ths and creating music for movies, Chinese opera adaptations and the Lemony Snicket audio books.

But Merritt's inner soundtrack doesn't always live up to his creative output. During an interview with The Associated Press, for example, it was Peter, Paul and Mary's "Lemon Tree."

"So, you could see why I'd want to have other music playing while I write," Merritt offered, explaining his creative process with a sad little smile. "I certainly don't want to write a song like 'Lemon Tree' and then have to sing it. What if it's really good and I have to sing it for decades? What if it's a hit, and I have to sing it every day for decades?"

Such are the perils of popular music. Others include too much time in airports and unsolicited demos from "pathetic but cute" teenagers. Having just toured Europe and North America following the spring release of the Fields' latest album, "i," Merritt has had to confront plenty of both.

The album marks the band's first on Nonesuch, home to such pop luminaries as Joni Mitchell, Brian Wilson and Wilco. After more than a decade with Merge Records, the quartet (with Sam Davol, Claudia Gonson and John Woo on a variety of hand-played string instruments) has signed a two-album deal with Warner Bros. Records.

"I think of Stephin as one of the great songwriters of his era," said

David Bither, senior vice president at Nonesuch. "They have that singular voice we're always looking for. It was an easy marriage."

The synthesizer-free "i" is the follow up to 1999's "69 Love Songs," a three-disc set that greatly expanded the band's non-mainstream fan base and earned near-universal adoration from critics for its variety-style blend of genres and for Merritt's ingenious lyrics.

A sample from "I Don't Want to Get Over You," on the first album: "I could dress in black and read Camus / smoke clove cigarettes and drink vermouth / like I was 17 / that would be a scream / but I don't want to get over

Merritt enjoys concepts and parodies, and "i" combines both. All 14 songs begin with the letter "i," a silly concept that gave Merritt writing parameters and allowed him to poke fun at the ludicrous task he set himself in writing 69 songs about love

The reviews were favorable, but did not match the reception given "69 Love Songs."

"I was aware that every review was going to begin, 'It's no "69 Love Songs," but..." Merritt said. "I was expecting a bigger backlash — I didn't realize that the backlash was going to be against me, rather than the music."

Musing on music

The Fields' new album, "i," features 14 songs that all begin with that letter. Merritt has not had an easy time of it in the press, with adjectives running the gamut from "intimidating" to "rude." Some of this Merritt blames on writers not wanting to be seen as gushing. If they attack him, he rea-

sons, they're free to wax rhapsodic

about his music.

But he also cites some singularly incompetent interviewers, such as a woman whose nervous tic caused her to trail off midway through her sentences, leaving Merritt guessing at the questions.

"She would trail off literally at the ends of sentences in which she was trying to explain that she wanted not to trail off at the ends of sentences," Merritt remembered. "She was very nervous, which is completely forgivable. It's just difficult to come off as a kind, unintimidating, generous, intelligent interviewee under those circumstances."

On this day, battling a pernicious cold picked up on tour, Merritt was subdued but engaged. Swathed in baseball cap, puffy jacket and lumpy brown scarf, he mused on topics ranging from trying not to appear original in popular music to how many times one could hang out in a hotel lobby before being thrown out.

A slight man with dark, intense eyes, a winsome smile and wickedly low-key sense of humor, Merritt is not so much ungenerous as transparently weary of having to deal with the same silly questions ad nauseam (ask "Why '69 Love Songs'?" if you really want to ruin his day).

"Stephin is not socially gregarious," bandmate Gonson said. "His voice is very low and his hearing is spotty and he doesn't suffer fools gladly. But he's an absolutely lovely person."

That's true when it comes to apologizing to the tape recorder after a particularly loud cough or fondly remembering Fred Flintstone vitamins—but ask Merritt if he considers himself a romantic, and you're in for it.

"What do you people mean when you

ask me that?" came the exasperated response after a longer-than-usual pause. "I don't know. It's not part of my world view."

The challenge of popular music

OK, but it's everywhere in his songs, for which Merritt writes all the parts. He favors singers and musicians with "conversational" approaches — no pyrotechnics to obscure his sophisticated blend of wit and emotion, as Merritt manipulates pop music troupes and cliches to delicious effect.

In "I Wish I Had an Evil Twin," he sets playfully nasty lyrics, delivered in his deadpan voice, against a yearning melody: "My evil twin would lie and steal / And he would stink of sex appeal / All men would writhe / Beneath his scythe."

"In theater it's a cliche that the second song of every musical is an 'I Wish' song," Merritt explained. "I probably wrote with that in mind, because I was thinking of doing a musical about dopplegangers, an adaptation of 'Invasion of the Body Snatchers."

At another point in the conversation, while discussing "Lemon Tree," he pointed to the "war film cliche of a quiet, irrelevant song playing during a scene of violence."

Merritt embraces such off-the-wall cliches.

"Part of the advantage of being hideously, cripplingly self-conscious is that I feel free to use cliches, rather than feeling compelled to seek out original expression," he explained. "The quandary in popular music is more about how to sound enough like other people that it is popular music ... while still making something identifiably new."

NBA

Celtics, Pierce snap Bulls win streak with 92-83 victory

James leads Cavaliers over Trail Blazers 107-101, becomes youngest NBA player in history to record a triple-double

Associated Press

BOSTON — Al Jefferson, scared to find himself on the floor in crunch time, kept his wits long enough to guide Boston to a victory.

Paul Pierce had 28 points and 11 rebounds, while Jefferson added a career-high 17 points — including a pair of key baskets down the stretch — to lead the Boston Celtics past the Bulls, snapping Chicago's seven-game winning streak.

Jefferson led the charge as the Celtics rallied from a 66-57 deficit with a 12-2 run midway through the fourth quarter.

Jefferson gave Boston its first lead since early in the third quarter and put the Celtics ahead to stay with a pair of free throws with 7:56 left, then capped Boston's decisive run with a pair of baskets, including a floater as the shot clock expired, that put the Celtics up 84-77 with 5:05 left.

"I'm not used to being out there that late in the game," said Jefferson. "I was (scared), I really was. That's where I want to be, but it's still a little frightening. But I didn't show it."

The win was Boston's 10th in its last 12 home games as the Celtics kept pace with Philadelphia atop the Atlantic Division despite an 18-20 record.

"That was a very good win for us," said Boston coach Doc Rivers. "You look at Chicago and they've been playing so well, and we came out and defended them tonight."

The Bulls pulled within 84-80 before Pierce hit a field goal and knocked down four free throws for a 90-80 lead with 1:10 left.

Eddy Curry scored 26 points, Kirk Hinrich added 12 points and Tyson Chandler scored eight points and grabbed 14 rebounds for the Bulls, who held their opponent below 100 points for the 23rd consecutive game.

"We couldn't make our shots tonight," said Chicago coach Scott Skiles. "We didn't play poorly. We just had trouble putting the ball in the hole.

Jefferson, the talented power forward who jumped straight from high school to the NBA, has been playing more and more lately and is inching closer to a spot in the starting lineup, especially given the increasingly ineffective play of center Mark Blount. Blount had one of his worst games as a pro, going scoreless and failing to grab a rebound in 22 minutes.

