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Six parked cars hit at Castle Point

Early morning accident involves at least three Notre Dame, Saint Mary's students

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

A man driving a Lincoln truck hit at least six cars parked in a lot in the Enchanted Forest section of Castle Point Apartments early Sunday morning, residents said.

St. Joseph County spokesperson Jaimee Thirion did not return Observer phone calls Sunday, so the exact count of damaged cars is unknown. At least three of the cars belonged to Notre Dame or Saint Mary's students. Another belonged to Rachel Davis, 26, a Castle Point resident who witnessed the accident.

Davis said she woke up between 4:20 a.m. and 4:30 to the sound of the truck crashing into her car and five others.

"He hit my car first, then he hit the back of the car next to me — a Jeep — and then he hit the other girl's car and pushed it forward," Davis said. "Then he hit another car on the side and pushed that car into two other cars."

Davis said she could not estimate the extent of the damage, but said "nobody was driving any of them today."

The car came down the street through Enchanted Forest and did not turn at the curve in the road, but just kept going straight, she said.

It only took about two minutes for police to arrive after Davis called them, she said. A security guard for Castle Point was also



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Several parked cars belonging to ND and SMC students were damaged Sunday morning at Castle Point Apartments.

see CARS/page 6

Inmate's execution stayed

NDASK cancels trip to Indiana prison

By EILEEN DUFFY
Assistant News Editor

Following the Indiana Supreme Court's decision Wednesday morning to put a stay on Norman Timberlake's Friday execution, Notre Dame Against State Killing (NDASK) cancelled the vigil it had planned to hold concurrently outside his prison in Michigan City.

Timberlake, 59, shot and killed Indiana State Trooper Michael Greene in 1993. He was sentenced to death in 1995, and when the state parole board unanimously denied his final appeal for clemency Tuesday, his execution by lethal injection was slated for early Friday morning.

While Timberlake suffers from paranoia and schizophrenia — including continuous auditory hallucinations — he is still eligible for capital punishment because, according to psychiatrists, he understands that he is going to be executed and why.

The Indiana Supreme Court ordered the stay on Timberlake's execution, however, because the U.S. Supreme Court is reviewing the Texas case of death row inmate Scott

see PENALTY/page 4

ND alumni embrace challenges in Africa

Recent grads live and teach in Uganda, raise awareness of country's social, economic problems

By MARCELA BERRIOS
News Writer

As a primary school teacher in Uganda, Matt Young had to quickly learn how to fight away the snakes and tailor his syllabus to fit the needs of his students — even if it included teaching children how to empty pit latrines and avoid contracting malaria.

"Many of the things I teach these kids would never be on a syllabus in the [United] States,"

said Young, who graduated from Notre Dame last spring. "In science class for instance, I teach how to tend to cattle, goats and chickens."

"Other topics are how to avoid getting tapeworms ... and different methods to prevent malaria and AIDS."

Young and fellow 2006 alumnus Clay Allison recently met with University President Father John Jenkins and other Notre Dame representatives during the group's weeklong trip to Uganda. Both work at

the African St. Jude Primary School and Lakeview Secondary School.

The Observer was unable to contact Allison, however, as he was recovering from a bout of malaria.

Before Young graduated, he thought his teaching career would involve lessons about multiplication and grammar, not battling mosquitoes and bats in the classroom. But while certain lessons "aren't very exciting," he said, "they are quite relevant for these

kids" — children who spend afternoons caring for siblings and their family's livestock and crops.

When teaching children who cannot afford pencils, Young said every lesson becomes "a slow and tedious process."

"There are many other obstacles to learning that are quite unique here also," Young said. "During the rainy seasons, it gets too muddy for many of the kids to walk to

see UGANDA/page 4

SMC reflects on history, tradition

Heritage Week allows community to experience the College's past

By KATIE KOHLER
News Writer

With over 150 years of history and tradition, the Saint Mary's College community has a lot to celebrate during the second annual Heritage Week.

Students, faculty and staff will commemorate the College's heritage through a week long series of movies, speeches and closing dinner on Friday.

McIllduff decided to continue the event, which was created by her predecessor Student Body President Kellye Mitros, due to its prior success and student response.

"I included Heritage Week on my vice presidential platform last year," McIllduff said.

"Because of last year's

see COLLEGE/page 4



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Saint Mary's students gather at the 2006 Heritage Week closing dinner in Stapleton Lounge.

ND, SMC welcome 36 transfer students

By JOHN PAUL WITT
News Writer

By second semester most students have become familiar with life in the Notre Dame- Saint Mary's community, but for others life under the golden dome is a whole new experience.

Notre Dame welcomed 25 transfer students and Saint Mary's enrolled 11 — numbers that were on par with the institutions' transfer expectations, College and University officials said.

Notre Dame Associate Director of Admissions Susan Joyce calls "in line with the University enrollment goal of about 125 fall and 25 spring transfers each year."

Unlike the freshman admissions process, transfer students at both institutions must meet certain criteria to be admitted.

Students must attain at least a 3.00 GPA in college courses, and Notre Dame transfers must attend another institution for at least a full year. And unlike Saint Mary's, Notre Dame does not accept transfers into the First Year of Studies.

Notre Dame students transferred directly into the Colleges of Arts and Letters, Science, or Engineering, Joyce said. Due to enrollment limitations, the University does not admit transfer students to the Mendoza College of Business, and the School of Architecture has not admitted transfer students in "several years" because of limitations imposed by the architecture program's required year in Rome, she said.

Students were also challenged to find seats in classes at Notre Dame.

"So many classes are closed

see TRANSFERS/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

Terrific 20

Everyone knows the important birthdays: 13, 16, 18, 21 and 40. When you turn 13 you are finally a teenager. You don't get that same feeling of rebellion when you see a PG-13 movie because you are at the very age that the movies are rated for.

Liz Harter

Turning 16 is a big milestone. There is a lot of new freedom that comes with turning 16. You can finally drive!

News Writer

More freedoms come your way at 18. When you turn 18 you are a legal adult. You can vote and generally you will graduate from high school and head off to college at the age of 18.

Turning 21 is the biggest milestone year in a college student's life for the most obvious reasons, and as soon as you hit 40 you are 'over the hill.'

Every other age seems to get the shaft.

There are no MTV shows celebrating turning 14, 17, 20 or any other age except for the 'Super Sweet Sixteen.'

Your 20th birthday is actually a pretty big deal even if you don't realize it.

You are no longer a teenager and even though there are no new freedoms that come with turning 20. You're already able to drive and vote. Hopefully, since you are reading this in a college publication, you are already in college, and you are that much closer to being a full-fledged adult.

As I began my 20th year this past week, I started out with the belief that 20 is unimportant. I can no longer use the excuse that I'm just a teenager to try to get out of responsibilities (even though that hardly ever worked anyway) and there isn't as much importance placed on this year as there will be on my 21st birthday.

By this morning, my views on turning 20 changed completely.

I have found the most amazing friends over these past 20 years who left me so many messages on Facebook the day of my birthday that my inbox was full of notices.

I also found my best friends, who threw a surprise party for me on Friday night so that we could celebrate here at school (my birthday was the last week of break, which by the way are the worst kind to have because you don't get to see your friends. Other days of birth like that happening this year occur on March 10 and 11, and for anyone who is Irish enough to have been born on Saint Patrick's Day).

So 20 should really get more credit as a birthday.

Just surround yourself with friends and they will make sure your birthday is one to remember, even if it isn't one of the milestone birthdays. (To be completely sappy: Thanks guys!)

Contact Liz Harter at eharte01@saintmarys.edu

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

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHO DO YOU THINK WILL WIN THE SUPER BOWL?



Anthony Ashley sophomore Keough



Charlie Spear freshman Keough



Dorian Mirczhandani sophomore Keough



Sara Medek junior Welsh Family



Marcia McDonnell junior Holy Cross



Mike Williams freshman Keough

"I'm gonna go with the Bears because of the hilarity which would ensue if they won."

"Both teams because we're all winners."

"Well not the Saints that's for sure."

"The Bears, because Peyton Manning is going to choke."

"The Bears, because of Sexy Remy."

"The Bears, because I hate the Colts."



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Justin Spencer, the lead drummer in "Recycled Percussion" performs at Saint Mary's O'Laughlin Auditorium Sunday. Spencer holds the world record for fastest single stick drumming at 21 beats per second. The concert kicked off the College's Heritage Week events.

OFFBEAT

Shot duck survives two days in fridge

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Neither gunfire nor two days in a refrigerator could slay this duck.

When the wife of the hunter who shot it opened the refrigerator door, the duck lifted its head, giving her a scare.

The man's wife "was going to check on the refrigerator because it hadn't been working right and when she opened the door, it looked up at her," said Laina Whipple, a receptionist at Killearn Animal Hospital. "She freaked out and told the daughter to

take it to the hospital right then and there."

The 1-pound female ring-neck ended up at Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, where it has been treated since Tuesday for wounds to its wing and leg.

English language tutors selling sex appeal

HONG KONG — Angela Yiu and Stella Cheng spent weeks meeting with fashion stylists and photographers before deciding on the mini skirts and high heels to wear in their promotion campaign. They're not models peddling perfume or sports cars. They're English tutors who earn good money help-

ing secondary school students pass Hong Kong's grueling exams to get into college.

"Their long legs are the most beautiful ones in the tutorial industry," said Ken Ng, head of Modern Education, one of the city's biggest tutoring businesses. "This is our selling point."

Attractive teachers are marketed like movie stars. Their schools show them off on billboards, full-page newspaper ads and TV screens in railway stations and on buses.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Mendoza College of Business is hosting the Heritage Leadership Institute program beginning today in Room 133 Mendoza, pre-registration is required.

Architect Donald MacDonald will deliver a lecture titled "In Detail: From Bridge Design to High-Density Housing" as part of the Toeniskoetter Family Lecture Series at 4:30 p.m. today in 104 Bond Hall, all are welcome to attend.

RecSports is sponsoring a blood drive Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Rolfs. Registration is required.

John French, associate professor of history at Duke University and Kellogg Institute Visiting Fellow, is speaking Tuesday at the Work in Progress Seminar: "Brazil's President as Working Class Raposa: Understanding Lula as Politician" from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Hesburgh Center Room C-103.

Wednesday is the last day to make changes to class schedules for the semester on InsideND.

The Academic Council Meeting is taking place Wednesday in the McKenna Hall auditorium from 3 to 5 p.m. Attendance is by invitation only.

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

Table with 6 columns (Today, Tonight, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) and 2 rows (High, Low) for local weather forecasts.

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Translated work wins award

Special to The Observer

"Jacques and Raïssa Maritain: Beggars for Heaven," a biography by Jean-Luc Barré, translated by Bernard E. Doering, professor emeritus of Romance languages and literatures at Notre Dame, and published by Notre Dame Press, has won two recent honors from the Catholic Press Association and the Association of American University Presses.

Jacques Maritain, born in 1882 to a French Protestant family, met Raïssa Oumansouff when they were both university students in Paris. Their subsequent love affair was sufficiently complex to include a mutual suicide pact revocable only

on condition of their discovery of the meaning of human life and existence. Providentially, the revocation was delivered through their attendance at the lectures of the French philosopher Henri Bergson, and the influence of their friendship with Léon Bloy, the novelist who famously said, "there is only one sadness in life: Not to be a saint." They married in 1904 and were received into the Catholic Church in 1906.

Maritain, who described his wife as "dimidium animae meae" ("half my soul"), went on to become one of the most influential Catholic philosophers of modern times, exemplifying the interweaving of religious belief and contemporary

intellectual and political culture. During the 1940s and 1950s he was a frequent visitor and lecturer at Notre Dame.

Doering, a member of the Notre Dame faculty since 1965, also is the author of another book about Maritain, "Jacques Maritain and the French Catholic Intellectuals," and editor of "The Philosopher and the Provocateur: The Correspondence of Jacques Maritain and Saul Alinski." In addition to translations of numerous articles and books by and about the Maritains, he has published articles in The Review of Politics, Commonweal, The New Oxford Review, Theological Studies and Communio, among other journals.

ND prof honored for writings

Special to The Observer

The Alliance of Artists Communities recently named poet Francisco Aragón a recipient of the Midwestern Voices and Visions award. A faculty member in the Institute for Latino Studies at Notre Dame, he was one of seven award recipients from a pool of 115 nominated artists and writers.

Funded by the Joyce

Foundation, the Midwestern Voices and Visions award acts as a patron for highly talented minority artists in the Great Lakes region. Aragón will spend September 2007 focusing exclusively on his writing at the residential artist community of the Anderson Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Red Wing, Minn.

"My work at the Institute for Latino Studies consists,

in large part, of being a champion and advocate of other Latino and Latina writers," Aragón said. "The demands of the job ... have made it very difficult to devote sustained, quality time to my own work. The timing of this award could not have been better. It's very gratifying to know that there are foundations and initiatives that support artists from under-represented communities."

College initiates transfer to upgraded e-mail service

Students, staff pleased with change

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

Saint Mary's will soon complete the transformation to the new Zimbra Collection Server — the College's primary calendar and messaging system.

Although Zmail was introduced during winter break, students are able to use the previous Aegis Webmail server until Jan. 30 — the posted deadline to switch to the new system.

"We are looking at keeping both systems up until everyone has gone through the conversion process, so, at this point, we are hoping for little downtime," Chief Information Officer Keith Fowlkes said.

The migration process consists of clicking a link on the @Home page and entering both the e-mail address and password of the account to be transferred.

As long as there are not multiple accounts in line to be transferred, Fowlkes said, the entire process takes five minutes or less.

As of Jan. 17, 801 members of the Saint Mary's community — including faculty, staff and clubs — had migrated to Zmail. Notices to complete the process will be sent to users closer to the Jan. 30 deadline, Fowlkes said.

"If students, faculty, or staff do not migrate by the deadline, no mail will be lost," Fowlkes said, "but the accounts may be suspended until the user migrates."

He said students, faculty and staff seem to be unaffected by the change in e-mail systems.

"I don't think we could have asked for a better transition so far," Fowlkes said. "The response from everyone has been great. The [new] interface is much better [than the Aegis system] and integrates shared calendars and address books."

Sophomore Lauren Mangiaforte switched systems early this week and did not experience problems.

"I enjoy the new e-mail," Mangiaforte said. "I worked with [a similar program] at work over the summer and it really helped me to stay organized."

While the migration process has been stress free so far, Fowlkes advises students to migrate during the College's Resnet support office hours in case they encounter a problem.

Information Technology is also providing online tutorials and live training sessions focused on the use of the Zimbra server and its components.

The new server is not yet complete because Information Technology is still in the process of moving everything from the Aegis system to the Zimbra server.

"We still have some work to do on migration of old calendars from the old Aegis calendar system to the new Zmail system, but that is in the works now," Fowlkes said.

Contact Liz Harter at
charte01@saintmarys.edu

Ten Years Hence

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This one credit-hour course will explore issues, ideas and trends likely to affect business and society during the next decade. A series of separate lectures on selected Friday mornings will feature a wide range of experts.

business.nd.edu/tenyearshence

January 26

America in 2017: Making Tough Choices Today Can Help Save our Future

David Walker, Comptroller General, United States of America

February 9

Shifts in Global Financial Power

Dr. David E. Martin, CEO, M-CAM

March 2

Climate Change, An Uncertain Future

Dr. Patrick Minnis, NASA Langley Research Center

March 30

Up Front on the Future of Global Security

General Richard B. Myers, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

April 13

Radical Evolution

Joel Garreau, Author, Reporter & Editor, The Washington Post

April 20

Immigration Reform: The New Face of America

Honorable Romano L. Mazzoli, former member, U.S. House of Representatives

Selected Fridays from 10:40 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. in the Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza College of Business. Lectures are open to the public.

