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ND student robbed at gunpoint

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
News Writer

A Notre Dame student was robbed at gunpoint Thursday night outside the Eck Visitors' Center on campus, Notre Dame Security/Police assistant director Chuck Hurley said.

The student, who was walking east from his dormitory on campus, saw a man sitting alone on a bench on the north side of the Eck Center about 9 p.m., Hurley

said. The man showed a gun and told the student to give him his wallet.

"The student gave him his wallet, and the guy told him to walk away," Hurley said. "The student turned and looked over his shoulder and the guy ran southbound on Notre Dame Avenue."

The student, a senior at the University, was unharmed.

Hurley said the student went into the Hammes Bookstore, which was in the process of closing up for the night. He called NDSP about three minutes after

the incident, which occurred while several games of the Bookstore Basketball Tournament were being played at the nearby Bookstore courts.

The suspect, described as a black male in his late 20s to early 30s, was estimated to be six feet tall and weigh 180 pounds. He was wearing an unzipped black leather jacket with a gray T-shirt and a red baseball hat, Hurley said.

After the student contacted NDSP, officers attempted to find the suspect.

"We checked the area down by Notre Dame Avenue and alerted South Bend Police," Hurley said. "Nobody matched the description in that area."

Hurley said there was no one in the area when the incident occurred and that the student was unsure if he could identify the suspect if he was asked to.

NDSP has assigned a detective to the case, and he will meet with the student to develop a composite sketch of the suspect, Hurley

see ROBBERY/page 6

Leaders describe ideal new provost

By EILEEN DUFFY
Assistant News Editor

The search committee for the new provost, headed by University President-elect Father John Jenkins, has been meeting with various constituencies to find out what qualities they are looking for in Notre Dame's next academic leader.

"Rather than prejudice the issue, we want to find out what others think," philosophy professor and committee member Cornelius Delaney said.

Senior faculty members have a great deal to say about their hopes for the new provost — regarding both his character and his vision for the University.

Character

When faculty members reflected on the qualities a provost ought to possess, they came up with a variety of responses.

Keith Bradley, chair of the classics department, pointed immediately to academics when he described his ideal provost.

"He or she must be an accomplished scholar who can set a standard for the rest of the faculty, someone with intellectual vision for the teaching and research enterprise that is the University," Bradley said, adding that the provost ought to be truly "inspirational."

Others were more concerned with the provost's public presence. Dennis Doordan, chair of art, art history and design, said he hopes to see a new academic

see PROVOST /page 8

NDSP protects Dome from curious climbers

Officers fear students will scale scaffolding

By AMANDA MICHAELS
News Writer

In the latest installment of drama surrounding the regilding of the Golden Dome, the Notre Dame Security/Police initiated an all-night guard at the building's base during the last week in a move officials said was a response to reports of students attempting to climb the scaffolding structure.

"We're concerned that, with the warmer weather, people will be intrigued into trying climb scaffolding, which is a dangerous situation if done during the night, particularly if they had been using alcohol," NDSP assistant director Chuck Hurley said. "This is a safety issue. We're trying to be proactive, and keep people from getting hurt."

Jim Lyphout, Vice President of Business Operations, said that his office — which is in charge of the regilding project — had been



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

Our Lady of Notre Dame, stripped of her golden coat, watches over the University from her place atop the Dome. The regilding process began in mid-March and is set to be finished by fall.

see DOME/page 6

Belles bless new Student Center



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Student Trustee Sarah Brown aids Father Joe Carey in the blessing of the new Student Center at Saint Mary's Thursday.

By JEN MALL
News Writer

A sense of community was truly the aura on the Saint Mary's campus Thursday as hundreds gathered to dedicate the new Student Center and Noble Family Dining Hall. Among those attending were students, faculty, staff, sisters, alumnae, donors and the Board of Trustees.

"The new Student Center is a wonderful addition to the

see CENTER/page 9

See Also
"Student Center boasts a dozen new offices"
page 3

Parking spots may be scarce for game day

By KATE ANTONACCI
Associate News Editor

Those attending Saturday's Blue-Gold spring football game may face more problems than just nabbing a good seat in the stadium. Finding a parking spot may pose a challenge, due to the construction currently underway on the soccer fields on Edison Road previously used for parking on football weekends.

See Also
"Officials predict big crowds for scrimmage"
page 4

"It's an area south of Edison and it is owned by the University," assistant director of Notre Dame Security/Police Philip Johnson said.

According to the University Architect's office, the construction on the fields is part of the campus roads project, wherein Edison Road and Route 23 will be widened. A large portion of the existing Edison will be demolished and realigned so a four-lane north-south road can be created where Edison meets Ivy Road.

The fields will be relocated for the fall football season,

see PARKING/page 9

INSIDE COLUMN

I climbed the Dome

I believe I am the only undergraduate to climb the scaffolding on the Dome to the top this year. That is, the only student with permission.

First I had to sign my life away. I especially liked the part that said, "I hereby release, acquit and forever discharge the University... for any and all damages, losses or injuries (INCLUDING DEATH)."



Claire Kelley

Our guide was Tony Polotto, senior project manager for the University Architects. Ed Cohen and Matt Cashore from The Notre Dame Magazine had requested this ascent to the top and I was lucky enough to come along with them.

I consider myself mildly acrophobic (afraid of heights) but the scaffolding was very stable. With every few steps up the scaffolding stairs, the people on the ground became smaller and smaller until finally they looked like moving specks. I clung onto the railing with one hand and clutched my camera with the other.

At rooftop level we began to see the damage on the Main Building. Paint on the outside was flaking away. As I cautiously followed the others along the scaffolding walkway I saw a gold gleam in front of me and picked it up. It was a flake of gold leaf.

I suddenly felt like I understood the fervent obsession with gold that the forty-niners had. As we got closer to the top I began to pick up as much as I could and put it in my pocket. Polotto told us that only one bar of gold is used for all of the gilding on the dome and this amount of gold is valued at \$109,000.

Once we reached Mary's base (she is 18 feet high) we had to start climbing little ladders and then awkwardly clamber over the railing to get to the top. The size of Mary's head is surprisingly huge and she has a lighting rod coming right out from the top of her head.

On that day Mary was being stripped of her shimmering top layer because putting more gold on top would not fix the cracks and damage to the statue. Workers were coating the gold surface with paint stripper and then scraping it off. Clumps of gold were falling on the snake, openmouthed in agony under Mary's foot.

It is an utterly breathtaking view from the top scaffolding level. The perfectly symmetrical crisscrosses of the quad give way to the straight line of Notre Dame Avenue and the flat Indiana landscape beyond.

I think my favorite moment was looking over Mary's shoulder to see the campus from her point of view. Watching over us and protecting us, she is our mother, Notre Dame.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
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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: WOULD YOU EVER WANT TO CLIMB THE DOME?



Lindsay Till
senior
off campus

"Yes! With or without the scaffolding."



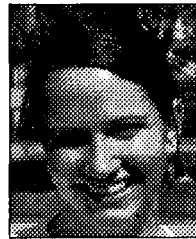
Jenn Heller
sophomore
Lewis

"Yes, I'd hate for the security guards to sit there all night for nothing."



Nathan Lohmeyer
senior
off campus

"Yes, so I could stand next to Mary and be closer to Heaven."



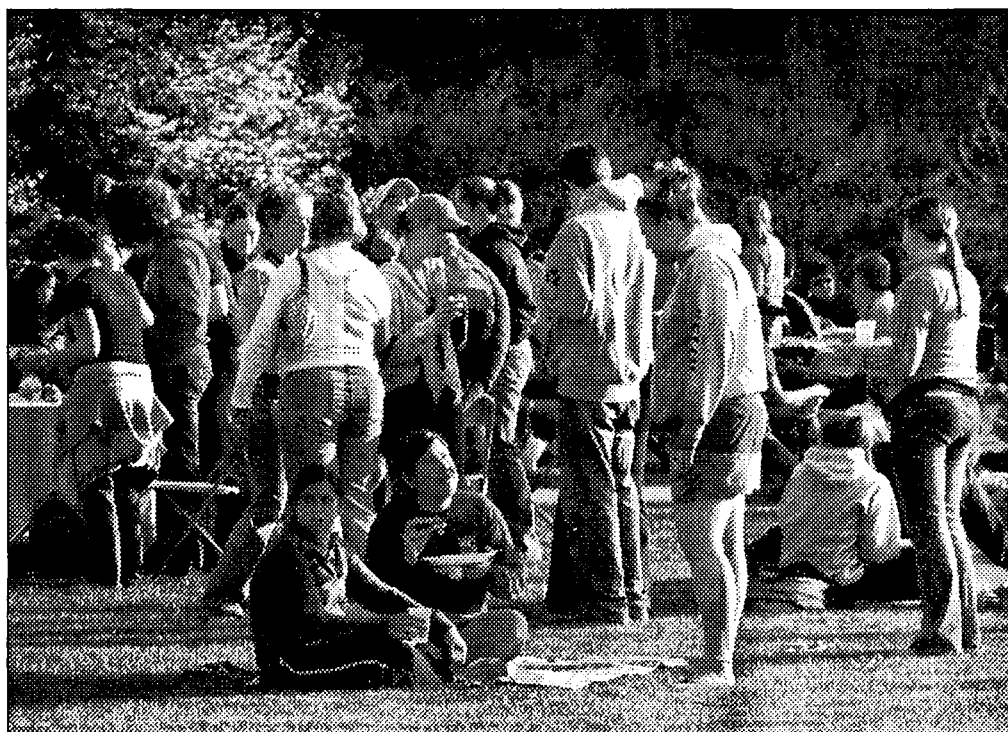
Annelise Succata
senior
off campus

"Yes — I heard Mary is huge."



Tom Raaf
senior
off campus

"Of course, because I heard Mary is made of sweet, sweet chocolate."



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Saint Mary's students enjoy a picnic dinner on the Alumnae Green Thursday evening as part of the Student Center dedication festivities. Other SMC Tostal events included inflatable games, air brush tattoos and a mechanical bull.

OFFBEAT

NHL player opens own 'Daddy Day Care'

HARRISBURG, N.C. — Carolina Panther Mike Rucker is used to raising a ruckus with the opposing team's offense.

Now, the defensive end is showing a softer, gentler side. Rucker is opening a day-care center in the Charlotte, N.C., area.

Rucker and his wife were looking for day care for their young daughter. They couldn't find one they liked, so Rucker decided to open one of his own. He and some teammates have invested in the Ruckus House.

This Saturday, while the

NFL draft is conducted, the Ruckus House will have a draft of its own. The center's newly hired teachers will be introduced one by one, to an audience of prospective families.

'Webster' star causes speeding ticket ruckus

WARWICK, Ga. — A police officer will be reprimanded for not giving a speeding ticket to former child star Emmanuel Lewis after he was clocked driving 25 mph over the posted speed limit.

Lewis, who starred in the '80s TV series "Webster," was clocked driving through town at 70 mph in a 45 mph

zone last week. He was towing a trailer loaded with a sport utility vehicle.

He got off with a verbal warning. Lewis, 34, gave his autograph and posed for a photo with police Officer Ron Kirk and the police chief in this southwest Georgia town.

Although police officers can use discretion in issuing tickets, the Warwick City Council ordered that Kirk receive a written reprimand and that the police chief review his department's policies on giving verbal warnings.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Student Union Board, Saint Mary's Board of Governance, and the class of 2007 will host a six-hour "Battle of the Bands" at Legends tonight. The event, part of the AnTostal festivities, will begin at 6 p.m.

The Bookstore Basketball Tournament will continue tonight with the Elite Eight teams battling for first place. The event will take place tonight from 6 p.m. to 9 on the basketball courts outside the Hammes Bookstore.

The Film, Television and Theater department will sponsor the play "Arcadia" tonight and Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. in the Decio Theater. Tickets can be purchased from the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

The movie "Finding Neverland," starring Johnny Depp and Kate Winslet, will be shown in DeBartolo 101 tonight and Saturday at 8 p.m. and 10:30. Tickets are \$3.

The Saint Mary's Music Department will host a junior recital by vocalist Charlotte Orzel and flutist Courtney Leigh Harmon Sunday from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 in the Little Theater in Moreau Hall. The two will perform several solo and combined works.

The film "Downwind: Depleted Uranium Weapons in the Age of Virtual War" will be shown in Vander Vennet Theatre in the Saint Mary's Student Center at 7 p.m. Sunday.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 55 LOW 50	HIGH 36 LOW 24	HIGH 55 LOW 33	HIGH 57 LOW 40	HIGH 48 LOW 43	HIGH 57 LOW 41

Atlanta 80 / 58 Boston 55 / 40 Chicago 58 / 38 Denver 63 / 36 Houston 84 / 65 Los Angeles 75 / 56 Minneapolis 65 / 45 New York 67 / 45 Philadelphia 68 / 45 Phoenix 89 / 63 Seattle 68 / 47 St. Louis 70 / 55 Tampa 85 / 64 Washington 70 / 48

Student Center boasts a dozen new offices, high-tech theater

By MEGHAN DALEY
News Writer

Costing an estimated \$17 million, the new Saint Mary's Student Center boasts a lot more space for students, clubs and offices as well as some new additions to campus, including a Cyber Café, a convenience store and a new theater.

The plans for the new center, drawn up by the Architecture Design Group of South Bend, began in 1998 and the structure was completed in two phases, starting with the new Noble Family Dining Hall and wrapping up this spring with the completion of the Student Center.

Offices in the center include Multicultural Affairs, the Office of Civic and Social Engagement, the Student Government Association, Sodexo Food Services, First Source Bank, Student

Activities, the Blue Mantle, The Observer and the Women's Resource Center.

Shannon McManus, the Board of Governance's Tri-Campus Commissioner, said she and other student government members are enjoying the new facilities.

"It is a real luxury to have the new meeting rooms — we no longer have to coordinate meeting times around other campus groups' schedules," McManus said.

In the basement of the center are several large meeting rooms which can be partitioned into smaller spaces for groups of varying size.

The first floor has a spacious, well-furnished student lounge, which student activities director Georgeanna

Rosenbush said "will be used differently than Haggar Parlor," the original student lounge. Haggar Parlor was used nearly daily for various College functions. Rosenbush said the new lounge will be "more available to students."

"It is a real luxury to have the new meeting rooms."

Shannon McManus
tri-campus
commissioner

The new bi-level Shaheen bookstore, which moved to the new Student Center shortly after Easter, is estimated by manager Michael Hicks to have twice the size of the original setup. It was previously located in the now vacant Haggar College Center.

Thanks to the additional space, the Campus iStore, the official computer and cellular center at Saint Mary's College, was moved out of the LeMans basement and into the new bookstore.

In addition to a larger bookstore, Saint Mary's students have also been enjoying having a convenience store on campus.

"For students who do not have cars on campus, the convenience store is great for purchasing anything from Twinkies to laundry detergent," senior Kamille Peter said.

The new cyber café, replete with several desktop computers, is located next to the bookstore and offers typical coffee shop fare. Students have unlimited use of the Cyber Café's computers. The entire building sports the "BelleAire" wireless network, which is available to all students, faculty, and staff with a wireless enabled notebook computer.

Another new feature of the student center is the high tech Vander Venet Theater which seats 100 people and has surround-sound technology. It is

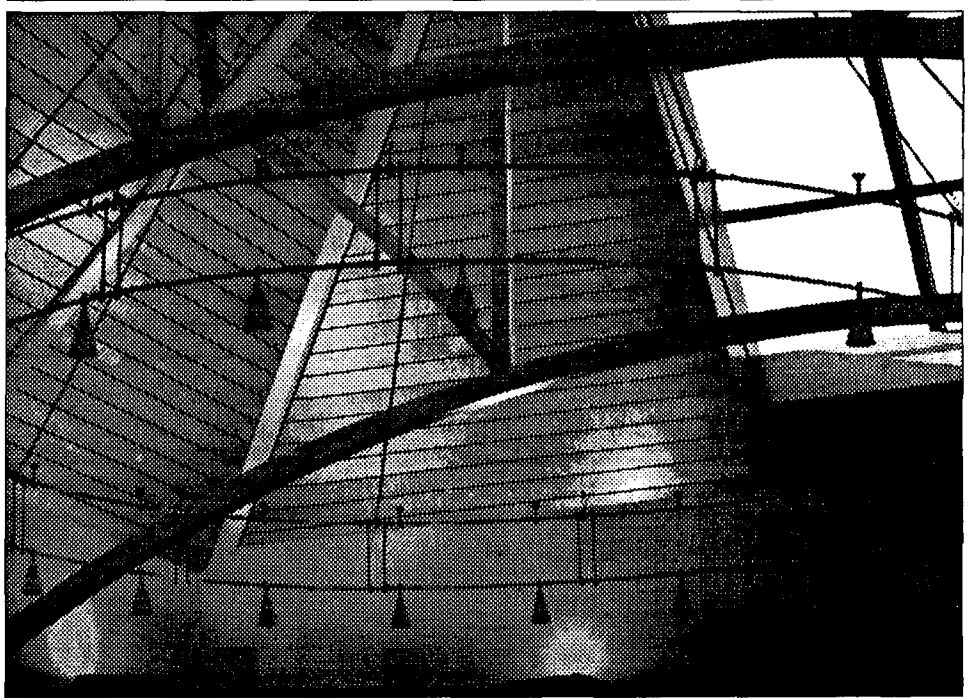
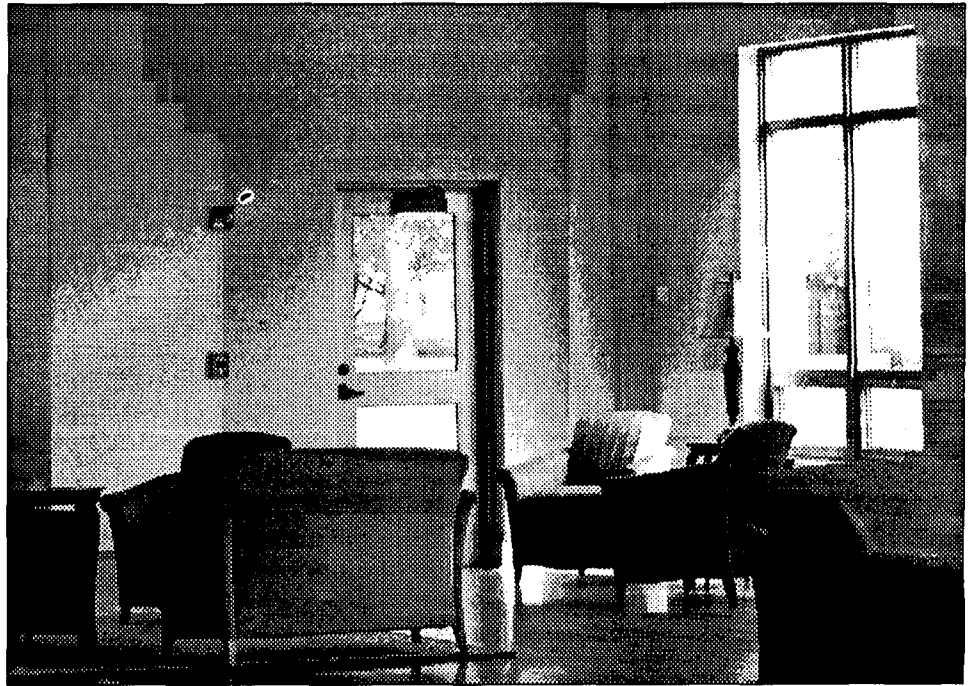
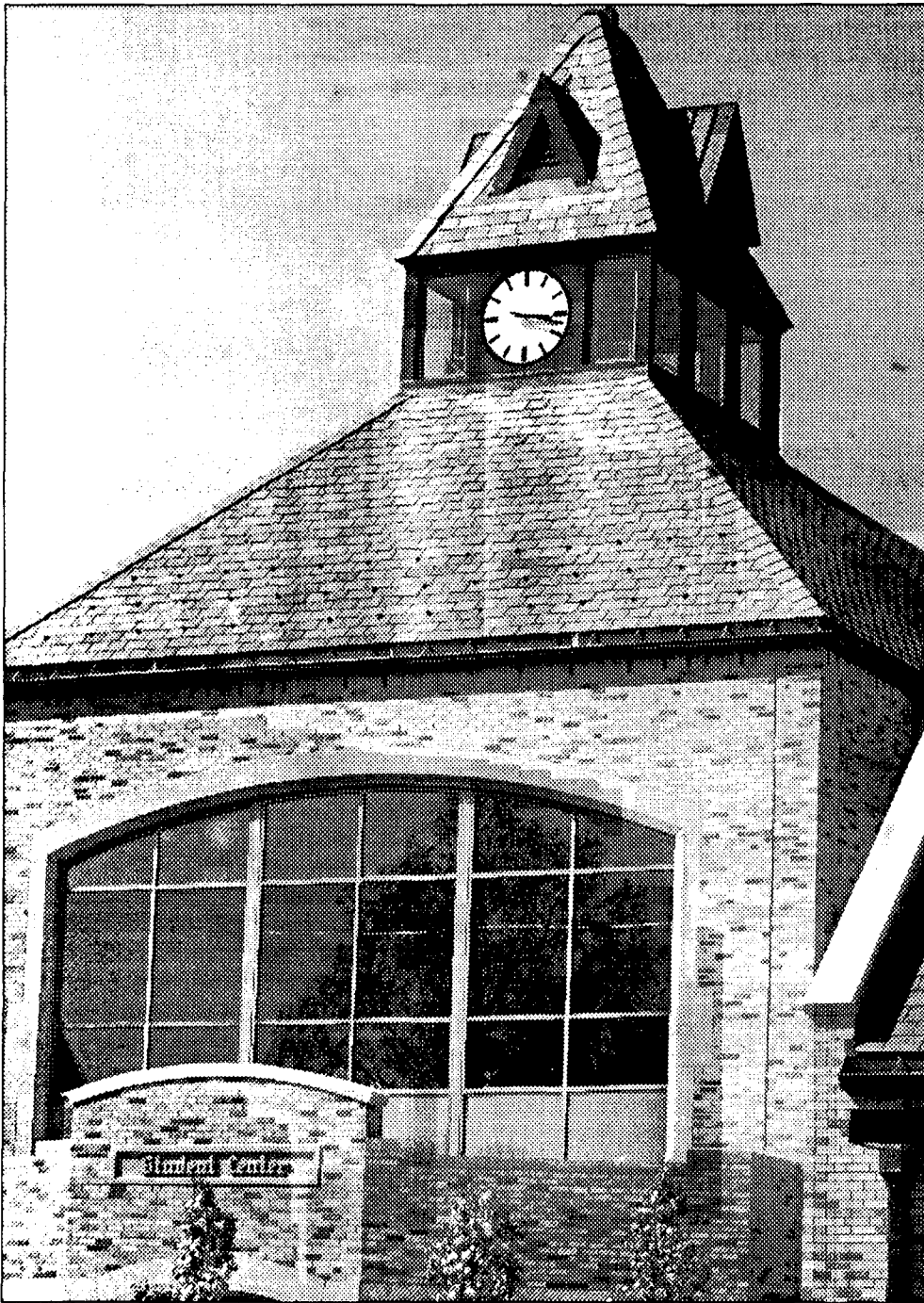
a popular location for movie showings and guest lectures.

Fully accessible to the handicapped, the Student Center has a tunnel connecting it with LeMans Hall, the only form of underground transportation still open to pedestrian traffic at Saint Mary's.

The landscaping outside of the Student Center has received some finishing touches in the last several days and the cement patios should be furnished sometime in the near future.

According to Rosenbush, the new student center was financed mostly by contributions from the Saint Mary's Board of Trustees, parents of students and the Student Government Association. A complete list of donors can be found on a plaque inside the student center on the first floor.

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Photos by KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

The \$17 million Saint Mary's Student Center, the new home for the Shaheen bookstore, Cyber Cafe and student government offices, opened for use in March and was blessed in a ceremony Thursday. Hundreds, including students, faculty, donors and trustees, gathered for the event.

Building wins praise of current students, visiting prospects

By KELLY MAUS
News Writer

Since its opening last month, Saint Mary's students, faculty and staff are finally settling into the new Student Center.

With the introduction of the new Cyber Café, theater, convenience store and offices for many of the clubs and organizations here on campus, the

Student Center is becoming the center of student life at the College.

Sophomore Colleen Brannagan said that what she likes most about the new Student Center is that "it provides students with a quiet place to study outside the library."

"The new café was a convenient alternative to the dining hall and a great place to grab coffee in the mornings

before heading to class," freshman Mary Frantz said.

Although many students are pleased with the center as a whole, some students working inside the new facility feel as if they weren't fully prepared for the demands of their new positions.

Ali Grimmer, a student employee at the Cyber Café, felt that "some of the student workers are being expected to accomplish more than they

are able to," stemming from the fact that little training was offered to them before the café officially opened.

Despite these concerns, the facility has earned many compliments from both students and non-students alike. This past Sunday during the college's annual Spring Day on Campus, prospective students and their families were impressed by the new Student Center.

Maggie Siefert, a tour guide for Sunday's event, said she felt the building made the College more appealing to prospects.

"[Visiting students] thought the Student Center was a good asset to have on campus and that the café would be a great place to socialize and do homework," Siefert said.

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Students unite to end racism

By KATIE LAIRD
News Writer

This weekend Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students will participate in Challenge Day, a program intended to reach out to youth with experimental workshops and discussions to help break down various diversity barriers that exist in groups and to disband social stereotypes.

Challenge Day was started in California in 1987 to help juvenile delinquents and has since won various awards for its groundbreaking programs. It has been featured in an Emmy award-winning documentary and the best-selling Chicken Soup for the Soul books.

From Friday night to Saturday evening, seven Notre Dame and three Saint Mary's students will travel to Ypsilanti, Mich. to help high school students learn how to deal with important issues that come up in society such as race, gender, religion or ethnicity.

Trevor Gass, a junior English major, is the program coordinator for the Challenge ND and SMC. Gass has been actively involved with the organization since high school and believes the results of the program are nothing but positive.

"Anybody that goes to this program gets a lot of out of it," Gass said. "There's a great divide between actual experience and just hearing about it."

Throughout the day, students partake in a sequence of ice-breakers, group discussions and a speak-out session. These events help them to open their minds

about others and to self-examine their own path and identity. They also raise awareness of social justice issues and problems that may arise in the students' lives.

"[Challenge Day] helps equip students with tools to deal with any problem going on at that time," Gass said.

Michael Anderson, a junior from Knott Hall who participated in the Challenge Day events last spring, said Challenge Day is a spark for people to open their minds to self-examination and examination of others.

"Challenge day was a wakeup call," he said. "That's the whole challenge aspect. It challenges you by confronting you with the reality that your life is not in a bubble, free of discrimination, rejection and a general lack of love."

Anderson said Challenge Day responds to your own inner conflict, not one of outside pressure — which is what makes the program unique. Gass said most activities and discussions can truly change a participant.

Gass described several activities, including one game he called "crossing the line." He said the game was "extremely moving."

In it, students have to cross a line when a certain group such as race or religion is named. The game is meant to show how being part of certain groups can make you feel like you are on the inferior side of the line.

"Crossing the line forces you to in a moment examine your life and acknowledge the path both you've left and caused others," Anderson said. "It manages to

force awareness and challenge without being confrontational."

Gass is planning to bring Challenge Day to the Notre Dame/South Bend community next year. He said he hopes various campus groups such as drug and alcohol groups, gender relations, women's groups and others that deal with social justice issues will contribute to the program and its funding to make it feasible.

"That way it will be 'Notre Dame as one' doing this," he said.

Gass also said he believes getting the local area school districts involved will help foster the relationship between Notre Dame and the surrounding community and counteract the "Notre Dame bubble effect" many students often mention.

Anderson said Challenge Day would be useful for not only the South Bend community but Notre Dame as well.

"As a school marked again as the least tolerant to alternative lifestyles in the country, many students have no idea what to do about it," he said. "What needs to happen is that problems here on campus need to be expressed in a way that will open the eyes of the student community."

Challenge Day was started in California in 1987 to help juvenile delinquents and has since won various awards for its groundbreaking programs. It has been featured in an Emmy award-winning documentary and the Chicken Soup for the Soul books.

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Officials predict big crowds for scrimmage

By LISA SCHULTZ
News Writer

Even though the first home game is five months away, 25,000 fans, alumni and students are expected to watch football Saturday in Notre Dame Stadium, according to director of ticket operations Josh Berlo.

Kickoff for the 76th annual Blue-Gold Game is 1:35 p.m. local time and is preceded by a free interactive fan fest from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Joyce Center South parking lot.

Excitement for the game is evident through high demand of ticket sales. According to senior associate athletic director John Heisler, all special ticket packages were gone within a day.

One hundred fifty press box seats sold out in an hour Monday morning. By 1 p.m., 1,000 seats for a Saturday morning brunch with members of the team were all sold. Thursday morning, all 1,200 seats in the gold sections

were gone.

However, general admission tickets are still on sale. Students just need to bring their ID to Gate E for free entrance.

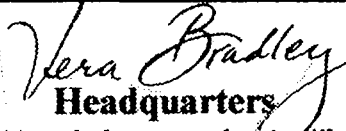
"We'd love a great student turnout," Berlo said. "They make the atmosphere."

"The Blue-Gold game is a vehicle for alumni players to connect with the current team," Heisler said. He credited coach Charile Weis for getting Joe Montana, Joe Theisman, Tim Brown and Chris Zordich together to coach the spring game.

More than 100 other Irish football alumni are expected to be at the game. About fifty will be participating in a flag football game in the stadium at 10:30 a.m.