"I don't know about the starting lineup. That'll come," said Rivers of Jefferson. "He'll earn that. But he's earning minutes,

there's no doubt about that. He deserves to be on the floor."

Cavs 107. Trail Blazers 101

LeBron James had 27 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists to become the youngest player in NBA history to record a tripledouble, and the Cleveland Cavaliers beat the Trail Blazers to send Portland to its fifth straight loss.

James is 20 years and 20 days old, younger than Lamar Odom, who was 20 years and 54 days old when he became the youngest to do it on Dec. 30, 1999 while with the Los Angeles Clippers. That was James' 15th birthday.

James' pass to Zydrunas Ilgauskas with 1:19 left gave him 10 assists and completed the triple-double. His teammates congratulated him during a timeout a short time later, and his mother cheered him from the stands.

"It feels great. But it's not about the statistics, it's the wins," said James, who also had four steals.

Ilgauskas had 21 points and 11 rebounds, and the Cavaliers led by as many as 19 points. Cleveland is now 2-2 in the midst of a six-game road trip, with the Sacramento Kings coming up Thursday night.

Portland's Nick Van Exel had 28 points, while Damon Stoudamire had 27.

When the Blazers came within 95-87 late in the game, James hit a 3-pointer to slow Portland's momentum.

Portland was finally home after a grueling six-game, 10-day road trip, during which they managed just one win. But even the comforts of home couldn't boost their depleted lineup.

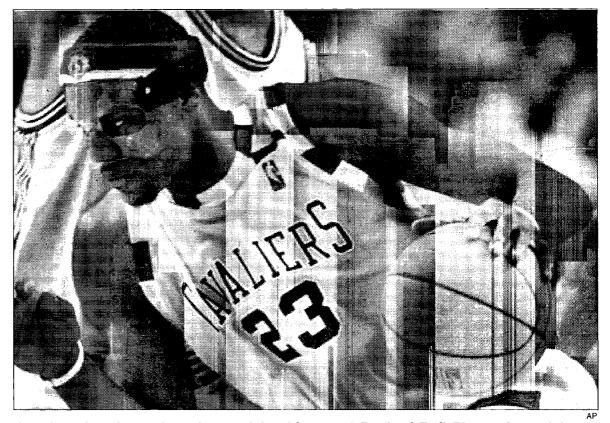
Forward Zach Randolph missed his fourth game with a sore right knee. Already short Darius Miles (left knee contusion) and Shareef Abdur-Rahim (right elbow surgery), the Blazers started Ruben Patterson and Theo Ratliff at forward.

Ratliff, usually a center, made his first-ever start at forward Tuesday night in the Blazers' 113-107 overtime loss in Sacramento. Although fighting a stomach virus, he started Wednesday's game but left a short time later after getting two quick fouls and did not return

The Blazers led 32-26 midway through the first half, but the Cavaliers took off on a 23-6 run to go up 51-38 on Sasha Pavlovic's layup.

Sixers 107, Bobcats 105

Allen Iverson slowly dribbled the ball, letting the clock run



Cleveland Cavaliers LeBron James, right, drives past Portland Trail Blazers forward James Thomas. James led the Cavaliers to a 107-101 victory and recorded his first career triple double.

down before he attempted what could have been the game-sealing basket.

Only his shot didn't come close to the rim, a 24-second violation was called, and Philadelphia had to sweat out its victory over the Charlotte Bobcats.

"I didn't get that call, I didn't get the free throw," Iverson said of his final attempt. "Everybody on my team was screaming it was a foul."

The Bobcats can relate.

After Iverson's miss, the Bobcats had a chance to go for the tie or the win. Jason Hart got the call, driving the ball toward the basket as time was expiring. His shot also missed. And just like Iverson, he thought he was fouled.

"I wanted to make the refs call something," Hart said. "So I went into the hole and got contact. But there was no call."

Instead, the game ended with the ball in Iverson's hands. The NBA's leading scorer with 28.5 points a game, Iverson scored 24 points to lead the 76ers but was held to just six points in the second half.

"I'd rather play bad and we win the game then play great and we lose," he said.

But his poor second half left it up to Kyle Korver, Corliss Williamson and Marc Jackson to carry the Sixers.

Korver made consecutive baskets, including a 3-pointer, to give Philadelphia a 103-98 lead, and Williamson scored eight of his 14 points in the fourth quarter.

Kenny Thomas finished with 21 points, Korver had 18, and Jackson scored 14 of his 16 in the third quarter.

Emeka Okafor led Charlotte with 18 points, 19 rebounds and three blocked shots, but he went just 4-of-12 at the line and missed two free throws in the final 2:33 with a chance to tie it both times.

"I was just off," Okafor said.
"I tried not to think about it every time I went to the line because if I'm going to do that, I might as well kick the ball instead of shoot it. But I was bad at the line."

Spurs 80, Clippers 79

SAN ANTONIO — Tony Parker scored 25 points, including a game-winning driving layup in the final seconds, to lead San Antonio to a win over the Los Angeles Clippers.

The Clippers took a 79-78 lead with 19 seconds remaining on a pair of free throws by Bobby Simmons. On the next possession, the Spurs' Manu Ginobili curled around the lane and passed to Parker in the left corner.

He faked a shot to get Simmons off his feet and then drove baseline, bumping bodies with 7-footer Chris Kaman as he banked in a layup high off the backboard with 7.8 seconds

The Clippers' final inbounds play went to Elton Brand, who backed Tim Duncan in a couple of steps before his turnaround jumper went off the right side of the rim. The ball bounced

around before Ginobili grabbed the rebound as time expired.

Ginobili, who missed Monday's win over Washington with a thigh bruise, scored 13 points. Duncan had 12 points and 14 rebounds for San Antonio, which improved the NBA's best home record to 21-1. **Heat 111, Hawks 92**

MIAMI - Shaquille O'Neal and Dwyane Wade each scored 25 points, helping the Miami Heat improve the Eastern Conference's best record to 29-11 with a win over the Atlanta Hawks.

Wade, who missed Miami's previous two games with a back spasms, sore ribs and a migraine, scored 12 of his points in the third quarter to help the Heat pull away. O'Neal added 12 rebounds, and Eddie Jones scored 16 for Miami, which played its first home game in two weeks.

Antoine Walker had his ninth straight double-double, 18 points and a game-high 16 rebounds, for Atlanta, which dropped its seventh straight road game and lost for the 14th time in 17 games overall. Jason Collier added 17 points.

Miami, the NBA's best shooting team, connected on 51.9 percent of its field-goal attempts. O'Neal made 11 of 20 shots and scored 25 or more points for the eighth straight game, extending his team record. Over that stretch, O'Neal is averaging 29.8 points and 12.3 rebounds.

Al Harrington's driving layup with 5:38 left in the third quar-

CLASSIFIEDS

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Walsh girls are amazing

Have a great half birthday Mel

Did anyone else enjoy American day at the dining hall?

Fortnight Thursday crew, lets keep getting educated. Thanks Colleen

PGA

Mickelson makes 2005-06 debut at the Buick Invite

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Vijay Singh is fresh off a victory in Hawaii, and still one of the last guys to leave the range. Tiger Woods had a close call at Kapalua, and Ernie Els is kicking himself for two chances that got away. As for Phil Mickelson?