"Ten Years Hence" is listed as BAUG-30210 and MBGR-60210, and is open to all Notre Dame undergraduate and graduate students, and Saint Mary's students. There are no prerequisites to enroll. See your academic advisor or your department chair for additional detail. You are expected to attend all lectures and be prepared to engage speakers. No unexcused absences. This is a "Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory" course. This course requires no textbook purchases, examinations or term papers. **Use an add form to register; registration is not available online.**

Penalty

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Pannetti, whose mental afflictions are similar to Timberlake's. The high court will likely issue a decision on that process within the next year of cases.

"[A mentally ill death row inmate] might say yes, I know I'm being executed, and not know what he means," said Andrea Laidman, NDASK co-director. "I think Norman Timberlake knows that he's going to be executed, but at the same time, he lives with delusions that his brain's being tortured by a machine run by the prison."

Timberlake still alleges he is innocent of murdering Greene, who was a 16-year veteran of

the Indiana State Police. He contests that the numerous witnesses who pinned the crime on him were guilty of perjury at his 1995 trial.

He also claims he does not suffer from mental illness.

"The fact is that the lawyers of death row prisoners are going to use whatever line of argument is going to have the prisoner's sentence commuted to life imprisonment," Laidman said. "It's a line of argument that is true, but not necessarily the one the prisoner's going to favor."

"I would say that most people with mental illnesses aren't straightforward about saying it aloud and accepting it."

Laidman and her co-director Will McAuliffe had already returned home for Christmas break when the decision to execute Timberlake was made on

Dec. 17, Laidman said, and it came as a shock when they found out online in early January.

"When we started the [NDASK] campaign, we went to a site and read the cases of all death row prisoners," Laidman said. "... A lot of officials we talked to said they didn't think one would be scheduled this spring."

In the few days they had back in South Bend before the scheduled execution, the campaign spoke to its eight co-sponsors (including Notre Dame College Democrats and Amnesty International) to increase awareness on the case. Laidman and McAuliffe arranged buses to transport students and community members to the Indiana State Prison in Michigan City, where they would hold a vigil during Timberlake's execution

inside.

When Timberlake's execution was stayed, the campaign organized an alternative vigil at the Grotto from 11:30 p.m. to midnight Thursday night, in memory of Timberlake as well as Greene and his family. They began a campus collection for the Greens (which, Laidman said, they hope to petition a public official to match) to be sent to the charity of the Greens' choice in Master Sgt. Greene's name.

"Pretty much anyone who becomes involved in death penalty in a serious, straightforward way will learn quickly you can't advocate just for prisoners — you have to respect and act on behalf of families of victims," Laidman said. "It's a hugely hard balance to achieve, but it's very important to the work."

NDASK is sending a letter to the Greene family expressing its condolences and its dual mission to commemorate Master Sgt. Greene's life of service through the collection as well as oppose using capital punishment as justice for Timberlake.

Throughout the spring, the NDASK campaign plans to further its goal of establishing a moratorium on the death penalty in Indiana by seeking signatures from South Bend organizations for its moratorium resolution. A forum has also been planned for later in the spring featuring a wide variety of viewpoints, in contrast to last fall's heavily anti-death penalty speaker series.

Contact Eileen Duffy at eduffy1@nd.edu

Uganda

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school, and during the dry seasons, the classrooms become like saunas, which makes learning pretty difficult.

"If it rains during class, the noise of the rain hitting the tin roof makes it impossible to hear."

Many times the children also go to school with empty stomachs, Young said, limiting their ability to concentrate. But he finds their determination and optimism admirable.

"They have a passion for learning that leaves me in awe," he said.

A small number of the kids who live too far away to walk each day board at the school each night, and Young sometimes joins them as they sleep on the classroom floor.

As he works to ensure the children study different things from school and prepare for bed, he listens "to the mosqui-

toes, rats and bats" around him — an experience that gives him "a little glimpse into these kids' lives."

"This is their daily reality: not seeing their parents, struggling to overcome the obstacles and hoping against all odds that they can have a brighter future," Young said. "As I walk around the next day, delirious from my lack of sleep, these kids are as bright and cheery as ever."

"Although I am their teacher, I have found myself being the student more often than not."

Young also aids Africa through Kilimanjaro for Kids — a fundraising effort he began with fellow 2006 graduate Tony Steier to raise awareness and sponsor educational projects in Uganda.

Young said he initially became

interested in Africa while living in Sorin College, which sponsored St. Jude Primary School.

"It is easy to sit back and say 'the things that are going on over there are so terrible.'

That, however, doesn't make a dent in the problem," he said. "Living with and for these people is how I decided to make my impact."

Young said he was unable to pinpoint an exact moment during his time in school that drew him to Uganda, but he was certain that "the person Notre

Dame molded [him] into and the values it helped instill in [him]" led him down that path.

He will remain in Uganda for a year and a half, but hopes he will get the chance to stay longer.

Each morning Young finds inspiration from a fellow Notre Dame missionary, Tom Dooley,

whose personal contributions to the medical corps in Southeast Asia in the late 1950s inspired Young to become involved in Uganda.

He taped Dooley's words to his door: "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything,

but I can do something.

"What I can do, I ought to do, and what I ought to do, by the grace of God, I will do."

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu

"Although I am their teacher, I have found myself being the student more often than not."

Matt Young
2006 graduate

College

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success, we thought it was something we should continue."

Heritage Week — sponsored by the Board of Governance (BOG) — starts today and continues through Friday evening.

"There is no outside support," McIllduff said. "Everything that is happening is through the students."

Some of the events include movies in the Vander Venne Theater, daily t-shirt sales and "Belles Out" — a game created to help students learn more about the rich history of the college.

On Tuesday, humanistic studies professor Gail Mandell, author of the book "Madeleva: A Biography", will speak in Reidinger House. Mandell discuss the College's icon Sister Madeleva in the lecture "Sister Madeleva: Alumna and 3rd President of

Saint Mary's College."

On Wednesday, there will be "Cookies and Conversation" with Saint Mary's alumnae in the Welcome Center.

On Thursday Sisters of the Holy Cross will speak in Stapleton Lounge as part of the lecture "Where is the Love? Finding Hope in the Service of Others."

The week's festivities conclude with the Heritage Dinner on Friday night in Stapleton Lounge. Sisters of the Holy Cross, former and current administration and students are invited to a reenactment dinner of yesteryear.

"It is our signature event," McIllduff said.

"Last year, there was a wait list for the dinner."

This year's theme for the week is "We Didn't Start the Fire," titled after the Billy Joel song.

"We chose this theme because 'We Didn't Start the Fire,' but it is our job to keep it burning," McIllduff said.

The events of this week are special to McIllduff because of how new the program is.

"Not that many people know

about the history of the school. If students know more about their school, they will have more school pride," she said.

Heritage Week can also be used as a good networking opportunity, McIllduff said.

"If students network early, it will help them in the future," she said. "Making good relationships with alumnae is key and there will be alums at almost every event."

All of the activities planned are meant to educate students about the school's history as well as giving them a chance to meet new people.

"Everything we are doing is to help connect the community," McIllduff said.

"It is a way to get to know different people and connect in a better way."

BOG is promoting Heritage Week through signs, e-mail and reminders in the dining hall.

McIllduff hopes for another successful year, but sees room for improvement already.

"Heritage Week has a lot of ways to grow," she said. "We will have to wait and see how it changes in the future."

Contact Katie Kohler at kkohle01@saintmarys.edu

OPEN AUDITIONS for ND Handbell Choir

ND Celebration Choir seeks violinist, guitarist, and male singers.



Campus Ministry

Contact: Karen Kirner
631-9386

e-mail: karen.kirner@nd.edu

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Write for News. Call 631-5323.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Sudan accused of violating cease-fire

KHARTOUM, Sudan — Government planes breached a cease-fire by bombing villages in northern Darfur, rebel commanders said Sunday as the U.S. called on Sudan to let insurgent factions meet to discuss holding joint peace talks with the regime.

The reports on the bombings, which could not be independently confirmed, came days after Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir vowed to adhere to a truce brokered by New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson and others during a visit earlier this month.

Sudan's military spokesman denied the government conducted any bombings, which would violate the new cease-fire as well as a May peace accord between the government and one rebel group, and several U.N. Security Council resolutions.

"We never bombard civilians anywhere," the spokesman said on condition of anonymity in accordance with army policy.

Al-Sadr loses protection of Iraqi P.M.

BAGHDAD — Iraq's prime minister has dropped his protection of an anti-American cleric's Shiite militia after U.S. intelligence convinced him the group was infiltrated by death squads, two officials said Sunday.

In a desperate bid to fend off an all-out American offensive, the radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr last Friday ordered the 30 lawmakers and six Cabinet ministers under his control to end their nearly two-month boycott of the government. They were back at their jobs Sunday.

Al-Sadr had already ordered his militia fighters not to display their weapons. They have not, however, ceded control of the formerly mixed neighborhoods they have captured, killing Sunnis or forcing them to abandon their homes and businesses.

NATIONAL NEWS

Police widen search for local family

ELKHART, Ind. — Police and federal agents extended their search to Chicago on Sunday for four children and their mother, whose ex-boyfriend authorities say shot a man and kidnapped them in Indiana the day before.

Authorities have issued an Amber Alert and said the children and their mother, 31-year-old Kimberly N. Walker, were in extreme danger. Walker and Jerry D. White, 30, the father of the four children, once lived in Chicago, and White has family there, police said.

Police said they recovered two cars, a Dodge Intrepid that White used to flee and Walker's two-door Saturn, which White is suspected of stealing Friday. The cars were found Saturday night in Elkhart, about 90 miles east of Chicago.

Colorado reels from series of storms

DENVER — The latest in a series of winter storms battered Colorado on Sunday, dumping several inches of snow and whipping up strong wind that created whiteout conditions on the state's eastern plains.

Accidents caused by blowing snow and icy roads closed southbound Interstate 25 near Fort Collins for two hours Sunday morning. State Patrol Master Trooper Ron Watkins said no injuries were reported.

Wind up to 60 mph piled the snow into drifts as high as 3 feet in parts of the state, the National Weather Service said.

A blizzard warning remained in effect for much of eastern and northeastern Colorado.

LOCAL NEWS

Bill targets surrogate adoption policy

INDIANAPOLIS — A Republican state senator from Indianapolis said she fears Indiana has become a hub for adoptions arising from surrogate births involving out-of-state residents.

No figures are available, because adoption filings are confidential by law. But Sen. Patricia L. Miller said she wants to halt the practice.

She has submitted a bill that would limit who could be paid to arrange adoptions or child placements to licensed attorneys, child welfare workers and licensed child-placing agencies.

L.A. vows crackdown on gangs

Latest string of killings prompts strong response from police, feds, politicians

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A 14-year-old girl was killed by Hispanic gang members who police say were targeting blacks. A 9-year-old girl died after being hit by a stray bullet as gang members exchanged shots near her home. A cop was wounded in a gunbattle with a suspected gangster.

The soaring violence is prompting police and politicians to promise one of the toughest crackdowns on gangs in city history.

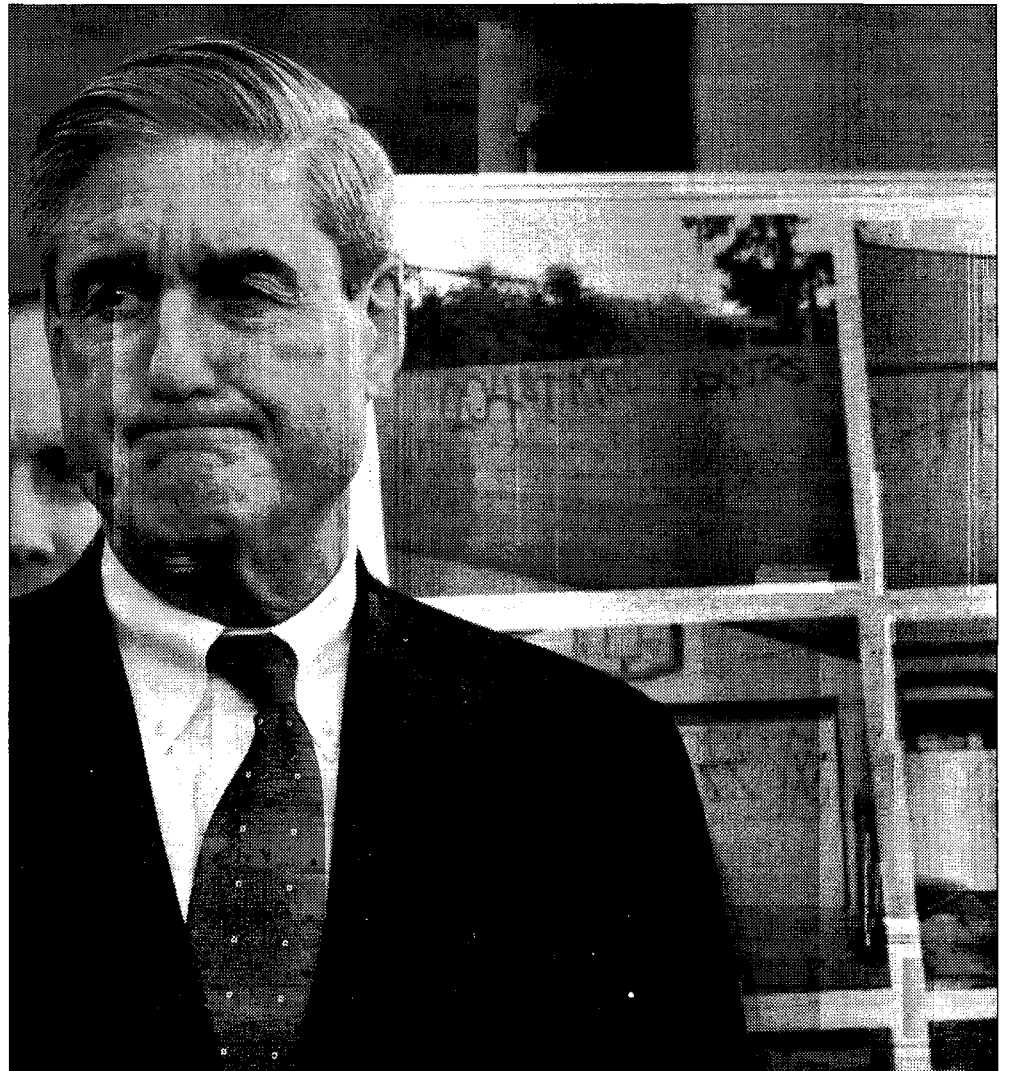
"This is the monster, this is what drives people's fears," said Deputy Chief Charles Beck, who oversees a South Los Angeles district where gang-related crime jumped 24 percent during the year ending in November.

However, the effort has met skepticism in the city that has an estimated 700 gangs with 40,000 members — about four for every police officer — and that gave birth to some of the nation's most notorious gangs, including the Crips, Bloods and Mara Salvatrucha, or MS-13.

"It's too big, it's too entrenched, it's too intimately connected with the urban setup here," Malcolm Klein, a gang expert at the University of Southern California, said of the gang problem. "You can reduce it. But the idea you can somehow eliminate it is ridiculous."

Gangs have thrived for generations in Los Angeles, but the especially violent past year caught police brass off guard. Citywide crime rates fell in 2006 but gang-related offenses increased 14 percent — the first hike in four years. In the San Fernando Valley, gang murders, assaults, robberies and other crimes jumped 42 percent.