Once the costs are covered, all additional revenue goes toward the St. Joe Valley Alumni Club Scholarship Fund. The scholarship winners for the local alumni chapter will be announced at the game.

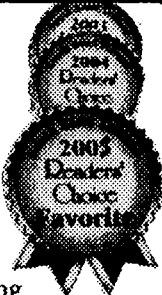
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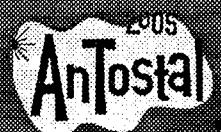
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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

China, Japan to discuss dispute

JAKARTA, Indonesia — China's president sidestepped discussion Thursday of his country's deepening dispute with Japan, which has suggested a meeting on the sidelines of the Asia-Africa Summit to diffuse the crisis.

Massive anti-Japanese protests in China have erupted in recent weeks over World War II history, natural gas exploration and territorial disputes. Japan has demanded an apology for damages to its embassy and consulates, but the Chinese government has blamed Japan for the troubles.

The dispute threatens to overshadow a conference of Asian and African leaders, which both Chinese President Hu Jintao and Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi are attending.

Canada apologizes for corruption

TORONTO — Prime Minister Paul Martin apologized to the nation Thursday night for a corruption scandal that has shaken his Liberal Party, delivering a rare televised address aimed at rescuing his minority government.

Acknowledging the allegations of money laundering and kickbacks have created an "unjustifiable mess," the embattled leader pledged to call an election within a month after an investigation, expected to be completed by Dec. 15.

"Those who are in power are to be held responsible, and that includes me," Martin said of the charges, which have disgusted Canadians and prompted the opposition Conservative Party to threaten a no-confidence vote that could take down the government.

NATIONAL NEWS

Air tanker crashes during training

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — An air tanker designed to drop retardant during wildfires crashed on a training flight in a remote forest, killing all three pilots on board, federal officials said.

The cause was under investigation, said Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Donn Walker.

The tanker was set to begin fighting fires next month after safety concerns grounded it and similar planes a year ago, federal officials said.

The plane, a P-3 Orion tanker, went down Wednesday evening in a rugged area of the Lassen National Forest, about 120 miles north of Sacramento.

Police fatally shoot murder suspect

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A 78-year-old stroke victim was shot to death in her hospital bed, apparently by her husband, who was killed by police at his home later in the day when he ignored warnings to drop his gun, authorities said.

Inge Brown, who had Alzheimer's disease and was to be placed in a nursing home, was shot twice in the head Tuesday at Mount Carmel East Hospital, Franklin County Coroner Brad Lewis said. Authorities said her 76-year-old husband, Harry, was believed to be the shooter, and they were investigating whether it was a mercy killing.

LOCAL NEWS

'Star Wars' draws fans to Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS — More than 30,000 "Star Wars" fans from around the world have gathered here for the largest official "Star Wars" convention ever held.

Interest in the four-day "Celebration III" has been piqued by the May 19 release of "Star Wars: Episode III — Revenge of the Sith," the final film in George Lucas' prequel trilogy. Media outlets around the world have sent representatives, and downtown hotels are booked solid.

The star attraction is creator Lucas, who on Saturday will make his first appearance at a fan convention since 1987.

IRAQ

'Islamic Army' shoots down helicopter

Six American bodyguards die, remaining survivor captured and killed by group

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — He lived through an insurgent missile attack and helicopter crash that killed 10 others on board, including six American bodyguards for U.S. diplomats in Iraq. But the attackers soon found the survivor, sprawled on his back in tall grass near the crash site. Within moments, he too was dead.

Insurgents had brought down the Russian-made helicopter carrying the 11 civilians on a commercial flight from Baghdad to Tikrit, the hometown of Saddam Hussein 100 miles north of the Iraqi capital. The chartered flight was believed to be the first civilian aircraft shot down in Iraq since the U.S.-led invasion two years ago.

An Internet statement by a group identifying itself as the Islamic Army in Iraq was accompanied by a video that showed the repeated shooting the man after he was forced to stand up and walk. The video showed burning wreckage just before the shooting.

"One of the crew members was captured and killed," the statement said.

On the video, the man spoke English with an accent and was wearing a blue flight suit, indicating he was one of the three Bulgarian crew members. Two Fijian helicopter security guards were also on board the flight.

The video also showed two charred bodies near the burning wreckage, about 12 miles north of Baghdad.

The authenticity of the video, posted on a Web forum often used by militant groups, could not be confirmed. A U.S. Embassy official in Baghdad said he had no knowledge that anyone on board survived the crash and was killed later.

The Islamic Army statement said it killed the survivor "in revenge for the Muslims who have been



The crash site of a commercial helicopter contracted by the U.S. Defense Department, which was shot down by missile fire north of the Iraqi capital Thursday, the Bulgarian Defense Ministry said in a statement.

killed in cold blood in the mosques of tireless Fallujah before the eyes of the world and on television screens, without anyone condemning them." It was apparently referring to the shooting by an American soldier of a wounded Iraqi in a Fallujah mosque on Nov. 13 during a U.S. offensive in the city.

The Mi-8 helicopter was shot out of the air as growing numbers of contractors, diplomats and other civilian officials are turning to aircraft to avoid insurgent attacks on Iraq's roads.

The downing is part of a surge of attacks that have caused heavy casualties in recent weeks, ending a relative calm since January elections. In the latest vio-

lence, two U.S. Marines and at least five other people, including two foreign civilians, were killed in attacks Wednesday and Thursday.

The six Americans on board the downed helicopter were employed by Blackwater Security Consulting — a subsidiary of North Carolina-based security contractor Blackwater USA, which had four employees slain and mutilated by insurgents in Fallujah a year ago.

The Americans were assisting the Bureau of Diplomatic Security in protecting U.S. diplomats in Iraq.

"They played a critical role in our effort to bring a better way of life to the peo-

ple of a country who have not experienced freedom and opportunity for many years," State Department spokesman Adam Ereli said.

Ereli, who spoke before the video was posted, said he could not confirm the cause of the crash.

However, the Bulgarian Defense Ministry said the helicopter was struck by missile fire.

The aircraft was owned by Heli Air of Bulgaria and chartered by Toronto-based SkyLink Aviation Inc. It was flying to Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit from Baghdad's heavily guarded Green Zone, home to Iraq's parliament and many diplomats.

Prosecutors charge alleged missile smuggler

Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — A British businessman on trial for allegedly trying to smuggle a shoulder-fired missile into the United States was "happy as a clam" as he talked to an informant about using the weapons to shoot down civilian aircraft, a prosecutor charged Thursday.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Brian Howe said Hemant Lakhani, 69, "was no shrinking violet" in the government sting operation. Rather, he "was aggressive, pushed the deal and took steps to avoid getting caught," Howe said.

Lakhani is charged with attempting to provide material support to terrorists, attempting to sell arms without a

license, money laundering and importing merchandise into the United States by means of false statements. The charges carry a combined sentence of up to 25 years in prison.

During the summation that lasted about three hours, Howe played a secretly recorded videotape of Lakhani and the government informant at a hotel the day Lakhani was arrested with a fake shoulder-launched missile in a box in the room.

Lakhani is seen laughing and joking with the informant about using missiles against commercial planes as the two men look out a window overlooking the airport.

"That's a missile that he believes terrorists will use to shoot innocent civilians out of the sky," Howe told the

jury. "He's clearly pleased with himself."

In an abbreviated closing argument that will resume Friday in federal court, Lakhani's attorney, Henry Klingeman, called the government's case one of entrapment.

"There was no missile plot until the government created it," Klingeman said. "It's a lot like a fireman who lights a fire and then pulls the alarm so he can be the hero."

Lakhani was arrested in a hotel room near Newark Liberty International Airport on Aug. 12, 2003, as he met with a man he knew as "Haji" but who was actually the informant, Mohammad Habib Rehman, a Pakistani who had also been involved in the drug trade.

Dome

continued from page 1

alerted to reports of people gaining access to the scaffolding at night. Lyphout said this prompted collaboration with NDSP to ensure "total diligence" concerning the site's safety.

Neither Hurley nor Lyphout was aware of any students being apprehended while climbing the structure, and Jeff Shoup, director of the Office of Residence Life and Housing, would neither confirm nor deny the existence of any such cases.

Shoup did, however, say that "climbing the scaffolding would be considered very serious."

According to on-duty officer George Heeter, the new installment consists of two NDSP officers posted in vehicles on either side of the quad-side Main Building steps, with rotating shifts over a period of 10 hours starting when the construction workers leave each night at approximately 8 p.m. Officers began these shifts April 14.

Heeter said he assumed the service would last at least until summer break, but that no schedule of dates had been released. Hurley refused to confirm any specific security detail information, citing official NDSP administrative policy. Lyphout said officials were undecided in regards to the watch's length.

The University concerns were perhaps well-founded, as tales of daredevils who escaped the eye of NDSP and ResLife to scale the scaffolding without a mark on their bodies — or permanent records — have been circulating around the student body.

One such student, who spoke to The Observer only on the condition of anonymity for fear of University repercussions, recounted his story.

"There was a small group of us, and we climbed the scaffolding at about nine or 10 at night. We climbed all the way to the Dome so that we could touch it," he said. "To me, it seemed like fun and it would be something I could enjoy looking back on after graduation. How many people can say they've touched the dome?" The student said he did not feel that what he did was particularly dangerous, but could understand the University's concern. "I never felt myself in any danger, but if a drunk or careless student finds their way up there, it would be a totally different story," he said. Though he realized in retrospect that the climbers were quite visible and punishment could be severe — and felt "almost certain" he would not attempt the climb again — he said the risk seemed worth it at the time.

"We could see downtown South Bend from up there and we got to actually touch the Dome," he said. "I got a huge adrenaline rush from sneaking all the way up and all the way down the scaffolding."

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@nd.edu

Robbery

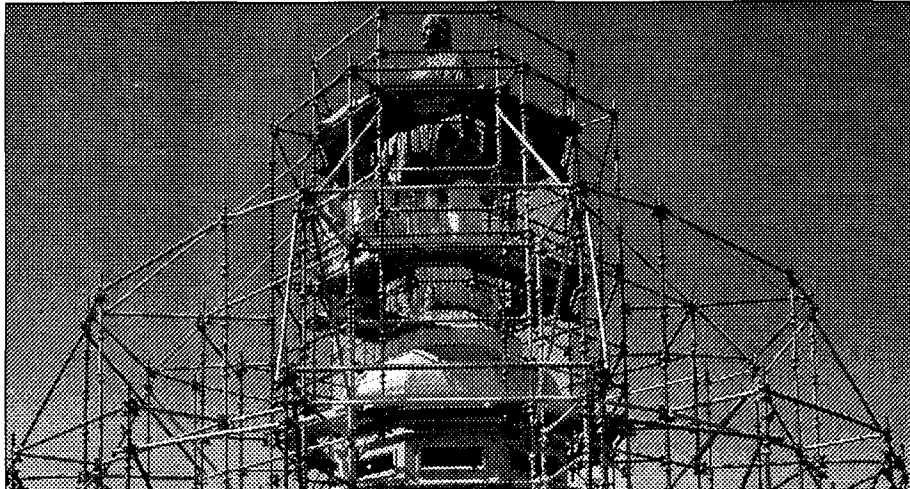
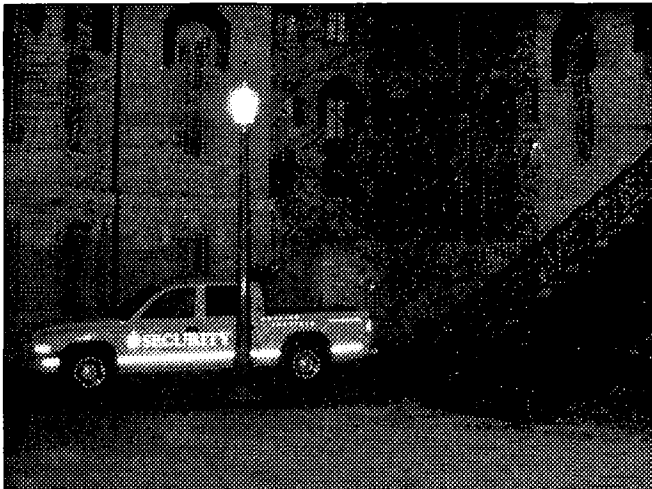
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said.

The student had \$25-\$30 in his wallet at the time, along with one credit card. Hurley said the card was cancelled right away.

"[The student] was shook up," he said.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu



*Clockwise from top left,
NDSP guards the
dome, Mary is hidden
beneath the scaffolding
and Mary's view.*

♦
PHOTOS BY
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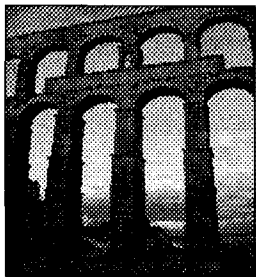
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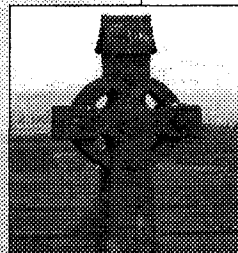


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MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	10,218.60	+206.24	
▲ Up: 2,424	Same: 146	▼ Down: 870	Composite Volume: 2,310,138,050

AMEX	1,449.73	+12.48
NASDAQ	1,962.41	+48.65
NYSE	7,049.18	+111.58
S&P 500	1,159.95	+22.45
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	10,984.39	0.00
FTSE 100(London)	4,819.60	-2.40

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 100TR SER I (QQQQ)	+2.64	+0.92	35.62
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	+3.95	+0.96	25.28
INTEL CP (INTC)	+3.09	+0.70	23.36
EBAY INC (EBAY)	-0.09	-0.03	33.08
CISCO SYS INC (CSCO)	+2.85	+0.49	17.68

Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	+1.47	+0.67	46.38
10-YEAR NOTE	+2.11	+0.89	43.00
5-YEAR NOTE	+2.75	+1.06	39.60
3-MONTH BILL	+0.36	+0.10	28.17

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.17		54.03
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-2.30		434.40
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.80		77.48

Exchange Rates			
YEN			106.8200
EURO			0.7665
POUND			0.5239
CANADIAN \$			1.2394

IN BRIEF

SEC failed to find trading abuses

WASHINGTON — The Securities and Exchange Commission failed to uncover trading abuses throughout the mutual fund industry that cost investors billions because it had other priorities, congressional investigators have found.

Congress' Government Accountability Office, in a report being released Friday, said the SEC's inspectors should have detected the market-timing abuses prior to September 2003, after New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer brought the violations to light and regulators began an industrywide crackdown.

The chairman and senior Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee seized on the GAO report to roundly criticize the SEC. Such concerted bipartisan attacks on the agency have been rare in recent years.

"The SEC was years late in uncovering these massive abuses that are nothing short of theft," panel chairman Rep. James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., said in a statement. "The SEC must take a stronger position on finding, preventing and punishing abuses by insiders, or Congress will be forced to take another look at how mutual funds are examined and regulated."

The ranking Democrat, Rep. John Conyers of Michigan, said the report shows that the SEC "was asleep at the switch."

Market timing of mutual funds, which involves rapid in-and-out trades, is not illegal but is prohibited by many funds because it can disadvantage ordinary shareholders. In many of the cases brought by Spitzer and the SEC, mutual fund companies allowed favored clients such as hedge funds to engage in market timing.

Google increases first-quarter profit

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. — Google Inc.'s first-quarter profit increased by nearly six-fold as the online search engine leader's rapid growth continued to soar beyond analysts' bullish expectations.

The Mountain View-based company said Thursday that it earned \$369.2 million, or \$1.29 per share, for the three months ended in March. That compared with net income of \$64 million, or 24 cents per share, at the same time last year.

Revenue totaled \$1.26 billion, nearly doubling from \$651.6 million at the same time last year. After subtracting commissions that Google paid to other Web sites in its advertising network, the company's revenue was \$794.5 million.

Enron fraud trial set to begin next year

Founder Kenneth Lay faces 98 counts of fraud, conspiracy and insider trading

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Enron founder Kenneth Lay's trial on charges related to his personal banking will be held next year, a judge decided Thursday.

Lay, who faces a separate trial on fraud and conspiracy charges scheduled to begin in January, is accused of lying to banks about his intention to use their loans to buy Enron stock on margin before the company crashed in December 2001. Prosecutors had wanted the banking trial to begin as early as next month.

"The desire to try this case fairly outweighs expedition," U.S. District Judge Sim Lake said.

The case will go to trial within a "couple of hours" of the start of deliberations in the fraud and conspiracy case, Lake said. The fraud and conspiracy trial, which includes former Enron CEO Jeffrey Skilling and former top accountant Richard Causey, is expected to last several months.

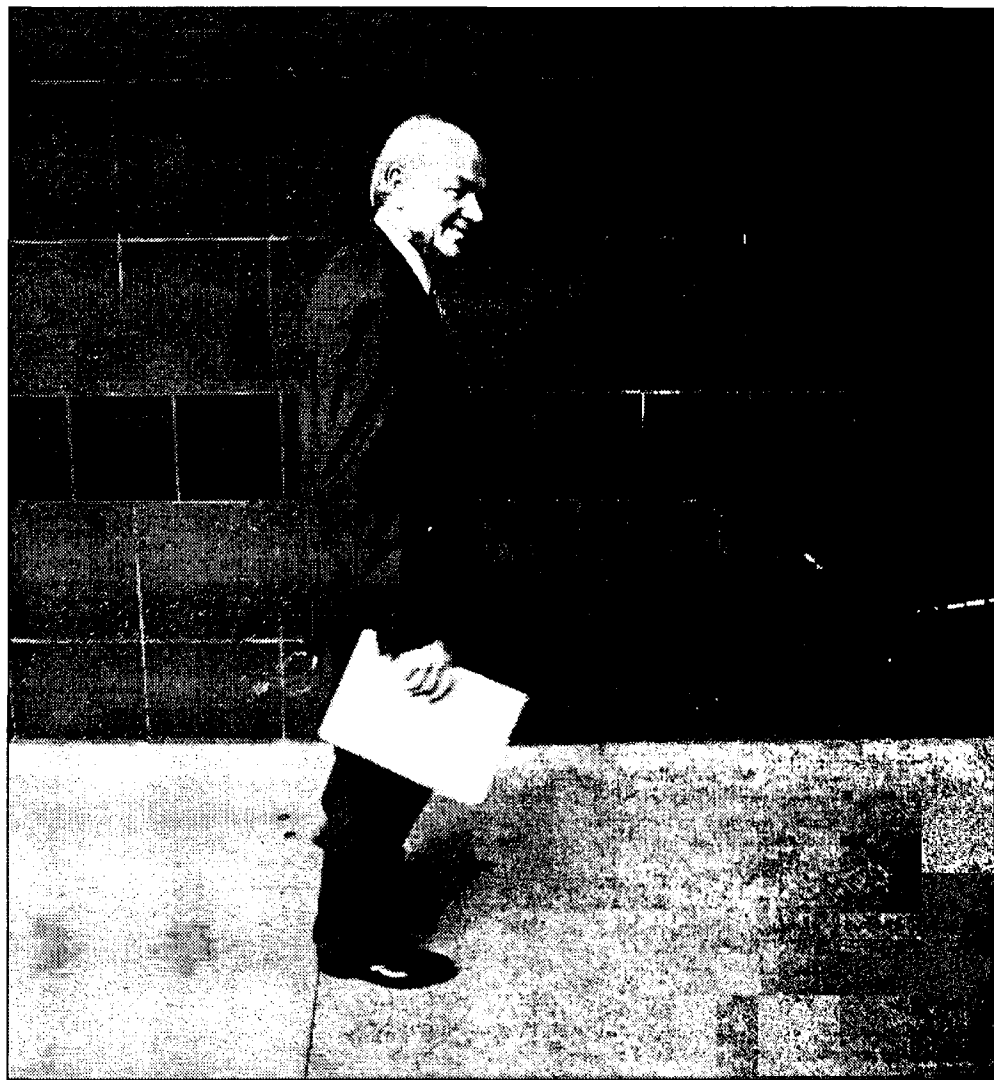
Lay's late-afternoon hearing capped a busy day in the Houston courthouse involving Enron cases.

Earlier Thursday, two former Merrill Lynch & Co. executives were sentenced for their roles in a bogus Enron sale of power barges, although the terms fell far short of what the government sought.

Daniel Bayly, former head of investment banking for Merrill Lynch, got 2 1/2 years in prison. James A. Brown, former head of the brokerage's asset lease group, was sentenced to three years, 10 months. Each was ordered to pay \$840,000 in fines and restitution.

The government had recommended up to 15 years for Bayly and up to 33 for Brown.

Meanwhile, testimony continued for a fourth day



Led by photographers, former Enron CEO Kenneth Lay leaves Federal Court in Houston after a meeting with the judge.

in the trial of Enron's failed broadband operation. The government contends Enron's former broadband executives made false claims of advanced network capabilities so they could get rich by selling company stock inflated by the hype.

Lay said in court papers last week and repeated in court Thursday that he wanted Lake to hear and decide the banking case as jurors deliberate the verdict of the fraud and conspiracy case.

Prosecutors expressed concern that Lay may decide later he wants a jury trial on the bank

charges. Lake questioned Lay to make sure he understood he was giving up his right to a jury trial.

"We have confidence in your honor and think a bench trial is the most appropriate way for it to be decided," Lay told the judge.

"I think it's a very wise ruling. There obviously has been a lot of gamesmanship by the task force and by me," said Mike Ramsey, Lay's attorney. He called Lake "the best fact-finder."

In the Merrill Lynch case, U.S. District Judge Ewing Werlein, who sentenced the Darien, Conn., men, criticized the government's

pursuit of a term longer than the one former Enron finance chief Andrew Fastow received.

Fastow, who ran bogus schemes that rotted Enron, had faced 98 counts including fraud, conspiracy, insider trading and money laundering. Last year he pleaded guilty to two counts of conspiracy for hiding Enron debt and inflating profits while pocketing millions for himself.

A decade is the maximum sentence for two conspiracy counts, though Fastow can shave a year and a half from that with good time credit.

Yahoo provides family with Marine's e-mail

Associated Press

WIXOM, Mich. — E-mail provider Yahoo has pledged to give the family of a Marine killed in Iraq full access to their son's e-mail account, ending a legal tangle that began after his parents sought messages he wrote before his death.

An Oakland County probate judge signed an order Wednesday directing Yahoo Inc. to provide the contents of the e-mail account used by Lance Cpl. Justin M. Ellsworth, 20, who was killed Nov. 13 while inspecting a bomb in Anbar province.

Yahoo, which originally refused the family's request to hand over the account, did not fight the order and gave the family a CD containing more than 10,000 pages of material.

But John Ellsworth, Justin's father, said he found only e-mails

his son received and nothing he had written, even e-mails the younger Ellsworth had sent home.

"Maybe that's all he had. ... Maybe that's all he did," John Ellsworth said. "I'm not sure what I've got in front of me."

The family found only their own messages to Justin Ellsworth, as well as spam and a few e-mails from people they had never heard of.

A spokeswoman for Sunnyvale, Calif.-based Yahoo said the CD should have contained the Marine's outgoing as well as his incoming e-mail messages.

"We will do whatever it takes to help Mr. Ellsworth access all of the files on the disc," Mary Osako said Thursday. She said Yahoo would deliver a paper copy of the contents to the family early next week.

Brian Dailey, the family's attorney, acknowledged Thursday that Yahoo

"had a responsibility to Justin to maintain the confidentiality they had promised him."

"This wasn't a big fat fight going on," he said. "They approached us as a partner and worked with us to do the right thing."

Yahoo's policy states accounts terminate at death, but John Ellsworth argued his son would have wanted him to have the account. The Marine told his dad that kind e-mails kept him going, and his family wanted to make a scrapbook out of them.

"It's a great comfort," Ellsworth told Detroit radio station WJR.

Justin Ellsworth's job was to locate and destroy hidden bombs. He discovered one while on patrol and noticed the device lacked wires, suggesting it was remote-controlled. He warned fellow Marines to clear the area but was caught by the blast.

Provost

continued from page 1

speaker who is "articulate." Professor of electrical engineering Ken Sauer agreed.

"I think it's very important that both our president and our provost be people ... who have a good public presence, who are very well-spoken and who will be able to put the best face of the institution to the rest of the world," Sauer said.

During the search committee's meeting with the College of Arts and Letters' college council, Doordan said a need was also expressed for someone who was sensitive to the needs of female and minority faculty members. Bradley also cited the importance of the provost's relationship with the faculty, saying it was important for the provost to gain their trust and confidence.

Physics professor John LoSecco also highlighted the importance of the provost's ability to form relationships.

"He/she must work well with the new president," he said. "It's essential that they are on the same page and have the same goals in mind, that there is a unified administration."

Allocating resources

Many professors expressed an interest in having more resources allocated toward their areas of interest. LoSecco emphasized the College of Science's interest in keeping the "momentum" going that Jordan Hall has started. Doordan expressed similar sentiments.

"From my point of view, with the new [DeBartolo Performing Arts Center], Notre Dame's

crossed a threshold, made a real commitment to the arts," Doordan said. "I don't want to see that momentum lost. I want to see the next provost committed to the visual and performing arts."

Bradley focused on the importance of liberal arts as a whole.

"One of the important things about Notre Dame is the high value it puts on liberal arts," he said. "I hope the new provost will maintain, at least, if not extend Notre Dame's educational commitment to liberal education and especially the humanities disciplines."

Sauer said the College of Engineering simply wants someone who recognizes the importance of engineering — not just in society, but also in the University itself, because of the college's small size. Chemistry professor Richard Taylor said he would like to see someone with "an appreciation for experimental sciences."

Balancing goals

Ultimately, though, it is the ability to balance these competing needs that sets a good provost apart.

Both Lewis and Richard Taylor, a chemistry professor, stressed the need to balance undergraduate education with graduate-level research.

"I think that both things are very important for a strong university," Lewis said. "But the way that both will really benefit is if there's a meaningful connection between the two."

Associate Dean of the Mendoza College of Business Bill Nichols expressed a desire for a provost who would keep with Notre Dame's traditional Catholic identity.

Taylor, though, emphasized the future along with the tradition.

"Some may say Notre Dame tends to look too much toward tradition and not enough toward evolution of the University," he said. "I want someone who is interested in projecting a strong vision for the future of the University, who looks equally

toward the future as to the past."

That ability to look in many directions was also recognized by mathematics department chair Bill Dwyer.

"It's a matter of judgment," he said. "It's not obvious where resources should go. We need

someone at the top who looks at the whole picture and makes judicious decisions and sometimes, bold and visionary decisions."

Contact Eileen Duffy at eduffy1@nd.edu

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Parking

continued from page 1

according to the University Architect's office.

However, Johnson said that there will be plenty of parking available to campus visitors this weekend and in the fall.

"[Parking] just won't be south of the stadium," Johnson said. "There is also a shuttle that will run from White Field lot down to the library, just like on a typical football Saturday."

On difference between the Blue-Gold Game weekend and typical football Saturdays, however, is that traffic is usually one way in front of the Joyce Center, a change that will not occur for the Blue-Gold game.

"We will have additional officers to facilitate traffic as best we can, but there may be some extra buildup [because

of two-way traffic]," Johnson said.

Lots still open for parking are the Joyce Center lot, B2 Lot and D2 North Lot, as well as space near the Notre Dame Federal Credit Union and White Field North, Brown said.

Additionally, Notre Dame Sports Properties has organized a fan festival from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Joyce Center parking lot, which is also usually filled with cars for football weekends.

"[The fan festival] is taking up some of the additional parking," Johnson said.

According to the Sports Properties office, there will be interactive inflatable games for kids, a DJ and a performance by the Irish Dance Club. Chick-fil-A will be handing out free samples and Meijer and other sponsors will have booths set up.

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonac@nd.edu

Center

continued from page 1

campus," said Sister Louisita Welsh, who attended the ceremony. "It is a central place that will bring everyone together. It is also a place for learning to continue outside the classroom whether it be through lectures or just talking with friends at a meal."

The new Student Center has been open to the public for just over a month and has quickly become the center of campus life. It houses a 98-seat theatre, meeting rooms, student lounges, a Cyber Café, the bookstore and 1st Source Bank. Excitement has been mounting all week, highlighted by "themed bargain days" offered by the bookstore.

These included country-western-Monday and rock-Tuesday, where discounts were given to students wearing themed clothing. 1st Source Bank, which is also located in the new student center, held a raffle in honor of the dedication. Thursday's events began with tours and an open house in the new Student Center. Staff members said

they were thrilled to have students and guests look around the new space. The day's festivities continued with a Mass of Thanksgiving held by Father Kenneth Molinaro in the Regina Hall Chapel.

At 5:15 p.m., the front courtyard of the Student Center was packed with community members for the ceremony and blessing. College President Carol Mooney directed the ceremony, stressing the day of celebration for Saint Mary's College. Mooney also made it a point to thank Mary Lou Eldred, the former Saint Mary's president who was very influential in the building of the new Student Center.

The event proceeded with prayers led by members of the Saint Mary's community and the physical blessing of the building by Father Joe Carey. Immediately following the ceremony, Sodexo held a community picnic on the Alumnae Green, where students and the community continued the celebration. Eldred said she was "over-

whelmed" at seeing the new student Center for the first time yesterday. Eldred said she worked very hard to see the addition of a student center at Saint Mary's.

"Saint Mary's really needed a gathering place that was centered around students," Eldred said.

Linda Timm, vice president for Student Affairs, has seen the Student center go from the very first visions to the finished product. She said she was overjoyed that the Student Center has only been open for a month and is already being utilized.

"Every time I walk by and see students studying, attending lectures or even sleeping in the lounge, I know it is being used exactly as it should be," Timm said. "I think we exceeded students expectations to a certain extent ... 'Wow' is pretty much what we heard."