"A little rusty, as usual," Mickelson said Wednesday.

Ile is the only PGA Tour player among the top 15 in the world who has not played this year, waiting until the Buick

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Invitational in his hometown to make his 2005 debut.

Mickelson has a tough act to follow in many respects.

For one thing, his last competitive round was a 59 in the PGA Grand Slam of Golf in Hawaii.

"That's going to be tough to do

out here," Mickelson said with a sly grin, realizing that the South Course at Torrey Pines, where he plays his first round of the year on Thursday, will hold the U.S. Open in three years.

He also is coming off a magical year in which he won his first major at the Masters, was a combined five shots away from winning all four majors, and was in Sunday contention at every tournament through early May.

"My expectations are certainly higher because I came so close last year," he said. "I was in contention at all four, and I had a great opportunity on the 18th hole to win them."

out here," Mickelson said with a sly grin, realizing that the South great start.

Lefty is about to join the fray.

"I think what makes it so exciting is that we have so many guys now that are playing well, and so many guys that are challenging to win tournaments," Mickelson said. "It makes the journey and the challenge of winning tournaments tougher, but it's more rewarding if you can accomplish it"

The strongest and deepest field of the year has all the trappings of a big tournament, unusual for this early in the season. Then again, this is the earliest the PGA Tour has come to Torrey Pines since 1962, when Bob Goalby held off a late charge by Gay

But there's no time to waste. Singh, Woods and Els— known these days as "The Big Brewer.

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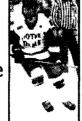
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AROUND THE NATION

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Thursday, January 20, 2005

Men's College Basketball AP Top 25

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CCHA Conference Hockey

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

around the dial

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL lowa at Illinois 7 p.m., ESPN

NBA

Houston at Orlando 8 p.m., TNT Cleveland at Sacremento 10:30 p.m., TNT

TENNIS

2005 Australian Open 2 p.m., ESPN2

NHL



Vancouver Canucks forward and NHL Union President Trevor Linden, right, walks with NHLPA senior director Ted Saskin after meeting at O'Hare Airport Wednesday. The meeting signals an effort to reach an NHL labor agreement.

NHL plans to begin labor negotiations

Associated Press

The bid to jump-start NHL labor negotiations appears to have been a success.

Union president Trevor Linden and NHL board of directors chairman Harley Hotchkiss spoke Wednesday at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, and the sides are planning another meeting in an effort to save the season.

The session lasted about five hours, including several breaks so each three-man negotiating group could huddle. It was just the third time the league and its players have had faceto-face talks in the four months since the lockout was imposed Sept. 15.

We engaged in good dialogue today and will continue our discussions in the near future," Linden said. "We will not make any further comment at this time.'

More than half of the regular season — 662 of 1,230 games through Wednesday — has been wiped out so far, plus the All-Star game.

If Wednesday's meeting does represent a key step forward in the negotiations, it might be worth noting who was not present: NHL commissioner Gary Bettman and union chief Bob Goodenow.

Linden reached out to the owners and invited Hotchkiss to talk. The center for the Vancouver Canucks hoped that by holding talks without the two leaders, some of the acrimony could be removed from the negotiating process.

"We credit Trevor Linden's initiative in requesting this session, which was informal, open and professional and which resulted in a constructive exchange of viewpoints," Hotchkiss

Linden didn't have a new proposal, and he wasn't looking for attention. Indeed, it wasn't until late Tuesday that word filtered out where the meeting would be.

These were the first talks since Dec. 14. That was when the sides broke three months of silence by sitting down for the second time in six days, but any optimism was lost quickly.

Since then, other than rhetoric, there had been silence.

If the next round of talks don't move the sides to a settlement, the season probably would be lost. That would mean the Stanley Cup wouldn't be awarded for the first time since

IN BRIEF

Wake Forest ends freethrow record in loss

Wake Forest's NCAA free-throw record ended at a most inopportune

After getting fouled while making an off-balance 3-pointer with 4 seconds left, Taron Downey had the Demon Deacons' first missed free throw in 51 attempts and No. 3 Wake Forest went on to lose to Florida State 91-83 in overtime Tuesday night.

Todd Galloway scored nine straight points in overtime and finished with a career-high 21 to help Florida State snap Wake Forest's 10-game winning streak.

"It felt good when it left my hand," said Downey, the Deacons' best free-

throw shooter. "But you know, it happens like that sometimes." Wake Forest (15-2, 4-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) made 32 straight Saturday in a 95-82 win over North

Carolina and its first 18 on Tuesday

night before Downey's miss. Wake

Forest's 50 straight free throws eclipsed the mark of 49 set in 1991 by Indiana State.

Roncalli running back plans to play at Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS — Tim Sergi, who rushed for more than 2,500 yards last year but missed most of his senior season of high school with a knee injury, has made an oral commitment to play football at Indiana.

The 6-foot-3, 198-pound running back is the second Indianapolis Roncalli player to make a Division I commitment this week. Teammate Patrick Kuntz, a two-time All-State defensive lineman, also said he would enroll at Notre Dame. Another Roncalli player, defensive back Jason Werner, was Indiana's high school Mr. Football and committed earlier to

Sergi, who was a first-team All-Stater in 2003, tore a ligament in his right knee in the fourth game last fall. Still, he was recruited by Miami (Ohio), and after former Miami coach Terry Hoeppner came to Indiana, Hoeppner offered Sergi a scholarship to play for the Hoosiers.

Myskina advances to third round of Australia Open

MELBOURNE, Australia - French Open champion Anastasia Myskina berated herself and looked dismayed after many of the 25 errors she had to overcome on the way to defeating Tzipora Obziler 6-4, 6-2 in the second round of the Australian Open on Thursday.

The third-ranked Myskina struggled with a her serve in the first set, with Israel's Obziler breaking her twice, but didn't face a breakpoint chance in the second.

Abigail Spears, playing only her second major, knocked out No. 20 Tatiana Golovin of France 7-5, 6-1 to advance to the third round.

"She got in my face from the start," said Golovin, whose preparation was restricted by a virus. "I don't want to make excuses, I was feeling OK physically, but it played a part.'

NFL

Roethlisberger will try to beat Patriots barehanded

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH Roethlisberger is issuing this warning to the Patriots: The gloves are coming off for the AFC championship game.

Roethlisberger is one victory away from becoming the first rookie quarterback to take a team to the Super Bowl. But since he threw two interceptions in a playoff victory over the Jets while wearing gloves, Roethlisberger's handwear has become Pittsburgh's No. 1 topic of debate.

To a city that grew accustomed to the tough-guy Super Bowl Steelers of the 1970s, who played in bare sleeves no matter the weather, it was unsettling to watch a quarterback in gloves.

With snow showers forecast for Sunday night and the likelihood of a wet, sloppy field, Roethlisberger plans to discard the gloves. That should please those Steelers fans who remember Hall of Fame quarterback Terry Bradshaw beating teams barchanded.

"I'm going to try to go without it," said Roethlisberger, who wore a glove on his left hand but not his throwing hand in practice Wednesday. "If it's wet, it makes it worse (to throw). We'll see if we can go without this week.'