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa has appealed to U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzalez for millions of dollars in anti-gang funds and for more federal



FBI Director Robert Mueller listens to Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa announce anti-gang measures at a press conference in Wilmington, Calif., Jan. 18.

prosecutors to pursue racketeering and other charges mostly used in the past against organized crime.

FBI Director Robert Mueller has assigned agents to an anti-gang task force in the San Fernando Valley to work alongside police deputized as federal officers.

Authorities promise to increase enforcement in afflicted neighborhoods. The officers will be armed with injunctions forbidding gang members from assembling in certain areas, lawsuits aimed at shutting down gang hangouts as nuisances and probation orders barring gang members from returning to their neighborhoods after their release from prison.

In some ways, the approach mirrors a multi-agency Boston campaign in the 1990s, known as the Boston Miracle, that resulted in a dramatic decline in gun violence and murder rates.

Past efforts in Los Angeles, however, have produced mixed results.

"We've seen this movie before," said Mario Corona, a former member of the Pacoima Criminals gang in the San Fernando Valley who now works to rehabilitate gang members.

The city has been hampered in the past by a lack of resources and changing department priorities, according to a city-funded report by civil rights attorney

Connie Rice.

And a 1980s anti-gang unit known as Community Resources Against Street Hoodlums, or CRASH, was disbanded after allegations of police corruption. Few of the thousands of suspected gang members in South Los Angeles were ever charged.

Residents are demanding renewed action while trying to stay out of the line of fire.

Esteban Martinez, 41, hears gunshots at night in the San Fernando Valley, where he lives with his wife and four small children.

"Everybody is afraid, but they don't speak (to police) because they are afraid to get into trouble with the gang members," Martinez said.

VENEZUELA

Chavez tells U.S. to 'go to hell'

Associated Press

CARACAS — President Hugo Chavez told U.S. officials to "Go to hell!" on his weekly radio and TV show Sunday for what he called unacceptable meddling after Washington raised concerns about a measure to grant Venezuela's fiery leftist leader broad lawmaking powers.

The National Assembly, which is controlled by the president's political allies, is expected to give final approval this week to what it calls the "enabling law," which would give Chavez the authority to pass a series of laws by decree during an 18-month period.

On Friday, U.S. State Department deputy spokesman Tom Casey said

Chavez's plans under the law "have caused us some concern."

Chavez rejected Casey's statement in his broadcast, saying: "Go to hell, gringos! Go home!"

Chavez, who was re-elected by a wide margin last month, has said he will enact sweeping reforms to remake Venezuela into a socialist state. Among his plans are nationalizing the main telecommunications company and the electricity and natural gas sectors.

The president's opponents accuse him of using his political strength to expand his powers.

Relations between Caracas and Washington have been tense since Chavez was briefly ousted in a 2002

coup that he claimed the U.S. played a role in. The Bush administration has repeatedly denied being involved, although it recognized an interim government established by coup leaders.

Since then, Chavez has consistently accused the U.S. of conspiring to oust him and often asserts the CIA is working to destabilize his government. U.S. officials have denied trying to overthrow Chavez, but they have labeled him a threat to democracy.

Criticizing excessive consumption and self-indulgence, Chavez also announced plans in his broadcast to raise domestic gasoline prices and approve a new tax on luxury goods such as private yachts and second homes.

Transfers

continued from page 1

now that they have a real problem with that," Joyce said. "They'll get something, but it's probably not the best schedule around."

"I tell people, the first semester is going to be a little bit of a scavenger hunt, but they will get good counseling about what transfers," Joyce said.

All Notre Dame transfer students who requested housing were placed into a dorm — something Joyce said is unusual. Of the fall semester's 147 admitted transfer students, only 60 were granted on-cam-

pus accommodations before and during fall semester.

"All fall transfer requests for on-campus accommodations were granted by spring," she said.

Notre Dame transfer students attended Transfer-O the weekend before classes began — orientation events conducted by 20 upper class students who had transferred in past years.

Joyce stressed the important experience that the orientation leaders brought to the event.

"Who better than those who have been through it to help them make the social and academic transition?" Joyce said.

Notre Dame junior Anne Martell, formerly of the University of Buffalo, said her

experience was "amazing, especially because there's only twenty-five students, so it's easy to make friends."

Saint Mary's transfer students are not provided with a specialized orientation, but are invited to participate in the first-year student summer orientation program if they enter with first-year standing. Students had few regrets about transferring to Notre Dame.

Junior Danielle Thompson, formerly of the University of Southern California, said she transferred because of Notre Dame's "religious aspect" and "tradition."

Contact John-Paul Witt at jwitt1@nd.edu

Cars

continued from page 1

present at the crash site.

Castle Point is located outside of South Bend, so South Bend Police public information officer Phil Trent said St. Joseph County Police would respond to incidents at the complex. The Observer was unable to reach County police or a Castle Point manager Sunday.

Davis said she saw three St. Joseph County Police cars and one Roseland Police car at the scene. She said she spoke to police, who told her the man driving the car was intoxicated.

"He didn't even get out of his truck until the police got there," Davis said. "I think they just took him."

Police also told her the man driving the truck lived in Enchanted Forest, Davis said, but she did not recognize him.

"A couple other people said they recognized the car," Davis said.

Anne Cusack and Meghan MacKinnon, both Saint Mary's seniors, said when they left their apartment in Enchanted Forest Sunday morning to go to church, they discovered their cars had been hit. MacKinnon's car was pushed forward and Cusack's car was two parking spaces over from where it had been.

"I went out and where we live there is a big hill ... and my car was hanging over the ditch like it was about to fall," MacKinnon said. "The rear bumper was com-

pletely off — it's cracked in half."

The back of Cusack's car collapsed on itself, Cusack said. The gas tank and the wheels of her car were also damaged.

Notre Dame senior Rena Zarah said she was not at her apartment early Sunday morning, but her roommate called her when she woke up to tell her that her new 2006 Honda CRV had been hit.

"It was parked in the spot right across from my apartment," Zarah said. "It was my favorite spot. When it is open everyone always fights for it."

She said her car was "wedged in between two other cars."

"When they move the two cars that are surrounding my car, it's just going to scrape my car more," Zarah said.

Cusack and MacKinnon's insurance companies gave them numbers of local auto repair shops, MacKinnon

said. Their cars will be towed today, she said, and they will get rental cars to drive until they are fixed.

"It will probably take a week to two weeks, and Anne's car may even be totaled," MacKinnon said.

The police told Davis to call the records department at the police station on Monday to get the accident report, she said. Zarah said she heard the man driving the truck had car insurance.

"I just hope that his insurance covers it," she said.

"I went out and where we live there is a big hill ... and my car was hanging over a ditch like it was about to fall."

Meghan MacKinnon senior

School lunches revamped

Associated Press

ODI, N.J. — The cafeteria lunch line at Columbus Elementary School moves quickly as students grab portions of carrots celery, apples and oranges. French fries and hamburgers, once cafeteria staples, aren't even offered.

"I eat carrots or apples every day," said 10-year-old Alan Espino. He said he didn't notice that the bun holding his all-beef hot dog was whole wheat. Even the pizza available in the cafeteria has whole wheat crust.

The school cafeteria looks radically different from those of

his parents' generation, and it appears many kids aren't turning their noses up at the new offerings. In fact, according to a survey of food service directors, french fries are decreasing in popularity and interest in carrots is skyrocketing.

As choices on the lunch line change, many children are accepting them, said Martha Conklin, an associate professor at Penn State University who conducts research about school nutrition programs and school food service.

"If you present these healthy offerings to children, they may turn them down the first time, but you can't give up," she said.

"Children will adapt. Choice is important, but they can make those selections from healthy offerings."

The School Nutrition Association's annual survey given to food service directors around the country shows just that. Among students in kindergarten through 12th grade, french fries dropped in popularity from 1998 to 2006, while carrots and fresh vegetables rose in popularity.

"We are dealing with much more sophisticated audiences now, and we working hard to meet their needs in a healthier way," said Janey Thornton, the association's president.

The Observer is now accepting applications for its 2007-08 Editor-in-Chief. Applicants should turn in a resume and a 12-15 page application to The Observer's South Dining Hall offices by Wednesday, January 24 at 5 p.m. Please call Mike Gilloon at 631-4542 with any questions.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	12,565.53	-2.40	

Up: Same: Down: Composite Volume:
2,273 130 1,002 2,780,647,230

AMEX	2,067.95	+4.92
NASDAQ	2,451.31	+8.10
NYSE	9,179.53	+54.15
S&P 500	1,430.50	+4.13
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	17,310.44	0.00
FTSE 100(London)	6,237.20	+26.90

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 100 TR (QQQQ)	+0.20	+0.09	44.17
SIRIUS SATELLITE R (SIRI)	-2.22	-0.09	3.96
INTEL CP (INTC)	+0.82	+0.17	20.82
APPL INC (AAPL)	-0.64	-0.57	88.05

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+0.46	+0.022	4.773
13-WEEK BILL	+0.42	+0.020	5.000
30-YEAR BOND	+0.29	+0.014	4.860
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.57	+0.027	4.770

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+1.51		51.99
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+8.30		636.40
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.20		96.20

Exchange Rates			
YEN			121.2400
EURO			0.7718
POUND			0.5068
CANADIAN \$			1.1727

IN BRIEF

Businesses blast insurance overhaul

NEW YORK — Businesses are wary of a crop of new state health care proposals to reduce the number of uninsured, fearing the programs will drive up their expenses without solving the problem.

Dissension already has surfaced: Maine's health insurers and businesses have balked at how the state's program to expand coverage has been funded and have filed several lawsuits over the policy.

Small companies are especially worried, because they are less likely to provide health insurance than bigger concerns, and some of the proposals call for companies that don't provide coverage to pay into state funds. But experts note that if the taxes paid by small businesses aren't sufficient to provide coverage for the uninsured, larger companies that do provide insurance could be tapped to contribute to state funds as well.

The California proposal calls for businesses with 10 or more employees to offer insurance to workers or pay 4 percent of their payroll into a state fund. That's already a lot of money to a small business but there's also the concern that the amount could rise if the state needs more funds, said Michael Shaw, the National Federation of Independent Business' assistant state director for California.

Sharper Image reaches settlement

SAN FRANCISCO — Sharper Image Corp. has agreed to discount its high-tech gadgets by more than \$60 million and make several other concessions to settle a class-action lawsuit alleging the specialty retailer misled customers about the effectiveness of its air purifiers.

Under the proposed settlement disclosed Friday in a regulatory filing, Sharper Image will offer \$19 merchandise credits to each of the roughly 3.2 million consumers who have bought one of its "Ionic Breeze" purifiers since May 6, 1999.

The credits can be applied toward the purchase of other Sharper Image-branded products for a year after they're issued.

The same group of consumers also will be able to buy a grill attachment designed for the Ionic Breeze for \$7. Although Sharper Image didn't quantify how much customers could save under this offer, several different types of them were listed Friday for \$39.95 on the company's Web site.

Motorola losses prompt job cuts

Struggling cell phone giant to slash 3,500 positions after dismal fourth quarter

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Motorola Inc. CEO Ed Zander said Friday the cell-phone maker will cut 3,500 jobs, or 5 percent of its work force, as it moves to improve operating costs after a disappointing fourth quarter.

Zander, speaking to analysts at a meeting in New York, said the move will save the company about \$400 million over two years. The cuts from Motorola's work force of about 70,000 are to be spread across the company globally and completed in the first half of 2007.

The world's No. 2 handset manufacturer also said it will beat Wall Street estimates for 2007 sales by as much as \$3 billion, forecasting a full-year total of \$46 billion to \$49 billion. Analysts had predicted sales of \$45.9 billion.

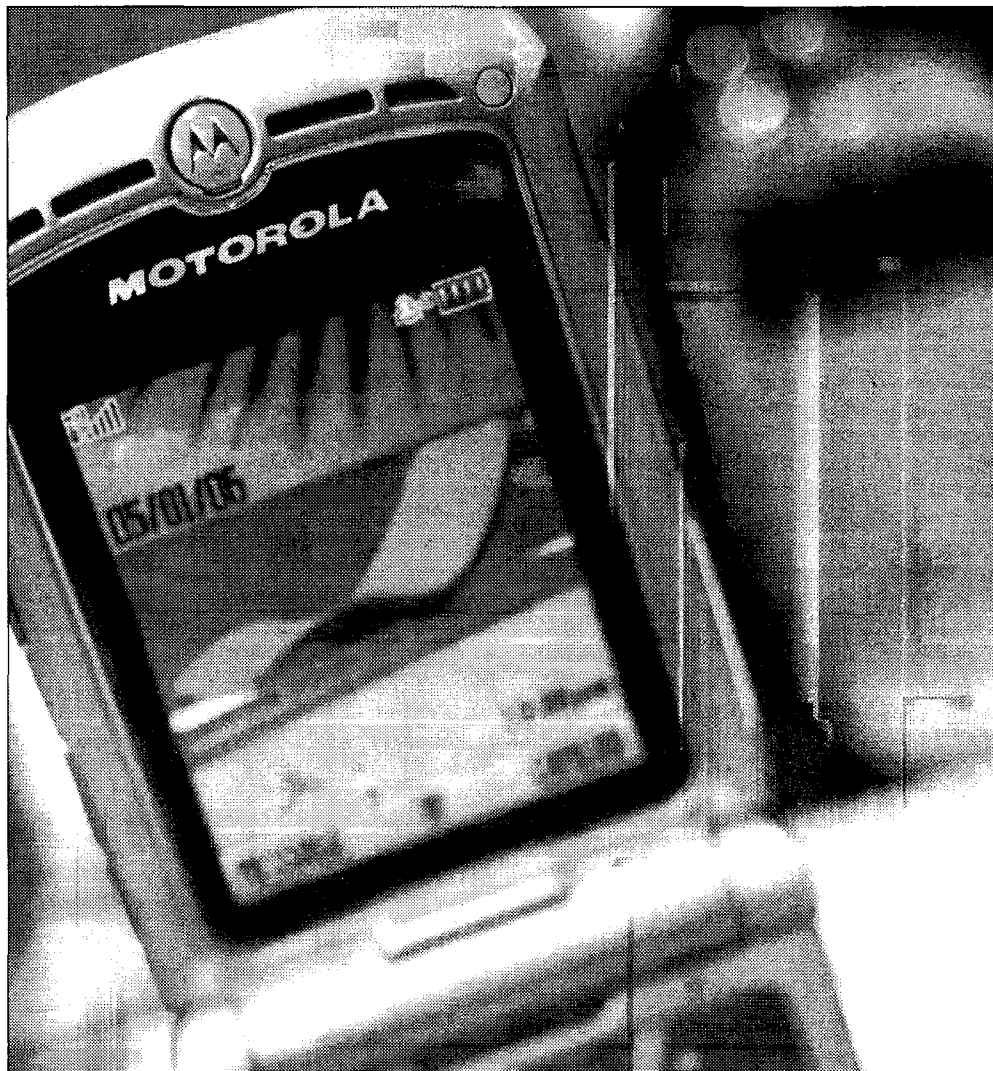
The announcements sent Motorola's stock surging despite a fourth-quarter earnings report that showed profits down 48 percent from a year earlier on a stumble in operating results from its handset business.

Shares rose 58 cents, or 3.1 percent, to \$19.29 in morning trading on the New York Stock Exchange. The stock began the session down 9 percent this year after a 9 percent decline in 2006.