Many of the students are also thrilled with the opening.

"[The building is] an awesome addition to the campus," said freshman Amber Zila. "It is something everyone whether freshman or senior, living on or off campus, can use."

Contact Jen Mall at jmall01@saintmarys.edu

"St. Mary's really needed a gathering place that was centered around students."

Mary Lou Eldred
former SMC president

"I think we exceeded students' expectations to a certain extent ... 'Wow' is pretty much what we heard."

Linda Timm
vice president for
Student Affairs



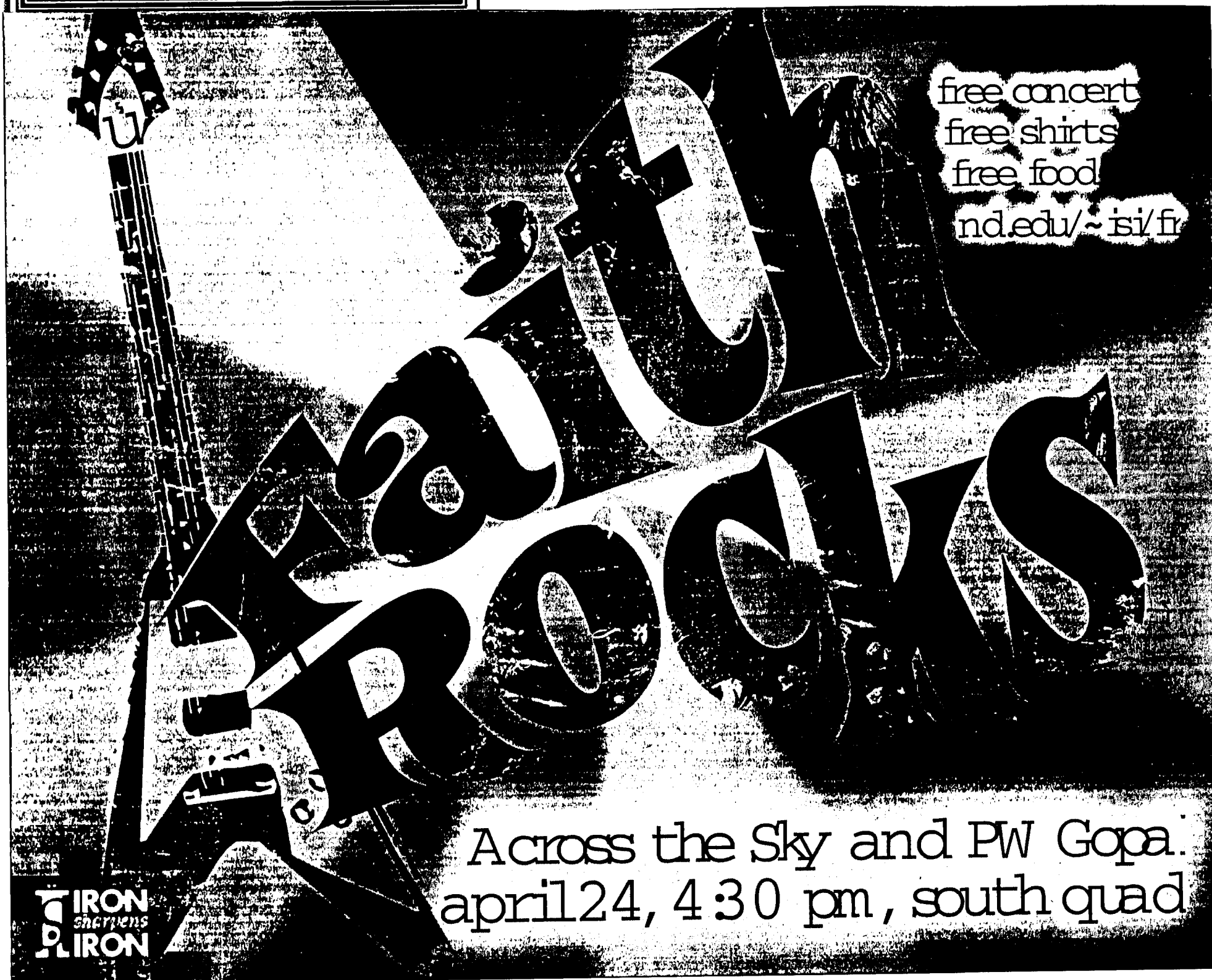
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Traffic death rates hit record low

Still overall number of traffic deaths increased, government says

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — There's mixed evidence on highway fatalities for safety experts and auto groups engaged in a long-standing debate over reducing casualties on the nation's roadways.

The highway fatality rate sank to a record low last year, the government estimated Thursday. But the overall number of traffic deaths increased slightly, leading the Bush administration to urge a national focus on seat belt use.

The number of deaths of motorcyclists and drivers and passengers in sport utility vehicles and large trucks increased. Alcohol-related fatalities, meanwhile, were projected to decline for the second straight year.

"At best we're treading water and we're not making as much progress as we'd like to make," said Barbara Harsha, executive director of the Governors Highway Safety Association.

Overall, 42,800 people died on the nation's highways in 2004, up from 42,643 in 2003, according to projections issued by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta said the nation was "in the midst of a national epidemic" and implored motorists to use their seat belts.

"If this many people were to die from any one disease in a single year, Americans would demand a vaccine," Mineta said. "The irony is we already have the best vaccine available to reduce the death toll on our highways — safety belts."

Fifty-six percent of those killed weren't wearing seat belts, a rate unchanged from 2003.

NHTSA Administrator Jeffrey

Runge said seat belt use is at 80 percent, an all-time high. But he added, "We could save thousands more lives each year if everyone buckled up."

The fatality rate dropped even as the total number of traffic deaths crept up because more drivers were on the road.

The fatality rate slid from 1.48 deaths per 100 million vehicle miles traveled in 2003 to 1.46 deaths in 2004. It was the lowest since records were first kept in 1966, when the rate was 5.50 deaths.

In 2004, the number of vehicles registered grew to 235.4 million from 230.8 million in 2003. Vehicle miles traveled increased slightly, from 2.89 trillion in 2003 to 2.92 trillion last year.

Jacqueline Gillan, vice president for the watchdog group Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, called the results "bad news" for the American public.

"The government wants us to believe that even though more family members and friends were killed in crashes last year that things are really getting better because we spent more time driving," Gillan said. "The cold hard reality is that we are stuck in neutral."

The figures were released as Congress considers safety programs in the pending federal highway bill. Runge has sought incentives for states with seat belt laws that let police stop motorists for failing to use belts, or states that reach 90 percent belt use for two years.

For those debating the safety of sport utility vehicles, the numbers offered varying evidence.

Deaths of drivers and passengers in sport utility vehicle were projected to grow from 4,446 in 2003 to 4,666 last year, an

increase of 4.9 percent. Rollover fatalities in these popular vehicles increased by 6.9 percent, to 2,821 last year.

SUV rollover injuries dropped 3 percent, from 67,000 in 2003 to 65,000 last year.

Supporters of the vehicles said there were roughly 10 percent more registered SUVs on the road in 2004 and the fatality rate for the vehicles has declined since the late 1990s.

"Things are getting better as it relates to SUVs," said Ron DeFore, spokesman for the Sport Utility Vehicle Owners of America.

The number of deaths dropped 2.4 percent for people in passenger cars and 2 percent for pickup trucks. Among large trucks, the number of people killed grew 3.7 percent.

Alcohol-related fatalities slid 2.1 percent last year, to 16,654. Wendy Hamilton, president of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, said the organization was "cautiously optimistic" but urged the nation "not to become complacent" about impaired driving.

Meanwhile, motorcycle fatalities rose for the seventh straight year, up 7.3 percent to 3,927.

Former NHTSA Administrator Joan Claybrook, who is now president of watchdog group Public Citizen, said the increase in motorcycle deaths was tied to a lack of helmet laws in 30 states.

Fatal crashes involving drivers between the ages of 16 to 20 increased slightly, from 7,353 in 2003 to 7,405.

The data released Thursday are considered projections. NHTSA plans to release final 2004 fatality figures in August. NHTSA collects crash statistics from all 50 states.

Airlines must disclose passenger identities

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration is considering requiring foreign airlines to check the names of passengers on all flights over the United States against government watch lists.

The proposal would most affect airlines in Mexico and Canada because the majority of the hundreds of flights each day come from those countries.

Currently, foreign airlines planning to land in the United States must submit passenger and crew lists to the government within 15 minutes of departure. The names are checked against lists of people considered terrorists or who otherwise could present a danger.

Airlines must do the same for crew members on flights over the United States. Now the Transportation Security Administration is considering

requiring airlines to check the names of passengers on those flights, agency spokesman Mark Hatfield said Thursday.


The goal would be to add one more level of protection against hijackings, the tactic used on Sept. 11, 2001.

Cliff Mackay, president of the Air Transport Association of Canada, said Canadian and U.S. officials are discussing the idea.

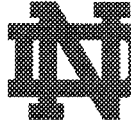
One question, Mackay said, would be whether U.S. authorities would want passengers checked on east-west flights that might skirt U.S. airspace or only on those flights that significantly go into U.S. territory.

Also, because Canada is developing its own no-fly list, he wondered whether U.S. airlines will face the same requirement when flying into Canadian airspace.

The TSA declined to provide details about the discussions.



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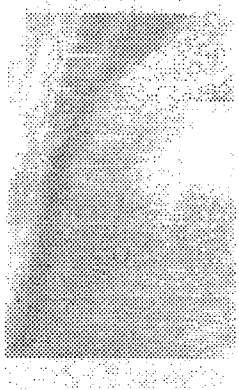
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U.S. teenagers abusing prescription narcotics

Associated Press

NEW YORK — About one in five teenagers have tried prescription painkillers such as Vicodin and OxyContin to get high, with the pill-popping members of "Generation Rx" often raiding their parents' medicine cabinets, according to a study by the Partnership for a Drug-Free America.

The 17th annual study on teen drug abuse, released Thursday, found that more teens had abused a prescription painkiller in 2004 than Ecstasy, cocaine, crack or LSD. One in 11 teens had abused over-the-counter products such as cough medicine, the study reported.

"For the first time, our national study finds that today's teens are more likely to have abused a prescription painkiller to get high than they are to have experimented with a variety of illegal drugs," said Partnership Chairman Roy Bostock. "In other words, Generation Rx has arrived."

According to the study, the most popular prescription drug abused by teens was Vicodin, with 18 percent — or about 4.3 million youths — reporting they had used it to get high. OxyContin and drugs for attention-deficit disorder such as Ritalin/Adderall followed with one in 10 teens reporting they had tried them.

Chat-room guard faces charges

Lawsuit claims AOL moderator seduced teenager for two years

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — America Online markets itself as a safe place for children, with parent-friendly features and a force of employees who monitor kids' chat rooms and watch out for adults prowling for youngsters.

But is AOL doing enough to monitor the monitors?

That question is central to a lawsuit filed by a California teenager who claims a chat-room monitor tried to seduce her online.

The employee allegedly used his position to proposition the girl over two years, during which they exchanged graphic images, e-mails and phone calls — exactly the kind of scenario the man was hired to prevent.

AOL fired the man, Matthew D. Wright, and referred the case to the FBI and other law enforcement agencies, none of which pursued criminal charges. Attempts to locate Wright, listed in the lawsuit as a resident of Oklahoma, were unsuccessful.

The girl's lawsuit, filed April 1, is the first such claim made against an employee at AOL or any other major Internet service provider, according to online child safety organizations and law enforcement agencies. It alleges negligence and false advertising and seeks at least \$25,000 from Wright, AOL and its parent,

Time Warner Inc.

AOL says it closely screens its chat-room monitors and acted quickly in this case.

Still, the company is being forced to defend itself over a service it pioneered in the mid-1990s and which remains a selling point to keep its millions of subscribers from jumping to other Internet service providers.

"This case isn't so much are they properly monitoring chat rooms for kids; this is more a question of what are they doing to monitor the qualities and qualifications of the people they're hiring," said Parry Aftab, an Internet lawyer in New Jersey who runs online safety workshops for parents and children.

Claims of online abuse by an employee are rare, said Aftab, who has heard of no more than a dozen against chat-room monitors or moderators.

Chat-room monitors are cyberspace's lifeguards. They typically watch over the messages that participants post, and warn users when they cross the line with offensive or otherwise prohibited remarks. They can delete offending remarks, kick violators out of the chat room, even ban them from returning.

AOL is a rarity — a major service provider that offers its own chat service, as well as one of the few online compa-

nies that have paid, full-time employees monitoring some chat rooms. The company markets its KOL, or Kids Online, chat area as a safer online experience.

It was inside one kids-only chat room where Wright, then 23, first contacted the then-15-year-old girl, who was living in Kern County, according to the lawsuit. She is now 19 and living in Los Angeles.

They grew close, according to the lawsuit, the girl gradually confiding in him about her parents' divorce and her troubles making friends. She and Wright were preparing to meet on her 17th birthday and have sex, the lawsuit said, when one of the monitor's co-workers became suspicious and blew the whistle.

AOL spokesman Nicholas Graham said monitors undergo rigorous screening, including drug testing and background checks, and receive specialized training for the area and age group they will be monitoring.

"That monitoring is itself actively monitored and scrutinized by internal compliance and investigation teams with close, long-standing working relationships with both law enforcement and children's safety advocacy groups," Graham said. "The bottom line is, AOL's self-policing and self-monitoring efforts worked."

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Blue-Gold Game a good start

Thousands of fans will watch a football game tomorrow in Notre Dame Stadium. And not one will care which team wins.

The Blue-Gold Game, kicking off at 1:35 p.m. Saturday, is a chance for fans to quench their thirst for Irish football during the off-season.

But this year there's a fresh feel surrounding the annual scrimmage that marks the end of spring practice.

It's the first look at the Irish under new coach Charlie Weis, the 1978 Notre Dame alum expected to lead the football team back to national prominence. Whether he can get the Irish back in the championship race is yet to be determined. But one thing is for sure — Weis has energized a campus, a fan base and a tradition that has been relatively lethargic for the past decade.

Saturday, four Irish legends, Joe Montana, Chris Zorich, Joe Theismann and Tim Brown, are back as honorary coaches for the game. Weis might be considered a play-calling genius, but this is the smartest thing he's done since he

flew to South Bend from New England. Having four of the best players in Irish football history around for the weekend, even if it's only for a ceremonial coaching role, can only help the program.

These four men know what it feels like to win at Notre Dame. At least a little of that knowledge — and more importantly, that attitude — should rub off on the current team.

Football is the heartbeat of Notre Dame. And it's been more than 12 years since the campus blood pumped as it does now. There is a different feel around campus when the Irish are winning. There is a little more to celebrate at dorm parties and waking up for that 8:30 class doesn't seem so bad.

At least for Saturday, the campus heartbeat will be as strong as ever. There will be alums — actual and subway alike — grilling bratwursts in the Joyce Center lots, students dusting off their Victory March CDs and ushers making sure their yellow jackets still fit. Amongst all this typical game day commotion, there is an optimism that hasn't been felt for too long. A belief that Notre Dame is back on top.

The Observer Editorial

The cosmos in a grain of sand

It is July of 2004. The day slowly turns to dusk as I sit at the edge of the Ganges River in Rishikesh, India. Rishikesh claims to be the yoga capital of the world. Its famous visitors include four young British men who called themselves the Beatles; they came looking for enlightenment.

John
Infranca

Dissent
Poetry

Determining whether or not they found it would demand a rather thorough analysis of late Beatles' recordings. If I had to venture a guess I would say George came closest, with Lennon not too far behind.

I myself came to this sacred river not in search of enlightenment, but simply in hope of observing a ritual. I am one of less than a dozen obvious Westerners searching for a piece of the eternal amid a few hundred Hindus at the edge of a sacred river.

More precisely, I am waiting for the evening puja ritual to begin. Brahmin priests prepare the grounds for singing, chanting, prayers and the release of lighted offerings into the river. As the large crowd waits for the main ritual to begin a group of about 10 gather around a small candelabra of sorts with a young Brahmin priest. He leads the small circle in chants and, at certain points in the ritual, each devotee drops a small bit of incense onto the burning flames.

Viewing this all through eyes formed by my Catholic upbringing, I imagine that the rising smoke symbolizes prayers traveling heavenward. Perhaps the sweet smell of incense gives the offering an aroma pleasing to the Lord.

As I ponder the similarities between Hinduism and the Catholic tradition the cell phone of a man on the far side of the circle begins to ring. I consider how embarrassing this would be for an American churchgoer. Most likely he would rush to stop its ringing, turning red in the process. Perhaps he would walk to the door, answering it as he made his exit, the congregation silently

critiquing his rude behavior.

The Hindu man in the circle of prayer merely answers his phone and begins a conversation in Hindi. He talks for about five minutes, never moving from the circle. The ritual continues. He even stays somewhat involved, when able balancing the phone between his shoulder and head and offering his incense to the flames. Minutes later, his conversation complete, he turns the phone off and more actively engages the ritual before him. As with many things in India, no one else seems concerned with behavior that strikes me as quite amazing.

I hesitate to draw any conclusive sociological insight from a single isolated incident. At the same time, I mention this experience because one might find in it a glimpse of the deeper differences between the understanding of religion, ritual and everyday life prevalent in India and Hinduism and that of much of the Western and Christian worlds. Ritual and religion are interspersed with everyday life in India in a way that differs dramatically from the West. One might contend this was not so clearly the case years ago, where daily mass attendance was more prevalent and more homes had small shrines to the Virgin Mary or some other beloved saint.

Yet I think there is something more at work in Hindu faith and popular piety. A religion that emphasizes the presence of the Divine around every corner can infuse the world with a sense of the sacred that might appear foreign to our Western perception and its more transcendent frame of reference. In this blurring of distinction it should not surprise one that the profane and "secular" often find their way into ritual and

religion in a way Westerners might deem unacceptable. Cows (themselves sacred) wander into temples, shrines spring up like wildflowers on the side of roads and a man talks on the phone while offering puja.

At the same time a grasp of the constant and surrounding presence of God, as well as the sacredness of creation, are not entirely foreign to Christian tradition. Paul preached that God created all people "so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being.'" Aquinas used these terms to describe God's presence in creation: "God is in all things; not, indeed, as part of their essence, nor as an accident, but as an agent is present to that upon which it works." The Jesuit priest and poet Gerard Manley Hopkins celebrated that

"The world is charged with the grandeur of God."

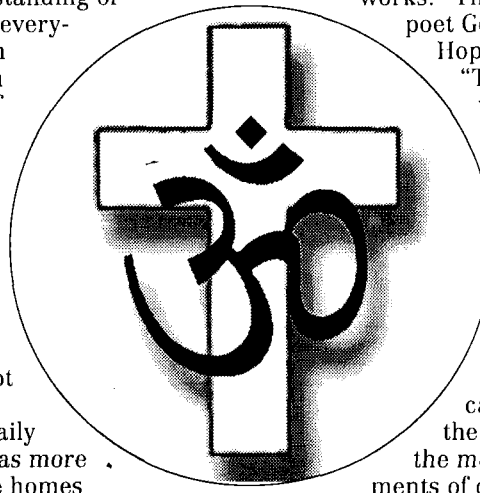
Rituals and liturgies imbue actions with meaning and draw us closer to a deeper reality.

Yet every action can be performed in a spirit of meditation and our vision can be refined to see the presence of God in the most mundane elements of our world. Actions

can center us if we follow the advice of the Bhagavad-Gita: "Whatever you do, or eat, or offer, whatever you do, do as an offering."

This is John Infranca's last column. He thanks those who have read his pieces over the past two years. He is leaving now. Goodbye. He can be contacted at jinfran1@nd.edu

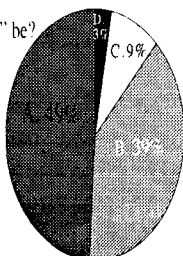
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- B. Blue
- C. Yellow
- D. Other



*Poll appears courtesy of ndsmcobserver.com and is based on 1,017 responses.

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are."

John Wooden
former UCLA basketball coach

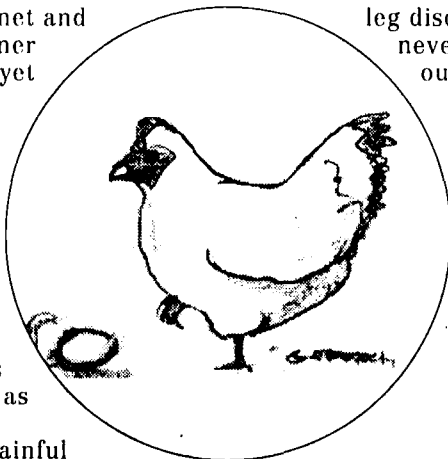
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Celebrate Earth Day through positive action

Earth Day is a time when we examine our impact on the planet and make personal resolutions to help make the environment cleaner and improve the treatment of animals. What many of us have yet to discover is that one of the most important actions we can take for the planet has to do with our food choices.

Most animals raised today for food are forced to live inside huge warehouses known as factory farms. Almost 98 percent of egg-laying hens are restricted to overcrowded cages too tiny for them to spread their wings. They're often starved for up to two weeks to shock their bodies into another egg-laying cycle. These birds are never able to partake in natural behavior, breathe fresh air or even go outside.

Those chickens raised for meat are selectively bred and given loads of antibiotics to reach market weight as quickly as possible. This process takes only 45 days, nearly twice as fast as it did in the 1950s. Forced rapid growth is responsible for an immense amount of suffering, including heart problems and painful



leg disorders. These chickens, like their egg-laying counterparts, never escape the stench of their own feces nor do they step foot outside.

Pigs are also intensively confined in factory farms. Mother pigs are held in crates too narrow for them to turn around or move to change direction, while their piglets have their tails cut off and are castrated, both without painkillers.

Right here at the Notre Dame, students can help animals raised for food by urging dining services not only to offer more vegetarian meals, but to stop purchasing the most abusive animal products. It's hard to imagine a better way to celebrate Earth Day.

Josh Balk

Outreach Coordinator

The Humane Society of the United States

April 21

U-WIRE

Culture war underway in the U.S.

There's a battle going on for the soul of the United States. Don't believe me? Just ask Bill O'Reilly, who came out and said it in his syndicated column this January, writing that there is a culture war raging throughout the USA and blaming it on "secular forces that see any Christian public display as an affront." Or ask House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, who wrote in a letter to the Traditional Values Coalition that "for the last 40 years, the anti-Christian left in America has waged a sustained attack against faith in God, traditional moral norms, the rule of law and the traditional marriage-based family."

Alex
Koppelman

University of
Pennsylvania
Daily
Pennsylvanian

O'Reilly and DeLay are right about one thing: There is undoubtedly a cultural war taking place in the United States, one that will have repercussions for generations to come. But it was not started by godless liberals, as they would have you believe. It was started by a group of extremists who want the world created in their image and who are becoming more influential by the day.

In the semester I have spent writing this column, I have been accused, in comments on dailypennsylvanian.com and in a Jan. 19 column by Jennifer Weiss, of being anti-Christian. That is not the case. Indeed, I believe that Christianity has often been a force for good in modern times. Christians led the civil rights movement; they are at the forefront of many of the country's major charities. Many are led by their faith to wonderful acts of kindness and compassion. I attended a Quaker school for 14 years, and I saw there the incredible power that Christianity can have to change the world for the better.

My problem is with the forces of evangelical Christianity, ever more prevalent in the highest levels of government and media, that are seeking to remake this country as a theocracy. These people don't want you to be able to live your life the way you want to lead it; they don't want you to have access to anything they personally disapprove of. They don't want your children to learn about evolution, and all too many of them don't want your children to learn that homosexuals might be people, too.

In a column entitled "Suicide by Secularism?" which ran in The Washington Post this past Sunday, conservative columnist George Will wrote about what he perceives as an increasing secu-

larly that threatens the very survival of Europe and the United States.

"The challenge confronting the church can be expressed in one word: modernity," he wrote. "The church preaches that freedom is life lived in conformity to God's will as manifested in revelation and interpreted by the church." Modernity teaches that freedom is the sovereignty of the individual's will — personal volition that is spontaneous, unconditioned, inviolable and self-legitimizing.

Will hit the nail on the head. The "culture war" being fought in the United States may seem like a series of unconnected battles over abortion rights, homosexual marriage and what we can or can't watch on television. But in the end, the fight comes down to two sides, and the choice is black and white. Eventually, we will all be asked to make the same choice the inhabitants of countries ruled by Islamic law once were: Do we believe that we should be allowed to act as free people, or do we believe that a particular religion's interpretation of God's law should dictate our daily life?

Evidence that the war is raging is all around us. We can see it in our schools, where the scientific theory of evolution by natural selection, the veracity of which only a few fringe scientists dispute, is under attack by people who argue that in the interests of fairness and balance, the Christian story of creation must be taught as well. The creation stories of the thousands of other world religions are, of course, ignored. We can see it in our media, where a fight against indecency in broadcasting is slowly stripping us of the freedom to see even movies like "Saving Private Ryan" on TV because of the complaints of a small but active minority. We can see it in the new NBC miniseries "Revelations," which depicts scientists as unwilling to look for God and doctors as dark, ominous forces seeking to take the life of an instrument of God whose physical state is remarkably similar to Terri Schiavo's before her death.

This culture war has not abated, and it seems increasingly likely that it will not until every demand of this extremist fringe is met. It's up to the rest of us not to retreat as our freedoms are taken away.

This column originally appeared on April 21 in the *Daily Pennsylvanian*, the daily newspaper of the University of Pennsylvania.

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

Anti-American, or just anti-Bush?

It was reported in *The Tennessean* that six months ago Judge Barry Tatum, from Lebanon, Tenn., ordered Felipa Berrera to learn English. The consequence if she did not was losing her child.

The mother is currently in a battle to keep her parental rights for other reasons, and while there may be cause to remove Berrera's child from her home, the language she speaks is not one of them.

Parents have the right to raise their children in the manner that they feel is appropriate as long as this does not endanger the well-being and development of the child.

For that reason, the only cause to remove a child from a home should be an action that does endanger the welfare of the child. Unfortunately, Tatum has crossed the line by ordering Berrea to learn English.

It has not yet been decided in other courts if Berrera is guilty of neglect or abuse, and if that is the case then her child should be placed elsewhere.

If the court finds that she is not guilty of these acts then the language she speaks should not be the deciding factor.

There are many things people learn from their parents and extended family; family history and unique traditions are some of them. Language is a part of the family history and tradi-

tion, and a language other than English should not be looked on as less important in the family teachings of a child.

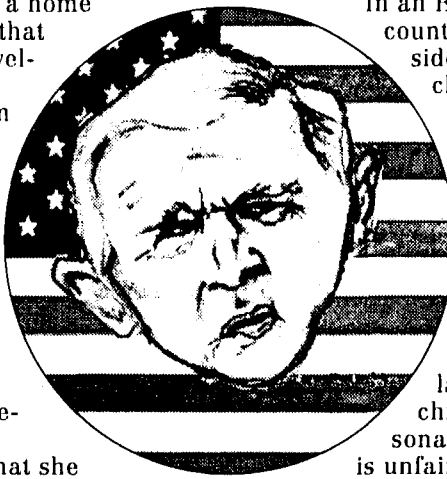
The family heritage and support system is not something that should be taken lightly, and should always be considered when there is the possibility of removing a child from a home.

In many ways a child's identity is related to his or her upbringing and the influence of the child's family.

There are unique situations for families from various cultural backgrounds who move to the United States, but those situations could have a greater influence in creating a positive outcome for the child than being taken from his or her home in order to be placed with a family that seems to better fit the mold.

In an English-speaking country, it would be considered useful for a child to learn the language. However, that does not mean that English should be the only language the child speaks, or that the parents should be fluent in the language.

Forcing someone to either learn a new language or lose their child is not only unreasonable to the parent, it is unfair for the child.



This column originally appeared on April 21 in *Sidelines*, the daily newspaper of Middle State Tennessee University.

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

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Bajawalla hits Battle of the Bands and Pigtostal

Notre Dame alumni Lawrence Santiago, David Miller, Peter Miller and Mike Miamone and junior Bobby Seus from Station One reform and head back to the stage with a new name

By MOLLY GRIFFIN
Scene Writer

The lives of the members of Bajawalla have taken different directions since most of the primary members graduated, but they are reuniting for Notre Dame's Battle of the Bands and a few other performances before they spend the summer touring Chicago.

The band's upbeat performances and catchy songs made it a prominent figure on the campus music scene, and the band survived graduation, changing members and a range of monikers in order to return to perform this weekend.

Members of Bajawalla include vocalist Lawrence Santiago, guitarist David Miller, drummer/trumpeter Peter Miller, keyboardist Mike Miamone and bassist Bobby Seus. Justin Brandon will be joining the band for this weekend's shows and for the summer. Lee Elsey will fill in as bassist for this weekend's shows while Bobby Seus is studying abroad in Dublin.

The band formed in spring 2000 and has gone through a variety of names, including the Island Boys and Station One, and they won NAZZ in 2002. The band has changed lineups many times since then, and its current lineup was solidified in September 2003 when Bobby Seus joined the band.

The band took a break so that the members, many of whom had graduated, could pursue other things in their lives. Lawrence Santiago pursued a modeling and acting career and just finished work on "The New World" with Colin Farrell. Mike Maimone took a job with an accounting firm, and Dave Miller went on to pursue a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry. Peter Miller went to medical school while Bobby Seus continued to study music at Notre Dame.

While they were all focused on their various careers this past year, they decided to reunite for the summer because, according to Peter Miller, "There was a void in all of our lives during this break — music. There was still a dream in all of us — pursuing music with full force and 'trying to make it.' So we decided this is the summer to pursue our dream."