Maybe Roethlisberger is expecting, ahem, a bare-knuckle brawl against the Patriots, whose perplexing defenses throttled NFL MVP Peyton Manning of the Colts during New England's 20-3 secondround victory.

If a quarterback who threw a record 49 touchdown passes this season can't do anything against a Bill Belichick- and Romeo Crennel-designed defense, how can a raw rookie expect to do much better?

Actually, Roethlisberger already has, throwing for two scores — and no interceptions - during a nearly flawless performance Oct. 31 in a 34-20 Pittsburgh victory that ended New England's 21game winning streak.

"I didn't think anybody could stop the Colts," Roethlisberger said. "Their offense is so powerful in what they do, but New England obviously finds a way. They do so many things, throw so many things at you. If they can slow down that offense, who knows what they can do to ours?"

To keep the pressure off Roethlisberger, the Steelers probably will try to pound the ball from the start with powerful backs Jerome Bettis and Duce Staley, who will split time in an effort to wear down the Patriots.

New England's run defense will be weakened if lineman Richard Seymour, perhaps its best defensive player, can't play. He didn't practice Wednesday because of a sore knee and is listed as questionable.

That's why the Steelers don't necessarily need Big Ben to win the bigg-est game of his life; instead, he might just need to make he sure he keeps from losing a matchup of streaking quarterbacks. Roethlisberger is 14-0 as an NFL

"I didn't think anybody could stop

Ben Roethlisberger Steelers quarterback

the Colts."

starter; the Patriots' Tom Brady, the twotime Super Bowl MVP, is 7-0 in the playoffs.

"My rookie year, there is no way I could have

what he did," said Brady, who occasionally wears gloves himself to get a better grip on the new footballs used in every game. "I was awful. I couldn't do anything. I was hoping to show up and bring my playbook. He is out there and hasn't lost a game.'

Roethlisberger nearly did Saturday, though, throwing one interception that was returned for a touchdown and another that led to Jets kicker Doug Brien's failed game-winning field goal try to end the fourth quarter. Roethlisberger recovered to lead a decisive scoring drive in overtime as Pittsburgh



Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger scrambles against the Washington Redskins on Nov. 28.

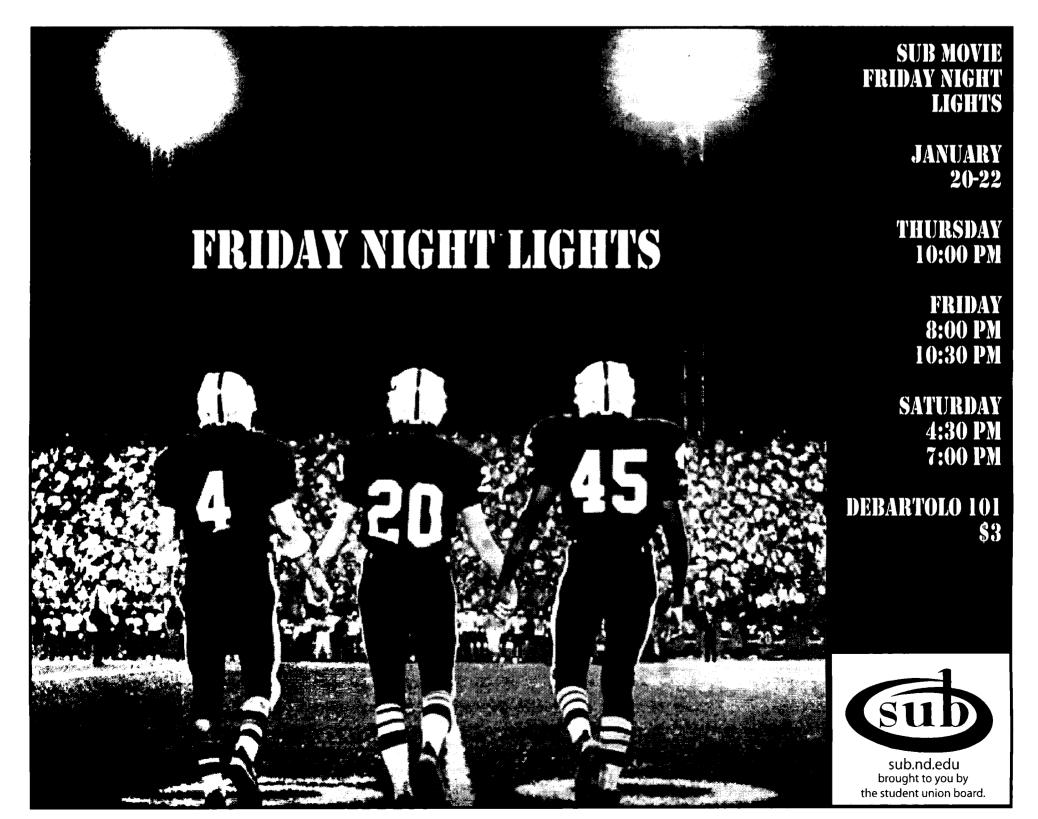
escaped with a that-was-close 20-17 victory.

Steelers coach Bill Cowher isn't necessarily treating his prized rookie with kid gloves, but he was careful to not be too critical despite the near-escape against the Jets.

'We wouldn't be sitting here today if he hadn't done some of the things that he's done, let's

not lose sight of that," Cowher said. "I'm not going to overanalyze it. Certainly there were some choices he made he would like to have back, but we overcame it and we're moving on."

"If the guy's open, just throw it to him," Cowher said, passing on the advice he offered Roethlisberger. "Whatever that entails, you wear."



WANTED

NFL

Robbins charged with attempted murder

Associated Press

MIAMI — Former Oakland Raiders center Barret Robbins was charged Wednesday with three counts of attempted felony murder, less than a week after being shot during a furious struggle with three police officers investigating a burglary call.

Robbins is best remembered for missing team meetings the night before the 2003 Super Bowl in San Diego. He spent Super Bowl Sunday in a hospital and later acknowledged that he had stopped taking his medicine for depression and bipolar disorder.

He was wounded Saturday night after Miami Beach police found him inside a women's restroom in a building housing a pub, a gym and a jewelry store. The pub owner called police after Robbins forced his way inside the building and refused to leave, a police report said.

Robbins, 31, of Englewood, Colo., growled, snarled and "was heard laughing throughout the attack," the report said.

According to the report, Robbins beat Officer Colin Pfrogner to the floor, picked up Detective Mark Schoenfeld and slammed him into one wall and then another, then grabbed Detective Mike Muley by the face and rammed his head into a corner.

Robbins then grabbed Muley's forearms, and Muley shot Robbins twice in the torso, the report said. The former player dropped to his knees, grabbed his chest, snarled and growled again, swore at the officers and slapped Muley's gun out of his hand.

A charge of attempted felony murder can be filed when someone is injured during a felony. It carries a possible 30-year prison sentence. The three counts he faces cover the three officers involved in his arrest, said Ed Griffith, spokesman for the Miami-Dade County state attorney's office.

Arraignment was set for Feb.

Robbins was critically injured and remains in a Miami hospital jail unit, Griffith said. Muley received hospital treatment for a concussion.