The Schaumburg, Ill.-based company had warned two weeks earlier that results would come in well below expectations after a decline in operating profitability.

Zander said a variety of factors, including missed forecasts, had resulted in a worse-than-expected quarter despite strong sales. He said Motorola is sticking with its strategy, which many analysts had said was in need of overhaul following the company's Jan. 5 profit warning.

"There's no change in strategy," he told analysts at the meeting, which was



Motorola Inc., which manufactures phones like this Razr, plans to cut 3,500 jobs, or about five percent of its workforce, to offset immense fourth quarter losses.

broadcast over the Internet. "There may be some changes in tactics."

He also dismissed suggestions that the trendsetting Razr phone, which turned around the company's fortunes two years ago, is running out of momentum.

"It's funny, I keep reading that Razrs being tired," he told analysts on an earlier conference call. "We sold more Razrs in quarter four than in any quarter we ever had. We now have sold over 75 million Razrs worldwide."

Net profit for the last three months of 2006 was \$624 million, or 25 cents per share, down from \$1.2 billion, or 46 cents per share, a year earlier.

Results included a net gain of 5 cents per share for various charges. Excluding those items, Motorola said earnings from continuing operations were 21 cents a share, or better than the 13 cents to 16 cents it forecast two weeks ago.

Analysts surveyed by Thomson Financial had lowered their consensus estimate to 25 cents per share following Motorola's Jan. 5 warning.

Revenue was \$11.8 billion, up 17 percent from \$10 billion a year ago and slightly above Wall Street's \$11.7 billion estimate.

The company said it expects sales between \$10.4 billion and \$10.6 billion in the first quarter, in

line with analysts' forecast of \$10.5 billion.

Edward Jones analyst Rick Franklin said that while results remained strong in Motorola's networks and enterprise and connected home segments, the company has to reduce costs in the handset business, where the operating margin slipped to 4.4 percent from 11.6 percent in the third quarter.

"When you see this level of margins, there's something that needs fixing and it's not a three-month fix," he said.

The company, which trails Finland's Nokia Corp., said its world market share grew nearly 1 percent in the quarter to 23.3 percent.

Market cools on poor profit reports

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Stocks closed narrowly mixed Friday after profit reports and forecasts from blue chip names like International Business Machines Corp. and General Electric Co. failed to impress Wall Street and sent investors searching for other catalysts to drive the markets higher.

Profit concerns have unnerved investors already made skittish by the recent tug-of-war over whether stocks will move higher in 2007 with the same resolve as in 2006. Recent weakness in technology stocks had upset Wall Street; tech stocks regained some ground a day after the Nasdaq composite index posted its biggest drop since late November

but were still down for the week.

"I think we're at an extremely pivotal psychological level," said T.J. Marta, a psychometric analyst at RBC Capital Markets. He said earnings and economic data support the Federal Reserve's notion that the economy can pull off a soft landing. Marta contends Wall Street is now mulling whether the economy will do a "fly-by" and skip a soft landing entirely with growth continuing apace.

The Fed is unlikely to lower short-term interest rates if the economy continues at a steady clip or if it begins to accelerate again. The central bank has left interest rates unchanged at its last four meetings after a string of 17 straight increases

that began in 2004. Last year, investors propelled stocks sharply higher partly on the widely held view that the Fed would cut rates perhaps as early as the first half of 2007.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed down 2.40, or 0.02 percent, at 12,565.53.

Broader stock indicators were higher. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 4.13, or 0.29 percent, to 1,430.50, and the Nasdaq was up 8.10, or 0.33 percent, at 2,451.31.

Despite the modest advance in the major indexes, advancing issues outnumbered decliners by about 2 to 1 on the New York Stock Exchange, where consolidated volume came to 2.84 billion shares, compared with 2.89 billion traded Thursday.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Monday, January 22, 2007

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

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

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The Observer endorses Davis-Kennedy

With three student body presidential tickets to choose from, Saint Mary's students have been bombarded by enough promises, goals and initiatives to make their heads spin. A vote for juniors Annie Davis and Courtney Kennedy, however, is a smart one. The realistic duo plan to embrace and enhance College tradition through increased campus communication — a task that promises everything from renewed respect for the Sisters of the Holy Cross to improved residence hall facilities.

Similar promises were made by the Colleen Ferreira-Jenny Antonelli ticket, but in an almost overly ambitious way. The impressive dream of campus-wide wireless Internet access and microwaves in dorm hallways overstep the financial considerations of Saint Mary's. Kimberly Hodges and Kelly Payne make a strong commitment to campus diversity and service learning opportunities for students. Their platform, however, tends to focus too heavily upon these issues, which might overlook other needs of the College community.

While the other tickets' goals are both ambitious and notable, Davis and Kennedy's platform manages to merge the issues into a reasonable plan that will maintain and reform student government. Davis' outspoken urge to revamp weekly Board of Governance meetings to incorporate increased discussion and student activism has the potential to eliminate elements of campus-wide apathy toward student government. The most notable contribution Davis would make to the position is her connection to college administration through her work as admissions commissioner. This position

has allowed her to recognize the realities of budgeting and, most importantly, has familiarized her with administrative policy.

While many students would love to see vast and immediate changes such as new laundry facilities and meal plan options, Davis and Kennedy seem open to considering all student needs in a reasonable manner. Their campaign incorporates the development of Saint Mary's future — primarily the complex issue of the ongoing identity initiative, which Davis said she believes needs to receive more attention from the College community.

The duo also recognizes the need to maintain the College's deeply rooted tradition in the sometimes-uncertain future of Saint Mary's identity. Kennedy plans to more closely link the Sisters of the Holy Cross and the student body, a passion she developed during a fall break pilgrimage to a Holy Cross community in Mexico.

As Saint Mary's grows, it demands leaders who seek change and dedication to the mission — two attributes Davis and Kennedy bring to the campaign.

While they mean business when it comes to increased communication and revamping BOG, the pair has not overlooked the lighthearted aspects of the College, such as continuing and improving campus events to attract a higher student turnout.

The Observer believes Davis and Kennedy have a realistic attitude paired with a variety of student government experiences that will allow them to foster change and meet the growing needs of Saint Mary's.

The Observer Editorial

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

If the Democratic primary were held today, who would you vote for?

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m.
at www.ndsmcobserver.com

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at

www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"You have no more right to consume happiness without producing it, than you do to consume wealth without producing it."

George Bernard Shaw
playwright

YouTuber? I don't even know her!

Apparently nothing becomes a certified big deal in this country until Time magazine names it Person of the Year. Just look at 1994 winner Pope John Paul II — had anyone even heard of this so-called pontiff until his mug graced the front of America's most popular news weekly? And what about 1975 winner American women — talk about going from zero to hero thanks to a single magazine cover!



Joey Falco

Forty Ounces to Falco

Well, this phenomenon has happened once again with Time's recent announcement that the 2006 Person of the Year is a blurry mirror hastily slapped onto the magazine's front cover with a glue stick. (Apparently the average American was supposed to infer that this meant that they were personally chosen to be Person of the Year, but this slipped right past me.) In any case, you, me, and I suppose even that strange person covered in aluminum foil who lurks around the bar at Finnegan's have all been named Person of the Year for "changing the nature of the information age" through such tools as YouTube, MySpace, Facebook and blogs.

At first glance, this certainly seems to be a justifiable selection on the part of Time magazine. After all, in 2006 alone, a YouTube video was responsible for ending

the political career of Virginia Senator George "Macaca — I'm Taking It Back" Allen, and blogs were the first news sources to publish the illicit emails of Florida Representative Mark "Hot For Little Boys" Foley. This election season also marked the culmination of the ability of political blogs like The Daily Kos to rally support behind certain candidates and ideas that may have otherwise become political footnotes ... like that George Allen guy.

On second glance, though, one has to wonder exactly what Time magazine was thinking. After all, previous Persons of the Year have included Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King Jr., two Popes, Gandhi, Queen Elizabeth II, Hitler, Stalin, the computer, and every U.S. president since 1932 who did not play football at the University of Michigan.

Despite that impressive pedigree, this year's Person of the Year includes the kid who taped himself frantically swinging a light saber in his garage and the hot Asian girl who sings and dances in a bikini for her 1.5 million MySpace friends (dubbed "the Madonna of MySpace" by Time). The most popular video in the history of YouTube is titled "The Evolution of Dance," and features a comedian dancing his way through the songs of Elvis Presley, Chubby Checker, the Bangles, Los Del Rio and Outkast, to name a few. While certainly clever, is a guy doing the Chicken Dance truly worthy of the same award given to the guy who helped end apartheid?

Damn right, he is.

Without even delving into the truly positive social aspects of this so-called "Web 2.0" revolution, such as the Trent Lott and Dan Rether downfalls of a few years back, the increase in civic duty and rise of democratic citizen journalism, and the new communitarian spirit of the Web world, I feel that Time magazine should be commended for finally giving recognition to the true genius — and idiocy — of the American people.

What other nation could design a community where true friendship requires a formal technological request and can be ended with a mere click of the pointer finger? What other society would take the time to watch a video of two high school girls lip-synching a Pixies song more than 12 million times? And what other people in the history of the world possess enough self importance to believe that others care at all about the daily happenings of their often pathetic personal lives?

Of course, I don't want to get too far ahead of myself. According to Time's overly optimistic managing editor Richard Stengel, "Thomas Paine was in effect the first blogger, and Ben Franklin was essentially loading his persona into the MySpace of the 18th century, Poor Richard's Almanac." What Stengel forgets, though, is that every day, nearly 20,000 new blogs are created, more than 200,000 people join the MySpace community, and more than 100 million videos are served on YouTube.

If this had been the case in the colonial

era, Paine's "Common Sense" would have been lost amidst an online sea of other titles, ranging from "The Boston Wet Tea Shirt Party" to "The Battle of Kinky Sexington and Concord." And poor Franklin. In today's world, his harnessing of electricity would have been ridiculed by a headline in The Onion that read, "Man Catches Lightning with a Kite; Steps up Efforts to Catch Thunder in a Jar."

But that is precisely why 2006 was the year of You (and me, and the aluminum foil person from Finnegan's). 2006 will go down in history as the year America found its sense of humor — and was rewarded for it. We laugh at each other's personal interests and photos on Facebook, we laugh at each other's bizarre talents on YouTube, and we laugh at the pathetic foibles of inept politicians who can't keep their bigotry under wraps on citizen journalism sites and blogs. Hell, we even laugh directly at ourselves when a fake Kazakhstani journalist exposes us for the utter idiots that we are in a popular film.

Congratulations, People of the Year. Now go get hammered and post a YouTube video of yourself doing something stupid so that we can start defending our title in 2007.

Joey Falco is a senior American Studies major and Journalism, Ethics, and Democracy minor. He can be reached at jfalco@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Contraceptive society morally harmful

In Jennifer Burke's Letter to the Editor ("But' can be the most important part," Jan. 18), she states that a politician may be required to put the good of our country above moral principle when the two come into conflict. This implies that there is no connection between what a person knows to be wrong and what is best for society — a truly preposterous suggestion if one understands the basis of Catholic social and moral teaching. That teaching as a whole is the outgrowth of a belief in the existence of a natural law: that God is the creator of humanity, thus God has written the manual for its optimal functioning in the world.

When the Church condemns an act as wrong, therefore, it does so because that act is detrimental to the functioning of humanity. The Church condemns contraception because it implicitly condones promiscuity, allows the removal of love from sex and permanence from marriage, and makes humans the arbiters of life's beginning. It makes children an enemy to be avoided, and inevitably requires the option of ending a child's life in the womb should the preventative action fail. (Some methods, such as the pill, can also end the life of a new human being at a very early stage of pregnancy.) It can also damage a woman's reproductive organs and make her infertile. The practice of contraception erodes respect for human

life and for its protection and nurturance in a stable, loving family.

One need not agree that this social teaching was handed down from God to believe that it is true; one need only acknowledge the sequelae of America's becoming a contraceptive society: more abortions, fewer children, more divorce, more AIDS cases, and the list goes on and on. The state has long had an interest in protecting the lives of children and the institution of marriage; therefore, it ought to restrict practices that undermine that protection. A politician who recognizes the harm that contraception causes has no excuse for not taking that knowledge into account in his or her political work. Whether it's God or history teaching the moral lessons, they are meant to facilitate the betterment of society, not to impede it.

Eleanore Strong
grad student
off campus
Jan. 21

Fair trade coffee education underway

Drew Clary's Letter to the Editor ("Resolution ineffective," Jan. 18) about the recently passed Student Senate Fair Trade Coffee Resolution is both incorrect and misinformed. He writes that the educational drive to spread the fair trade message has ceased and is ineffective. He references the lack of dorm visits as a failure "to get the word out among students." As one of the students leading this education campaign, I find this accusation grossly unfounded and inappropriate.

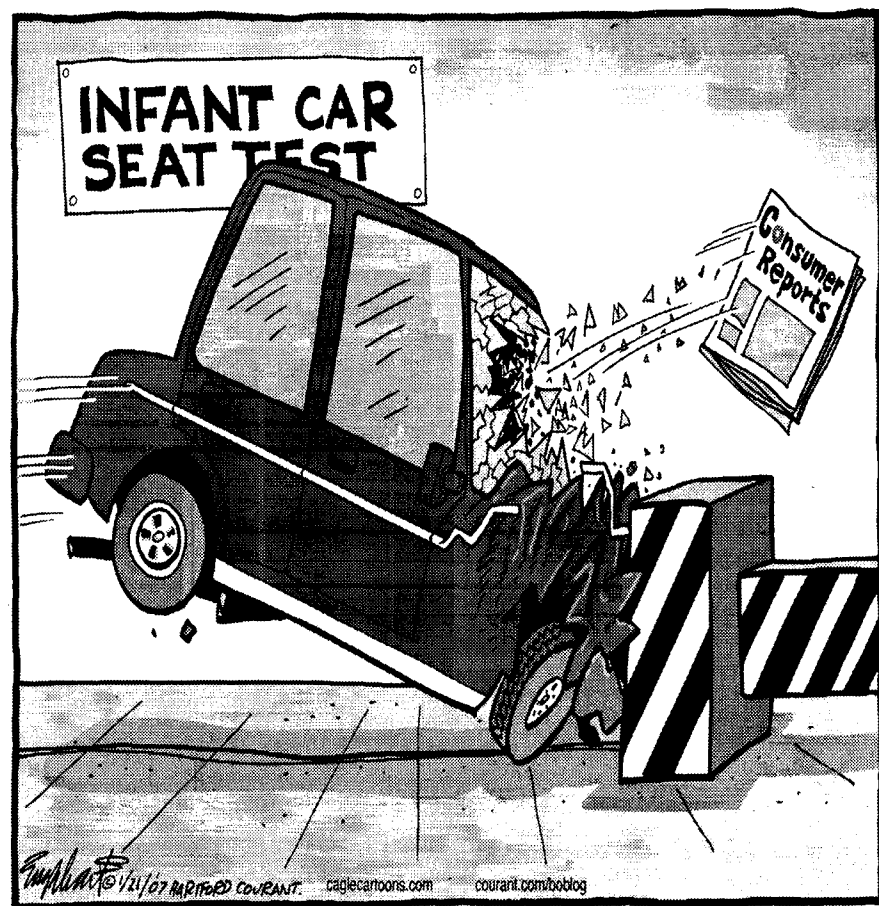
The fair trade coffee campaign, a subgroup of Amnesty International, has undertaken a massive movement to educate the student body on the moral decision the University must make to endorse coffee that ensures sustainable wages for its producers. When it comes to visiting dormitories, specifically hall councils, to directly educate the residents, it is not for lack of desire or effort that this has not occurred. After the Student Senate passed the resolution, I myself went to Hall President's Council to give a similar presentation with fellow group members and to request permission to travel to the dormitories. This request was denied due to long standing HPC procedures, but it began our residence hall poster campaign.