The musicians are currently in the process of booking shows and continue to

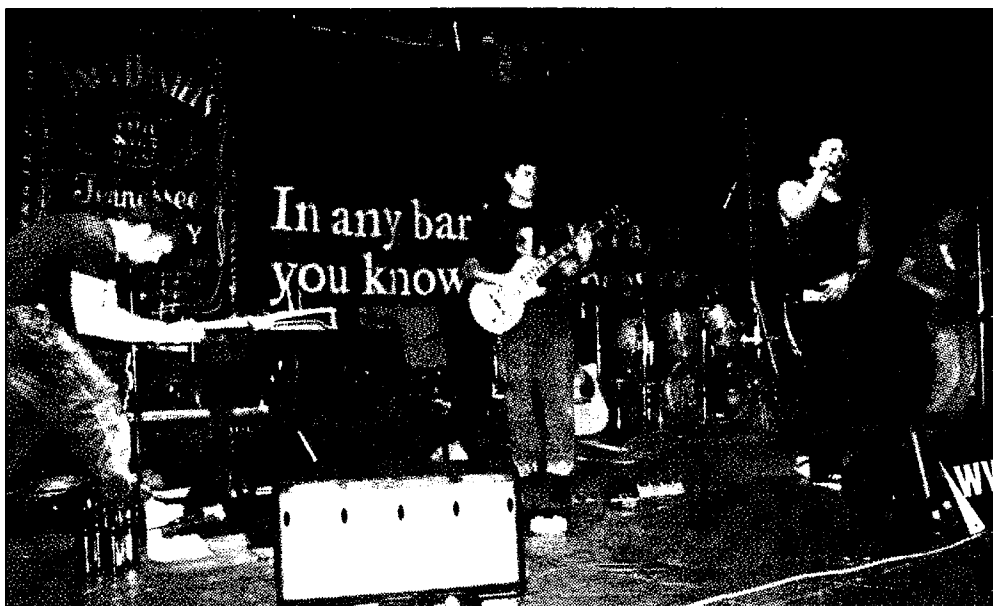


Photo courtesy of Peter Miller

Bajawalla has an eclectic sound stemming from influences like Bob Marley, Phish, Sublime, Ben Harper, punk, ska, bluegrass, blues, jazz, funk and reggae.

work promoting their shows and honing their performance skills.

Bajawalla has a distinct sound, somewhat reminiscent of surf music from California, and is not exactly the kind of music that you would expect to come out of Indiana. The variety of performers that influenced the band might have something to do with this geographical anomaly.

"We have a very eclectic sound, drawing on influences from Bob Marley, Phish, Sublime, Ben Harper, punk, ska, bluegrass, blues, jazz, funk, reggae," Dave Miller said. "Many people compare us to a fusion of Sublime, Maroon 5 and Ben Harper to name a few."

Its songs, especially ones like "Cinderella," are catchy and sound extremely polished and radio-ready.

The band has played in many of the main South Bend venues, including Lula's, the State Theatre, Reckers, Legends and Club 23. It typically draws somewhere between 100 and 250 people to its shows, and its members are all moving to the Chicago area for the summer in order to pursue music full time and to tour.

"I'm really excited that we're really just

jumping right into it because we haven't played together in a long time," Seus said. "I'm confident that we can do some great things."

Downloads from the band's first album "The Breaks" can be found on its Web site, located at www.bajawalla.com or www.isound.com/bajawalla.

The band has been advised by former executives and vice presidents from major record labels like Columbia, and has been encouraged by its mentors to continue playing and recording music.

Bajawalla will be performing at the Notre Dame Battle of the Bands on Friday, April 20 (check their Web site to find out what time they play). It will also perform at Pigtostal on Saturday, April 21 with The Overtones, Dave Moisan, Da Natural and others, and it will be at the State Theatre from 9 p.m. to midnight the same day with The Updogs, Dave Moisan, Da Natural and DJ Kirsh. It will be touring the Chicago area this summer, and information about dates and locations will be available on its Web site as well.

Contact Molly Griffin at mgriffin@nd.edu

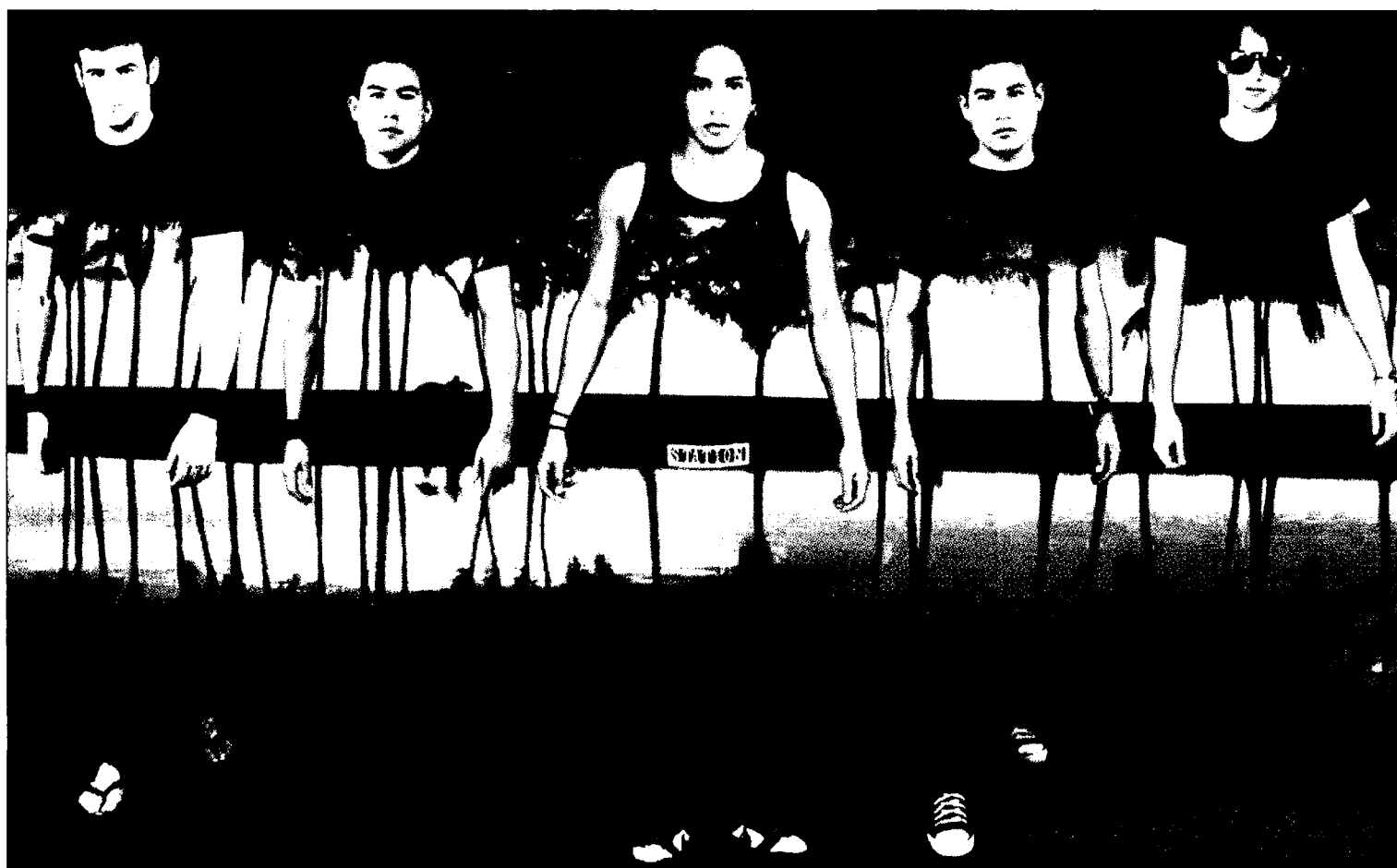


Photo courtesy of Peter Miller

Bajawalla may be a new name to the Notre Dame campus, but it's not a new sound. The band has played under the name Station One at Lula's, the State Theater, Reckers, Legends, Club 23 and at Battle of the Bands in previous years.

Michael Tolcher

Singer-songwriter

By BOB COSTA
Scene Writer

Although he has never visited Notre Dame's storied campus, Michael Tolcher feels he has been there a million times in his mind.

A popular emerging singer-songwriter and lifelong Fighting Irish fan, Tolcher is excited about playing at Leg



Michael Tolcher covers diverse hits from the 1960s and 1970s, including Tag Team's "Whoomp, There It Is."

Irishpalooza

By BOB COSTA
Scene Writer

Since the late 1970s, "Saturday Night Live" has been considered the preeminent television show on which an upcoming artist can appear. But, if you ask many Notre Dame students, the real place to see hot, but still relatively anonymous, rock bands is on Fox's "The O.C.," which broadcasts every Thursday. From Death Cab for Cutie to Modest Mouse to The Killers, "The O.C." creator Josh Schwartz has been instrumental in building the momentum behind the recent indie rock resurgence through his television show.

"One of the trendiest, hippest, edgiest bands I have seen on [The O.C.] is The Walkmen," said freshman Phil Dreier, an avid watcher of "The O.C." "As a fan of the show, I've enjoyed seeing these bands, kind of out of the mainstream, get some props on TV."

The Walkmen, who recently released their second album "Bows and Arrows,"

"Most of the music done on the show was short and snappy."

Hammerhead

Tolcher discusses music and his love of Notre Dame

plays a unique brand of guitar-driven rock, blending world beat, hip-hop, soul and pop

Saturday evening as one of the headlining acts in the Student Union Board's Antostal concert.

"When I was growing up, I had all the interlocking-ND sweatshirts and hats," Tolcher said in an interview earlier this week. "[Notre Dame] was the place I always thought I'd go. I really identify with its community spirit and sense of spirituality."

Blending an infectious mix of southern

rock, world beat, hip-hop and pop, Tolcher recently released his debut album, "I Am," which has garnered a fervent following on college campuses

around the country. Recorded by Chris Shaw (Bob Dylan, Weezer, Dashboard Confessional), "I Am" aptly melds hooky rhythms with Tolcher's optimistic lyrical message. You may have heard the album's second track, "Sooner Or Later" on TV, which is the theme song for ABC's "Life as We Know It."

"There are so many dimensions in my music, and I think mostly what people hear is hope — the describing of experiences and the wonders of life," Tolcher said. "My music embraces the ups and downs, the cycles of emotion. It is unguarded honesty."

His debut album is hard to typecast, as Tolcher encompasses his experiences into a sound that reaches beyond any specific genre. From his enthusiastic single "Mission Responsible," which challenges listeners to enlighten themselves, to the trip-hop bounciness of "Taxi Rider, Kinda Night," "I Am" is a vivid and bright release.

For the past two years, Michael Tolcher has been touring relentlessly, opening for Maroon 5, Gavin DeGraw, Hanson, Ingram Hill, The Funky Meters, George Clinton, Virginia Coalition, Sister Hazel,

Hootie & the Blowfish and Collective Soul. Just this week, in the few days before he plays at Legends, Tolcher will have opened for Howie Day, My Chemical Romance and Pat McGee Band.

"When I was growing up, I had all the interlocking-ND sweatshirts and hats. I really identify with its community spirit and sense of spirituality."

Michael Tolcher
singer-songwriter

"It's going to be a great party. I just want to help facilitate that vibe, join that vibe, and feel it myself. I hope to leave Notre Dame inspired."

Michael Tolcher
singer-songwriter

Tolcher's touring band, comprised of William Duvall on guitar, Big Tiny on bass and Lefty Thompson on drums has been together for over a year and has won praise from many audiences for its ability to jam and segue from song to song during the live show.

"We've been together for about a year and four months — and we're down to a core group of four guys," Tolcher said. "With the four there is more power than with five, more balance ... more solid. It's been cool because we've lived with each other. We're a fateful match, and pretty much came together out of nowhere."

Tolcher is known to cover a diverse array of tunes in concert, from Buffalo Springfield's "For What It's Worth" to Tag Team's early-1990s hit "Whoomp, There It Is," which earned a raucous ovation for Tolcher at Muhlenberg College last week. Notre Dame will surely be exposed to a montage of Tolcher's hip-hop, soul and rock influences.

Tolcher is eager to finally come to Notre Dame tomorrow evening and see what Notre Dame is really all about. His music

has already been playing on WVFI and been spreading around dorms through numerous CD samplers and MP3 files.

"There might be conflict around the world, but our group of people on Notre Dame's campus will be together, enjoying life and all that's to come, if just for a little while," Tolcher said. "It's going to be a great party. I just want to help facilitate that vibe, join that vibe, and feel it myself. I hope to leave Notre Dame inspired."

Contact Bob Costa at rcosta1@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of www.michaeltolcher.com

Tolcher has never been to Notre Dame, but has always been a fan.



Photo courtesy of www.michaeltolcher.com

Buffalo Springfield's "For What It's Worth" sometimes earning standing ovations.

za welcomes The Walkmen and Ambulance LTD

will be playing at Legends tomorrow evening with co-headliners Ambulance LTD and Michael Tolcher. The show starts at 9 p.m.

Hamilton Leithauser, the lead vocalist and guitarist for The Walkmen, spoke with The Observer in a phone interview earlier this week. For him, being on "The O.C." was almost surreal.

"The songs were first take in the and the record completed in a amount of time."

on Leithauser
Walkmen

Originally all from Washington, D.C., the five members of The Walkmen moved to New York City around 1998, as they all headed to different universities in the city. Interestingly, the entire band attended high school at St. Alban's School for Boys in Washington, D.C., one of the nation's most elite private institutions and home to alumni like former Vice President Al

Gore, Senator Even Bayh, and Brit Hume. Moving to New York was both a breath of fresh air for the band and an opportunity to explore New York's diverse rock scene.

The Walkmen took it upon themselves to make their own music, actually building a record studio in Harlem that they could use exclusively or rent out. Dubbed Marcata Recording, the studio is the place the band recorded its new album "Bows and Arrows" and its debut 2002 effort "Everyone Who Pretended to Like Me Is Gone."

"When we did the first record, it was when we were just beginning to own Marcata studios since it was built right when the band was started," Leithauser said. "We didn't really know what we were doing and laid down some basic tracks. We hadn't even played live at all."

Still, "Everyone Who Pretended to Like Me Is Gone" featured tracks that were both moody and introspective with a sort of jaded edge in their cackling anthems. Songs such as "Wake Up," "We've Been Had," and "Rue the Day" are full melodies bridged with angular riffs and soaring vocals.

The new album, "Bows and Arrows," was made after the band had played a lot of live shows, gained greater stage chemistry, and generally had more unity.

"Most of the songs were done on first take in the studio, and the record was completed in a short amount of time," said Leithauser.

Ambulance LTD, another band playing at Irishpalooza, is also from New York City and recently released its self-titled debut album.

Featuring music that is a bit more pop and atmospheric than The Walkmen, Ambulance LTD is still right on the forefront of New York's resurgent music scene. If you enjoy Franz Ferdinand or The Kinks, you should definitely check out Ambulance LTD this Saturday.

Michael Tolcher, a prolific singer/songwriter with a dynamic band, will also be playing at Irishpalooza. For fans of Jack Johnson, Peter Dinklage, or Tracy Chapman, Tolcher is the guy most likely to win you over with his acoustic world-beat meats funk rock.

According to Student Union Board Manager Jimmy Flaherty, whose organi-

zation is sponsoring Irishpalooza at Legends, the three-band festival will be both unprecedented and wide-ranging.

"[Irishpalooza] is a full-blown free concert with three top up and coming nationally touring artists, all in Legends," Flaherty said. "Legends will

be set-up using a backfield, which will allow students outside enjoying free food to watch the show live on large video and plasma screens."

Flaherty likened the set-up of Irishpalooza to that of the House of Blues in Chicago, where not everyone is in direct sight line of the stage, but will be able to hear live music and watch via television.

The inside club will be utilized to fulfill maximum capacity of 629 people and the "backfield" will hold an additional 920

people, making total capacity 1,549. The restaurant at Legends can hold 200 more. With two large tents in back of Legends, the Irishpalooza set-up will be bigger than anything Legends has seen this year.

Contact Bob Costa at rcosta1@nd.edu

"It was just a completely different world, and we were in the middle of a long tour, but hey, it paid really well and was lots of fun."

Hamilton Leithauser
The Walkmen

MLB

Thome and Lieber form tag team in 6-3 victory

Thome ends his homer drought and Lieber delivers solid pitching

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — With one swing, Jim Thome unloaded some soaring stress. With another efficient and effective outing, Jon Lieber looked more and more like Philadelphia's ace.

Thome ended his season-long homer drought to back another solid outing from Lieber, who became the major leagues' first four-game winner in the Philadelphia Phillies' victory over the Colorado Rockies.

"It's always nice to get going," Thome said.

With Thome slugging, Lieber cruising and Billy Wagner finishing with a save, this was exactly how the Phillies expected to contend in the NL East.

Lieber (4-0) so far has lived up to his billing as the ace of Philadelphia's otherwise so-so staff. He's done what No. 1 starters are supposed to — stop losing streaks. In his previous start, he snapped Philadelphia's three-game skid and ended a two-game losing streak in this one.

"I'm just getting the ball every fifth game and trying to help us win a ballgame," said Lieber, whose answers are as expeditious as his innings.

Lieber, who signed a \$21 million, three-year contract in December, gave up nine hits and struck out only one in eight innings. But it was his second straight start where he didn't walk anyone.

A 20-game winner with Chicago in 2001, Lieber has delivered for the Phillies in his return to the National League. He's the first Philadelphia pitcher to win his first four starts of the year since Dennis Cook in 1990 and pitched at least eight innings in his last three starts.

Cardinals 4, Cubs 0

Chris Carpenter is 5-1 against the Chicago Cubs since the start of the 2004 season. Apparently,



Phillies' starting pitcher Jon Lieber throws a pitch in a game against the Rockies. The Phillies won, 6-3.

familiarity isn't helping the opposition.

"It's all about pitching," Carpenter said after throwing a seven-hitter in the St. Louis Cardinals' victory. "Hitting is hard. If you make good pitches that aren't elevated in the zone and keep people off-balance, you're going to have success."

Scott Rolen homered, hit his 300th career double and had three RBIs for St. Louis. Rolen, the cleanup hitter most of the season, was moved down to fifth for only the second time, and his big day raised his average to only .228.

"My last at-bat I was able to relax a little bit," Rolen said. "Not until you relax do you realize how much you're pressing."

The Cardinals, who broke open a one-run game in the eighth inning on homers by Larry Walker and Rolen, are 32-10 at home against the Cubs during the last six seasons and denied them a sweep of a two-game series.

Chicago, which learned before the game that shortstop Nomar Garciaparra would be out two to three months because of a torn groin, hasn't had a sweep in St.

Louis since 1988.

"That's tough for us, regardless of what he's hitting," pitcher Ryan Dempster said of Garciaparra's injury. "Anytime you lose a guy like that, it's huge."

Carpenter (3-1) struck out six and walked one in his sixth career shutout and his first since Sept. 4, 2001, against the New York Yankees. It was his 14th career complete game and first since last Aug. 26 at Cincinnati and it was also his first nine-inning complete game since 2001.

Chicago had two runners on in an inning three times, but Carpenter, who also retired 11 in a row at one point early in the game, kept escaping.

Twins 10, Royals 9

Lew Ford hit a one-out single with the bases loaded in the 10th inning that lifted the Minnesota Twins past the Kansas City Royals.

Jason Bartlett doubled with one out against Shawn Camp (0-1), Torii Hunter was intentionally walked and Matthew LeCroy singled to load the bases. Ford's bouncer up the middle scored

Bartlett to end it.

Joe Nathan (1-0) struck out the side in the 10th.

Angel Berroa's single drove in Mike Sweeney in the ninth to put the Royals ahead briefly. Sweeney arrived at home the same time as left fielder Lew Ford's three-hop throw, crashing into Mike Redmond and forcing the dazed catcher out of the game with bruised ribs.

Closer Mike MacDougal relinquished the lead and nearly lost it in the bottom of the ninth, which started with a four-pitch walk to Hunter, who cored on a high-bouncing double down the left-field line by Jacque Jones. Pinch-hitter Terry Tiffee struck out with the bases loaded, ending the inning.

Hunter hit a two-run homer for the Twins in the first, and LeCroy followed him with a solo shot. Hunter drove in three runs, giving him 15 this season.

John Buck and Emil Brown each busted slumps for the Royals, who tied it at 8 against Matt Guerrier in a three-run sixth. Buck, the catcher acquired from Houston in last summer's trade of Carlos Beltran, homered to lead off the inning. Calvin Pickering walked and then Brown hit a two-run shot.

Buck, who went 4-for-5, got his first RBI in 20 games and boosted his batting average from .135 to .220. Brown, who ended an 0-for-21 slide, had two hits.

Relievers Mike Wood and Andrew Sisco combined for five scoreless innings after Brian Anderson was removed. But after tying it, the Royals wasted two prime chances to take the lead.

Ruben Gotay was caught stealing home on a botched squeeze play when Tony Graffanino whiffed on his one-out bunt attempt in the sixth. Gotay bounced to drawn-in second baseman Luis Rivas with one out in the eighth, but Rivas threw out Buck at home.

Devil Rays' 3, Rangers 2

Dewon Brazelton snapped his seven-game losing skid and Carl Crawford had a tiebreaking

groundout in the Tampa Bay Devil Rays' victory over the Texas Rangers.

Brazelton (1-3) allowed two runs and four hits in 6 1-3 innings. He struck out four and walked three in picking up his first win since beating Oakland August 22, a span of 10 starts.

Crawford put the Devil Rays up 3-2 on a run-scoring groundball to shortstop in the sixth. It was his team-leading 15th RBI.

After Travis Harper pitched 1 2-3 scoreless innings, Danys Baez came on for the ninth. He put runners on first and third with two outs before getting pinch-hitter Gary Matthews Jr. to line out to center for his first save.

Mark Teixeira and Kevin Mench homered for the Rangers. Kenny Rogers (0-2) gave up three runs on seven hits and three walks over six innings. He struck out four. Rogers fell to 8-2 in 11 career starts against the Devil Rays.

Tampa Bay scored twice in the second, aided by Rangers right fielder Richard Hidalgo's error.

Jonny Gomes had a leadoff single and scored on Toby Hall's single when Hidalgo made an errant throw attempting to get Gomes at third. Hall then scored on Nick Green's single to make it 2-0.

Texas had just one base runner — a second-inning walk to David Dellucci — before Teixeira hit a solo homer with two outs in the fourth.

The Rangers tied it at 2-all on Mench's leadoff homer in the fifth. It was his second extra base hit of the season. The first was a bases-loaded triple in Wednesday's 12-10 win over the Devil Rays.

Texas threatened to take the lead in the sixth, but Brazelton struck out Hidalgo with two on and two outs.

Brazelton had allowed nine runs, 11 hits and 12 walks over 8 2-3 innings over his previous two starts.

Rogers worked out of a bases loaded, two-out jam in the first by inducing Jorge Cantu to fly out to right. The Devil Rays are just 1-for-8 with the bases loaded this season.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

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e, m, and a take on the blue and gold game...can you handle it?

TGIF!!

ND WOMEN'S CREW

Rowers will take on Ivy League teams in regatta

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

Springtime along the Charles River in Boston — normally punctuated by cries from nearby Fenway Park — will be interrupted by the crews of Notre Dame, Harvard and Yale this weekend.

The Irish women's crew team will travel to Massachusetts to face off in the regatta along the Charles before heading south to nearby Worcester for the Big East Championships. Both regattas will present the Irish women with some of their toughest competition of the season.

At the prestigious Ivy League schools of Harvard and Yale, rowing has been a tradition that was established decades prior to the formation of many other varsity crews. But history and past accolades do not scare Irish coach Martin Stone.

Stone and his team will cruise into New England expecting to emerge with victories over the Ivies and the best the Big East has to offer. His confidence in his team prevents any doubt of defeat to present itself.

"We are Notre Dame," Stone said. "We are expecting to race the best. Just like our football team when it goes to face USC, we go to win no matter who we are playing."

Currently, the unranked Irish varsity eight is fighting for its

NCAA-eligible life. A victory over Harvard and Yale followed by a Big East Championship would place the Irish in a much stronger position in the committee's eyes leading up to the Central Regionals.

This year is the first year that the Big East organization will host a true championship. The league first organized what it called a "Challenge" five years ago. Syracuse emerged victorious for the first three years that the Challenge was held, with the Irish finishing in second each time. But last year the Irish headed east to knock Syracuse off its pedestal and succeeded. The Big East Challenge victory was one of many wins that year that propelled the varsity eight into the NCAAAs.

With the first Big East Championship looming, Syracuse is yet again the major threat to an Irish victory. The Orangemen are ranked 16th nationally and seek to garner their fourth Big East title in five years.

Stone feels with a victory over Syracuse, his varsity eight will be able to push its way back into the top-20 national rankings, yet another key step towards an NCAA bid. And it will all begin on Saturday if the Irish women can handle the storied Crimson on their home river.

Contact Kyle Cassily at
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SMC TENNIS

Belles snap four-game skid

Bethel College falls to Saint Mary's in close 5-4 matchup

By TIM DOUGHERTY
Sports Writer

After an agonizing two weeks of losses against a brutal conference schedule of the best the MIAA had to offer — Hope, Kalamazoo, Albion and Calvin — the Belles looked outside their conference Thursday for a victory to lift their confidence.

They snapped their four-game skid by defeating Bethel College 5-4 despite the absence of two regulars.

Freshman Cassie Quaglia and sophomore Armene Gavor replaced junior co-captain and No. 1 singles Kristen Palombo and sophomore No. 6 singles Mary Beth Pavela, who missed the match due to late Thursday classes that conflicted. Gavor and Quaglia proved effective replacements in their first official action all year, teaming up for a 9-2 victory in the No. 3 doubles superset against the Pilots.

Quaglia also won her No. 6 singles match with veteran composure. Up 4-1 in the third set, Quaglia lost four straight points to fall behind 5-4, but, unfazed by the sudden momentum swing, she quickly recovered to take the next and final two points for the match.

"Cassie did really well," Palombo said. "She really hung with it. That was really awesome because she's never played that competitive a match before. She didn't let her nerves get to her when she started getting down."

In Palombo's absence, sophomores Caile McDavitt and Caile Mulcahy dominated No. 1 doubles with a 9-0 showing.

Palombo said the long overdue victory — their third in three years against Bethel — was critical for the team as a whole.

"Everyone felt a lot more relieved and felt 'oh, we can do this now,'" she said. "I mean we expected to win because we've

always beaten them in the past, but it's definitely nice to know we can win a match again. It was good to get some confidence back in us."

The victory brings the Saint Mary's record to 5-9, and the Belles remain tied for fifth in the conference at 1-4.

This Saturday the Belles will travel to Grand Rapids, Mich., for the second time in one week to take on the Saints of Aquinas College (8-2) in another non-conference match. Saint Mary's has dominated the Saints the past two years winning 8-1 last year and 9-0 in 2003. Both dominated Tri-State University, their only common foe this year, as the Belles won 9-0 and the Saints beat them 8-1.

Still, Palombo holds the same expectations as she did for the match against Bethel, as the three-time defending tournament champions are again looking to their second consecutive non-conference match to steer them back towards a solid tournament showing.

"We're hoping to get some confidence back and get on a good roll going into the (MIAA) tournament next weekend," she said.

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MEN'S GOLF

Irish host Big East tourney

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

For the Irish, this weekend's Big East Championship is a time to play the role of selfish host.

Sure, they'll be cordial to the competition, but head coach Jim Kubinski wants the team to run away from its opponents as fast as possible.

"Our goal is going to be to try and get off to a fast start," he said. "Whenever you're the top seed, if you get off to a fast start, you can take away from the other teams' confidence."

After a dismal showing at the Aggie Invitational in College Station, Texas, the team returns home to the Warren Golf Course this weekend to host its most important tournament of the season.

"I think we've got plenty of momentum coming off this spring we've had," Kubinski said.

"[The Aggie Invitational] was just a bump in the road."

Despite Notre Dame's last-place showing in Texas, Kubinski said the defending champions head into the tournament "confident and upbeat" as the heavy favorite and No. 1 seed.

The Irish have three golfers competing this year who made all-conference honors last year — sophomore Cole Isban and juniors Mark Baldwin and Eric Deutsch. The trio's play will be pivotal to Notre Dame's success.

Isban tied for third individually in last year's conference championship, including an opening round of 69. Deutsch placed fifth in 2004, and

Baldwin set the Warren course record two weeks ago with a seven-under 67. Freshman Mike King and junior Scott Gustafson will join their teammates for the 54-hole tournament.

Golfstat ranks the Irish at 52 in the country — one of the highest rankings in school history. In fact, Notre Dame earned three votes in the most recent GCAA/Bridgestone Coaches' Poll — the first time an Irish team has ever earned votes in the poll.

Of the five other teams in the Big East, Rutgers owns the next best Golfstat ranking at No. 117 and is the No. 2 seed for the Big East. The Scarlet Knights won four tournaments this fall and placed second in another. Rutgers' senior Brent Pittman leads the Big East in scoring average at 72.67 shots per round.

Georgetown (No. 3 seed), St. John's (No. 4), Boston College (No. 5) and Villanova (No. 6) comprise the rest of the field.

The winner of the tournament receives an automatic bid into one of the three NCAA Regionals. The Southeastern Conference will host the East Regional at the Golf Club of Tennessee, while Notre Dame will host the Central Regional at Warren. Stanford will host the West Regional at the Stanford Golf Course. Each Regional will take place from Thursday, May 19, through Saturday, May 21.