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Kuntz

continued from page 20

defensive tackle for the Irish. Kuntz had been recruited by some schools as a defensive end but Frank expects him to play on the inside of the line as well.

Kuntz said he was attracted to Notre Dame for many reasons, one being the coaching staff.

"I love all the coaches," Kuntz said. "They want nasty football players, and I'm an old-school guy. I'm the type of guy who will go in there and punch you in the face."

Kuntz, who along with Hand received a three-star rating from Scout.com, also raved about the traditions at Notre Dame.

"The tradition there is unlike anywhere else," Kuntz said. "It's such a prestigious school, not only athletically but academically. A degree from there opens up a lot of doors for you."

Frank agreed that Kuntz, who racked up 114 tackles, 14 sacks and 27 tackles for loss during his senior season at Roncalli High School, will fit nicely with Weis' aggressive style.

"He's the type of guy you can build a team around," Frank said. "He's one of those lunch pail guys that are going to work and work and work."

With the interior defensive line covered for 2005, Irish coaches are looking to sign at least one defensive end. Lawrence Wilson, a defensive end from Akron, Ohio, had verbally committed to Notre Dame but uncommitted when Tyrone Willingham was fired as head

"Wilson is a big-time player and he's going to take a visit to Michigan this weekend," Frank said. "He's also looking at Ohio State and Florida but Notre Dame still has a shot."

Another player on the Irish radar is Youngstown, Ohio quarterback/defensive back Kyle McCarthy. Notre Dame just offered him a scholarship on Wednesday and Frank expects the two-way star to accept.

"He is taking a visit to campus this weekend," Frank said.
"He has a brother [who doesn't play football] who is a junior at Notre Dame. He's really excited about his visit and I expect he'll commit to us pretty soon here."

One player who could be the jewel of the Irish class is New Jersey linebacker Brian Cushing. The Scout.com fivestar player was leaning towards Southern California but lately has been reconsidering his decision.

"Now I don't think he'll go to USC," Frank said about Cushing, who made 120 tackles, 9.5 sacks and 7 interceptions his senior season at Bergen Catholic High School. "SC is just too far and I don't think his parents want him to go so far from home."

Cushing is now looking at Notre Dame along with Miami, Florida, Penn State, Louisville and Virginia.

"It's a tough race to handicap because of all the big schools that are after him," Frank said.

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu

ND Women's Golf

Irish receive second commitment

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame women's golf team received a commitment from Courtney Sullivan for the 2005-06 season. Sullivan hails from Gresham, Ore. and joins Lisa Maunu, who committed in November, as the class of 2009 for the Irish. The Irish are coming off a 2004 fall campaign, which included two tournament victories.

Sullivan is a standout at Sam Barlow High School, where she has had a strong career at the scholastic level and on the junior golf circuit. She is the top-ranked player in the state of Oregon, and 47th nationally, in the class of 2005 according to the Junior Golf Scoreboard.

Courtney has two top-12

national finishes to her credit, including a seventh-place showing at the AJGA Spokane Classic where she shot a 230 (76-79-75) against 17 other athletes. She came in 12th out of 71 golfers at the junior America's Cup in Whitefish, Mont. in 2003 as she carded a 229 (82-75-72).

Her experience on the course includes the northwest junior ladies' matchplay championship (four-time participant), the junior America's Cup (three times), and she is a two-time participant at both the USGA girls' championship and the junior world championship. She claimed a victory at the 2003 Oregon stroke-play championship.

Sullivan, who has been playing competitively for over

five years, possesses a 4.0 GPA and is first out of 434 students in her class.

She collected two varsity letters while playing at Sam Barlow. Sullivan has won a combined seven tournament championships locally and across—the—Northwest throughout her career and placed third at the 4A state high school championships in 2003. Courtney is the daughter of Lisa and Jerry Sullivan.

"We fell in love with Courtney's heart for the game," said Notre Dame head coach Debby King, who is in her fourth year at the helm of the Notre Dame program. "She has a great determination and work ethic. One of her strengths is her desire to be the best that she can be."

NCAA FOOTBALL

Leinart remains confident in choice

Associated Press

Still no swelled head for the big man on USC campus

Five days after taking what might be the biggest risk in sports history, here is the short list of things Matt Leinart still does not

Millions in the bank.

A new car in the driveway. Regrets.

"I'm relieved more than anything," Leinart said Tuesday night over the phone from Los Angeles. "It feels really good to get all that pressure off my shoulders. It got to the point where I realized whatever decision I made, there was

going to be some criticism.

"So," he added, "I just did what was best for me."

The guys who run the NFL aren't used to hearing "No." Even though Leinart brought the Heisman Trophy back to USC and then tied the bow on a second straight national championship, you'd think the biggest man on campus would be even bigger.

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Guards

continued from page 20

Villanova Wednesday, the Irish and Golden Eagles sit in a comfortable tie for second place in the Big East.

Notre Dame got to that point with help from forward Rick Cornett, who came off the bench in the first half to provide an inside presence for a previously one-dimensional offense.

Cornett finished with six points on 3-of-5 shooting in 13 minutes of play, and he and Torin Francis kept the Mountaineers honest down low. The Irish took advantage on the perimeter.

Notre Dame made 13-of-25 3-point attempts, shooting 45.1 percent from the field overall compared to West Virginia's 33.3 shooting percentage.

Falls, Thomas and Chris Quinn (13 points, 4-of-9 shooting) all finished in double figures.

"When we're shooting the ball like that, we're going to be tough to beat," Brey told ESPN.

Notre Dame jumped out to its largest lead on a Quinn three-pointer with 10:11 remaining, increasing the lead to 59-40.

The Irish kept the offense open against West Virginia's 1-3-1 zone, allowing Thomas to drive and giving Cornett, Francis and Latimore room to operate on the low block.

Johannes Herber led the Mountaineers with nine points, while D'Or Fischer and Kevin Pittsnogle chipped in eight apiece

West Virginia fell into a hole early, as Notre Dame hit seven first-half 3-pointers and went into halftime with a 38-31 lead

Notre Dame is 11-0 this sea-

son when leading at halftime.

The Irish are out to their best start in conference play since the 2002-03 season, when Notre Dame won three of its first four and six of its first seven Big East games.

The Irish made the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament that season.

Thomas finished with six rebounds and five assists along with his 16 points that helped him reach the 2,000-point mark.

Austin Carr, Adrian Dantley, Pat Garrity, David Rivers and Troy Murphy are the other five players with 2,000 or more points in Notre Dame history.

Jordan Cornette had six blocks to go along with six points in 32 minutes.

> NOTRE DAME 70, WEST VIRGINIA 57 at the WVU Coliseum

NOTRE DAME (12-3, 4-1 Big East) Cornette 2-5 0-0 6, Francis 3-5 0-0 6, Thomas 5-11, 3-3, Falls 5-13 4-4 19, Quinn 4-9 3-3 13, Cornett 3-5 0-0 6, Nickol 0-0 0-0 0, Murphy 0-0 0-0 0, Kurz 0-0 0-0 0, Latimore 0-2 1-2 1, Carter 1-1 0-0 3, Israel 0-0 0-0 0, Bosl 0-0 0-0 0.