Now, our ability to directly discuss this issue with students in individual dormitories is

dependent upon Student Senate, of which Clary is a member. I encourage him to take notice of the increasing presence and strength of our education campaign around campus this semester. I personally invite him to a screening of Black Gold, a documentary that highlights the plight of small-scale coffee farmers under an exploitive trade system. This movie will be shown in the Browning Cinema at DPAC, March 23. If Clary is still not convinced of our dedication to educate the student body, he is welcome to attend one of our meetings (Mondays, 8 p.m., CSC Coffee House) to witness for himself our plans for the semester. We will continue to write letters to The Observer and have established an open dialogue with Mendoza College of Business Dean Carolyn Woo and Michael Sheridan, director of Catholic Relief Services Fair Trade Coffee Campaign. As a Catholic university with a long-standing tradition of moral and social consciousness, it is our obligation to ensure that the coffee served on campus reinforces a fair and positive relationship between growers, buyers and consumers.

Catherine McKinney
sophomore
Lewis Hall
Jan. 21

EDITORIAL CARTOON



TELEVISION REVIEW

'Studio 60' surmounts initial shortcomings

Aaron Sorkin writes humor, politics into NBC comedy/drama

By CHRIS HINE
Scene Critic

NBC's "Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip" debuted this season as one of the most anticipated new programs. With the pen of Aaron Sorkin and the artistic vision of director Thomas Schlamme — the creative duo behind the classic shows "Sports Night" and "The West Wing" — "Studio 60" was expected to be both an engaging and quality program. It was also designed to bring in ad revenue for the struggling NBC. The end result is a show that has struggled in the ratings and is still trying to find its feet halfway through the season.

"Studio 60" follows the friendship of Matt Albie (Matthew Perry, "Friends") and Danny Tripp (Bradley Whitford, "The West Wing"). The pair is a famous writer/director team — not unlike Sorkin/Schlamme — that is forced by NBS president Jordan McDeere (Amanda Peet) to take control of the struggling sketch comedy show "Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip," which is something akin to "Saturday Night Live." McDeere is a woman in a man's world à la Mary Richards in the "Mary Tyler Moore Show." Interestingly, the legendary five-time Emmy winner Ed Asner, who played Mary's curmudgeon boss Lou Grant on "Moore," also plays McDeere's boss.

McDeere reveals to Tripp that she has information concerning his positive cocaine test three months earlier — information that can halt the pair's burgeoning film career. Reluctantly, Matt and Danny take the job as executive producers of "Studio 60," much to the chagrin of Jack Rudolph (Steven Weber, "Wings"), who fired Matt and Danny from their jobs as writers on the show years earlier. Complicating matters is Harriet Hayes (Sarah Paulson), the star of "Studio 60," a devout evangelical



Matthew Perry, left, and Bradley Whitford star as a writer/director duo coerced into their jobs in the NBC primetime television program "Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip."

Christian who also happens to be Matt's ex-girlfriend. The two must learn to co-exist despite their rocky past.

Rounding out the cast of "Studio 60" are Tom Jeter (Nate Corrdry, "The Daily Show"), whose father is disappointed he did not join the military like his younger brother, Simon Stiles (D.L. Hughley), who feels the show could explore the plight of African-Americans a little more creatively and stage director/resident lunatic Cal Shanley (Timothy Busfield, "The West Wing").

"Studio 60" started on the right foot. The pilot featured a blistering tirade by the show's outgoing producer, Wes (Judd Hirsch), decrying the state of television today. The speech occurred live on the sketch show and led to Wes's firing and, subsequently, Matt and Danny's hiring. Contained in the pilot was the vintage fast-paced, wit-filled dialogue Sorkin trademarked with "Sports Night" and perfected on "The West Wing." More importantly, Perry and Whitford played off each other perfectly, and Peet managed to remain funny and endearing despite her character's exploitative means of coercing Matt and Danny into taking the job. The only weak aspect of the episode was the interaction between

Paulson and Perry. They lacked the humor of Allison Janney and Busfield from "The West Wing," or the torturous psychological warfare Felicity Huffman and Peter Krause waged with each other on "Sports Night."

Disappointingly, the main storyline has followed the relationship between Matt and Harriet, as opposed to Matt and Danny. The lack of compelling interaction from Perry and Paulson is mostly the fault of Sorkin, who feels the need to relentlessly attack the evangelical right in his writing — a habit he grew into on "The West Wing." So far, the only reason Sorkin has given as to why Harriet and Matt broke up is because she appeared on Pat Robertson's "700 Club" to promote her Christian CD. While the audience could forgive Sorkin's political rants on "The West Wing" because of its White House setting, his evangelical bashing and political views ring hollow and become annoying when they come from backstage at a television show. Such dialogue distracts from the flow of the show and trivializes the relationship between Matt and Harriet.

This is not the only problem with Studio 60. The sketches on the show are rarely funny and undermine the premise

that Matt is a gifted writer, and the back-stories Sorkin gives to Tom and Simon are trite and contrived. A show like "Friday Night Lights" does a much better job than "Studio 60" at portraying how conflict can cause rift in a family.

The show's viewership declined steadily following its stunning premiere because Sorkin pushed Danny aside and sadly diminished Bradley Whitford's role from the pilot episode. He missed an opportunity to provide us some touching drama by giving us the story behind Danny's drug addiction and insights into his friendship with Matt. There has been no mention of his drug habit since the pilot episode, and Whitford and Perry have been on screen together only sparingly. Whitford has shown the ability to handle drama of this gravity on "The West Wing." His work in season two of that show (when his character, Joshua Lyman, coped with post-traumatic stress disorder) earned him an Emmy and was arguably the best storyline Sorkin devised for "The West Wing." It is a waste of talent to leave Whitford on the side like this.

Thankfully, recent episodes have shown Sorkin is getting the message.

He has taken screen time away from the interplay between Perry and Paulson and from the rest of the show's cast, instead devoting it to the blossoming relationship between Jordan and Danny. That relationship is more humorous, more subtle, and grounded in the world of love and romance — not believer versus atheist. Of late, Sorkin has backed off the Christian bashing, and when he does, "Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip" is one of the most entertaining shows on TV. In those moments, Perry and Paulson have their moments of brilliance. Their relationship is filled with the perfect amount of nostalgic longing and uncertainty about the future.

All hope is not lost for "Studio 60" to keep its place in NBC's primetime lineup. It is one of the highest rated shows among people who make more than \$100,000 a year, a key demographic for advertisers. It picks up more than a million extra viewers each week via DVR recordings, and its episodes frequent the iTunes top 10.

Hopefully, NBC will allow the show to continue, because "Studio 60" is finally on the right track.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip



Creators: Aaron Sorkin, Thomas Schlamme
Starring: Matthew Perry, Amanda Peet, Bradley Whitford, D.L. Hughley



Amanda Peet, left, and Steven Weber, center, are part of the executive staff of a fictional television studio that hires Matthew Perry's character, Matt Albie, right.



Comedian D.L. Hughley, center, stars as Simon Stiles, a cast member of the titular sketch comedy program who is a graduate from the Yale School of Drama.

AARON SORKIN FEATURE

Sorkin ingrains himself in film, TV writing

By CASSIE BELEK
Assistant Scene Editor

Aaron Sorkin is a man of many words and one of the few to have an outlet for them. As an award-winning playwright and screenwriter, Sorkin has ingrained his lexicon in popular culture and created an avenue to express his beliefs and philosophies through characters that audiences crave. The man who coined "You can't handle the truth!" in "A Few Good Men" also wrote the movie "The American President" and television shows "Sports Night," "The West Wing" and current "Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip."

Sorkin began his career as a playwright after graduating from Syracuse University with a bachelor of fine arts in musical theatre. After discovering his creative passion, he began writing plays and sold the film rights to "A Few Good Men" even before it appeared on stage. His next feature film was "The American President," which served as both a memorable romance and a behind-the-scenes look at the White House. It was this project — featuring future fictional president Martin Sheen — that paved the way for his most famous work, "The West Wing."

Sorkin maintains a consistent writing style throughout his projects. Common traits include rapid dialogue and obscure popular culture references. All three of the writer's television series have explored behind-the-scenes situa-

tions, whether it is a sports news show, the West Wing of the White House, or a long-running sketch comedy series. Sorkin has also become famous for his characters' "walk and talks," in which they talk while walking to the next place they need to be. It may not sound impressive, but it breaks the style of stationary blocking and allows the cameramen to become more creative with the filming.

Sorkin's career has not come without controversy, however, and much of this controversy stems from his willingness to speak his mind through his writing with little concern for whom he offends. But while he holds liberal views, Sorkin usually explores both sides to arguments about politics and society, such as in "The West Wing" and "Studio 60." Half the fun of watching these programs is to observe how one man can fight himself and who it is that actually wins.

Sorkin draws much of his material from his own life experiences, particularly in "Studio 60." He modeled the character Matt Albie (Matthew Perry) after himself, yet his history of drug abuse is exposed through the character of Danny Tripp ("West Wing" alum Bradley Whitford). Conservative sketch comedy player Harriet Hayes takes after conservative Sorkin love interest Kristin Chenoweth, and many of the struggles Matt and Danny confront each week mirror those that Sorkin has faced. Even more interesting is the amount of jabs that Sorkin is allowed to take at home



Photo courtesy of wikipedia.org

Aaron Sorkin, whose writing credits include "A Few Good Men" and many episodes of "The West Wing," often infuses his writing with his political views.

network NBC through the fictional network NBS.

Throughout his sometimes turbulent life, Sorkin's work has remained consistently good. Both "A Few Good Men" and "The American President" have received Golden Globe and Oscar nominations. Despite its cancellation, "Sports Night" is still a critical favorite. "The West Wing" won four Emmys for Outstanding Drama Series during each of his four years as

the series' writer. "Studio 60" has received lukewarm reviews and is particularly harsh with its attacks on the Red States, but Sorkin's words still flow like poetry. He may be accused of elitism, but his writing genius cannot be denied. If audiences can't handle that, he will certainly have something to write about.

Contact Cassie Belek at cbelek@nd.edu

DVD REVIEW

Wahlberg is true-life Rocky in poignant 'Invincible'

By ERIN MCGINN
Assistant Scene Editor

Everyone knows Rocky Balboa is the "Italian Stallion" from Philadelphia whose fame was secured after Sylvester Stallone's original "Rocky" debuted in 1976. That same year, an unknown walk-on named Vincent Papale made his way onto the Philadelphia Eagles. "Invincible," recently released on DVD, tells the story of Papale's rise from a nobody in working-class Philly to a playmaker for the Eagles.

Mark Wahlberg stars as the down-and-out Papale, who is barely making ends meet by working as a substitute teacher and moonlighting as a bartender. His wife Sharon (Lola Glaudini) leaves him as the Eagles hire Dick Vermeil (Greg Kinnear) as their new coach. In an effort to up the morale of the downtrodden city, Vermeil calls for open tryouts prior to the '76 football season. Papale is the only person to make the cut and joins the team at training camp.

Similar to Notre Dame's Rudy, Papale, although celebrated in his hometown, is not immediately accept-

ed by the Eagles players, who still view him as an outsider. Constantly working to prove himself, Papale revitalizes the unflinching spirit of Philadelphia.

The real Papale earned himself the nickname "Rocky" since the movie became popular at the same time that he did. Wahlberg does an excellent job portraying the determination, spirit and energy that the real Papale demonstrated. The football scenes are especially realistic since Wahlberg took the majority of the hits delivered. In the scene shown in all of the trailers, Wahlberg is hit hard driving down the sidelines — an accidental blow he was never even supposed to take.

The film does an excellent job of portraying 1970s Philadelphia, which was going through plenty of labor problems and high levels of unemployment. The bars and the stadium are excellently recreated with acute attention to detail.

The heart and the spirit of the film are strong throughout because of the capable guidance of director Ericson Core ("Daredevil") and the same production company responsible for 2004's "Miracle."

While the film is very well made, the DVD leaves much to be desired. This is in part because of Disney's reputation for releasing quality DVDs. The quality of the film itself is sharp, but there is little in way of special features — unlike most other Disney DVD releases. But while there aren't



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Mark Wahlberg, right, stars in "Invincible" as Vincent Papale, who walked onto the 1976 Eagles after coach Dick Vermeil (Greg Kinnear, left) held open tryouts.

many additional features, what is there is well worth watching, especially for fans of the film. There is a 45-minute featurette entitled "Becoming Invincible: The Vince Papale Story," which is highly entertaining. The real-life Papale is a very charismatic and entertaining man who, it's apparent, very much enjoyed his experience with the Eagles and the making of this film. Besides giving information on the real Papale (including footage from his NFL career) it also delves into the movie's origins and some experiences during the filming.

The DVD also includes two different commentary tracks. The first features the real Vince Papale, as well as producer Mark Ciadari and writer Brad Gann. It is very interesting to hear

Papale talk about the various scenes in the movie and how they were similar/different to his own experiences as well as shared anecdotes about the production of the film. The second track features Core and editor Jerry Greenberg as they talk more about the technical aspects and difficulties they encountered during various shots.

"Invincible" is exactly what the audience expects from the sports underdog genre, which arguably began with "Rocky." While the DVD is a little lacking, the film itself is a heartwarming and endearing story of what it is possible to achieve.

Contact Erin McGinn at emcginn@nd.edu

Invincible
Walt Disney Pictures

NHL

Gionta scores in shootout to top Philadelphia

Recchi nets three power-play goals as Pittsburgh blows out Toronto 8-2 to move into eighth place in the conference

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Brian Gionta came up big once again for the New Jersey Devils.

Gionta scored the tying goal with 20.8 seconds remaining in regulation and had the only goal in the shootout to lead Devils to a 4-3 win over the Philadelphia Flyers on Saturday.

With goalie Martin Brodeur on the bench for an extra attacker, the Devils threw everything at Antero Niittymaki and the Flyers in the closing seconds. Niittymaki turned back Jamie Langenbrunner, Zach Parise and Paul Martin but was helpless as Martin took another shot and Gionta knocked in the rebound for his team-leading 21st goal.

"I was just hanging around the net, trying to be desperate," the 5-foot-7 Gionta said. "Sometimes the puck just has to come to you. It's as much position as luck. I was trying to box out and get position in front. It bounced off somebody and laid right at my toe and I jammed it in."

Niittymaki was under siege during that Devils flurry.

"The puck was going everywhere," Niittymaki said. "The shot hit a skate and a stick and hit me a little bit. The next thing I know, Gionta is there for a tap in. Those are the kind of things, you can't control."

Gionta prevailed again in the shootout. First up for the Devils, Gionta whipped the puck past Niittymaki to cap New Jersey's comeback.

Simon Gagne, first for the Flyers in the shootout, fired wide and Brodeur made saves on Peter Forsberg and Mike Richards.

Scott Gomez and Langenbrunner also scored for the Devils in regulation. New Jersey has won 10 of the last 13 and enters the All-Star break with a 13-point lead atop the Atlantic Division.

Pittsburgh 8, Toronto 2

The Pittsburgh Penguins had made it a goal to hold one of the Eastern Conference's eight playoff spots by the All-Star break.