If the Irish want to play on their own course, they may have to win this week. A strong spring season that included a victory at the Nokia Sugar Bowl/Tulane Invitational may propel the Irish into the

Regional field if they do not defend their title, but a victory this week would take any doubt the team would have.

That's also part of the reason Coach Kubinski wants the team to get out to a fast start. With rain, snow and wind in the forecast for the weekend, he wants his team to be ahead wire-to-wire in the event that the tournament is stopped and shortened.

"If they shorten the even from 54 holes — if you're trailing at that point, you're out of luck," he said. If the tournament goes according to schedule and actually lasts the scheduled three rounds, two will be played on Saturday and one on Sunday.

Irish golfers are slated to tee off between 8:50 and 9:30 a.m. each morning.

Notes:

◆ Both the men's and women's championships are this weekend at Warren. The Big East rotates which tournament tees off from the first tee and which tees off from the 10th. Last year, the women began on No. 1, so this year the men will.

◆ The Irish beat Virginia Tech by six strokes last year to win the title. The Hokies had won three consecutive Big East Titles from 2001 through 2003.

Because of their move to the ACC, this will be the first year since 2000 that the Hokies will not be competing at the Big East Championships. Incidentally, Virginia Tech placed last in this week's ACC Championships.

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MLB

Angels rally to defeat Indians in 6-5 victory

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Orlando Cabrera homered leading off the bottom of the 10th inning to cap the Los Angeles Angels' rally from a 5-0 deficit in a 6-5 win over the Cleveland Indians on Thursday night.

Cabrera hit a 3-1 pitch into the lower seats in the left field corner against Jason Davis (1-1), the seventh Cleveland pitcher.

Francisco Rodriguez (1-0) pitched a perfect 10th inning for the victory.

The Angels tied the game at 5 on Garret Anderson's bloop single to center off Bob Wickman with two outs in the ninth. Darin Erstad walked and was sacrificed to second by Juan Rivera before Vladimir Guerrero struck out. The blown save was Wickman's second in six tries.

The Indians led 5-0 after a

two-out, three-run double by Jose Hernandez in the first and a two-run homer by Ronnie Belliard off Jarrod Washburn.

Cleveland starter Kevin Millwood gave up three runs and eight hits in 5 1-3 innings, struck out five and walked two. The Indians have lost all four of Millwood's starts.

Washburn gave up five runs and 10 hits in five innings and struck out five. The left-hander has had a no-decision in each of his four starts — all of them coming in extra inning games.

The Indians had 13 hits, just their third game this season with 10 or more. They had been limited to four hits or less three times in their first 15 games.

Jose Molina's RBI single off Bob Howry cut the Angels' deficit to 5-4 in the eighth.

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AROUND THE NATION

Friday, April 22, 2005

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Page 19

ITA Rankings

Men's	Women's
team	team
1 Baylor	1 Stanford
2 Virginia	2 Northwestern
3 Mississippi	3 Kentucky
4 Illinois	4 Vanderbilt
5 Florida	5 Southern California
6 UCLA	6 Georgia Tech
7 Pepperdine	7 Georgia
8 Duke	8 Florida
9 Georgia	9 UCLA
10 Texas Tech	10 Texas
11 Kentucky	11 Clemson
12 Louisiana State	12 Miami (FL)
13 Washington	13 North Carolina
14 Texas A&M	14 Baylor
15 Oklahoma State	15 Duke
16 Southern California	16 Tulane
17 Wake Forest	17 Texas Christian
18 South Carolina	18 Tennessee
19 Tulane	19 Harvard
20 Mississippi State	20 William and Mary
21 Stanford	21 California
22 California	22 Brigham Young
23 Texas Corpus-Christi	23 Washington
24 Ohio State	24 South Carolina
25 Florida State	25 NOTRE DAME

Major League Baseball

American League East

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Boston	10-6	.625	8-2	-
Baltimore	9-7	.563	6-4	1
Toronto	9-8	.529	5-5	1.5
New York	7-9	.438	3-7	3
Tampa Bay	6-10	.375	3-7	4

American League Central

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Chicago	12-4	.750	8-2	-
Minnesota	10-6	.625	7-3	2
Cleveland	6-9	.400	4-6	5.5
Detroit	6-10	.375	3-7	6
Kansas City	5-11	.313	2-8	7

American League West

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Los Angeles	8-7	.533	5-5	-
Seattle	8-7	.533	6-4	-
Texas	8-9	.471	5-6	1
Oakland	7-8	.467	5-5	1

National League East

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Florida	9-7	.563	6-4	-
Washington	9-7	.563	6-4	-
Atlanta	8-8	.500	4-6	1
New York	8-8	.500	7-3	1
Philadelphia	8-8	.500	5-5	1

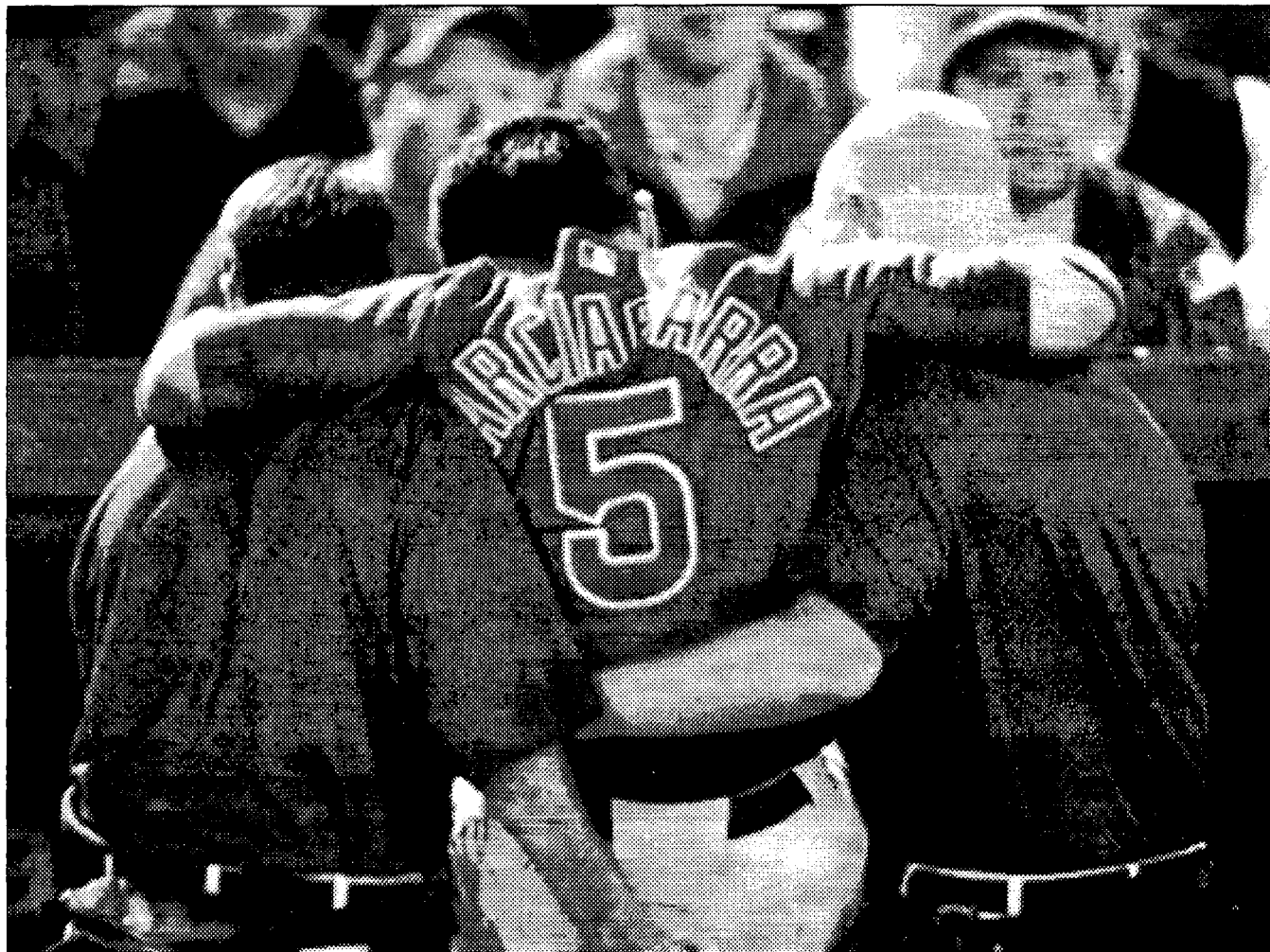
National League Central

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
St. Louis	9-5	.643	7-3	-
Cincinnati	8-7	.533	5-5	1.5
Chicago	8-8	.500	5-5	2
Houston	7-7	.500	4-6	2
Milwaukee	5-9	.357	2-8	4
Pittsburgh	5-11	.313	3-7	5

National League West

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Los Angeles	12-2	.857	9-1	-
Arizona	8-7	.533	6-4	4.5
San Diego	7-8	.467	4-6	5.5
San Francisco	6-8	.429	4-6	6
Colorado	4-11	.267	3-7	8.5

MLB



The Chicago Cubs' Nomar Garciaparra is helped off the field after pulling a groin muscle during an at-bat Wednesday night. The shortstop is expected to be out 2-3 months.

Garciaparra out 2-3 months with injury

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Chicago Cubs shortstop Nomar Garciaparra will be sidelined at least two to three months because of a torn left groin.

Garciaparra was placed on the 15-day disabled list Thursday, one day after he got hurt while leaving the batter's box during a game against St. Louis. Cubs trainer Mark O'Neal said the muscle pulled away from the bone.

The Cubs, doctors and Garciaparra will decide in the next 10 days whether an operation is needed.

"The surgery is really going to be determined by is it something that Nomar wants to do," O'Neal said. "We're trying to make a determination of what would be the most predictable outcome."

If Garciaparra opts for surgery, O'Neal said the procedure should be done fairly soon so the muscle heals properly.

The Cubs, who lost 4-0 to the Cardinals on Thursday without either of their opening-day middle infielders, recalled Ronny Cedeno from Triple-A Iowa. Cedeno was batting .348 with three home runs and six

RBIs in 13 games in the minors.

"It's a setback," manager Dusty Baker said. "We don't know yet what is going to happen. We'll have to wait and see."

Garciaparra was carried off the field after grounding into a double play and collapsing just in front of the batter's box in the third inning. Garciaparra is hitting just .157 with four RBIs.

Cubs second baseman Todd Walker also is out, perhaps until June, with a knee injury sustained April 10. For now, Chicago will have to make do with backups Neifi

Perez at shortstop and Jerry Hairston at second base.

"I'm not going to blame the rain," [Nomar] said. "The field was in great condition, the grounds crew did a great job, and the field was definitely playable and all of that stuff. I just slipped."

The injury is the latest in a series of setbacks for Garciaparra since he won AL batting titles in 1999 and 2000 with the Boston Red Sox. He was limited to 83 at-bats in 2001 after wrist surgery and he missed more than two months last year with Achilles' tendinitis.

IN BRIEF

Armstrong struggles in Tour de Georgia

ROME, Ga. — Lance Armstrong has plenty of work to do if he wants to win a seventh straight Tour de France.

Armstrong finished a disappointing ninth in Thursday's time trial at the Tour de Georgia, nearly two minutes behind the winner in a go-all-out style of cycling he usually dominates.

Another American, Floyd Landis, won the third stage in 39 minutes, 58.09 seconds. The other spots on the podium also were claimed by U.S. riders — David Zabriskie in second and Christopher Baldwin third.

Shockingly, Armstrong was not among them. Racing in a light rain, he failed to make up ground on the climb up Mount Alto and had no chance of closing the gap by the time he pedaled onto the slick streets of downtown Rome.

"Clearly, I'm disappointed," said

Armstrong, who could only manage a time of 41:44.87. "I didn't feel great, but I thought I'd do a better ride."

Paxson fired as GM

CLEVELAND — Their shocking collapse complete, the Cleveland Cavaliers began to rebuild on Thursday — from the top.

Jim Paxson was fired as the club's general manager, dismissed by new owner Dan Gilbert one day after the Cavaliers' chaotic season ended short of the NBA playoffs for the seventh consecutive year.

Expected for weeks, Paxson's firing came exactly one month after coach Paul Silas was fired with 18 games left by Gilbert, the online mortgage banker who has had a rough introduction into operating a pro sports franchise.

Singh ties course record at Houston Open

HUMBLE, Texas — Fresh from inclusion in the World Golf Hall of Fame, Vijay Singh tied the course

record with an 8-under-par 64 for a one-shot lead Thursday after the first round of the Houston Open.

The 42-year-old Fijian, No. 2 in the world rankings, extended his streak of par or better to 56 holes at the Redstone Golf Club, where he won this event a year ago.

Singh laughed when told of his bogey-free string going back to last year, when he finished 11 under and won by two shots.

"Don't mention that," he said. "I struck the ball really well today, had a very good feel of the greens and my speed was good, and when you do that you can make some birdies."

After Singh came Australians Gavin Coles and Brendan Jones. Eight players were at 67. Six others, including John Daly, were another shot back.

Singh was announced Wednesday as the latest inductee into the Hall of Fame, although he said he learned three weeks ago the honor was coming.

around the dial

GOLF

Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf 1 p.m., ESPN

PGA Tour- Shell Houston Open 4 p.m., USA Network

SOCCER

Fire at MetroStars 8 p.m., ESPN 2

SMC GOLF

Team to compete at Pine Hills

Saint Mary's golfers set to wind up their outstanding season

By ANNA FRICANO
Sports Writer

For the three seniors on the Saint Mary's Golf team, this weekend will mark the last regular season tournament in which they will compete. The Belles will travel to Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio this afternoon for the annual Yellowjacket Invitational.

The event, which begins tomorrow at 9 a.m., is a two-day competition taking place at the Pine Hills Golf Course in Hinckley, Ohio.

Last year's event, which the Belles did not attend, featured such schools as Wilmington College, Capital University and John Carroll University. Few of the schools that will be at the event are likely to pose any major competition for the Belles, who are hoping to take the tournament.

Conference competitor Olivet College will be at the invitational and the Belles are hoping to perform well against them.

"Olivet is in our conference and we'd like to beat them," said Julia Adams. "The other teams we don't

face much."

The most difficult thing for Saint Mary's this weekend may be to focus on the task at hand and not look too far ahead to the NCAA Championships, which will take place in a couple of weeks. The team is intent on doing everything necessary to get themselves ready for the event.

"We know that we need to focus on this weekend because each round helps us prepare for nationals ... but we have to be able to play well this weekend too," Adams said.

The Belles want to make sure that they don't get too ahead of themselves so as to compromise the task at hand, especially considering the unfavorable weather conditions that they will most likely be facing.

For seniors Julia Adams, Chrissy Dunham and Stefanie Simmerman, this weekend will be something more than just one more tournament before nationals. All three women have been involved with the golf program throughout the duration of their time at Saint Mary's,

and all three have contributed significantly to the growth of the program in recent years.

Dunham, the team captain, was named to the first team All-MIAA for the 2004 fall season.

She has shown immense improvement in the past three seasons, with her average score dropping from a 90.6 in the fall of 2002 to 81.73 in the fall of 2004.

Adams has taken numerous MIAA honors in the past few years, including being named All-MIAA first team in 2003 and 2004. She was an MIAA medalist for the 2004 season, and a conference tournament medalist in 2002 and 2004.

Simmerman rounds out the trio, having been named first team All-MIAA for the past four seasons. She was a conference co-medalist in 2003, and finished in twelfth place at the 2004 NCAA Tournament, and won the national title in 2003.

All three girls have earned three varsity letters so far with the program, and all have been consistent scorers for the team this spring.

The seniors will have one last chance to hone their skills before nationals at the invite this weekend.

Contact Anna Fricano at
africa01@nd.edu

"We know that we need to focus on this weekend because each round helps us prepare for nationals."

Julia Adams
Belles golfer

"Olivet is in our conference and we'd like to beat them. The other teams we don't face much."

Julia Adams
Belles golfer

SMC SOFTBALL

Belles are hopeful for happy ending

After finishing 0-12 in MIAA, team needs a win to close season

By TOM STILES
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's (5-21, 0-12) will try to wind up its season on a positive note this Saturday afternoon at 1 p.m. against non-MIAA conference foe Rockford College. The Belles are still fighting to get that elusive sixth win of the season despite their inability to get off the snide from an 18-game losing streak.

It has been a frustrating season for the Belles, especially coming off a successful 2004 campaign in which the team won its first MIAA postseason title. Dealing with adversity has been difficult for this year's team, particularly because the team only returned five players from last year's championship squad, not to mention bringing in a new coach who was a rookie herself.

The Belles last played a week ago tomorrow, against conference leader Alma College. Alma was too much for Saint Mary's, blanking them in both ends of a double-header by the scored of 6-0 and 15-0. The offense was almost non-existent on the day, as the Belles could only muster three hits for the entire afternoon.

Game one saw freshman pitcher McKenna Corrigan give

up five runs on just five hits in two and a third innings of work. Junior Bridget Grall and sophomore Amanda Trevino pitched in relief, holding Alma scoreless on just two hits for the last four frames.

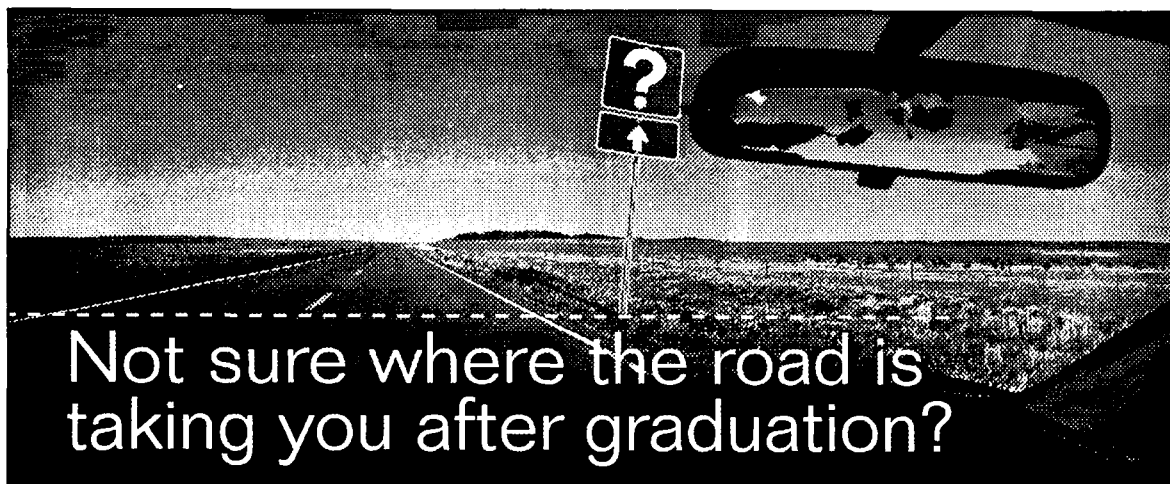
Grall and Corrigan helped themselves by notching the only two hits in the game for the Belles, as the rest of the team could not figure out Alma's senior pitcher Leigh Ann LaFave.

Game two was Alma College putting on a clinic, as they punished Saint Mary's pitching all day long en route to 15 runs on 15 hits. On the mound, Alma had a brilliant pitching performance by senior Melissa Tavadian and sophomore Kay McDonald, who combined to throw a five inning, one-hit shutout.

The Alma squad's offense was led by standout senior center fielder Mary Pietsch, who scored twice, and drove in three runs on three hits, including a double and a home run. As a team, Alma had four round-trippers, five extra-base hits, and no errors as opposed to the four miscues by Saint Mary's.

After Rockford College, the Belles will finish out their season with two home games against MIAA conference opponents, Olivet College (17-11, 6-4) on Tuesday and Kalamazoo College (3-21, 2-8) on Thursday, both of which will start at 3:30 p.m.

Contact Tom Stiles at
tstiles@nd.edu



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ND WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Irish women continue tournament running



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer
Notre Dame women compete in the 3,000-meter event on Feb. 5 at the Notre Dame Invitational.

By RYAN KIEFER
Sports Writer

With the Big East Championship meet two weeks away, the Notre Dame women's track team can quite literally see the finish line.

The main concern now is getting there as fast as possible.

After sending a group of athletes to the highly competitive Mt. SAC relays last weekend, the Irish will spend this weekend in Champaign, Ill. at the University of Illinois for the Central Collegiate meet.

The conference meet was very much in the minds of the Irish coaches when they made the lineup for Saturday. Notre Dame will keep its best distance runners home this weekend, allowing them to turn their focus to the Big East meet, where the Irish will be looking to overtake indoor champion Pittsburgh. Distance coach Tim Connelly

explained his team's strategy.

"They [athletes staying home this weekend] are qualified all the way to NCAA's, so we probably won't have them run again until conference," Connelly said.

The off week also gives the runners a chance to recover from last weekend's intense competition.

"A weekend like we had in California [last weekend] takes a toll on the girls, not only with the competition, but with the travel. We were really careful with runners like Stephanie Madia, and Sunni [Olding] this week. In fact they won't have their first hard workout until [today]," Connelly said.

"We won't start looking for teams until the Big East meet."

Tim Connelly
Irish distance coach

Sprints coach John Millar is expected to employ the same strategy.

Sprinters such as Maryann Erigha, who won both the 100 and 200 last weekend, will be resting.

As for the athletes heading to Illinois Saturday, the goals will be the same as they have been

in previous weeks — hitting conference and NCAA regional qualifying times, establishing relay combinations and gaining racing experience. The Irish have posted 25 Big East qualifying marks to this point, ten of which also met the standard for the NCAA regional.

The team will place a special focus Saturday on the middle distance and technical events such as long jump and high jump.

Connelly felt that these events needed competition every weekend to stay sharp.

He was also excited about Stacey Cowan's return to the high jump event. The junior All-American missed the Mt. SAC meet due to a death in the family.

Connelly also mentioned that the focus is strictly individual this weekend, and that there will be time for team competition later in the season.

"We won't start looking for teams until the Big East meet," he said. "We have to get kids qualified first."

Contact Ryan Kiefer at
rkiefer@nd.edu

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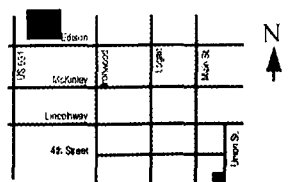
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MEN'S TENNIS

No. 1 seed Irish take on St. John's

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

A lot has changed in the Big East, but the strength of the Irish remains the same.

After taking the title last year, Notre Dame enters the Big East tournament as the top seed after finishing the regular season 16-7 and ranked No. 29.

"The field is a little bit weaker this year, as it will be for most of the sports that play in the Big East, because Miami and Virginia Tech are out and new schools haven't come into the conference,"

coach Bobby Bayliss said. "It's not as strong a field as it has been and it certainly affords us a better chance of winning than normal."

Captain Brent D'Amico was injured in the final match of the regular season.

However, Bayliss put the senior on the roster, which had to be submitted prior to the tournament's start.

"You have to turn in your lineup ahead of time and you can pull somebody out, but you can't change the order,"

Bayliss explained. "So you have to submit it—if you have an iffy player, say like Brent, you have to put him in at his normal spot and then you have to hope he can play."

Eric Langenkamp was also questionable for the Irish after he was unable to travel to the University of South Florida, the tournament's venue, with the team due to illness. However, Bayliss is confident that Langenkamp is ready to play.

"We had a little scare," he said. "Eric didn't make the trip with us, he was hospitalized Tuesday evening with some sort of intestinal virus that has come and gone, and he flew up separately and practiced today—he looks good, I think he's

okay."

The Irish take on St. John's after riding a bye into the semifinals, as the Red Storm defeated Georgetown Thursday. Bayliss had the opportunity to watch the first-

round game.

"St. John's won decisively and we will play them tomorrow at 9 a.m.," Bayliss said. "So we pretty much know what we're going to face and how it kind of lines up, and it's just a matter of getting out and getting it done."

Bayliss is confident in the team's chances in the tournament.

"If we can win the doubles point and start off in control, I think they're going to realize they have to do something special to beat us," he said.

"The second key is just to play within ourselves. It's the end of the year, you're not going to invent any new shots... I think staying with the fundamentals has worked for us all year really will be key."

The transition to muggy Tampa was Bayliss' main concern, but the Irish arrived in Florida on Wednesday and managed two days of practice before today.

"We got in yesterday," Bayliss said. "The biggest thing is just to get used to the heat, we've had two days—we're pretty acclimated."

The Irish began defending their title at 9 a.m. today.

Contact Kate Gales at
kgales@nd.edu

"It's just a matter of getting out and getting it done."

Bobby Bayliss
Irish coach

"If we can win the doubles point and start off in control, I think they're going to realize they have to do something special to beat us."

Bobby Bayliss
Irish coach

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish women look for tourney trifecta

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

The Irish will look to capture their third straight Big East Championship this weekend at Notre Dame's Warren Golf Course.

The tournament, which kicks off Saturday morning, is in a "five count four" format. Each of the four participating teams sends five golfers, and the top four individual scores for each team in each round combine to form the team's total for the round.

Senior Karen Lotta, juniors Katie Brophy and Suzie Hayes, sophomore Noriko Nakazaki, and freshman Jane Lee will tee it up for the top-seeded Irish.

Third-seeded Georgetown and fourth-seeded Boston College will try to stand in the way of Notre Dame's third consecutive title. The biggest challenge for the Irish should come from second-seeded St. John's, though.

"St. John's will be our closest competition," Notre Dame head coach Debby King said. "They have really improved this year."

Golfstat.com ranks St. John's 125th nationally, while the Irish are rated 45th overall. The two teams met once earlier this season at the Indiana Invitational on April 2-3. The Irish defeated

the Red Storm by 26 strokes en route to capturing the tournament championship.

The Big East Championship does not give Notre Dame a chance to significantly improve its chances at landing its second straight at large bid to the NCAA Central Regional Championship.

Since the three other tournament participants are all from the Eastern Region, the Irish will not be able to outplay any Central Region foes.

"It's unfortunate for us that women's golf has to be in the Big East Conference," King said. "We don't have a choice there. We just have to try to keep our scoring averages low."

Irish players have practiced hard all week in pursuit of this goal, working on the fundamentals of their games. King stressed that the team simply needs to continue doing the things that led to two tournament championships this spring.

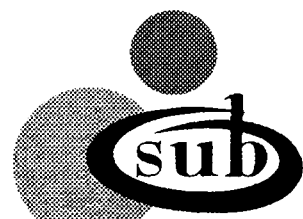
"Obviously, what we are doing is working. That's what got us here," King said. "We are just working on all types of the game—the swing, chip, pitch and especially putting."

The first round will kick off Saturday morning at 8 a.m. at

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Bookstore

continued from page 28

get out and run a little more," Funk said. "That's how we like to play every game."

Kilroy carried We Get Wet offensively, consistently nailing his shots from the perimeter. Funk and Cornette added inside scoring to bury Anarchy 99.

No. 6 CoCoo Butter 21, No. 11 Anthony Travel 14

CoCoo Butter defeated a short-handed Anthony Travel Thursday night thanks to the scoring duo of Ron Dokes and Bobby Brown.

Anthony Travel captain Pat Leonard went down at the very beginning of the game after being knocked to the concrete and injuring his head. Without Leonard, Anthony Travel was forced to play with four men for the rest of the night. Leonard is the managing editor of The Observer.

The game was dominated by the inside battle between Dokes and former Irish basketball star Harold Swanigan. The two big men banged inside throughout the game and traded baskets for much of the contest.

In the end, Dokes and CoCoo Butter won out, helped in large part by the one-man advantage.

"Some people were complaining about Dokes' physical play inside and how the game got a little rough, but we think he was just bringing Gaziantepspor-style basketball to the States," onlookers John Meiser and Michael French collectively stated. "We don't think Swanigan minded. He just had a little trouble dealing

with it."

No. 3 Jack's Shorts 21, No. 14 Blue Collar Ballers 16

The game between third-seeded Jack's Shorts and Blue Collar Ballers remained close for most of the contest. With the game tied at 14, though, Jack's Shorts went on a huge run to end the game.

Led by big man Dan Parziale, Jack's Shorts turned up its defensive intensity and completely prevented Blue Collar Ballers from scoring inside during the second half.

Tom Witherspoon stole the show offensively for Jack's Shorts. The guard hit several key shots from the outside down the stretch.

Bookstore Commissioner Chris Murphy attributed Jack's Shorts' victory to the team's tournament experience.

"They've played together for a couple of years," Murphy said. "They have the experience of playing deep into Bookstore. They just have good team chemistry."

No. 5 Looking for a Sponsor at the Moment 21, No. 12 Linebacker Lounge 13

In an extremely physical game, Looking for a Sponsor at the Moment downed Linebacker Lounge 21-13 Thursday night.

Much of the contest was played inside the paint, with Looking for a Sponsor at the Moment's Jerome Collins and Jason Mays taking on Linebacker Lounge's Gary Godsey.

Collins in particular grabbed countless rebounds and consistently scored with an array of inside moves.

Rhema McKnight was a difference maker for Looking for a Sponsor at the Moment. The Irish

receiver forced turnovers, turning them into several fast break points.

Spectator Ryan Curley was amazed by the game's physical nature.

"It was one of the tougher games I've seen," Curley said. "There was not a lot of finesse play. I was surprised at how tough it was for each team to score."

No. 1 U Got a Bad Draw 21, No. 16 Mean Girls 10

When you get a bad draw, anything less than your best just doesn't cut it. Just ask the 16th-seeded Mean Girls.

Dominating the boards and capitalizing on their size advantage, No. 1 U Got a Bad Draw propelled its way into the Elite Eight with a 21-10 win over Mean Girls.