WEST VIRGINIA (11-4, 1-3)
Gansey 2-8 3-4 7, Sally 0-3 0-0 0,
Pittsnogle 3-10 2-3 8, Collins 2-5 0-0 5,
Herber 3-9 2-5 9, Price 0-0 0-0 0, Nichols
2-4 0-0 6, Young 2-6 0-0 5, Beilein
1-5 2-2 5, Bonner 2-4 0-0 4, Fischer 3-6

NOTRE DAME 38 32 70
WEST VIRGINIA 31 26 57

3-point goals: Notre Dame: 13-25 (Falls 5-12, Thomas 3-5, Quinn 2-3, Cornette 2-4, Carter 1-1); West Virginia: 7-23 (Herber 2-5, Nichols 2-2, Beilein 1-4, Young 1-3, Collins 1-2, Pittsnogle 0-3, Gansey 0-3. Sally 0-1). Rebounds: Notre Dame: 33 (Cornette 7, Thomas 6, Falls 4, Quinn 4, Cornett 3, Francis 3, Latimore 2, Israel 1); West Virginia 37 (Herber 7, Fischer 5, Sally 5, Gansey 4, Pittsnogle 3, Young 3, Beilein 1, Bonner 1, Nichols 1) Assists: Notre Dame 14 (Thomas 5, Cornette 3, Quinn 3, Falls 2, Francis 1); West Virginia 14 (Gansey 4, Beilein 3, Herber 3, Nichols 2, Young 2). Total fouls: Notre Dame 15, Syracuse 12.

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu



Megan Duffy looks to pass the ball during a game against Purdue Sunday. Notre Dame defeated Syracuse 74-61 Wednesday night.

Batteast

continued from page 20

1 1716

brace]," McGraw said.
However, the Irish started
off slow, falling behind 15-9
with 12:57 to play in the first
half after missing a few easy
shots and turning the ball
over.

But Batteast hit a jump shot to start a 14-0 Notre Dame run, and the Irish led 23-15 with just over nine minutes to play in the first half.

The Irish were able to extend their lead to 43-30 at halftime, behind LaVere and point guard Megan Duffy, who had 13 first half points. As a team, Notre Dame shot 49 percent from the field in the first half, including 3-for-3 from long distance.

In the second half, it was Syracuse (10-6, 2-3) who came out fighting. With 11:04 to play, Syracuse's Chineze Nwagbo converted on a three-point play that sent Batteast to the bench with her fourth foul. Notre Dame missed its next five shots, but Syracuse could not take advantage. With 5:20 remaining, the

Orange cut the lead to 59-54, but that was as close as Syracuse would come.

Notre Dame went on a 7-0 run behind five points from Batteast, closing the door on the Orange for good. The Irish finished the game on a 15-5 run.

"Defensively, I think we have a lot of work to do," McGraw said. "We have a lot of work to do in our man-toman. We just need to keep getting better."

Notre Dame forced 19 turnovers, leading to 28 points. They also dominated on the boards, outrebounding Syracuse 40-27, including 17 on the offensive end.

"We really attacked the basket and were able to hold them down, so I thought that was good," McGraw said.

Freshman reserve Charel Allen also had a career high 17 points on 6-for-9 shooting for the Irish, one game after she was 2-for-10 from the field against Purdue. Duffy finished with 17 points to go along with six assists, five rebounds and four steals.

For Syracause, Nwagbo finished with 15 points and five rebounds. Coleman had 16

points, Jessica Richter, 14, and Vaida Sipaviciute added 10 points, six rebounds and eight blocks.

The loss snapped the Orange's two-game winning streak in the Big East.

No. 11 NOTRE DAME 74, SYRACUSE 61 at the MANLEY FIELD HOUSE

NOTRE DAME (15-3, 3-2 Big East) Batteast 7-13 5-5 19, Erwin 0-4 0-0 0, Borton 4-11 0-0 8, Duffy 6-9 4-4 17, Gray 0-5 0-0 0, Gaines 0-0 0-0 0, Allen 6-9 3-4 17, Powers 0-0 0-0 0, D'Amico 0-0 0-0 0, LaVere 6-10 0-2 13

SYRACUSE (10-6, 2-3) Richter 5-12, 2-3 14, Nwagbo 3-7, 9-10, 15, Sipaviciute 5No. 11-6, 0-0, 10, Kohn 1-5, 0-0, 3, Coleman 5-11, 5-5, 16, Adamson 0-0 0-0 0, Harbut 0-2, 1-2, 1,

Norton 0-0 2-2 2,

3-point goals: Notre Dame 4-7 (Allen 2-2, Duffy 1-3, LaVere 1-1, Batteast 0-1). Syracuse 4-17 (Richter 2-9, Coleman 1-6, Kohn 1-2). Fouled out: Richter. Rebounds: Notre Dame Dame 17-40 (LaVere 10), Syracuse 8-27 (Sipaviciute 6). Assists: Notre Dame 15 (Duffy 6), Syracuse 14 (Coleman 4). Total fouls: Notre Dame 15, Syracuse 16.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

Boyce

continued from page 20

den, I look up, and we're down by four," Belles coach Suzanne Bellina said. "[Riley's foul trouble] defi-

nitely gave us a huge opportunity."

Alison Kessler drew three fouls in the paint during the final six minutes, and she hit all eight of her free throws on the night, improving on her MIAA-best

 $90\ percent$ free-throw percentage.

In fact, Kessler leads Division III in free-throw percentage among those with at least 60 attempts on the

season.
Emily Creachbaum also took advantage of the Hornets' vulnerability in the paint, scoring six of her 19 points in the final five minutes.

However, the big blows — including two pivotal threes —

pivotal threes — came from Boyce. She finished the game with 19 points, scoring in double figures in the second half alone.

The Belles will look to get back to .500 on Saturday at Tri-State.

With 35.8 seconds left in the game and the Hornets clinging to a two-point lead, Boyce nailed a go-ahead three-pointer to give Saint Mary's a 62-61 lead. After the Belles grabbed a rebound with 20 seconds remaining, Boyce found the ball once again, this time hitting two free

"[Riley's foul throws with 13.2 left on the game clock to give gave us a huge opportunity."

this two like throws with 13.2 left on the game clock to give Saint Mary's a three-point lead. However, the

Suzanne Bellina Belles coach

With 1.1 second remaining, Hornets' Angie w a three-shot foul on

thrills were not over quite yet.

Neu drew a three-shot foul on Boyce, giving Kalamazoo an extra chance to tie the game.