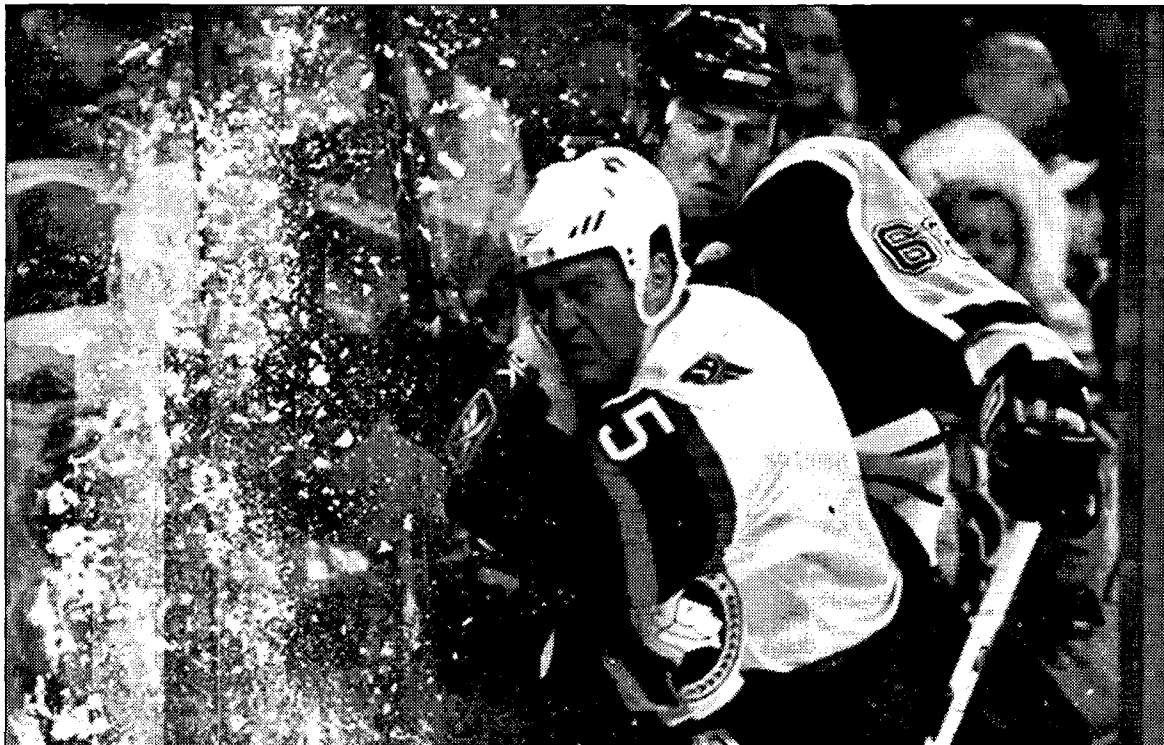
With an emphatic win in their final game before the five-day league lull, the Penguins achieved just that.

Mark Recchi scored three consecutive power-play goals and Sidney Crosby had a goal and two assists to lead the Penguins to an 8-2 win over the Toronto Maple Leafs on Saturday night.

Evgeni Malkin had five assists, Sergei Gonchar had three assists and Jarkko Ruutu scored on a penalty shot goal for the Penguins, who moved into a three-way tie for the eighth and final playoff position in the Eastern Conference.

"I'm not going to lie to you; we wanted to get there before the break," Recchi said. "And we got to that goal. Guys were talking about it and paying attention to it. Now we can enjoy our break."

Recchi, who also added an assist, recorded the seventh hat trick of his career in a span of



Senators center Chris Neil avoids a check from Boston's Milan Jurcina during the second period of a 3-0 Ottawa victory at the TD Banknorth Center Saturday in Boston.

16:57, starting late in the first period. His most recent was March 4 against Carolina, where he was traded five days later before re-signing with Pittsburgh as a free agent in the offseason.

Florida 4, Washington 1

Florida kept charging again, and Washington couldn't stop the Panthers again.

Martin Gelinac scored twice, and Ville Peltonen added a goal and an assist to give the Panthers a victory over the Capitals on Saturday.

Florida had 54 shots in a 7-3 victory over Washington last week. The Panthers dominated play after the first period in this game, outshooting the Capitals 42-18 for a 96-35 advantage the last two meetings.

"That was our game plan," Florida coach Jacques Martin said. "They've got some excellent players. If you give them the puck or give them time or space they're going to hurt you. They're a hard-working team and they can do things offensively."

The Panthers snapped a two-game losing streak overall and a five-game slide on the road in the teams' last game before the All-Star game. Washington, limited by several recent injuries on defense, has lost four of its last five games.

The Panthers pressured the Capitals' young defense throughout, and Washington goalie Olie Kolzig stopped 38 shots to keep the Capitals close. Florida took command with two goals and an 18-3 edge in shots

in the second period alone.

"Olie's a great goalie," Gelinac said. "We talked about before the game. We just got to keep shooting some rubber on him, and eventually we're going to get some breaks. That did happen."

Kolzig said the Capitals have gotten away from what they do best the last few games

Atlanta 3, New York 1

If the Atlanta Thrashers' second half is anywhere near as good as the first, a long-awaited playoff appearance is sure to follow.

Niclas Havelid scored his second goal of the season 4:09 into the third period to snap a tie and lift the Thrashers to a 3-1 victory over the New York Rangers on Saturday.

Atlanta, which already had a healthy lead over the Stanley Cup champion Carolina Hurricanes atop the Southeast Division, beat the Rangers for the fourth time in five trips to Madison Square Garden.

"I have no interest in finding out (why) as long as it keeps going," coach Bob Hartley said. "If you look at our road record, it's all about the commitment our players are putting in. We're not an easy team to play against."

Havelid, a defenseman who hadn't netted a goal in 10 games, took the puck at the right point — after Steve Rucchin won an offensive zone faceoff — skated down to the right post and flicked a short backhand that pinballed off Henrik Lundqvist and found its

way between his pads.

That was enough to give the Thrashers their third win in four games and send them into the All-Star break in fine position to claim their first playoff berth in seven NHL seasons.

Ottawa 3, Boston 0

The Ottawa Senators seem to have solved the Boston Bruins.

Dany Heatley scored his team-leading 29th and 30th goals, and Ray Emery stopped 18 shots for his fourth shutout to lead the Senators to 3-0 victory over the Bruins on Saturday night.

Chris Phillips also scored for Ottawa, winners of five straight road games and six of seven overall. The Senators have won the last two meetings against Boston after losing the first three this season.

The Senators didn't do anything fancy. They grabbed a lead and played well in front of Emery.

"It was nice. We've had struggles with Boston this season, but beat them the last two," Heatley said. "We need these points. They're big division games, especially before the break."

Emery felt his night was easier against Boston because of a defensive attitude this time.

"Sometimes this happens against certain teams. Sometimes you lose confidence against certain teams," Emery said. "The start of the season we'd get leads and try to win games 5-0 instead of 2-0."

It was just the second time Boston has been shutout this season; the other came in a 5-0 loss at Nashville on Dec. 30.



New Jersey winger Brian Gionta celebrates his first of two goals in a 4-3 win over Philadelphia Saturday night.

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Happy Birthday Kevin O'Brien Only one more year Hang in there From, the whole gang

LOST & FOUND

Found: Black and Grey North Face Jacket fleece. Left at 127 Corby St. this weekend To claim please call 860-202-2463

Lost: White iPod nano Last seen in SDH 952-239-2914

TICKETS

WANTED - 3 tix ND hockey Sat. Jan 27. Call 703-585-8663.

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.

AROUND THE NATION

Monday, January 22, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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NBA Standings

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

team	record	pct.	GB
New Jersey	20-20	.500	-
Toronto	19-22	.463	1.5
New York	18-24	.429	3
Boston	12-27	.308	7.5
Philadelphia	11-30	.268	9.5

Eastern Conference, Central Division

team	record	pct.	GB
Cleveland	24-16	.600	-
Detroit	23-16	.590	.5
Chicago	23-18	.561	1.5
Indiana	20-20	.500	4
Milwaukee	17-22	.436	6.5

Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

team	record	pct.	GB
Washington	24-16	.600	-
Orlando	22-19	.537	2.5
Miami	18-22	.450	6
Charlotte	14-25	.359	9.5
Atlanta	13-25	.342	10

Western Conference, Northwest Division

team	record	pct.	GB
Utah	27-14	.659	-
Denver	20-17	.541	5
Minnesota	20-18	.526	5.5
Portland	16-25	.390	11
Seattle	16-25	.390	11

Western Conference, Pacific Division

team	record	pct.	GB
Phoenix	31-8	.795	-
LA Lakers	26-15	.634	6
LA Clippers	19-21	.475	12.5
Golden State	19-22	.463	13
Sacramento	15-23	.395	15.5

Western Conference, Southwest Division

team	record	pct.	GB
Dallas	34-8	.810	-
San Antonio	29-13	.690	5
Houston	25-16	.610	8.5
NO/Okla. City	16-23	.410	16.5
Memphis	10-21	.244	23.5

Men's Basketball Big East Standings

team	Big East record	overall record
1 Pittsburgh	5-1	17-3
2 NOTRE DAME	4-2	16-3
3 Marquette	4-2	17-4
4 Syracuse	4-2	15-5
5 Georgetown	3-2	13-5
6 Providence	3-2	13-5
7 Louisville	3-2	13-6
8 West Virginia	4-3	14-4
9 Seton Hall	3-3	11-7
10 DePaul	3-3	12-8
11 Connecticut	2-3	13-5
12 Villanova	2-3	13-5
13 St. John's	2-4	11-8
14 Cincinnati	1-3	10-8
15 South Florida	1-5	10-10
16 Rutgers	1-5	8-11

NFL



Chicago running back Thomas Jones stiff arms New Orleans safety Josh Bullocks on his way to a 33-yard run Sunday. The Bears defeated the Saints 39-14 to advance to their first Super Bowl since 1985.

Bears shut down Saints for NFC title

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Relax, Chicago. Rex Grossman and Da Bears are indeed good enough for this Super Bowl, and they've already made it a historic one.

Few teams with such an impressive record have been as questioned, even maligned as the Bears. Yet after romping past the New Orleans Saints 39-14 on Sunday, they are headed to their first NFL title game since the 1985 team overwhelmed the league and shuffled in under Mike Ditka and Jim McMahon.

This time, Lovie Smith will lead them there, the first black head coach to

make it to the title game in its 41 years.

They did it in true Bears fashion — big plays on defense and a steady running game in the sleet and snow, ending the Saints' uplifting saga.

The Bears (15-3) will play either the Patriots or Colts, who met for the AFC title later Sunday, in Miami in two weeks.

All the worries about how genuine the Bears' outstanding season was disappeared when running back Thomas Jones, All-Pro kicker Robbie Gould and a defense that, while not dominant, made enough decisive plays.

For a moment, though, in

the third quarter they seemed to be in trouble.

Reggie Bush's electrifying 88-yard touchdown catch and dash to the end zone pulled the Saints within two points, 16-14. But from then on, Brian Urlacher and the Bears' defense took over.

Chicago, which has won nine NFL titles but has been an also-ran for much of the last two decades, later went 85 yards in five plays in the worst of the weather. Often-criticized Grossman had four completions, including a 33-yarder to a diving Bernard Berrian that clinched it, sending the bundled-up fans in Soldier Field into foot-stomping

hysteria and chants of "Super Bowl, Super Bowl."

Jones had all 69 yards on an eight-play ground drive in the second quarter, scored twice and rushed for 123 yards. Gould nailed three field goals.

The Bears, who led the league with 44 takeaways, forced four turnovers, and when NFC passing leader Drew Brees fumbled less than a minute after Berrian's TD, whatever karma the Saints (11-7) carried this season disappeared.

Cedric Benson scored on a 12-yard run, and from there it was a matter of searching for the sun-screen.

IN BRIEF

Manning leads Colts over Patriots in AFC championship

INDIANAPOLIS — A comeback, a drive, a legacy. And yes — finally — Peyton Manning gets his Super Bowl trip, too.

Football's most prolific quarterback put on a show for the ages Sunday, rallying the Indianapolis Colts from 18 points down and driving them 80 yards for the winning score in a wildly entertaining 38-34 victory over the New England Patriots.

In his nine years in the league, Manning has never played in a game like this AFC championship contest. He threw for 349 yards and one touchdown and brought his team back from a 21-3 deficit.

Joseph Addai capped Manning's late drive with the winning score, a 3-yard run with 1 minute left to help the Colts (15-4) complete the rally and send coach Tony Dungy to his first Super Bowl — and a very special one.

Throwing punch results in suspension for Garnett

NEW YORK — Kevin Garnett was suspended one game by the NBA on Sunday for throwing a punch at Detroit's Antonio McDyess.

Garnett won't play Sunday night when Minnesota visits the Phoenix Suns. He leads the Timberwolves with 22.2 points and 12.8 rebounds per game.

With 5:18 left in the fourth quarter of the Pistons' double-overtime victory over the Timberwolves on Friday night, McDyess knocked Minnesota's Mark Madsen to the floor with a forearm shove.

Garnett then chucked the ball at McDyess, who charged at Garnett with his fist cocked. Garnett was poised to punch, too, and took a swipe at McDyess as he partially retreated.

Whether or not Garnett will appeal the suspension is unknown, but it seems unlikely the star would protest given the light penalty.

Hoffman takes Bob Hope for first Tour victory

THOUSAND PALMS, Calif. — Charley Hoffman rammed in a 4-foot birdie putt to beat John Rollins on the first hole of a playoff in the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic on Sunday, wrapping up a wind-swept round that took its toll on most of the players. Hope Final Results

Winning his first PGA Tour title, the 30-year-old Hoffman birdied No. 17, eagled the 18th in regulation, then birdied the 18th in the playoff.

He closed with a 1-under 71 on The Classic Club course to match Rollins (73) at 17-under 343 in the five-day tournament.

Rollins' shot into a fairway bunker on the extra hole cost him.

Hoffman, in the next-to-last group, put the pressure on the final threesome when he hit his second shot within 11 feet of the pin on the par-5, 564-yard 18th, then rolled in the putt for an eagle.

around the dial

NBA

Chicago at Indiana
7 p.m., Comcast

TENNIS

Australian Open
9 p.m., ESPN2

FENCING

Prot leads Irish women to perfect ND Duals

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Notre Dame didn't have a perfect weekend, but it came close.

The Irish went 16-1 and had just two close contests in the Notre Dame Duals — and both were to 2006 No. 3 Ohio State. The Irish women swept the field Saturday, including an exciting 14-13 victory over the Buckeyes. The men from Columbus returned the favor Sunday, with an even more dramatic finish.

Notre Dame and Ohio State were deadlocked at 13 bouts apiece with Irish sophomore epee Karol Kostka dueling Buckeyes sophomore Jason Pryor for the team title-clinching 14th victory. Notre Dame and Ohio State cruised past every other opponent in the 10-team Notre Dame Duals, but when the two squads met each other, centimeters determined

the winner.

Pryor got off to a fast start, scoring consecutive points to open the bout before earning a double-touch to put him up 3-1. Notre Dame assistant coach Gia Kvaratskhelia called timeout with 1:35 left in the bout to regroup Kostka. He delivered immediately, scoring a tough point to bring the deficit to 3-2 but then surrendering another point to Pryor to fall behind 4-2.

Kostka responded once again, making the score 4-3 with 36 seconds left. But Pryor tied up Kostka and managed a double touch to give him a 5-4 victory and the Ohio State men a season-opening win over their newfound rivals.