"They were a great team and we needed to play our best, which we didn't," said Mean Girls' star Mike Ortiz. "We just didn't shoot well, so we dug ourselves in a hole early."

Lacking its opponent's size, Mean Girls tried to take advantage of its speed by using quick transitions and fast breaks down the court.

The strategy worked well in the beginning, and the game began 2-2.

"They're a really good team," said U Got a Bad Draw's Chinedum "God's Gift" Ndukwe of his opponents. "We had to work on getting back in our zone, playing at our own tempo."

With adjustments on defense and accurate shooting, U Got a Bad Draw went into halftime up 11-5, and opened the second half with a big run to make the game 17-7.

Mean Girls had trouble making shots in the windy South Bend evening and the team struggled against the 2-3 zone and Ndukwe's extraordinary ability to read passes and make steals.

Dan Stevenson also had a big game, dominating at the post position.

"He always does a phenomenal job playing physical down low," Ndukwe said.

Ortiz is happy with how his team did, and believes that the well-balanced attack of U Got a Bad Draw will be difficult to beat.

"They'll go far into the tournament," he said.

No. 4 State Theater 21, No. 13 Hannah's Storm 14

Even with the wind, Chris Murphy and Rich Whitney used their solid outside shooting to take the Sweet 16 by storm.

Taking an early lead after hitting a couple three-point shots in beginning of the first half, No. 4 State Theater went on to triumph over No. 13 Hannah's Storm 21-14.

State Theater held an 11-6 lead at halftime, but Hannah's Storm put up a valiant fight and kept themselves in contention.

Losing 18-9, Marti Inglesby and Co. of Hannah's Storm used their tough defense and outside shooting to move within five, making the score 19-14.

In the end, however, State Theater proved to be too much and now the team is looking forward to a good matchup tonight against Looking For a Sponsor at the Moment.

The teams met two years ago, with State Theater coming out on top.

"If we're shooting well from the outside, not many teams can stop

us," Murphy said.

No. 9 Training Day 21, No. 8 Pudgy's Chicken 16

In a hard-fought, physical game, Training Day gave Pudgy's Chicken quite a workout.

The only official upset of the evening, No. 9 Training Day defeated No. 8 Pudgy's Chicken 21-16.

Pudgy's Chicken jumped ahead in the first few minutes, but Training Day came back to lead 11-8 at halftime.

Playing MBA students and special guest Carlyle Holiday, Training Day started the second half strong, extending their lead to 14-9, and then continued to dominate.

"We wore them down in the second half with our youth and athleticism," said Training Day's Brandon Burke.

Missed foul shots proved to be lethal for Pudgy's Chicken when the physical nature of the game sent players repeatedly to the line, but they only managed to make one of their shots.

For its part, Training Day is happy to move on to the Elite Eight, but does not have much time to bask in the upset.

"It was a pretty tough game today and we have an even harder one tomorrow, playing the No. 1 seed," Burke said. "We have to be ready."

No. 7 Platinum FUBU 2.0 21, No. 10 HP 14

Although no players were available for comment, Platinum FUBU 2.0 will move on and play We Get Wet in the Elite Eight of this year's tournament.

Contact Kevin Brennan at kbrenna4@nd.edu and Annie Brusky at abrusky@nd.edu

Honoring Women of Notre Dame

The Women in Social Service and Health are pleased to honor Heather Rakoczy and Sister Susan Bruno for their outstanding contributions to the community and the inspiration with which they have enhanced so many lives. Here are their stories:



Heather Rakoczy

Nominated by: Kaitlyn Redfield, Lizzy Shappell, Brittny Heinrich, Laura Kelly, Katie Kinner, April Flores, Rebecca Choy, Courtney Jinas, Christina Velasquez, Keara Coughlin, and Erin Bucholz

Having earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy and Theology, Heather Rakoczy graduated with honors from the University of Notre Dame in 1993 with a degree in Philosophy and Theology. She received full-tuition Legacy Scholarship to attend Vanderbilt Divinity School and a grant in recognition of working for a more just and humane society. While in divinity school, Ms. Rakoczy served as both a chaplain in a hospital and as a local pastor to an inner-city parish, a service for which she earned honors distinction in field education. Ms. Rakoczy completed her Master of Divinity in 1997. Ms. Rakoczy spent five years in Nashville, Tennessee, working with the Domestic

Violence movement as an educator to court-ordered perpetrators in local prisons and in a non-profit alternative sentencing program and as a counselor to victims through the YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter. In 1998, Ms. Rakoczy returned to Notre Dame as Rector of Pangborn Hall where she has team taught Theology and Ministry classes and has been active in groups and programs associated with race, class, gender, and sexual orientation. In March of 2004, Ms. Rakoczy was invited to serve as the founding director of the GRC in a half-time appointment concurrent with her seventh and final year of service as Rector of Pangborn Hall. In July of 2005, Ms. Rakoczy will continue her service to the university as full-time Director of the Gender Relations Center.

"Heather has passionately served the women of Pangborn Hall as their rector for the past 8 years. In that period of time, Heather has shaped Pangborn's identity as a women's hall and has created a legacy of traditions cherished by the women who live here. She treats every woman who lives here with respect and encourages them in their endeavors. Heather faithfully challenges the women of Pangborn to uphold university standards while treating each disciplinary issue as a learning experience and an opportunity for growth. Residents know that Heather is willing to help them grow past poor decisions and will not let past indiscretions define their mark on the hall." - Pangborn Hall Staff

"Into one day, Heather fits two jobs that deserve and require full-time devotion, and she has never failed to give both of them complete commitment, regularly sacrificing personal time to do so. It is not unusual for Heather to work on GRC-related work or dorm affairs late into the night or on the weekends. In a place where there was no University Sponsored organization dealing with gender issues, Heather stepped up to the extraordinary task of creating one, defining its place on campus and setting out on its mission. We cannot think of anyone more deserving of this award than Heather Rakoczy, for in simply showing up for her job, she is actively envisioning a more just campus community." - Kaitlyn Redfield and Lizzy Shappell



Susan M. Bruno, OSF

Nominated by: Kristin Valderas, Margie Miller, and Kristen Hempstead

I was born and raised in Chicago, I am the eldest of six children. I attended Chicago public grade school and St. Peter and Paul Catholic High School. After high school, I began working for Illinois Bell Telephone, where in 1971, I became the first woman telephone installer in the state of Illinois. I entered the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate, of Joliet, Illinois when I was 25 years old. I just celebrated my 25th Jubilee, last summer. I came to Notre Dame in 1993 and am completing my 25th year in ministry at Our Lady's University. As Rector, I treasure journeying with the fine women of P.W. They are wonderful women, who are bright, generous and will be outstanding leaders in our World and Church. I am better for being a part of their lives.

"Sr. Susan Bruno works tirelessly in service to the constant improvement of the Notre Dame community. She is an incredible example of the leadership role that women can play on the campus of the University of Notre Dame. Her fervor and dedication over the past fourteen years have contributed to making Notre Dame the community that it is today. I am honored to call her my boss, my friend and my role model. I cannot think of a better example of someone who exemplifies leadership and spirit on Notre Dame's campus. Even in the midst of great challenges, Sr. Sue has never compromised her integrity, always doing everything she can do for the good of her students." - Kristen Hempstead

"Rectors put in long hours, must be prepared to deal with extremely difficult situations on nearly a daily basis, and because many residents face them only for disciplinary reasons, their nature and purpose is often misunderstood. Still, the unique position allows rectors to directly serve the students of the Notre Dame community in an important and challenging way. I believe that despite many personal obstacles she has had to overcome in her life, Sr. Sue Bruno has risen to this challenge." - Margie Miller

"I believe Sister has done a tremendous job as a rector by abiding by all of this university's rules and by ensuring that her Resident Assistants do their job, and do it well. Girls never fall through the cracks as disorders don't go ignored, and problems don't go unresolved. While other dorms don't enforce the University-required rules, Sister Susan Bruno, because of her honesty and good work ethic, makes sure that all the rules are enforced in Pasquerilla West - for the safety and well-being of its residents. While some residents may take this as nothing more but punishment from an authority figure, they lack the vision and maturity to see it as what it really is - loving discipline that will make them better people." - Kristin Valderas

Women in Social Service and Health Club would also like to express our gratitude to the following women who were nominated for this honor. They have contributed so much to all our lives and to our university - we hold them as great examples for our ambitions and for our place in the community.

Notre Dame Law School Research Librarian, Patty Ogden - Nominated by Katherine M. Leahy
Professor Ani Aprahamian - Nominated by Jennifer S. Maddox

Akron

continued from page 28

Booth did not disappoint, leading the Irish to a 1-0 win while turning in a magnificent complete game one-hit shutout, including 11 strikeouts and only two walks. The win moves Booth to 15-5 on the year.

Unfortunately for the Irish offense, Booth's dominating game was matched pitch for pitch by Akron's Tina McCauley. McCauley gave up only four hits for the game, but Notre Dame managed to get their hits in key spots. With two outs in the third inning, senior Megan Ciolli drove in

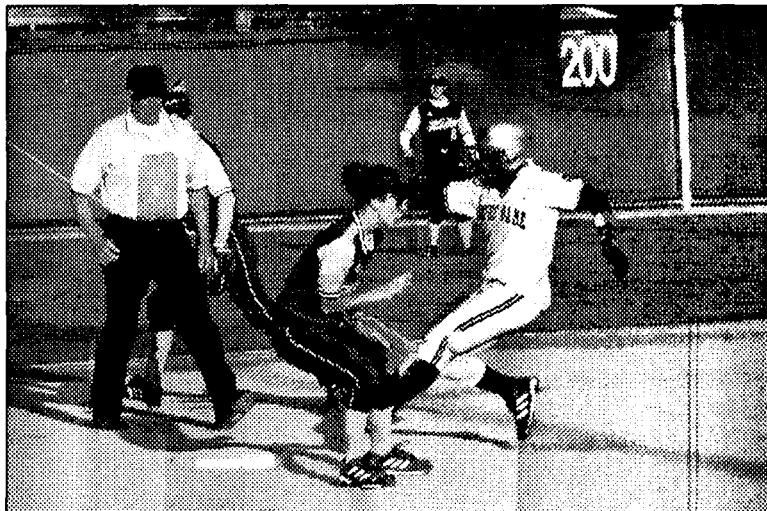
sophomore Stephanie Brown to give the Irish their lone run of the game. The run proved to be enough, and put Notre Dame back in the win column.

In game two, the Irish offense looked much more confident against Akron pitching. Brown started the Notre Dame rally in the bottom of the second by blasting the first pitch she saw over the center-field wall for a solo homer. Junior Katie Middleton then got on with an infield single, stole second, and moved to third on a throwing error. Junior Meagan Ruthrauff's RBI single brought her home and gave the Irish a 2-0 lead.

After Booth started game two with a perfect first inning,

coach Deanna Gumpf inserted Stenglein for the next three innings to keep her sharp for this weekend's Big East conference games. Stenglein struck out five batters before turning the ball over to Kenya Fuemmeler, who was making only her fourth appearance for the season. After facing a bases-loaded jam with no outs, Fuemmeler answered with a strikeout and a fielder's choice, and appeared to be out of the inning. However, Fuemmeler could not finish the inning, giving up a single to left, and two runs scored to tie the game.

Contact Ryan Duffy at rduffy1@nd.edu



BETH WERNET/The Observer
Junior infielder Kellie Middleton races to second in Thursday's game against Akron. The Irish won 1-0.

Cooper

continued from page 28

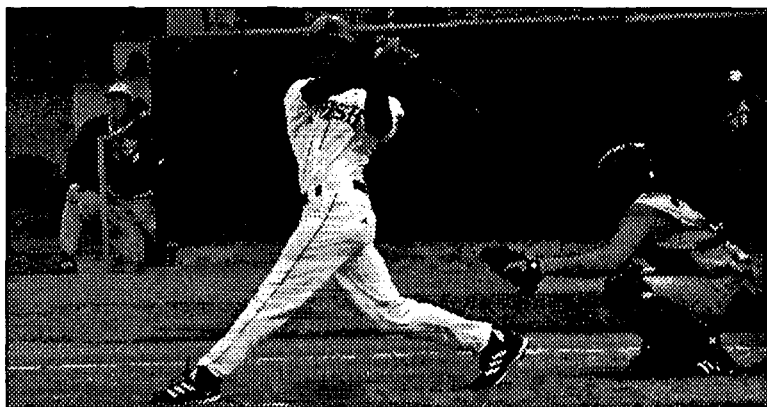
Wednesday night's blast was a game-winner. Last night's was a grand slam.

The slam was Cooper's fifth homer of the season.

In the bottom of the first inning, the Notre Dame outfielder gave the Irish a 4-3 lead over the Valparaiso Crusaders (10-20) after knocking in his sixth RBI of the last two games combined. Valparaiso came back to score runs in the second, third and fourth innings and held an 8-5 lead heading into the bottom of the sixth.

But Notre Dame got another four-run inning to take a 9-8 lead.

Veteran shortstop Greg Lopez drove a single through the left side to start the rally. After an Alex Nettey single, a hit-by-pitch and a couple of walks, the Irish punched in a few runs. With the bases juiced, catcher Matt Bransfield singled — again through the left side — for the tying and winning run.



BETH WERNET/The Observer
Junior centerfielder Alex Nettey swings at a pitch in a game against Bowling Green April 12.

The defense never let up, and the Irish won for the eighth time in nine tries and for the fifth time in a row.

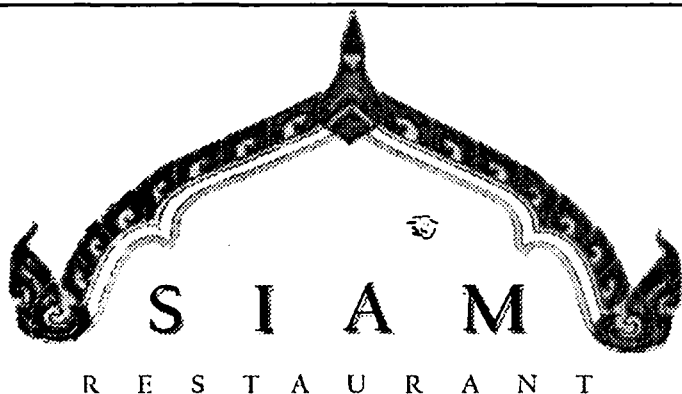
Senior lefthander Scott Bickford picked up his second win of the season, improving to 2-1. The lefty — who pitched 1.1 scoreless innings — now owns an amazing 11-1 strikeout to walk ratio. One night after picking up his first victory, freshman righthander Tony Langford earned his first career save for the Irish.

Centerfielder Alex Nettey's hot hitting continued. The junior finished 2-4 on the day, a day after going 4-6 against Purdue.

The Irish are now 22-15. They are 9-5 in the month of April. Last year, they finished the month 18-6.

Tonight at 6 p.m., the Irish shift back to Big East play to face the Villanova Wildcats (23-10-1, 7-6 Big East). Sitting at 8-4 in the conference, the Irish hope to jumble the standings a bit more when they face the fifth-place Wildcats in a three-game weekend series.

Contact Tom Dorwart at tdorwart@nd.edu



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Softball vs. St. John's

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*Fajita Fun-Rita!

Baseball vs. Villanova

Frank Eck Stadium @ 6:05 pm

*First 250 fans receive a Leprechaun stacking doll courtesy of Papa John's.

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Men's & Women's Soccer vs. Mexican National Teams

Alumni Field @ women at 6:05 pm, men at 8 pm

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** Early arriving fans will receive a commemorative poster and a rally towel!



SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Baseball vs. Villanova

Frank Eck Stadium @ 3:05 pm

*First 250 fans receive Notre Dame Baseball-Donate Life t-shirt sponsored by the Indiana Organ Procurement Organization.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

Baseball vs. Villanova

Frank Eck Stadium @ 12:05 pm

*Gold Game! First 250 fans will receive a Gold Games t-shirt from South Bend Orthopaedics!

*Free Krispy Kreme while supplies last!

Softball vs. Seton Hall

Ivy Field @ 11am & 1 pm (doubleheader)

*Famous Daves Will Be Served Between Games!

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Soccer

continued from page 28

Both freshman did not play for the team last fall because Pinnick sustained a season ending neck injury before the start of the season last fall and Hanks elected to play for the Under-19 team.

"We're going to start Pinnick because she has had a good spring season and we're also looking to give Hanks time," Waldrum said. "We are hopeful the public can see those two players and the rest of the group is in check [from last season]. But we are still adjusting to losing Tancredi and Gunna [starting

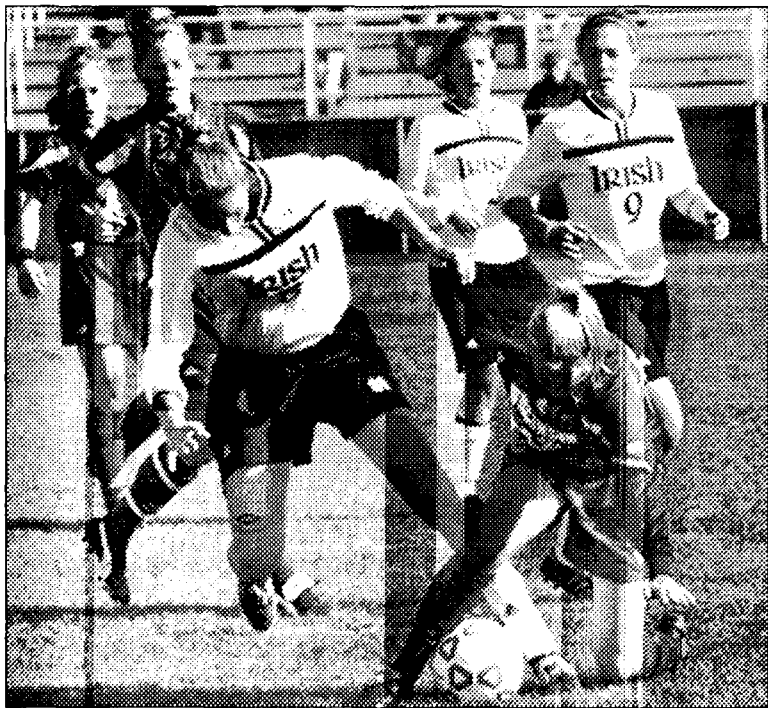
defensive players to graduation]."

Despite the obstacles the Irish currently face, they are still looking for an exciting matchup between two highly skilled teams.

"We've presold 1,700 tickets so it is going to be a really good crowd. It will be a playoff atmosphere and the intensity is going to be fantastic," Waldrum said. "So it'll be a great opportunity for the fans to see something unique with an international flavor."

The men's team will feature Greg Dalby, who recently shone in international play for the United States, representing the country on the Under-20 squad.

Contact Dan Tapetillo at jtapetil@nd.edu



Freshman forward Amanda Cinalli battles for the ball at a game against Wisconsin Nov. 14.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Irish seek redemption on road

Notre Dame hopes to improve 1-4 streak, defeat Johns Hopkins

By MATT PUGLISI
Associate Sports Editor

Maybe a change of scenery will help — it certainly couldn't hurt.

After recording a disappointing 1-4 mark on a five-game homestand that concluded with a 14-6 loss to No. 3 Georgetown last Sunday, Notre Dame (3-9, 1-3 Big East) travels to Baltimore, Md. to lock horns with No. 11 Johns Hopkins (9-3) Sunday afternoon at 1 p.m.

Irish coach Tracy Coyne is looking forward to the opportunity to hit the road again.

"Going to Baltimore is always a good trip," Coyne said. "There will be a lot of people there, and a lot of alumni are going to come back, so that's exciting. We've been home for a couple weeks now — I think we're well rested and ready to go."

Including the Blue Jays, all three of the opponents left on the Irish schedule — No. 13 Syracuse and No. 19 Ohio State round out the year — are currently ranked by the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWCA). However, Coyne doesn't mind the tough schedule, currently listed as the ninth

toughest in the nation. In fact, she prefers it.

"I'm looking forward to our next three games," Coyne said. "I told the team in the locker room [after the Georgetown game] that I'd much rather be playing teams that are ranked and nationally competitive, because I think we can compete on that level and I would like to see this team prove that they can win at that level."

"Our next three teams are all tough opponents — teams we care about and want to beat. If we can beat someone that matters, it will give us a sense of satisfaction, because we have that feeling of unfulfilled potential [right now]."

The Irish had little trouble with visiting Hoyas in the opening minutes of last Sunday's game at Moose Krause Stadium. Ripping six shots to Georgetown's zero and jumping out to a 1-0 advantage on a goal by midfielder Lena Zentgraf, the Irish appeared to be well on their way to giving Big East-leading Georgetown a run for its money.

But looks can be deceiving.

Just over a minute after Zentgraf put Notre Dame in front, Hoya Catherine Elbe knotted the contest at 1-1 and kicked off a streak of eight consecutive Georgetown tallies, staking the Hoyas to a comfortable 8-1 halftime lead.

While attack Crysti Foote netted a hat trick in the second

half alone and midfielder Kaki Orr and attack Mary McGrath chipped in with single goals, the Irish were unable to get back into the contest, eventually falling 14-8.

"I was not happy with how the game went, I'm going to be honest about it," Coyne said. "I think that [Hoya goalie] Sarah Robinson is a good goalie, but we were shooting right at her — we weren't placing our shots. It wasn't like they were forcing low-percentage shots — we were getting wide-open looks. If you're getting that wide open, you should be scoring."

Sunday's game against the Irish will wrap up a busy week for the host Blue Jays — Johns Hopkins knocked off Towson 15-10 Tuesday evening and hosts No. 1 Northwestern this evening before Notre Dame comes to town.

With the season quickly winding down, thoughts turn to next year and returning the Irish to their place among the nation's lacrosse elite.

"I think that we have a bright future," Coyne said. "I think maybe losing six starters and three All-Americans has been more difficult to replace that we anticipated ... [but] we have a lot of younger players gaining a lot of experience. We definitely know how to compete."

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

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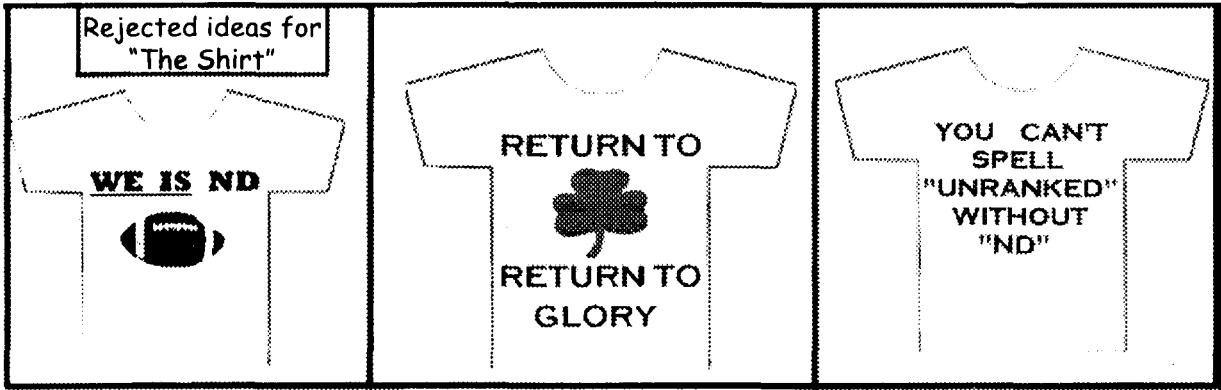
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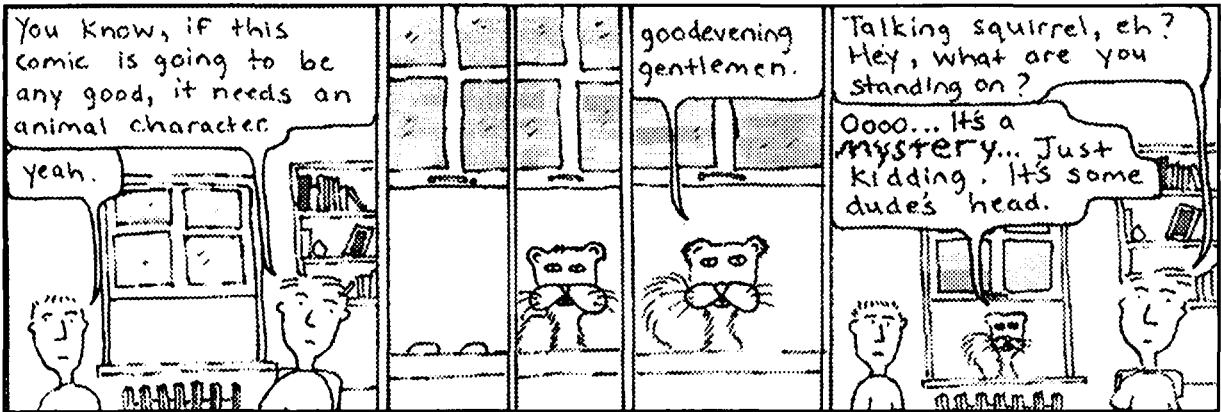
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Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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RYMEC

THUNGA

TABEED

www.jumble.com

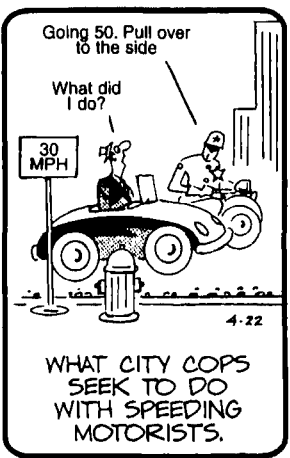
Answer here:

Answers tomorrow

Yesterday's Jumbles: CROAK PENCE DECADE KENNEL

Answer: When the window came down on him, he said it was a "PANE" IN THE NECK

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



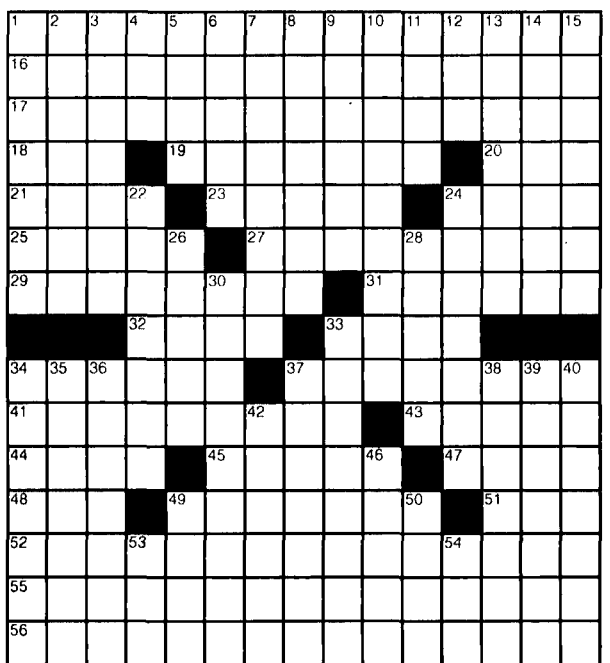
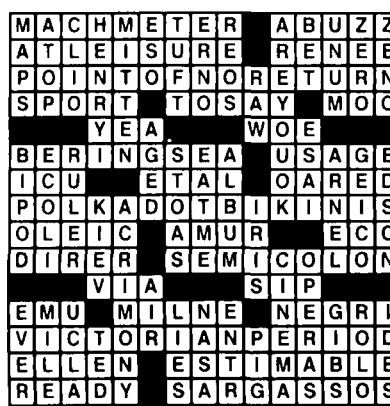
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Rehashes again and again
 - 16 Chauvinist's view
 - 17 Avenging a wrong
 - 18 Ode's opening
 - 19 Halloween superlative
 - 20 Family mem.
 - 21 "___ Rose" (song from "The Music Man")
 - 23 Relatives of carps and minnows
 - 24 Fruit salad fruit
 - 25 What Spanish athletes go for at the Olympics
 - 27 Assigned
 - 29 Went big-game hunting
 - 31 Keeps out
- DOWN**
- 32 Take a bow?
 - 33 Insensitive
 - 34 Fictional Gray
 - 37 Rigging supports
 - 41 Hardly conclusive
 - 43 A as in Archimedes
 - 44 Start of something big?
 - 45 One of 300 in the length of Noah's ark
 - 47 Violinist Leopold
 - 48 Here, in Hidalgo
 - 49 One chewing out
 - 51 New Deal inits.
 - 52 Becomes angry
 - 55 Diplomatic achievement
 - 56 Bedazzlement

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



Puzzle by Manny Nosowsky

- 33 Unwillingness, in rare usage
- 34 Suit request
- 35 Minimal amount
- 36 Occasion for flags
- 37 Sauce with a kick
- 38 Dried grass twisted into ropes
- 39 What an exception "proves"
- 40 Mexican blankets, in México
- 42 Stew holder
- 46 ___-Neuve (province bordering Québec)
- 49 ___ mots
- 50 Purges
- 53 Sabbath talk: Abbr.
- 54 German pronoun

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

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Andie MacDowell, 47; Tony Danza, 54; Iggy Pop, 58; Charles Grodin, 70