After Neu hit the first cleanly and the second rattled in, the

Hornets trailed by just one. "It seemed like we Kalamazoo coach were down by 10 Michelle Fortier and all of a then inexplicitly elected to leave sudden, I look up, just one player in and we're down by the box to try to four." grab the rebound if Neu missed her

Suzanna Bellina Belles coach

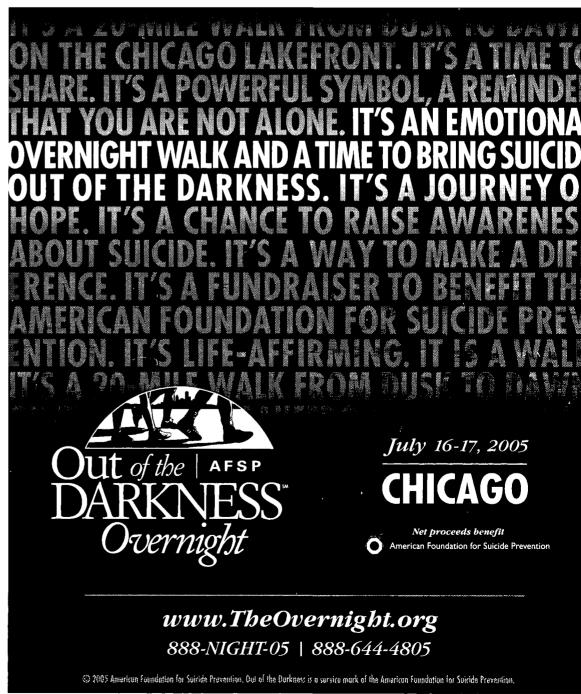
bounced off the side of the rim, three Belles' out-muscled the

third free-throw.

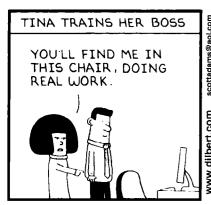
When the ball

lone Hornet for the rebound. With the win, the Belles (8-9, 3-5 MIAA) climbed to a fourthplace tie in the MIAA.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu



DILBERT



YOUR JOB, AS I UNDER-STAND IT, IS TO MAKE UNINFORMED DECISIONS AND ACT LIKE A SOCIO-PATHIC EGOMANIAC.

.

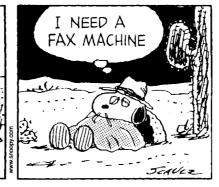


CHARLES SCHULZ

PEANUTS



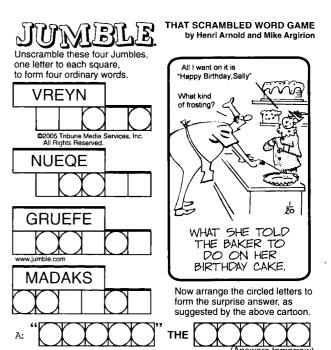
NEVER SHOULD HAVE LEFT HOME .. HOW CAN I TELL MOM NOW THAT MY STOMACH HURTS?



SCOTT ADAMS

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD MIKE ARGIRION



LIQUOR NAUSEA Jumbles: MESSY PARKA Yesterday's A round belly can be the result of too many -SQUARE MEALS

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Subject of this puzzle
- 6 James of Hollywood
- 10 Game in which jacks are always highest trumps
- Moro, former Italian
- 16 Don't do it: Var. 17 Coffee maker's
- accessory
- 18 With 25-, 42and 55-Across, a definition of 1-Across, according to Dennis Miller
- 20 Sat down. slangily
- 22 Eschew home
- 23 Score just before winning a game

COMPAREDNOTES

RAMA TRIO

- 24 Soccer great
- 25 See 18-Across 31 Give _ (care) 32 New Haven, City of
- 33 Grp. paying for some election
- 14 Needle, perhaps 35 Doubles partner's call
 - 36 Goes south in a
 - big way 38 Neighbor of
 - 39 Alphabet trio
 - 40 Hitching place 41 Michael who wrote the 1975 best seller "Power!"
 - 42 See 18-Across 46 Make content
 - 47 Prefix with graphic
 - 48 City where El Greco died

51 Shakespearean title character

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ESPY

13 Feature of many a bird

- 55 See 18-Across
- 57 Signed on 58 Quick approval:
- Abbr. 59 Assortment
- 60 Tour de France
- stage 61 Burkina
- neighbor of Mali Coming' (1969 hit)
- 63 M.O.'s

DOWN

- 1 [Horrors!] 2 Donald Duck, to
- his nephews 3 "Are you _
- 4 First line of "Misty"
- 5 Digitally entered
- 6 Capturing 7 Heaps
- 8 Tack on
- 9 Biting pests Island, N.Y.
- 11 Big belt Ben Adhem"
- 19 Goes on strike
- I S I T D E E P N P Y M S T I G M A 21 Racket 24 Defeater of Clay T A W Z O N E D O S L E R B L E W O N E S O W N H O R N
 - 25 Hobbling 26 Enlighten
 - 27 Dance with bandoneón 28 Meddler
 - 29 Subject of a

WILL SHORTZ

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- 30 Elusive one of
- children's books 34 "See ya!"
- 36 Directly opposed
- Queens
- 38 Modern jargon word for complete
- label
- 41 Deli snacks
- 43 No longer bothered by
- Stadium in
- nonsense 48 Worker's shout
- 40 Italian clothing

- birds 45 Suffix with
 - glycer-
- 49 Mrs. Chaplin 50 Clark's crush 51 Year in the
- reign of Edward the Elder
- 44 Yellow-throated 52 Nest eggs, for short
 - 53 Co. unit 54 Citrus coolers
- 56 " __ say!" 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

Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$34.95 a year). pioneering 1965 Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young MoMA show solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jodie Sweetin, 23; Shawn Wayans, 34; Wendy Moniz, 36; Junior Seau, 36

Happy Birthday: You have everything under control, but that doesn't mean you won't stretch yourself to the limit this year. You can make it much easier on yourself by controlling how much you spend and how much you promise others. Keep things on a small scale and you will end up with a lot more. This is a great year for you as long as you are thrifty, cautious and very precise in your dealings. Your numbers are 6, 18, 23, 30, 38, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Family problems will escalate, but if you work hard and concentrate on getting ahead financially, you can rise above some of the unfavorable goings-on in your own back yard. Avoid arguments, ***
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You should be following your own plan today, not someone else's. You have the ideas and the wherewithal to do whatever you set your mind on. Social events will lead to love. ***

set your mind on. Social events will lead to love. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take care of money matters today. You stand to make gains if you are quick to respond to an offer being made. You should fix up your living quarters so they suit your needs better. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Everything you do to help someone out will contribute to the way other people look at you. You are in a high cycle regarding love and romance, so don't miss out by sitting home alone. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Do the best job possible today and you will surpass even your biggest critic's expectations. If you let your work ethics slin, you will

even your biggest critic's expectations. If you let your work ethics slip, you will definitely have to answer for your laziness. **
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Nothing should stand in your way if you are adamant

about getting things done. You will be a little accident prone, so be cautious. The best news is that this is a great day for love. *****
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The action appears to be at home, but you may want to keep a low profile. Someone is likely to be on the rampage. You need peace and quiet today so find a quiet spot. ***
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Friends and family will bend over backwards to

help you today. Love is looking good, and getting out and mingling will certainly be to your benefit. Short trips will pay off. ****
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll be all worked up and anxious to get

things done. You can find the perfect outlet for your energy by pushing hard to complete tasks that will equate in monetary gains. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can't lose if you put your heart into what you do. You will be competitive and welcome any challenge that's offered. It's a chance to prove your valor and impress someone you love. ***** AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't leave anyone out, or you will hear about it from someone who matters to you. Do whatever you can to please. Improve your home by adding comfort and more entertainment. **

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Love, friendship and partnership should be your concern today. Getting together with others to fight a cause will lead to an interesting connection that will influence your future. ****

Birthday Baby: You are dedicated and will always make sure that everyone around you is taken care of. You are a loyal friend, and you have strong convictions.

Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvice.com and 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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S PORTS

ND BASKETBALL

Strong start, finish

Falls scores 19 points in 70-57 win over the Mountaineers

By PAT LEONARD Associate Sports Writer

Troy Murphy should watch his heels.

Chris Thomas had 16 points and Colin Falls led all scorers with 19 as the Irish beat West Virginia at its own game in a 70-57 win in Morgantown, W. Va. Wednesday night.

Thomas notched his 2,000th career point, becoming only the sixth player in Notre Dame history to do so and needing just 11 points to tie Murphy's 2,011 career total. Murphy, now with the Golden State Warriors, played three seasons with the Irish.

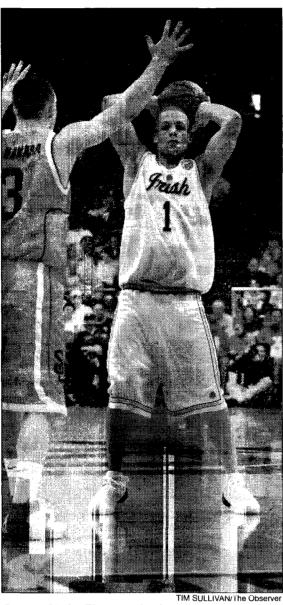
Thomas was a major player in a terrific shooting night for Notre Dame (12-3, 4-1 Big East), which made 52 percent of its 3-point shots and six more from behind the arc than the traditionally dangerous Mountaineers (11-4, 1-3).

"Our guards were excellent tonight," Irish coach Mike Brey told ESPN after the game.

Notre Dame won its second straight and its first of seven road games in its next 10 contests.

Boston College Since squeaked out a 67-66 win over

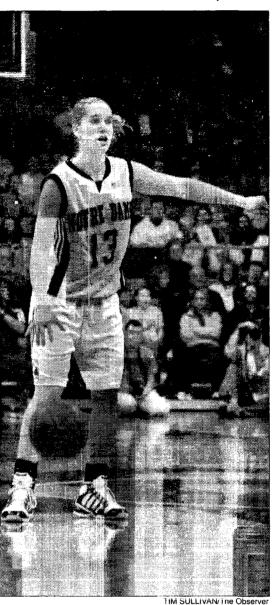
see GUARDS/page 18



Guard Chris Thomas looks to pass against Syracuse Jan. 10. Thomas scored his 2,000th point against West Virginia Wednesday night.

Irish overpower Syracuse

Batteast scores 19 points in 74-61 victory



Megan Duffy calls a play in a victory against Purdue Sunday. The Irish came away with the win against Syracuse Wednesday night.

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN

After a big win against No. 24 Purdue, Notre Dame wasn't quite ready for a letdown Wednesday.

Despite a slow start, the No. 11 Irish were able to pull away for a 74-61 win over Syracuse in New York Wednesday night.

Jacqueline Batteast had 19 points on 7-for-13 shooting for the Irish (15-3, 3-2 Big East), who snapped their two-game Big East losing streak with the

"I am really pleased with our offense, and I think we're improving," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "But I would just like to see us play a little better defense."

The Irish were led in the first half by Courtney LaVere, who played 35 minutes off the bench. LaVere scored 13 points on 6-for-7 shooting, all in the first half, to spark the Irish. She even hit the one shot she took from beyond the arc.

"I thought Courtney gave us a great lift off the bench," McGraw said. "She was really ready to play. She did a great job attacking. I thought that was just a great performance

LaVere also pulled down 10 rebounds for her second double-double of the year.

"I think she was just a little more comfortable [without the

see BATTEAST/page 18

FOOTBALL RECRUITING

Recruits continue to commit

Kuntz and Hand bring total for class of 2009 to 13

By MIKE GILLOON Sports Writer

Patrick Kuntz eagerly dialed

his phone at 3 o'clock Tuesday morning. He was call-Jappy Oliver to let the Irish defensive line coach know he will be playing football for Notre Dame.



Kuntz

"Coach Oliver and I had this

joke going where he said he never turns his phone off,' Kuntz, a defensive tackle from Indianapolis, said. "I wanted to see what he'd say. Fortunately he wasn't mad. He was actually pretty happy."

The 6-foot-3, 255-pound Kuntz verbally committed to the Irish over Louisville and Michigan State. However, he cannot sign an official letter of intent until

He joins West Philadelphia Catholic product Derrell Hand as the 12th and 13th verbal commitments for Notre Dame this year. Hand, who announced he will be playing for the Irish Wednesday afternoon, is a 6foot-4, 305-pound defensive tackle. He chose Notre Dame over Michigan State and Wisconsin.

Mike Frank of Irisheyes.com

said Hand is a solid pick-up for Notre Dame.

"He's a big body," Frank said. "He has very good size and plays

Hand could not be reached Wednesday night but his mother was thrilled by her son's choice.

"I'm very excited about [Hand's commitment]," Deborah Middleton said. "We had a really great time on our trip to campus. We met all the coaches except Hrish head! coach [Charlie] Weis. and I was really impressed with them. They seem like they have been working together for years. They are recruiting a lot of strong young men and I'm really excited about the future of the program."

Hand will most likely play

see KUNTZ/page 17

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles move to fourth in MIAA with 64-63 win

By KEN FOWLER Sports Writer

Belles guard Bridget Boyce had a roller-coaster finale during Wednesday night's contest against MIAA foe Kalamazoo.

With the Belles trailing with 35.8 seconds left in the contest, Boyce scored five unanswered points to lead the Belles to the 64-63 win.

Saint Mary's trailed 27-26 at the half and was behind for most of the second after losing its momentum.

Belles guard Alison Kessler created a great opportunity for Saint Mary's to take the

lead into the break with a steal and drive, but she was called for a charging foul with 6.7 seconds remaining in

The call seemed to weigh heavily on the Belles, as the Hornets staked out a 10-point lead with a 21-12 run to begin the second. The Belles trailed by 10 with 8:45 remaining, but Hornets' center Ashley Riley accumulated her fourth foul with 6:37 remaining, giving the Belles just the break they needed to slice into the lead.

"It seemed like we were down by 10 and all of a sud-

see BOYCE/page 18

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Courtney Sullivan became Notre Dame's second commitment for the 2005-06 season.

page 17

NCAA FOOTBALL

After choosing to return to USC for his senior year, quarterback Matt Leinart remains confident in his decision.

page 17

NFL

Former Oakland Raiders center Barret Robbins was charged Wednesday with three counts of attempted felony murder.

page 17

NFL

Pittsburgh quarterback Ben Roethlisberger prepares to be the first rookie starting quarterback to reach the Super Bowl with a win on Sunday.

page 15

NFL

Philadelphia quarterback Donovan McNabb is confident as the team enters its fourth consecutive NFC title game.

page 13

PGA

Phil Mickelson begins the 2005-06 season in the Buick Invitational.

page 13