"This was a clash of two very

equal teams, and I think our kids did a very good job," Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. "After so many touches during the day, one touch decides it."

Behind the steady, solid performances of veteran and young fencers, Notre Dame overcame the absence of two of its best members — junior sabre Mariel Zagunis and senior sabre Patrick Ghattas — to prove it belongs among the top teams in the

country once again.

For the Irish women, the top moment was their close victory over the Buckeyes. With the team score at 11-11, Irish sophomore foil Emilie Prot tied her bout with less than five seconds left before winning in sudden death.

"If Prot loses, we lose. That was an amazing moment. ... It was a thriller."

Gia Kvaratskhelia
Irish assistant coach

"I had no idea" how close the teams were, Prot said. "I think if I did, I would have lost."

Kvaratskhelia said that bout was the crucial one for the Irish against the Buckeyes.

"If Prot loses, we lose," he said. "That was an amazing moment. ... It was a thriller."

Moments after Prot's victory, Irish senior epee Amy Orlando won her bout to give the Irish a 13-11 lead.

"I knew what I had to do against the people I was fencing," Orlando said. "I just put the whole score and everything out of my mind and focused on what I needed to do."

Prot won her final bout, and the Irish took the 14-13 victory over the Buckeyes. The Irish women beat every other team by at least seven bouts.

Although the men lost, Bednarski, who was worried about how his squad would fence before the competition, said Notre Dame's performance

was pleasantly unexpected.

"For me, this was a little bit surprising positively," Bednarski said. "It was a nice surprise how well we did."

Notre Dame started the men's competition with big wins, easily beating Cal State-Fullerton, Wayne State, Lawrence and Northwestern. After the Ohio State bout, the Irish toppled UC San Diego, Detroit Mercy, Cleveland State and Stanford.

Notre Dame was down 10-6 to Ohio State before mounting a furious comeback fueled by junior epee Greg Howard and senior epee Aaron Adjemian. Both Howard and Adjemian captured their final two bouts, and the Irish climbed to a 13-12 lead seconds before Buckeyes junior foil William Jeter beat Irish senior Frank Bontempo to set up the climatic final bout.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

MEN'S SWIMMING

Notre Dame falls to Northwestern

Second-place finishes fail to help No. 16 ND

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

No. 16 Notre Dame was reminded why Northwestern is No. 8 as the Wildcats cruised to a 167-131 victory Saturday afternoon at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Northwestern, led by senior Matt Grevers and sophomore Eric Nilsson who each picked up three victories on the afternoon, won 13 of the 16 events in the meet. Irish coach Tim Welsh — who predicted that the Wildcats might be the fastest team to swim in the Rolfs Aquatic Center pool since the late 90s — was proven correct as Grever's time of 1:45.12 in the 200 IM was a Rolfs Aquatic Center record.

"[Grevers] is one of the most outstanding swimmers in the country," Welsh said. "He holds five pool records at our pool, and he's only been here twice. It's a good thing he's only been here twice."

Sophomore diver Michael Bulfin led the Irish with wins in both the one and three-

meter diving. Bulfin springboarded his way to 317.77 points off the one-meter board and 346.80 in the three-meter competition.

Freshman Andrew Deters, who swam a team and Big East season-best time of 15:39.88 in the 1,650-yard freestyle, garnered Notre Dame's only other first-place finish.

While Notre Dame rarely finished first, the squad's second place finishes kept the score tight. Senior Ted Brown took home two second place finishes for the Irish — one in the 200 yard freestyle finishing in 1:39.65 and the other in the 500 yard freestyle touching the wall in 4:33.96.

By picking up the second place points in 12 of the 16 events and third place points in 11 events, the Irish displayed their team depth. But their inability to touch the wall first was Notre Dame's undoing.

"We knew going into the meet that [Northwestern's] front line would be very fast and that the key to the meet would be our depth," Welsh said. "We saw signs of progress all over the place, but the challenge is clear — our fastest swimmers have to be faster."


"Northwestern is exactly the opposite model of what we are. Their model is a 4-5-6 superstars model where as we focus more on depth. You can get it done either way as they're showing, but we think that we're headed in the direction."

The Irish return to the pool next Friday for the Shamrock Invitational.

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogast@nd.edu



Irish sophomore Sam Pendergast dives into the pool during the 200 meter freestyle relay during the Dennis Stark Relays Oct. 6. PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer




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SMC SWIMMING

Belles optimistic despite two weekend losses

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

The Belles had a rough weekend in the pool, losing Friday to Kalamazoo, 125-85, and again Saturday against Hillsdale, 126-96.

The Belles (2-6) have only one meet left at home against Calvin before the MIAA championships in Grand Rapids begin Feb. 8.

But coach Ryan Dombkowski already sees the season as a success. The direction of the program coupled with the individual performances, he said, has elevated the program far above last year's lows.

"We've won a couple meets — last year we didn't win any,"

Dombkowski said after the Hillsdale meet. "It's a turn in the right direction."

Dombkowski also believes the progress made will not only impress recruits but also show them opportunities.

"[Recruits will] see we're fast in some events, but that we also have holes to fill," he said. "It'll show them an opportunity to contribute right away."

Another measure of success lies in the performance of the swimmers. No one personifies this better than sophomore Melissa Gerbeth, who accounted for the only two wins against Hillsdale. Gerbeth won the 1,650 freestyle with a time of 18:23.58 and the 500 freestyle with a time of 5:24.56.

Two meets in two days didn't faze her.

"I rested all day today, and I tried to swim an even-paced race," she said. "I tried not to go all out at the beginning."

Gerbeth can withhold some energy in her races depending on the competition she faces.

"On Friday I swam the 1,000 easy because I knew I could win it without going all out," she said. "Then the next event I swam really hard."

Senior Sarah Budd dropped her

500 freestyle time by seven seconds, finishing in 6:09.51, and was right at her lifetime bests for the 100 and 200 freestyle. Sara Niemann posted a lifetime best in the 200 backstroke, a time of 2:20.83. Maggie McNicholas lowered her lifetime best in the 200 fly by 10 seconds.

"We had a hard week of practice, and we just got back from the training trip to Florida a week ago," Dombkowski said. "We broke the bodies down and tried to increase the endurance as

much as possible, so it's encouraging that we're near or at lifetime bests. We're probably going to back off next week to prepare for the conference meet."

Saint Mary's again suffered from lacking a diving team. Hillsdale recorded nine points in the diving competition.

The Belles swim against Calvin next Friday at 6 p.m. at Washington High School.

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SMC BASKETBALL

21-4 run sparks come-from-behind victory

By DAN COOPER
Sports Writer

In their most important conference game to date Saint Mary's pulled out an impressive victory, defeating the Adrian 84-72 Saturday at the Angela Athletic Center.

The win improves the Belles record to 6-10 on the season while Adrian falls to 7-9 (2-7 in the MIAA). More importantly the Belles move to 5-4 in the MIAA, good enough for third in conference play. Should the Belles stay in the top four of the conference standings, they would be guaranteed home-court advantage in the MIAA tournament first round.

Adrian started the game on fire from beyond the arc, hitting their first six 3-pointers en route to a 31-18 lead.

"We started out sluggish, sitting in the zone and not expecting them to knock down the three's," Saint Mary's coach Jennifer Henley said. "When they hit those three pointers we quit playing zone."

The game was characterized by rallies with the Belles ending the first half on a 21-4 run that sent them into the locker room with a 39-34 advantage.

Five minutes into the second half the Bulldogs had pulled within four but Saint Mary's responded with another surge — this time an 11-4 run — that helped the Belles pull away and maintain a comfortable lead throughout the rest of the game.

One key to Saint Mary's victory was its ability to beat Adrian on the boards — something the Bulldogs had excelled at this season, pulling down an average of 44 rebounds a game, seven more than their opponents. On Saturday the Belles were superior off the glass, out-rebounding the Bulldogs 41-30.

"We've been working all week on our rebounding," Henley said. "Adrian played their small guard and that allowed our posts to box out and secure rebounds."

Saint Mary's accuracy from the charity stripe was another critical element of Saturday's win. In total, the Belles shot 83 percent from the line — hitting 28-of-35

free throw attempts. The Belles were even better when it mattered most, sinking 15-of-17 free throws in the final two minutes.

The Belles received quality contributions from their starters, four of whom scored in double figures. Sophomore guard Erin Newsome scored 17 points and made all seven of her free throw attempts. Senior guard Bridget Lipke notched 13 points and a game-high seven assists.

Henley was impressed by the play of freshman center Anna Kamrath who posted her third double-double of the season, scoring 25 points and pulling down 14 rebounds.

"Anna's been doing well all season long. She's been improving every time she steps on the floor," Henley said.

Guard Allison Kessler rounded out the impressive Belles' starting five with 25 points on 6-of-12 shooting.

Contact Dan Cooper at
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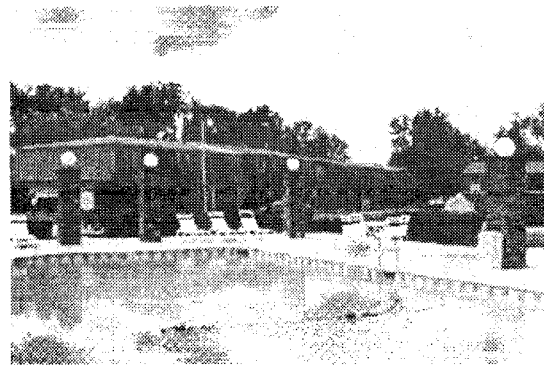
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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Allen notches double-double in win

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

For the second game in a row, Notre Dame rode a strong performance by junior guard Charel Allen to topple a Big East opponent at the Joyce Center, this time beating Syracuse 83-55 Saturday.

"I'm just feeling really confident and my shot's falling," Allen said. "My teammates are looking for me so I'm taking my shots."

Allen tallied 25 points to lead the Irish (13-5, 4-1 Big East) over the Orange (8-2, 2-5) in addition to grabbing 10 boards for the second double-double of her career. She was similarly impressive last Tuesday against St. John's in an 83-65 Notre Dame win.

"Charel Allen is just playing great basketball right now," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "They came out in the box-and-one to start the second half and she didn't flinch. She looked to take her

shots and ended up with a double-double."

The Orange hung close in the opening four minutes of the game, but the Irish went on a quick 7-0 run — with five points from Allen — to push the game out of reach.

One of the main highlights for the Irish from start to finish was their defense — something McGraw noted as a weakness earlier in the week. But against the Orange, McGraw saw everyone on the court forcing steals and fighting for loose balls.

"[Freshman guard Melissa Lechlitner] did a nice job with the double teams, and overall I thought everybody played pretty well defensively," McGraw said in a post-game interview. "We didn't rebound as well as we could have, that was probably the one thing that hurt us."

McGraw was especially pleased with Allen's play on the defensive end of the court. The junior finished with three steals and a

block to go along with her double-double.

Lechlitner was the other stand-out performer for the Irish, with career-highs in points (18) and rebounds (6) off the bench. Lechlitner also helped run the offense effectively in her 32 minutes, notching six assists and not once giving up the ball — the second consecutive game she has finished without a turnover.

"I'm trying to run the team," Lechlitner said. "I'm looking for my shot — today they were finally going in. I'm just looking for my teammates and trying to keep the turnovers low. I think it's finally starting to come together for me."

Lechlitner made her biggest play with 12:24 remaining in the game after the Orange used a nine-point run to shrink the Irish lead to 11 points, the smallest it had been since 7:18 remaining in the first half at 27-17. Lechlitner took the inbounds pass down the court and drove the lane, sinking

a tough layup while being fouled. The conventional three-point play gave Notre Dame back momentum, as the Irish would continue to push the game farther and farther out of the Orange's reach.

The Irish used tight ball control to control the tempo throughout the game, notching 11 steals while turning the ball over just 11 times. The Irish defense also caused problems for the Orange, who turned the ball over 20 times.

"We're really doing a nice job taking care of the ball and we have veteran guards out there with [Breona Gray], Tulyah [Gaines] and Charel [Allen] in the starting lineup, and [Lechlitner] is not somebody who turns the ball over much," McGraw said. "I think we're playing within ourselves and I think that's why we're not turning the ball over."

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame's hustle crucial to its success

Mike Brey calls it energy. Colin Falls calls it playing hard. But South Florida coach Robert McCullum summed it up best.

"They made a lot of hustle plays," he said. "They got every loose ball and long rebound."

That's how it's been all season for this young Irish team. This was supposed to be a rebuilding campaign, but now, in mid-January, Notre Dame finds itself 16-3 overall (4-2 in the Big East) and ranked No. 20 in the country.

So how did a lightly regarded and inexperienced squad find itself in contention for the conference title?

Hard work. It started this summer with conditioning, and it has carried over into games. The Irish dive for every loose ball, crash the boards on every missed shot and help out in the paint on defense.

That hustle was key in Sunday's win over the Bulls. Trailing 24-21 early, the Irish went on a 21-2 run to end the first half, keyed by several offensive rebounds and the fact that they hit the floor every time the ball came loose.

"The loose balls, we had bodies on the floor," Brey said. "The end of the half was symbolic of our season. We were fighting, clawing and working in the paint. That gave us the lead."

And much of the reason Notre Dame collects so many loose balls and key rebounds is its depth — a weakness in the team's last few seasons when Brey rarely strayed from his core group.

This season, the Irish are always fresh because Brey's bench goes nine deep. And with a quick, hard working rotation

including forward Zach Hillesland and guards Jonathan Peoples and Tory Jackson, there's never a loss of energy.

"It's helped us," Brey said. "When you can keep fresh guys out there and they can all catch, pass and make shots, that really helps."

Of course, the season hasn't been perfect. Notre Dame still hasn't won a game on another school's campus. The last time the Irish tried, last Wednesday at The Pavilion at Villanova, they lost 102-87. Falls said it was one of the few times this season that Notre Dame got outworked.

"I think we got out-hustled on Wednesday and we took that personally so we made a point of getting the loose balls [against South Florida]," Falls said.

Falls hit on a key point. This Irish team may be good. They may be deep and they may be quick. But they cannot expect to be outworked and win, especially on the road. They're over-achieving right now because they put in more work than their opponents.

And if it lets up, Notre Dame will not achieve its goals this season.

The Irish saw a hint of that lesson last week against Villanova. And instead of looking complacent against a less talented South Florida Sunday, they blew them out of the gym.

Now let's see if they remember it the rest of the way. Games against St. John's in the Garden on Tuesday and the rematch with the Wildcats Saturday won't go well for the Irish unless they bring the effort they've shown most of this season.

But call it energy, playing hard, or just outright hustle, if the Irish play like they did on Sunday — there isn't anyone left on their schedule they can't beat.

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

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Kurz

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Irish coach Mike Brey said in his post-game press conference. "I'm glad he hunted his jump shot. I still think he can hunt it more, but we need him to shoot his shot."

"If it's a good shot early in the possession he can shoot it."

With 8:32 left in the first half, Irish guard Tory Jackson found Kurz for an open layup to cut South Florida's lead to 24-23. From there, the Irish dominated both sides of the ball, developing an offensive rhythm and holding the Bulls to zero field goals for the remainder of the half.

"I thought the bench came in and did a really good job," Irish guard Colin Falls said. "Guys like Zach [Hillesland] and Jon [Peoples] and Luke [Zeller] and Tory [Jackson] came in and they were all over the floor — and we got a nice run because of it."

Kurz scored eight points, grabbed four rebounds and blocked two shots in that stretch.

Jackson, who finished with 11 points on 5-of-8 shooting and five assists, kept numerous possessions alive with productive offensive rebounding and aggressive play on both ends of the floor.