Happy Birthday: Be fully prepared before you leap into something you've never tried before. A power struggle is likely, and if you don't know your stuff, you may find yourself at a loss. This can be a fabulous year, but only if you put everything you've got into what you are trying to accomplish. Your numbers are 8, 22, 29, 36, 38, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Avoid any sort of emotional upset. If someone is doing his or her best to pressure you into doing something, back away. You have plenty of other choices. An opportunity to meet someone who is good for you is apparent. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The more involved you are today in activities you enjoy, the better. Love is looking positive. Start something new, and it will open your eyes to a possibility for the future. Children may play a role in your life today. *****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Do something to please yourself because you won't be able to please anyone around you today. A massage, a hair appointment or a short trip to a mall will spark your imagination. Don't let trivial matters get to you. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You may like to spend time at home, but today you will do far better if you get out and do things with friends. A little romance will perk you up. You will discover some very interesting information. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): No matter what you are working on it will be important to finish on time. You need to prove something to yourself and to others. If you neglect the one you love, you will pay later. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You may have a change of heart. Love is certainly in the picture, but how you handle it will be the question. Take a look at your past relationships, and you'll know what to do. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put your money into your residence or home comfort. Get involved in any opportunity that is competitive or challenging. You can gain ground using your intuitive intelligence today. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will have the discipline and the inventiveness to pull something off, far beyond anyone in your field. You will know exactly what you have to do, so don't hold back today. Love can be yours. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may think you have everything under control but, in truth, you probably don't. Don't be surprised if something unexpected pops up at the last minute, leaving you in a dilemma. Prepare to act fast. **

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A short trip or attending a trade show or conference will result in some fascinating ideas and opportunities. Love will be in a high cycle, so don't forget to include your partner or, if single, someone to whom you are attracted. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Money, health and legal concerns should all be taken care of quickly today. Make some changes to your home that will make your life less stressful. You will be lucky, so pick up a lottery ticket. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Engage in family discussions. Someone you are close to will want to introduce you to a new friend. Relationships are looking good, so don't hold back. Doing for others will bring tremendous satisfaction. ***

Birthday Baby: You have plenty of drive and determination, but you are also outspoken and willful. You are unpredictable and tend to be attracted to the unusual or unfamiliar.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

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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BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL XXXIV

'Wet' leaves 'Anarchy' out to dry

No. 2 We Get Wet cruises past No. 15 Anarchy 99, 21-12

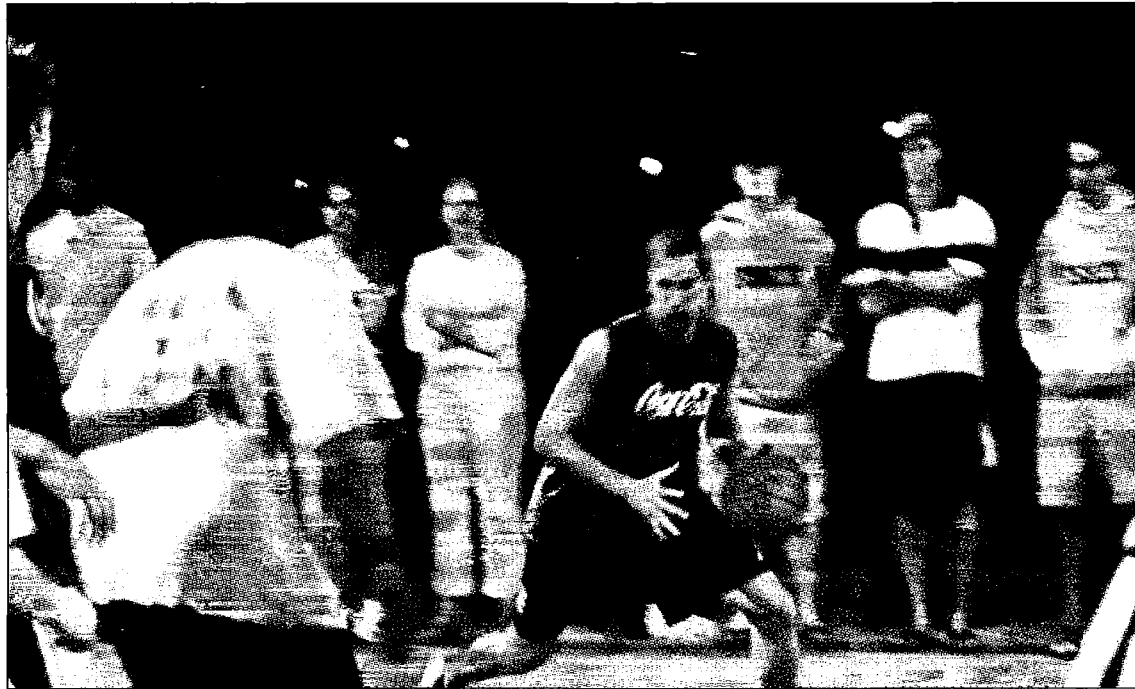
By KEVIN BRENNAN and ANNIE BRUSKY
Sports Writers

We Get Wet's frontline once again proved too much for an opponent as the team downed Anarchy 99 21-12 Thursday night. The threesome of captain Justin Funk, Jordan Cornette, and Jim Kilroy proved too much for Anarchy 99.

The three big men controlled both the offensive and defensive boards for the entire game.

Funk credited this rebounding edge with his team's

see BOOKSTORE/page 23



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Keough senior Matt Crosser dribbles around an opponent in his Bookstore Basketball game April 17. Thursday's games narrowed the pool of teams as the tournament enters the Elite Eight.

FOOTBALL

Blue, Gold teams are introduced

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

There was a clear-cut division of the rosters Thursday when Irish coach Charlie Weis announced the lineups for Saturday's Blue-Gold Game.

For the Blue team, quarterback Brady Quinn; running backs Darius Walker and Rashon Powers Neal; receivers Maurice Stovall and Rhema McKnight and tight end Anthony Fasano will lead

See Also

"Returning Home"

Irish Insider

see TEAMS/page 24

ND SOCCER

Defending NCAA champs take on international opponents

By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer

The defending NCAA champion women's soccer team is set to take on the Mexican Women's National Team in the first of a doubleheader tonight at 6 p.m. at Alumni field. The matchup will be followed by the Notre Dame men's soccer team against the Mexican Under-17 team at approximately 7:45 p.m.

In the women's match, the

Mexican National Team and 2004 Olympic Games quarterfinalist is led by former Irish defender Monica Gonzalez and includes recently signed midfielder Becca Mendoza.

This contest will be the fifth time the two teams have met in the spring, dating back to their first encounter in 2001. The Irish topped Mexico in the first three matchups, but suffered a 3-2 loss last season.

Tonight, Notre Dame is expecting another close contest.

"Every year we've played them it has been close," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "The view we have [of the past for matches and last season's loss] is that we recognize and respect how good Mexico has become. Both teams played really well last year, but we just didn't get the result we wanted."

Waldrum also attributed the different style of play in international soccer to American soccer as a challenge for the Irish.

"They're [Mexico] more skillful

and technical and don't rely so much on their athleticism like we do," Waldrum said. "Their ball handling is so much better and you could get caught chasing throughout the game if you're not careful."

A potential individual threat includes UCLA forward Iris Mora, who last faced the Irish during the national championship game.

Mora is the player who drew the penalty kick against the Irish during the second half of the NCAA final game. Erika Bohn

made the memorable save on the kick and prevented a potential 2-0 deficit in the half.

"Offensively she'll be one of their key players," Waldrum said.

However, the Irish are also looking to this game as an opportunity for several rising players to gain experience. It will also mark one of the first times the public can see freshman forwards Susan Pinnick and Kerri Hanks play for the team.

see SOCCER/page 26

BASEBALL

Power hitter Cooper blasts grand slam, secures 9-8 win

By TOM DORWART
Sports Writer

Craig Cooper is starting to like left field.

When he's not catching fly balls or stopping groundballs in the luscious green of the outfield, he's belting them — far over the left field fence.

For the second night in a row, Cooper blasted a home run over the left field wall.

see COOPER/page 25



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Sophomore pitcher Jeff Samardzija throws a pitch at a game against Connecticut on April 17.

ND SOFTBALL

Solid pitching sparks 1-0 shutout of Akron

In Stenglein's absence, Booth steps up and throws 11 strikeouts

By RYAN DUFFY
Sports Writer

After seeing its 19-game win streak finally end, Notre Dame decided to respond in the most logical way it knew how — start a new one.

Behind strong pitching and

clutch hitting, the Irish took both games of Thursday's doubleheader against Akron (20-21) in their return home after nine straight away games.

After earning Big East Player of the Week honors for her dominant performance last week, senior starting pitcher Steffany Stenglein was rested for game one, allowing junior Heather Booth to take the mound.

see AKRON/page 25

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The team is looking to improve its 1-4 streak with Sunday's game against Johns Hopkins.

page 26

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

The Irish earned a No. 1 seeding in the Big East Conference Championship.

page 24

MEN'S TENNIS

No. 1-seeded Notre Dame will face St. John's in the Big East Conference Championship.

page 22

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

The Irish are looking to capture their third straight Big East title.

page 22

SMC SOFTBALL

The Belles want to end the season on a positive note as they take on Rockford College.

page 20

SMC GOLF

Saint Mary's is aiming impress at this week-end's competition at Pine Hills.

page 20

IRISH INSIDER

Friday, April 22, 2005

THE
OBSERVER

RETURNING HOME

1978 Notre Dame graduate
Charlie Weis comes back
to lead the Irish

Charlie Weis, the dedicated early riser

The sun was just beginning to rise.

Early Wednesday, Notre Dame's campus lay still save for a few chirping birds. The cranes on site at the construction of the new Jordan Hall of Science along Juniper Road, normally buzzing with activity, sat motionless.

But across the street at the Joyce Center, a car pulled up, and a man emerged. It was Charlie Weis. It was 5:38 a.m. And Weis was unlocking the doors to enter the football office for another day's work.

There have been coaches with the same dedication. There have been coaches who did not sleep and who worked tirelessly to make a name for themselves. But right now, Weis is showing a relentless desire to make a name for Notre Dame.

Weis emphasized upon his arrival that improvement does not happen immediately and cannot be expected to take place right away. However, he is going to great measures to ensure the program receives the proper support, support from himself and from various members of the Notre Dame community.

Most recognizably, Weis invited

alums Tim Brown, Joe Montana, Joe Theismann and Chris Zorich to be honorary coaches during Saturday's Blue-Gold game.

All four accepted the invitation. One would think a man with four Super Bowl rings and a reputation as one of the top offensive minds in all of football would never stop selling himself. To an extent, Weis never stops. He jokes often about how he hopes his championship jewelry will attract top talent to South Bend.

But the new head coach also understands and uses the components of Notre Dame that can make the Irish football program so identifiable and successful.

"There's a lot of rich tradition at Notre Dame that I'd like our players to be a part of," the coach said. "I just know that I feel I'm just a part of Notre Dame. I'm not Notre Dame myself."

Weis did not play a sport during his college years, but he was a student who lived in the dorms.

That is why the coach met with students in the Joyce Center on his first day of work.

That is why he visited each campus dorm and spoke for 45 minutes to an hour on football and on life for the first few weeks of his coaching tenure.

And that is why, when Weis has

found any opportunity to sell and promote and improve Notre Dame thus far, he has understood he must take advantage of it.

Weis had received three verbal commitments as of Thursday morning and could have more when the Blue-Gold weekend concludes.

Eighty junior recruits visited campus on Feb. 27, the weekend of the Notre Dame-UCLA basketball game, and prospects Zach Frazer, Barry Gallup and Munir Prince are already sold. Sold, also, are all of the gold seats of Notre Dame Stadium to the Blue-Gold game.

Many observers at the team's first spring practice were not sold on the strict beginning being unscripted, when Weis made his offense run the first play from scrimmage three times. However, scripted or not, Weis had set a tone for the team, and every person on the sidelines was forced to realize it was what this program needs.

Weis has become the leader Notre Dame needed — a visible leader whose intensity and purpose remain constant, even at 5:38 a.m. when nobody's watching.

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

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu



Pat Leonard

Sports Writer

"I just know that I feel I'm just a part of Notre Dame. I'm not Notre Dame myself."

Charlie Weis
Irish coach

Blue-Gold Game Schedule of Events

9:00 a.m.

Brunch

9:45 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Autograph
Session

10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Fan Fest

11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

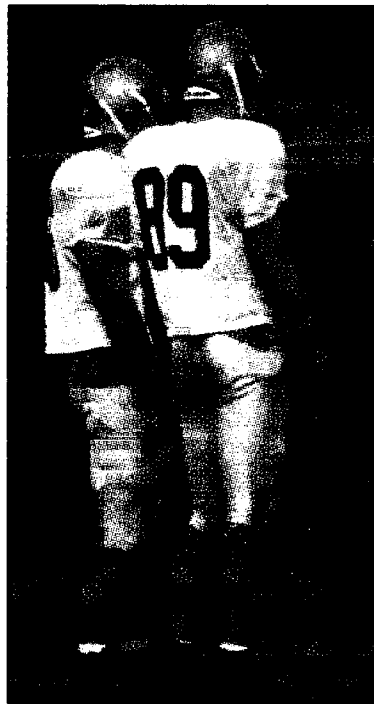
Alumni Flag
Football Game

1:35 p.m.

Blue-Gold
Game Kickoff*

*Tickets free
to students

PLAYERS TO WATCH



By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

A certain player or group of players emerge from relative obscurity and perform well on the field every season. However, who those players are is always a matter of question coming into a season.

The Irish are no different this year, as they are loaded with young talent looking to make their presence known. Here are five players who could establish themselves as front line contributors this season.

Joe Brockington (52)

Last season, Joe Brockington was a 6-foot-2, 220-pound sophomore looking to see some playing time behind Brandon Hoyte at weak side linebacker.

This year, Brockington is looking to bigger things.

With Hoyte and Corey Mays the two returning senior leaders of the linebacker corps, there is a spot for a newcomer to step up and make



his presence felt on Saturdays.

Brockington should be in the mix, and Coach Weis has already noted this spring that his performance in practice has been impressive.

Brockington will be battling with a sizable group of young, talented linebackers — notably, Maurice Crum, Abdel Banda and Chinedum Ndukwe, who is also listed at safety.

Leo Ferrine (15)

Leo Ferrine is coming into the season as a 6-foot, 180-pound sophomore defensive back that could step into a productive role for the Irish.

Defensive coordinator Rick Minter has said they are going to use him at safety next season, noting his athleticism in high school and his all-around capabilities.

"We're just taking a smooth athlete and throwing him in there at the safety spot," Minter said.

Ferrine's athleticism is something to be excited about. In high school,



he scored five different ways as a senior, totaling 15 touchdowns en route to third team all-state honors in a state loaded with talent.

That type of play will be crucial when Notre Dame matches up against athletic receiving corps such as Michigan and USC.

John Carlson (89)

When the Irish hired Weis, John Carlson immediately stepped into a unique situation. Weis has been known to use two tight end sets, and with the graduation of tight end Jared Clark, Carlson is making strides to be the second tight end along side Anthony Fasano.

Carlson is a tremendously gifted athlete who doubled playing varsity basketball as a freshman in the 2003-04-season. He will mostly likely be used as a blocking tight end with his size (6-foot-6, 245-pounds), but because of his athletic ability and coordination, Carlson could become a receiving threat, as well.

Carlson has been battling with



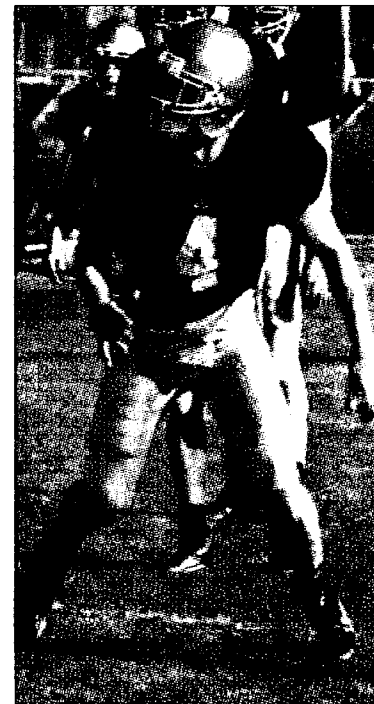
junior tight end Marcus Freeman this spring. The two should help each other improve going into next fall.

Junior Jabbie (8)

Junior Jabbie, a 5-foot-10, 188-pound sophomore, is another young member of the Irish secondary who will be looking to make a name for himself this season. With Tom Zbikowski and Mike Richardson as the leaders and returning players in the secondary, Notre Dame will look for individuals such as Jabbie to be productive on the field.

Jabbie should benefit from the help of Bill Lewis, Notre Dame's defensive backs coach. Lewis coached defensive backs in the NFL with Miami for the last nine years, specifically coaching Nickel backs. That type of coaching could pay huge dividends for Jabbie and the rest of the young Irish secondary.

As a senior in high school, Jabbie had four interceptions and scored



18 touchdowns as a running back. Jabbie graduated from the same high school as Notre Dame defensive captain Brandon Hoyte.

Anthony Vernaglia (4)

Anthony Vernaglia was a highly touted recruit coming to Notre Dame in last year's freshman class. As a sophomore next season, Vernaglia should start to prove why he received such high acclamations.

Vernaglia, a 6-foot-3 220-pound safety from Anaheim Hills, Calif., was rated No. 95 on ESPN's top-100 players nation wide and No. 98 on collegefootballnews.com when Notre Dame recruited him.

Like Ferrine and Jabbie, Vernaglia should be one of the young athletes in the secondary that will need to step up in order to improve Notre Dame's difficulties against the pass last season.

Contact Bobby Griffin at rgriffi3@nd.edu

THE STARTERS

OFFENSE

RUNNING BACK

DARIUS WALKER
SOPHOMORE



As a true freshman, Walker led the Irish last season in virtually all rushing categories. He gives the Irish a backfield threat to break a big run every time he touches the ball.

QUARTERBACK

BRADY QUINN
JUNIOR — CAPTAIN



Much of the team's success next season will be contingent on Quinn's continued improvement and his absorption of coach Charlie Weis' offensive system, especially with no clear backup.

FULLBACK

RASHON POWERS-NEAL
SENIOR



Powers-Neal provides the Irish with an experienced and consistent blocker out of the backfield, and 2005 will mark his third year starting at fullback. Weis said he also will get more touches this season as a tailback.

WIDE RECEIVER

RHEMA MCKNIGHT
SENIOR



McKnight enters this spring as the leading receiver during the past two years, catching 47 and 42 passes, respectively. In addition to his speed, McKnight is also a strong downfield blocker.

TIGHT END

ANTHONY FASANO
JUNIOR



A physical tight end, Fasano was second on the team in catches and touchdown last season. Fasano is the most experienced and talented member of a very deep tight end unit.

WIDE RECEIVER

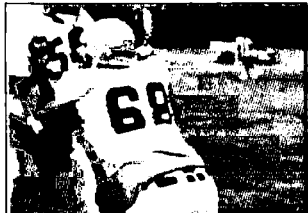
MAURICE STOVALL
SENIOR



Stovall's presence gives Notre Dame a talented and experienced pair of receivers. At 6-foot-5, Stovall is a big, intimidating receiver who can out-muscle cornerbacks when going for the ball.

TACKLE

RYAN HARRIS
JUNIOR



Harris might be smaller than most offensive tackles, but he is quick, agile, and displays good technique.

GUARD

BOB MORTON
SENIOR



Morton started 11 games at left guard in 2004 after moving from center, where he started 11 games in 2003.

CENTER

JOHN SULLIVAN
JUNIOR



Sullivan started all 12 games at center in 2004 and returns to anchor the line, but he has been injured during the spring.

GUARD

DAN STEVENSON
SENIOR



Stevenson is another experienced lineman, starting 22 games during the past two seasons, all at right guard.

TACKLE

MARK LEVOIR
SENIOR



LeVoire started all 12 games at right tackle last season and enters the 2005 season with 24 consecutive games started.

DEFENSIVE END

VICTOR ABIAMIRI
JUNIOR



Despite missing most of spring practice with a bruised shin, Abiamiri needs to be a force next season as the most experienced returning lineman.

DEREK LANDRI

SENIOR



DEFENSIVE TACKLE

Landri started all 12 games at defensive tackle and is the only returning starter on a talented but relatively inexperienced defensive line. He had 40 tackles and half a sack in 2004.

Laws is a strong defensive tackle who can use his experience as a Prep wrestling champion to get leverage against offensive linemen. He recorded 17 tackles and two sacks last season.

TREVOR LAWS

JUNIOR



DEFENSIVE END

The second defensive end position remains up in the air, after losing Kyle Budinscak to graduation and Justin Tuck to Saturday's NFL Draft. Travis Leitko and Chris Frome have

seen the most time starting here during the spring. None have a lot of experience, but this unit has been a strength of the Irish even when the team has struggled.

INSIDE LINEBACKER

BRANDON HOYTE
SENIOR — CAPTAIN



Hoyte will be the leader of the defense after making 74 tackles last season, the most of any returning player. He's also been an academic All-American the past two seasons and will get his chance to shine.

INSIDE LINEBACKER

COREY MAYS
SENIOR



Mays will join Hoyte as the other fifth-year senior in the linebacker corps, adding depth and size to the unit. He hasn't broken through in his first four years but has the athleticism to be a playmaker.

APACHE LINEBACKER

In this new position for the Irish defense, the coaches have said this player will be used in pass coverage, as well.

Heading into the Blue-Gold game, it is unclear who will play here.

Chinedum Ndukwe

moved to linebacker at the beginning of spring but will see reps both here and at safety.

Maurice Crum, who has had a good spring practice at linebacker, may also be a possibility at Apache backer.

STRONG SAFETY

TOM ZBIKOWSKI
JUNIOR



Zbikowski seemed to always be around the ball last season, making 70 tackles. He is the only certainty in a secondary filled with question marks.

REST OF THE IRISH SECONDARY

Besides Zbikowski's starting position, the rest of the Irish secondary is very much up in the air.

After being the team's biggest liability in 2004 — the pass defense ranked 116th of 117 Division I teams — the secondary is the unit with by far the biggest question marks.

Freddie Parish, who saw

action in all 12 of Notre Dame's games, including a start against Southern California, is a leading candidate for free safety. However, he has been challenged by rising sophomore Leo Ferrine, who has impressed the coaching staff this spring. Ferrine, along with classmate Junior Jabbie, has also

been taking reps at cornerback, and both could potentially complement — or perhaps even challenge — senior Mike Richardson, who played in all 12 of last season's games and started four of them at cornerback. Chinedum Ndukwe, who has been seeing time at Apache backer, could also factor into the mix.

Ideally, the Irish hope to be able to field a secondary from their spring roster.

"You don't ever want to go into the fall counting on a newcomer to come in," defensive coordinator Rick Minter said. "We need to get settled at certain positions and leave battles to be opened at other positions."

DEFENSE

Family and

Charlie Weis returns to his alma mater with intentions

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

Charlie Weis is constantly surrounded by reminders of his accomplishments.

Behind his desk is a framed photo of Weis with his son and Patriots quarterback Tom Brady after the Super Bowl this year. He sometimes flashes a gaudy Super Bowl ring, one of four he has won.

Weis entered a New England franchise under a defensive-minded coach and made sure that the offense wasn't forgotten about.

Everyone knows Charlie Weis is a winner on the football field.

But Charlie Weis isn't just about football. Weis, a father of two, one with special needs, founded Hannah & Friends with his wife to help children with autism and global delays.

"He's really family-oriented," wife Maura Weis said. "He's not the kind of coach that's out golfing or with his buddies when he has time off, so his hobby is his family. He's working, or he's with us, one or the other."

Charlie Weis is about football and family. That's why the 1978 graduate was hired in December to lead Notre Dame's football program.

"That would in my mind represent a wonderful Notre Dame fit," athletic director Kevin White said of Weis.

From New England to Notre Dame

Weis was in the middle of the season as the offensive coordinator of the New England Patriots when he was contacted the "right way" by Notre Dame, which was looking for a new football coach after the Nov. 30 firing of Tyrone Willingham.

Weis first talked to Notre Dame on a Sunday evening after a road game, and again the next day. White then asked if he could fly out to visit with Weis, who he had never personally met, but whose career he

had followed throughout the years.

"That Tuesday, they asked if they could come visit me in person, and I said yeah, but it will have to be after 11:30 at night because that's what time I work until," Weis said. "So they came."

Weis and Notre Dame officials, including White, met for about two-and-a-half to three hours at a hotel in Rhode Island.

White said he wasn't surprised with the person he saw.

"We had followed Charlie for so long, I can't say that anything about Charlie surprised me at that point," White said. "I had read so much about Charlie, and I had talked to so many people about Charlie, there were no surprises."

But Notre Dame wasn't ready for Weis — at least not yet.

"They turned around and flew back — they weren't making a rash decision," Weis said. "They were dotting their I's and crossing their T's."

Just an "ordinary guy"

When Jim Benenati met his roommate in Flanner Hall freshman year, he was a little worried.

"I thought it could be a long year," he said.

His roommate? New Jersey native Charlie Weis.

"When I first met him, I'd say he was a very outspoken, opinionated guy who liked to go out and have a lot of fun," Benenati said.

But Benenati soon realized that he and his new roommate had something in common — sports.

"Fortunately, I was a pretty big sports fan,

"Charlie is very family-oriented, as much so as anyone I've met in all my years around college athletics within the coaching profession."

Kevin White
Irish athletic director

but not as fanatic as him," Benenati said. "He followed all the Notre Dame sports. He was at every football game, he was at every basketball game, hockey games, baseball games."

Despite his love of sports, Weis wasn't the most athletic guy on campus. Still, he played most intramural sports, including Bookstore Basketball and interhall softball, where he won the campus championship, which he said he doesn't remember.

"He was okay [at sports]," Benenati said of his four-year roommate who was a groomsman in his wedding. "He's a little more humble than he'll let you know. I don't know if he was a standout, but he was okay. Otherwise a pretty ordinary guy — very outspoken, very opinionated, very friendly."

Benenati used to get mad at Weis during the football season because he wanted to be in his seat before the players started warming up, and Benenati didn't want to get to the games that early.

"He was always into sports, always analyzing games, always watching every play," Benenati said.

Ironically, it was Notre Dame football that attracted Weis to South Bend in the first place. When he lived in New Jersey, Weis used to watch "Notre Dame Highlights" on Sunday mornings, which was the replay of the best parts of that Saturday's game.

"I grew up Catholic in New Jersey, so you could say, 'well, was that it?'" Weis said. "No. It was more 'Notre Dame Highlights' on Sunday that got me interested in Notre Dame."

But once he got to Notre Dame, Weis wasn't just about sports. The speech and drama major knew most people around campus, as well, something he remembers fondly.

"I do remember, more than anything else, having a whole bunch of friends all over campus," Weis said.

The start of something great

Charlie Weis was teaching English at Morristown High School in New Jersey when he learned of an opening as a freshman football coach.

"He heard about me and asked if he could be interviewed for the job," said John Chironna, Morristown head football coach at the time. "I interviewed him and I was very much impressed with him. He came to work and worked diligently, and as a result, you can hook the two with what you see."

Weis worked with Chironna from 1980-84, the first of many coaches who would show him the way.

"He was the first guy who really taught me about coaching," Weis said.

And Chironna knew Weis had a lot to learn.

"Charlie was very intelligent, opinionated," Chironna said. "I used to call him a Notre Dame snob because he would get me angry. We would be breaking down film and he would make a statement and the thing that would anger me is that he didn't think it out 100 percent. But, that was his one weakness he had, was that he was so smart."

But Weis knew how to win.

When Chironna became the athletic director, he was left without a basketball coach one season. So he asked Weis to do him a favor.

"I said you've got to coach our basketball team," Chironna said. "So he coached the basketball team to a championship."



Charlie Weis was announced as the 29th head coach of Notre Dame on December 14 in a press conference at the university.

Weis also coached the fencing team to a winning season, and all along Chironna knew he had a special talent on his hands.

"Charlie is a very, very intelligent guy," Chironna said. "And I'll tell you, he's going to make it big, I always said that."

The road to success

After five seasons at Morristown, Weis left to coach for the University of South Carolina's Joe Morrison. It was in Columbia, S.C. that Weis earned a master's degree in education while working as a graduate assistant position coach and assistant recruiting coordinator.

"[Morrison] took me from the high school thought process to the college thought process," Weis said.

But in 1989, Morrison passed away, and Weis found himself without a job. He eventually found a head coaching position at Franklin Township High School, where he led the team to the New Jersey state championship while working in the New York Giants pro-personnel department.

One year later, he was working with the Giants full-time after head coach Bill Parcells offered him a position as the assistant special teams and defensive assistant coach in 1990. Giants tight end Mark Bavaro, a 1985 Notre Dame graduate, helped the Giants win the Super Bowl that year. He remembers Weis as a guy he could relate to because of their Irish ties.

"We're more friends than a coach-player," Bavaro said. "He was new and I was somebody who was on my last leg, so we didn't really have a working relationship, we were just good friends. We were both Notre Dame guys, we would sit and talk about Notre Dame."

Bavaro said Weis knowledge of the game



Charlie Weis was the main coach behind taking New England quarterback Tom Brady from a sixth-round pick to a two-time Super Bowl MVP.

WEIS' COACHING CAREER

1979-84 After graduating in 1978, Weis begins his coaching career as an assistant coach at Boonton (N.J.) High School in 1979 and then becomes an assistant coach at Morristown (N.J.) High School.

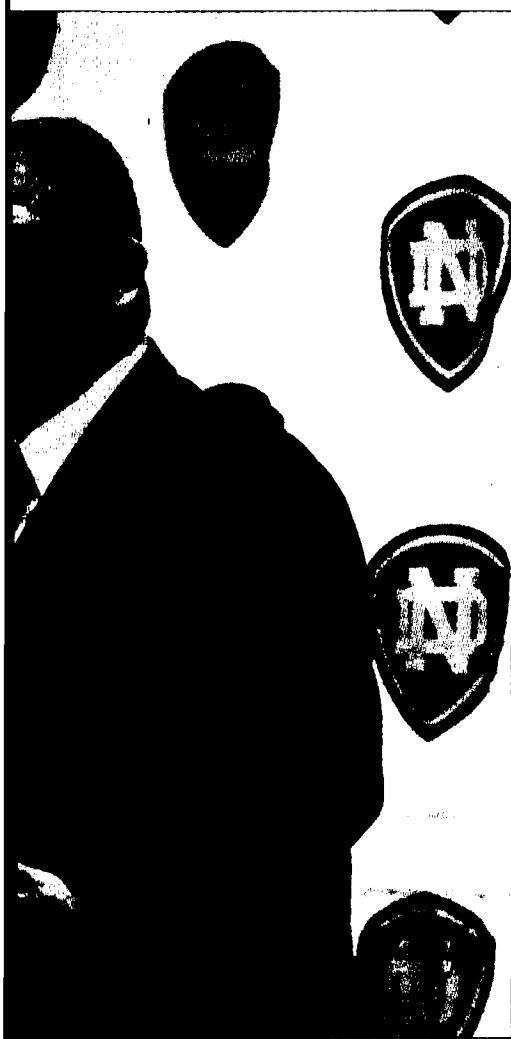
1985-88 Starting as a defensive graduate assistant, Weis coaches for four years at the University of South Carolina as an assistant recruiting coordinator during his last season.

1989 After South Carolina head coach Joe Morrison dies in February 1989, Weis returns to high school, this time as a head coach leading Franklin Township (N.J.) High School to a state title.

1990-92 Getting the job at Notre Dame after Bill Parcells leaves the Giants, Weis becomes the head coach of the Irish, leading them to a national championship in 1992.

d football

of leading Notre Dame back to the top of college football



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

head football coach at Notre Dame on Joyce Center.

is one of the things that makes the coach special.

"He's a football geek," Bavaro said. "The guy loves football, much more than I do, and you really have to study the game. And a guy who loves football, that's what he thrives on, especially a guy like Charlie, for some reason, he has an affection for it. Most guys don't put that effort into it; they just try to get away with the bare minimum. He keeps delving deeper and deeper looking for different ways — he's never satisfied, that's for sure, he's always coming up with something."

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coach

Weis said each step along the way he learned more and more about the game of football, one that he had coached for 20 years at that point.

"I didn't always know more football than [Bavaro]," Weis said. "When I first started coaching high school I thought I knew everything about football, and I was humbled by how much Chironna knew. Then I went to South Carolina, I had been coaching high school for a while, thought I knew a lot and was humbled by what Morrison knew. Then when I went to the Giants, I was doubly humbled by Parcels."

"You keep on getting humbled. So even though you're growing, you realize the guys you're working for know a lot more about the game than you do, and I think they were all good teachers. They would teach me and bring me along, and finally get you to a stage where you can stand on your own

two feet."

Weis reached that stage as the Patriots' offensive coordinator from 2000 to 2004.

"I think he is an absolute brilliant game planner," former Patriots fullback and 1997 Notre Dame graduate Marc Edwards said. "It changed from week to week what we did, what we did well, but he always had an answer for what the defense would do."

Weis won three Super Bowl rings with the Patriots, engineering an innovative and unpredictable offense, while earning the respect of his players and players all around the NFL.

"He's very confident in what he's doing, and he knows he's good," Edwards said. "And that definitely shows in what he does."

Developing a talent

Outside of his offensive schemes, Weis was known for something else — the development of Tom Brady from a sixth round draft pick out of Michigan to a two-time Super Bowl Most Valuable Player.

"I think that Charlie has had a significant role in Tom's development and overall strategy and some fundamentals and techniques and just game management," Belichick said in a press conference before the Super Bowl.

Under the tutelage of Weis, Brady was a two-time Pro Bowl selection and won numerous player of the year awards. He is the first quarterback to start and win three Super Bowls before the age of 28.

"He sets the tone for every meeting, every practice, and he has since the day I got here," Brady said before the Super Bowl.

But with Brady and Weis it wasn't always just about football.

A close call

In 2002, Weis weighed more than 300 pounds — a weight he knew was a problem, especially since his father died at 56 due to a second heart attack. So that June, Weis decided to have gastric bypass surgery to help him control his weight and his life.

"I was on a yo-yo diet for about 15 years, where I would yo-yo over 300 pounds, under 300 pounds, over 300 pounds," Weis said. "At the time I had the gastric bypass, I was well over 300 pounds, and I felt that I was headed toward a heart attack."

Weis said he owed it to his family to stay alive as long as he could, and he thought the surgery was the only way to do so, even though his family was vehemently opposed.

"To all my little victories in life and my circles of successes in life, I had reached a frustration point where I just didn't think the yo-yo diet was the way continue to live a long life," Weis said.

However, complications from the surgery arose, and what was supposed to be an overnight stay in the hospital turned into much worse, as Weis suffered internal bleeding from the surgery and was in a coma for two weeks.

That's when Tom Brady came into Weis' family, and became what Weis called him last week — his "second son."

"He was coming Saturday morning just so he didn't have to listen to me get on him for not coming to see me," Weis said. "But when he got there I was in intensive care in bad shape. So what he did, he actually for the next 48 hours hung out with my wife, because it was touch-and-go the whole time, until reinforcements could get in to help out because the last thing we expected was something bad happening."

For Charlie's wife, Maura, it was tough to see her husband suffer.

"It was a really hard period," she said. "Especially because he's such a strong individual — he's one of the strongest people I know, physically and mentally really tough.

We talk all the time. So it was really weird not to hear his voice for over two weeks. And I knew that if anyone could get through it, it would be my husband, and he did."

The importance of family

When Kevin White sat down with Charlie Weis in December, he saw that family was a priority. In fact, it was one of the things that made White think Weis would be a good fit at Notre Dame.

"Charlie is very family-oriented, as much so as anyone I've met in all my years around college athletics within the coaching profession," White said. "And I found that very appealing for a place like Notre Dame."

So Weis was contacted once again by Notre Dame, and he talked to several committees who interviewed him. After that, Notre Dame called him back to offer him the job.

"His track record of success is second to nobody's," White said. "Everywhere he's been, Charlie Weis has been highly successful."

And so now Weis, 49, brings his family — wife Maura, a son Charlie who will be entering the seventh grade, and a special needs daughter, Hannah — to the Notre Dame family.

"It's a really exciting time for us, and it's great," Maura Weis said. "It's everything we ever thought it would be."

And Weis is happy because his family is happy.

"Probably one of the reasons Notre Dame was such a good fit for me," he said, "is because I love my family so much."

Back where he started

It's been 27 years since Charlie Weis sat in the student section waiting for warm-ups to start. Now he is the one running the

show.

"I think it's somewhat inspiring to go back to the place where you went to school and you lived and have the opportunity to get Notre Dame back to the top," Weis said. "Now whether that matriculates or not, there's never any guarantee, but that's what the intent is."

Despite only having been the full-time Irish coach for a few months, Weis has his players excited about the future of Notre Dame football.

"He's real intense," safety Tom Zbikowski said. "I love the way he coaches — just making sure you're doing things right, and perfecting everything. He's a perfectionist, and that's the way you gotta play football."

Irish players and assistant coaches have already seen what he can do this

spring, and are learning exactly why he has the reputation he does.

"To go against him and some of the things he likes to do, you can see where he's got that label [of an offensive genius]," defensive line coach Jappy Oliver said. "He keeps you on your toes. It's hard to get a beat on Coach Weis, which is great on our side because we feel after going against him that he's going to be hard to stop."

And if Weis has it the way he wants, he won't be stopped anytime soon.

"I would really like to be here at least 10 years," Weis said. "And sometime after Charlie graduates [from Notre Dame], I'll be ready to ride into the sunset. But I'm hoping that by the time I leave, the Notre Dame fans, the alum, anyone who has a positive light on Notre Dame will be able to look at me and say we're glad we hired that guy."

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CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

A bigger priority than football to Charlie Weis is his family: his wife Maura, right, his son Charlie, left, and his daughter Hannah.

a break from coach Bill
s, Weis spends three years
e New York Giants — one
ensive assistant and
nt special teams coach
o coaching running backs.

1993-96 Weis moves with Parcels to the New England Patriots, where he gains more experience on offense, coaching tight ends, running backs and wide receivers.

1997-99 Staying with Parcels, Weis goes to the New York Jets and eventually gets his first professional coordinator job in 1998.

2000-05 Weis follows Bill Belichick to New England and runs the offense for five seasons, eventually gaining attention for developing future two-time Super Bowl MVP Tom Brady.

Coaching staff has varying

Western Pa. native always has been fond of the Irish

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

He may not have attended Notre Dame, but John Latina has always had a special place for the school in his heart.

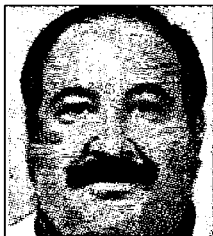
The offensive line coach is a native of western Pennsylvania and grew up surrounded by everything Irish.

"I grew up in western Pennsylvania, an hour north of Pittsburgh, big Notre Dame fan base," he said. "Growing up as a kid, it's one of those schools that you're just enamored with — I loved it. It's been deep-rooted."

Latina graduated from Virginia Tech in 1981, where he started for four years on the offensive line. After he graduated, he joined the coaching staff there and also spent a year as an assistant at Pittsburgh before being named offensive line coach at Temple.

In 1989, Latina joined the staff at Kansas State as the offensive line coach. He also worked as the running game coordinator, but left in 1994 to work with Clemson.

Latina's last six years were spent at Ole Miss, where he worked under then-head coach David Cutcliffe. Cutcliffe was



Latina

named the assistant head coach for offense and the quarterbacks coach on coach Charlie Weis' staff at Notre Dame.

The off-season and transition to life at Notre Dame has been a busy time for Latina and his new co-workers.

"It's been fun," Latina said. "Anytime you go into a new place, new environment, there's a lot of things you have to do, it's been long hours but it's been fun too. It's been a great experience."

Aside from getting to know the players, Latina has had a chance to build relationships with other staff members.

"Coaching is somewhat of a fraternity," he said. "I obviously knew David Cutcliffe and worked for him but I didn't know the rest of the staff. But everybody on our staff, I know people who know them very well. Great friends of mine have worked with Bernie Parmalee or Rick Minter or so forth. So you have a tendency to gel as a staff a lot quicker than people think."

With a new staff in place and a number of veterans returning on the offensive line, Latina is ready to rebuild the Irish football program with Weis.

"[Given his] expertise and what he's accomplished in his career as an offensive coordinator, I was excited about learning that offense and about being a part of a new beginning at Notre Dame," Latina said.

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QB expert coached Mannings to No. 1 pick

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

Having Charlie Weis as a head coach already has given Irish quarterback Brady Quinn a noticeable advantage in understanding the signal-caller position and the team's new offense.

So Quinn can only imagine what David Cutcliffe will add.

Cutcliffe, Notre Dame's new assistant head coach of offense and quarterbacks coach, is currently recovering from a March 9 triple-bypass surgery to remove blockage revealed in a routine stress exam. In the meantime, Weis is keeping Cutcliffe updated on the progress this spring.



Cutcliffe

"We send him tapes [of practice] from each week that he gets to watch because it kind of keeps him in the mix," Weis said. "Rather than him feeling like he's not part of it, it makes him feel like he's part of it."

Once Cutcliffe fully recovers, he will return to South Bend from his home in Mississippi to provide expertise in the position that will prove vital to the success of Notre Dame's season come the fall of 2005.

A head coach for six seasons at the University of Mississippi (1999-2004), Cutcliffe guided the Rebels to a 44-29 record.

Prior to his stint with the Rebels, Cutcliffe spent 17 seasons on the Tennessee staff, beginning a trend of developing high quality college-level talent into NFL-caliber players.

Cutcliffe has coached eight players who became first-round NFL draft picks, including Ole Miss quarterback Eli Manning (New York Giants) and Ole Miss running back Deuce McAllister

(New Orleans Saints).

At Tennessee, Cutcliffe was the mentor when Eli's brother Peyton Manning set 42 records and became the SEC's all-time leading passer. Cutcliffe also coached future NFL quarterbacks Tee Martin and Heath Shuler. As offensive coordinator at Tennessee from 1993-98, Cutcliffe's unit led the SEC in offense three times.

Weis spoke with Cutcliffe Tuesday morning and said the assistant coach was in good spirits.

"His workouts — his rehabs — have now been extended," Weis said. "Each thing that was one minute at one time is now five to ten minutes, and he felt good that his stamina has been much better. And he said he's ... felt better now for over a week."

Cutcliffe could not be reached for comment.

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Haywood returns to learn offense from Weis

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

Michael Haywood didn't know if he should take the job. He was the running backs coach and recruiting coordinator at Texas, working for a program that was 21-4 during the past two seasons and boasting some of the finest facilities in the nation.

So when Charlie Weis offered him the position of offensive coordinator and running backs coach at Notre Dame, Haywood phoned Kevin Faulk — a New England Patriots running back who Haywood had coached at LSU — for advice.

"He told me you couldn't learn to be an offensive coordinator under a better guy," Haywood, a former Irish defensive back, said.



Haywood

"From the quality of person [Weis] is, from the family man he is, from the quality of coach he is ... [Faulk said] I think you should go and take the job."

Haywood listened to the advice, deciding to pack his bags and move back to South Bend.

He lettered at flanker during his freshman year at Notre Dame in 1982 and suited up for 13 starts at cornerback from 1984-86. He started his coaching career as a graduate assistant at Minnesota in 1988. Haywood then made short stints at Army, Ohio State and Ball State before landing a job as running backs coach at LSU in 1995.

Haywood was a senior at Notre Dame in 1986, preparing for a game in the locker room against Alabama, when then-Irish coach Lou Holtz led Haywood and his teammates through a pre-game mental exercise.

"[Holtz] had us go through this whole visualization," Haywood said. "During that I drove to a school, I went to a stadium and I

was getting out of my car in a coat and tie with a briefcase in my hand. At the end of the day, I was standing behind a desk with a T-shirt and a whistle and a pair of shorts."

When he opened his eyes he had tears rolling down his face.

"That was when I first thought I wanted to coach," Haywood said.

That game against Alabama turned out to be the last game he would ever play, as he blew out his knee during the 28-10 loss to the then-No. 2 Crimson Tide.

On Sept. 3, Haywood will lead the Irish against Pittsburgh — almost 19 years to the day he decided to become a football coach. For him, the chance is literally a dream come true.

"When the opportunity came, I felt like it was time for me to come back home," Haywood said. "What a great opportunity to bring back the glory days at the University of Notre Dame."

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Oliver leaves South Carolina, is now 'starting from scratch'

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

After losing star defensive end Justin Tuck, the Irish will need something special on the defensive line this year.

Luckily, coach Jerome "Jappy" Oliver, a Michigan native, has returned to the Midwest after a stint under Lou Holtz at South Carolina to work with Victor Abiamiri and the rest of the Irish linemen.

"Notre Dame picked me," the 1978 Purdue graduate and former Boilermaker wide receiver said. "It's just a great opportunity to have the chance."

This fall, Oliver was in his second year with Holtz at South Carolina as the defensive line coach.

"I get a call from Coach Weis and it took me totally by surprise, it really did," Oliver said. "So obviously he did a little homework on myself and some of the other coaches and thought I would be a good fit here."

"And with my background, the places I've been ... they kind of chose me. It was a blessing."

Oliver began his coaching career in 1978 at Davidson



Oliver

(Mich.) High School, where he worked with the defensive line and wide receivers.

He then worked as an assistant at Purdue, Eastern Michigan, Navy, Northeastern, Grand Valley State, Western Illinois and Vanderbilt before settling at the Air Force Academy from 1995-2002.

In 2003, he began working with the Gamecocks, who finished 6-5 last season. He began a new era with Notre Dame this winter, working to transition the football program and prepare for a difficult fall schedule.

"Everything's been challenging because you're talking about a new staff, new organization," he said. "Just implementing Coach [Weis'] procedures, how he wants to go about handling recruiting, the weight program, just getting ready for spring ... it's been a challenge."

Though Oliver watched some old film to get a feel for his new players, he plans to focus on the future.

Abiamiri will return for the Irish next year, but there is the difficult task of adjusting the players to new coaching styles and dealing with the loss of ends Tuck and Kyle Budinscak.

"We've really been starting from scratch — everything's been a challenge," Oliver said. "That challenge, I can see, will continue throughout the spring and throughout the summer."

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Parmalee's playing career influences style

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

Bernie Parmalee earned a spot on the Miami Dolphins roster in 1992 as an undrafted running back out of Ball State. Nine years later he retired with 1,959 rushing yards and 1,306 receiving yards under his belt. So when the Notre Dame tight ends coach talks to his players, they can't help but listen.

"His experience helps us so much because he knows what we're going through as players," Irish tight end John Carlson said. "He doesn't see things just as a coach but he sees things through a player's perspective."

Finishing his professional playing days in 2001, Parmalee



Parmalee

spent the next three years as an assistant coach with the Dolphins. He served as assistant special teams coach in 2002 and 2003 then moved up to tight ends coach in 2004 before being hired by Notre Dame.

During his time with Miami, Parmalee worked alongside current Irish defensive backs coach Bill Lewis. He also played under Notre Dame defensive coordinator Rick Minter when Minter held the same position while Parmalee played at Ball State.

Parmalee is pleased to make the move to college football with a couple recognizable faces.

"It's always good to have guys you're familiar with," Parmalee said.

But he is quick to point out that Irish players will not listen to him and his fellow coaches only because of their professional credentials.

"A guy is going to respect you if you know what you're talking about," Parmalee said. "It doesn't matter if I came from the

pros or not. They're just going to look at if you're a credible person and if they're going to believe what you're saying."

As he embarks on his first season around college football since he left Ball State as the school's all-time leading rusher in 1990, Parmalee noted the main difference he sees between the college and pro games.

"[The biggest difference is] time constraints," he said. "In the pros you can be with the guys every day for long periods of time. You have lots of 'hands on' time. But in college you have the 20-hour rule and you have to meet all the guidelines."

Despite the restrictions placed on his time, Parmalee is thankful for the opportunity to coach at a college like Notre Dame.

"It's a great school," he said. "It's rich in tradition, everyone knows about it and it's a great opportunity to be a part of something special."

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experiences, paths to South Bend

Former Irish defensive coordinator under Holtz returns to same post

By ERIC RETTER
Sports Writer

Like his boss, Rick Minter already knows his way around town.

In a much less publicized homecoming than that of head coach Charlie Weis, Notre Dame's new defensive coordinator and linebackers' coach comes to South Bend as a returning member of the Irish community, having served as the defensive coordinator under Lou Holtz in 1992-93, years when the Irish won back-to-back Cotton Bowls and finished ranked No. 4 and No. 2, respectively.

When Weis offered him a job shortly after being hired this winter, Minter took the opportunity to come back to what he saw as a unique environment.

"When I was here 11 years ago, Notre Dame was a special place, and it's a great place to work," Minter said. "It's the quality of life, quality of people, and it's a fantastic university and an atmosphere I like to be in."

Without a doubt, Minter's return is also due in large part to Weis's influence and the optimism following his hiring.

"It's fun to be around a guy who's kind of known as this offensive guy," he said.

Minter served as the defensive coordinator and linebackers' coach at South Carolina — again under Holtz — and before that, he was the head coach at Cincinnati from 1994-2003, where he led the Bearcats to



Minter

four bowl game appearances, including the 1997 Humanitarian Bowl championship.

Certainly, Minter's decade of head coaching experience has helped him grow as a coach.

"When you're a head coach for ten years, all the decisions primarily rest on your shoulders, so you know how to make choices, make decisions and have to live by them and stand by them, but you also learn by having been around so many fine assistant coaches through the years as I was around as the head coach," Minter said. "I've learned a lot from a lot of other people since I've been here about how to do certain things."

In the same way, that experience has helped him grow as a mentor and a leader outside of football to the young men with whom he works.

"Relationships in sports are all about trust, showing trust in players and believing in the players, aiding them in any way possible for them to believe in themselves," Minter said. "I think I have sat in front of so many young men in the last 10 years in the head coach's chair from a problem solving viewpoint that I'm very sensitive to players' individual needs."

Ultimately, Minter's experience — both as a coach and as a member of the Notre Dame community — should help him maximize his impact on his players, both on and off the field.

"I know what a Notre Dame kid has to go through to be successful and the demands placed on his time here, both in academics and physically on the field," Minter said. "You really admire the guys who choose to come here and make this a part of their life."

"I know what a Notre Dame kid has to go through to be successful and the demands placed on his time here, both in academics and physically on the field," Minter said. "You really admire the guys who choose to come here and make this a part of their life."

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Ianello leaves Alvarez in Wisconsin to turn around Notre Dame recruiting

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

Rob Ianello came to Notre Dame with one heck of a pedigree.

Joining the Irish as the wide receivers coach and the recruiting coordinator for the start of the 2005 season, Ianello has already worked with an established coach in Wisconsin's Barry Alvarez.

Ianello spent the last two seasons with the Badgers, coaching tight ends under Alvarez — the winningest football coach in Wisconsin history.

"My time with Coach Alvarez was great, it was a great background for me," Ianello said. "[Working with Alvarez] enlightened me to some things about coming to Notre Dame prior to myself coming here."

Just a few months into his new job, Ianello has already expressed how much he enjoys working with Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis.

"It's been a very valuable experience," Ianello said. "It has been very positive."

It was difficult for Ianello to compare the two coaches, as both have unique ways of running a team.

"Everybody has their own way of doing things," he said. "Both guys have had incredible success [in doing things] their way, and we'll have that kind of success here."

Last season, Ianello helped the Badgers



Ianello

to a 9-3 record and an appearance in the Outback Bowl.

The Irish could use that type of success following two subpar years under Tyrone Willingham.

Before joining Wisconsin, Ianello spent six seasons as wide receivers coach at Arizona.

Ianello expects much out of a talented group of Irish receivers including Rhema McKnight, Maurice Stovall, Matt Shelton and Jeff Samardzija.

With the maturation of Brady Quinn under Weis, those expectations might not be hard to fulfill.

"As a group, I'm really pleased [with] where we are mentally," Ianello said. "We are learning what to do. Now the next step is learning how to do it."

McKnight led the Irish in 2004 with 42 receptions for 610 yards and two touchdowns. Shelton, coming off an ACL injury, was second on the team with 20 receptions for 515 yards and six scores.

Ianello spoke about improvement he's seen this spring.

"We have a veteran group, when you have a veteran group of guys that have played a lot then there are some things that hopefully come naturally," he said.

Notre Dame fans will have the opportunity to see how well the receivers are coming along under Ianello Saturday at the Blue-Gold game.

And if the coach's success at Wisconsin is any indicator of what is to come for Notre Dame, the Irish have a bright future.

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Former Georgia Tech head coach and Dolphins assistant always respected ND

By MATT PUGLISI
Associate Sports Editor

For assistant defensive head coach and defensive backs coach Bill Lewis, the decision to return to college football after nine years as a defensive backs coach with the Miami Dolphins was a no-brainer.

"[There are] two reasons why I came back," Lewis said. "One was coach [Charlie] Weis. The second reason was Notre Dame. I was 32 years in college coaching, and Notre Dame was always one of the few programs that I just had a tremendous amount of respect for."

"The combination of Charlie calling me and asking me if I was interested in Notre Dame — it was a very easy decision for me to make."

It wasn't just the three Super Bowl rings on Weis' fingers that lured Lewis away from the NFL.

"Number one is I think he is a caring person," Lewis said. "Coach Weis cares about people. That's important for me to know that I'm working for a man that cares about the people that he's surrounded by — players and coaches."

After graduating from East Stroudsburg State in 1963, Lewis wasted little time beginning his lengthy coaching career, immediately signing on as quarterbacks, receivers and secondary coach at his alma mater.

He held assistant positions at Pittsburgh, Georgia Tech, Wake Forest and Arkansas before getting hired as head coach at Wyoming in 1977. Lewis



Lewis

went on to be head coach at East Carolina, where he was named national coach of the year in 1991, and Georgia Tech. Prior to going to East Carolina, Lewis was the defensive coordinator at Georgia from 1981-1988.

While Weis and Lewis first met during Lewis' stint with Georgia — Weis was coaching at South Carolina at the time — it wasn't until Weis' New England Patriots and Lewis' Dolphins were regularly locking horns in the AFC East that the two coaches became more familiar with each other.

"[The relationship] came over the last nine years," Lewis said. "Both of us were in the AFC East, and we competed against each other a minimum of two times a year. We developed a friendship as competing coaches, and I developed a tremendous admiration and respect for Charlie because of the offenses we had to line up against and attempt to stop."

While the past 39 years have brought Lewis a wealth of experience and praise, he points not to rings or trophies as his most significant career accomplishments, but instead to the relationships he's cultivated.

"I think that the thing I pride myself in the most is having players that I've worked with come back and thank me for having worked with them," Lewis said. "Most of that has come from college players that have gone on into other careers in football and beyond football. ... to have them come back and thank you and see them going on to better careers and being successful."

If the past is any indication, don't be surprised if quite a few current Notre Dame players pay Lewis a visit after their playing days are done.

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Staff's youngest member brings experience from Central Florida

By MATT PUGLISI
Associate Sports Editor

Contrary to popular belief, ESPN isn't the only employer offering a "dream job."

Just ask Notre Dame assistant defensive backs and special teams coach Brian Polian.

"I'm an Irish Catholic from New York, so this is pretty much the dream job," Polian said. "The chance to work with Coach Weis and this staff was really exciting to me, and I knew I was going to come here and learn from some of the best in the business."

And, believe it or not, location was actually a positive in Polian's decision to leave his position as running backs coach and recruiting coordinator for Central Florida to try his hand at rebuilding a much-maligned Irish special teams unit.

"My family's in Indianapolis," Polian said. "It was a chance to move back to where my family is — a place I'm comfortable with. I was living in Florida when I took this job, and I'm too chubby and too pasty to be living where it's sunny and hot."

For Polian, the rush associated with rebuilding a program as part of a new coaching staff is old hat.

"This is the second year that I've been on the front end of a new staff where it's not a normal off-season," Polian said. "You're at a dead sprint in recruiting, and



Polian

the minute recruiting ends, everybody's focus is 'What are we going to be on offense? What are we going to be on defense?' Specifically for me, 'What are we going to be in the kicking game?'"

Prior to working at Central Florida, Polian spent three years as running backs coach and special teams coordinator with Buffalo (2001-03).

The 1997 John Carroll University graduate is certainly no stranger to the gridiron, racking up a trio of letters with the Division III Blue Streaks and earning a spot on the all-Ohio Athletic Conference squad in 1996. Graduating with a history degree, Polian wasted little time starting his coaching career, joining Michigan State as an offensive graduate assistant in 1997.

Polian switched to the defensive side of the ball and gained his first taste of special teams coaching two years later with Baylor, where he worked as a defensive graduate assistant and special teams assistant from 1999-2000. While Polian and his fellow coaching staff members are only finishing up their first spring with the Irish, Polian couldn't be happier with his choice to don blue and gold on fall Saturdays.

"I have absolutely no complaints," Polian said. "For the most part, this is a self-motivated, low maintenance group. It's great, because I've been in places where they're not self-motivated and they're low-maintenance."

"I like the mentality we've seen so far in the off-season. I think we've been working hard and want to get after it."

They'll soon have their chance.

CONNECT THE COACHES

Notre Dame's new coaching staff ties together through both the collegiate and professional ranks of football.



Charlie Weis
Head Coach

Coached with New England Patriots and New York Jets (against Lewis and Parmalee in both instances) and with New York Giants.



Bill Lewis
Asst. Head Coach (Defense)/Def. Backs
Nickel package coach with Dolphins (against Weis, who was in New England and New York, and with Parmalee).



Bernie Parmalee
Tight Ends & Special Teams Coach
Coached alongside Lewis in Miami as assistant special teams, offensive assistant and tight ends coach in three seasons (2002-2004). Also played at Ball State when Minter was the team's defensive coordinator.



David Cutcliffe
Asst. Head Coach (Offense)/Quarterbacks
Head coach at Ole Miss from 1998-2004. While Weis made Tom Brady a star quarterback in the NFL, Cutcliffe is known for pumping out quarterback talent from college, including Peyton Manning, Heath Shuler and Tee Martin at Tennessee and Eli Manning at Ole Miss.



Rick Minter
Defensive Coordinator & Linebackers
Ball State defensive coordinator while Parmalee played there. Two-year defensive coordinator at Notre Dame (92-93). Defensive coordinator under Lou Holtz at South Carolina in 2004, with Oliver as defensive line coach.



John Latina
Offensive Line Coach
Offensive line coach all six seasons with Cutcliffe at Ole Miss; offensive coordinator the past five years.



Jappy Oliver
Defensive Line Coach
Defensive line coach at South Carolina under Lou Holtz last season with Minter as defensive coordinator.



Michael Haywood
Offensive Coordinator & Running Backs
Four-year football letterwinner at Notre Dame (1982, 84-86).



Rob Ianello
Receivers Coach & Recruiting Coordinator
Regarded as one of the top recruiters in the country, Ianello was on-campus recruiting coordinator and recruiting coordinator for two seasons each under Wisconsin head coach Barry Alvarez, who was Notre Dame linebackers coach (1987), defensive coordinator (1988) and assistant head coach (1988).



Brian Polian
Asst. Defensive Backs & Special Teams
The son of Indianapolis Colts president Bill Polian, Brian was the running backs coach and recruiting coordinator in 2004 at the University of Central Florida. He brings recruiting experience from yet another area of the country.