"Tory Jackson seemingly was involved directly or indirectly

"Tory Jackson seemingly was involved directly or indirectly [on every hustle play]."

Robert McCullum
Bulls coach

[on every hustle play]," Bulls coach Robert McCullum said in his post-game press conference. "He was a big spark plug during that stretch."

South Florida opened the second half on a quick 12-2 run to pull within 10 with 15:53 remaining.

It was the closest the Bulls would get the rest of the way. The Irish responded with their own 17-2 run to take a commanding 65-40 lead and pull away for good.

Notre Dame addressed its rebounding problems following the team's 102-87 loss to Villanova where the Wildcats out-rebounded the Irish 40-to-26.

But Sunday, Notre Dame grabbed 45 boards to South Florida's 30.

"The emphasis for the past couple days was pretty much all on the defensive end of the floor," Kurz said. "Rebounding, getting loose balls ... everybody who had an opportunity

to get a loose ball was on the floor, and was diving all over the place."

The Bulls did a solid job limiting the offensive production of Irish guard Russell Carter, who scored nine points of 4-of-

13 shooting. Brey pulled his senior tri-captain with a little over eight minutes remaining in the contest, worried he would get injured against South Florida's physical defense.

"Russell is a marked man in the league now and they really took him away physically and overplayed him," Brey said. "But I thought it opened up stuff for our other guys."

Falls scored 14 points on 5-of-12 shooting. The senior tri-captain has not attempted 12 field goals since a Jan. 3 win over Louisville.

"Falls hadn't got that many looks clean in a while," Brey said. "It's almost like they switched the emphasis [from Falls to Carter]."

Irish forward Zach Hillesland had nine points on 3-of-4 shooting, but contributed more with his aggressive drives to the basket and ball distribution. He finished with four assists in 22 minutes.

South Florida center Kentrell Gransberry was the sole bright spot for the Bulls, scoring 23 points on 10-of-17 shooting and grabbing 11 rebounds.

But his 3-of-12 free throw shooting highlighted South Florida's struggles from the stripe — the Bulls shot just 52 percent for the game.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu and Bob Griffin at rgriffi3@nd.edu

"Russell [Carter] is a marked man in the league now and they really took him away physically and overplayed him."

Mike Brey
Irish coach

Brown

continued from page 20

think that having the support of all those guys and those guys as mentors, I would like to think that I've learned something along the way."

Statistically, Notre Dame's defense has not been a team strength the past two years, finishing 75th in the NCAA in total defense in 2005 and 65th in 2006.

One of the team's strengths, however, was its offense, led by quarterback Brady Quinn. 2006 backup Evan Sharply is expected to compete with top recruit Jimmy Clausen, who enrolled this January, and last year's recruits Zach Frazer and Demetrius Jones.

Powlus hopes to use his experience as a Notre Dame quarterback and his job as director of player personnel to help quarterbacks adjust to what he calls the "attention" the position

receives.

"It's a competitive world," Powlus said. "And if you're proud of what you're doing, if you're proud of yourself and you're proud of your school, it's a lot of fun to walk out there wearing a gold helmet and being the guy in the center."

Powlus started at quarterback for Notre Dame from 1994-97. He played professional football for three years, and spent time working in business before returning to Notre Dame to work with Weis.

Powlus has also been involved in the recruiting process, helping the Irish sign last year's highly acclaimed recruiting class and what will likely be a top-10 class this year.

Both he and Brown were enthusiastic about joining the Notre Dame coaching staff.

"Being here at Notre Dame is a tremendous opportunity," Brown said.

"And I think that having the support of all those guys and those guys as mentors, I would like to think that I've learned something along the way."

Corwin Brown
Irish defensive coordinator

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

Broncos

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from the top.

Irish goalie Dave Brown made 25 saves to earn his third shutout of the year, and defensemen Tom Sawatske and Brett Blatchford each scored, along with a late tally from Condra to prevent an unprecedented two-game skid.

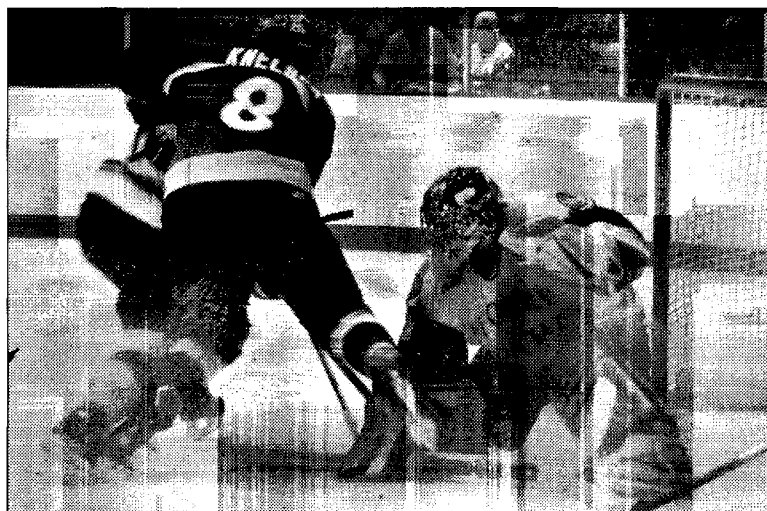
"I can't do without [the defense] battling for me every night," Brown said. "They're in the trenches in front of the net, clearing pucks in front, battling with guys to let me see. I can't do without them."

Sawatske broke nearly a period and a half of futile scoring chances on both sides with his third goal of the year at 7:21 into the second period for the 1-0 Irish lead. The senior ripped a shot from the top of the right circle past Broncos goalie Daniel Bellissimo (23 saves) on the low glove side.

Irish left wing Justin White sparked the successful scoring chance with a leading pass to center T.J. Jindra in the left corner while on a quick break into the Broncos zone, although White was not credited with an assist. Jindra then set up in the corner and zipped a pass across the slot to Sawatske on the far side.

"I thought we had [the offense] going for most of the game," White said. "It was kind of hard to get chances there, [the Broncos] were playing pretty well defensively, but once we started getting a little offense going, we started getting some chances. So we just made the most of what we had."

Western Michigan pressured early in the third period, generating several scoring chances, but the Irish defense held and allowed the offense to grind down the Broncos and silence their



Irish goalie Dave Brown makes a save against Alaska right wing Brandon Knelsen during Notre Dame's 3-1 win Dec. 2.

boisterous student section.

The successful Irish kill of a hooking penalty whistled on Sawatske at 9:25 into the third period crushed the last offensive surge of the Broncos and set up the Blatchford goal only a minute later. The Irish penalty kill shut down all seven Western Michigan man-advantage chances on the night.

At 12:42 into the third, Blatchford took a low, hard shot from the right point that snuck through a tangle of players and Bellissimo for the 2-0 lead with an assist credited to White.

Condra then sent the Broncos student section, clad all in black, on a funeral march up the aisles with his slap shot from the low left point that redirected off Bellissimo's pads into the net at 14:29 for the 3-0 final.

"The bounces have gone our way," Brown said. "Tonight just kind of came together for us. That was a big plus, we were all on the same page tonight. There's good communication, we were just able to pull it together for a real good team effort."

On Friday night, the Irish dropped a 3-2 decision to Western Michigan, snapping an eight-game unbeaten streak in CCHA play.

Broncos right wing Jeff Pierce squashed a two-goal third-period comeback by the Irish when he scored with 2:46 remaining in the game for the win. Western Michigan scored once in the first and second period before Notre Dame tied the score in the third with goals from defenseman Kyle Lawson and left wing Garrett Regan.

It was the fourth time this season that Western Michigan has defeated a top 10 team at home.

"We have incredible, incredible — and this is heartfelt — support from our fellow students, I mean it's amazing," Broncos coach Jim Culhane said. "I'm very proud of that, and when you have the electricity and the energy in the building that we do when we play those ranked teams, it's contagious."

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MLB

Samardzija picks baseball, inks 5-year deal with Cubs

By CHRIS KHOREY
Assistant Sports Editor

Notre Dame senior Jeff Samardzija has chosen to pursue a career in professional baseball rather than enter the NFL draft, according to a statement released Friday.

"I will devote my full time and attention to professional baseball," Samardzija said in the statement. "I cannot lie. Leaving football will not be easy. But playing baseball is my first love. It is what I want to do for a liv-

ing."

The former Irish pitcher and wide receiver signed a five-year contract with the Chicago Cubs reportedly worth \$10 million and will report to spring training in Mesa, Ariz. with the rest of the Cubs pitchers and catchers Feb. 14. The deal includes a \$2.5 million signing bonus and club options for 2012 and 2013 that would make the deal's total value equal to \$16.5 million.

"This is a dream come true for a kid who grew up in Northern Indiana looking up the road at this great city and its loyal fans,"

Samardzija said in the statement. "I feel very comfortable that this is exactly where I belong."

Samardzija was drafted by Chicago last summer and played for Cubs minor league affiliates in Boise, Idaho, and Peoria, Ill., during the 2006 season.

He is expected to begin the 2007 season with the Single-A Daytona Cubs.

Samardzija played three seasons for the Notre Dame baseball team, compiling a 21-6 record with a 3.82 ERA in 50 appearances.

On the football field, where he was initially recruited to play, Samardzija led the Irish in catches and set single season school records with 1,249 receiving yards and 15 touchdowns in 2005. He was also named a consensus All-American.

In his senior year in 2006, Samardzija again led the team in catches with 78, this time for 1,017 yards and 12 touchdowns.

"I will always love football," Samardzija said in the statement. "My four years at Notre Dame — playing for the Fighting

Irish — were amazing. I could not have asked for more from my teammates, our fans, and our coaches."

In his statement, Samardzija thanked Irish football coach Charlie Weis and former Irish baseball coach Paul Mainieri for their "understanding and cooperation."

"The two of them figured out a way for me to live out my dream of playing two sports in college," he said.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Running past the bulls

By CHRIS HINE and BOB GRIFFIN
Sports Writers

After trading baskets for the majority of the first half, Irish forward Rob Kurz ignited a 21-2 run to close out the opening period and lead No. 20 Notre Dame to a convincing 82-58 victory over South Florida Sunday at the Joyce Center.

Kurz struggled in the team's previous game at Villanova Wednesday, scoring 11 points on 3-of-9 shooting, but bounced back with a team-high 21 points and 10 rebounds.

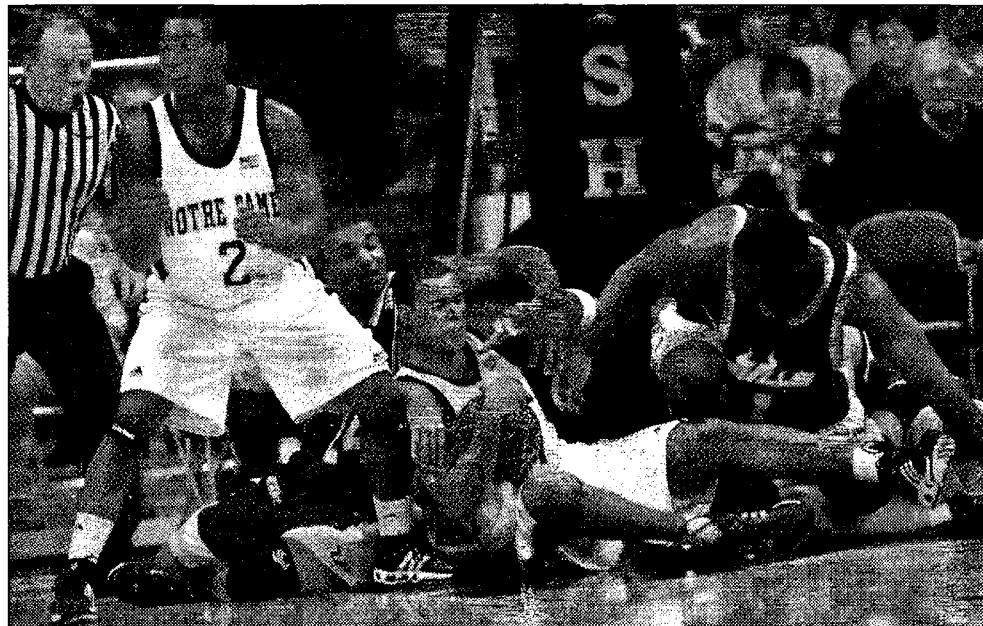
He was also 9-of-10 from the line — contributing to Notre Dame's 81-percent free throw shooting.

"Rob [Kurz] just continues to do dirty work and get loose balls and guard other people's guys, rotate over and block shots,"

See Also

"Notre Dame's hustle crucial to its success" [page 17](#)

see KURZ/page 18



Irish guard Ryan Ayers, center, fights for a loose ball as guard Tory Jackson looks on during Notre Dame's 82-58 win over South Florida Sunday at the Joyce Center.

VANESSA GAWPIS/The Observer

HOCKEY

Change in line sparks ND victory

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

KALAMAZOO, Mich. — One night after the scoring line of center Kevin Deeth and wingers Erik Condra and Ryan Thang was neutralized by Western Michigan en route to a Notre Dame loss, Irish coach Jeff Jackson heeded the words of a legendary NHL coach.

Jackson broke up his strike line of three of Notre Dame's top four scorers and inserted left wing Evan Rankin for Thang for a portion of the first period. The substitution was rescinded halfway into the period, but the change was enough to throw the Broncos' defensive pair off Jackson's top line and generate enough offense for a 3-0 Irish win Saturday night at Lawson Ice Arena.

"That was meant more for-trying to create a little bit more offensive depth," Jackson said. "It's a matter of matchups, and I learned a little lesson from Scotty Bowman a number of years ago that when a team matches so intensely on the road, and you can't get away from the matchup — you have to do some things that force them to change, so that was kind of the philosophy."

The shutout win guaranteed that No. 3 Notre Dame (20-5-1, 14-3-1 CCHA) would remain in first place in the CCHA going into next weekend's series against second-place Miami, after a 3-2 loss Friday night to Western Michigan (9-13-1, 8-10-1 CCHA) threatened to topple the Irish

see BRONCOS/page 18

FOOTBALL

Weis adds Brown, Powlus to staff

Former Jets defensive backs coach new DC

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame has named Corwin Brown its defensive coordinator and Ron Powlus its quarterbacks coach, coach Charlie Weis said Friday.

The contracts of former defensive coordinator Rick Minter and quarterbacks coach Peter Vaas were not renewed.

Brown was formerly the defensive backs coach for the New York Jets, and Powlus has

served as Notre Dame's director of personnel development for the last two years.

"When I got ready to make a couple of tweaks in our staff, when it came to the offensive side and my hiring of Ron, it didn't take me very long to figure out what direction I wanted to go to find a guy to work with the quarterbacks," Weis said. "Ron's been with me now for the last two years. He's done an out-



Brown

standing job for me off the field, and he's earned my trust."

Brown came on the recommendation of some of Weis' former NFL co-workers, including Dallas Cowboys coach Bill Parcells and New England Patriots coach Bill Belichick.

"They said, 'You should hire Corwin Brown,'" Weis said. "And all I know is if I can get recommendations — with one name from Parcells and Belichick and [Romeo] Crennel and [Al] Groh, and they all give you the same person, then I must be on the right track."

Corwin is originally from the Chicago area and played safety

for Michigan. He played for the Patriots from 1993-96 and the Jets from 1997-98, coinciding with Weis' stints as an assistant with those programs.

"I've been around some good coaches," Brown said. "And I used to always say to myself, 'if I could be half as good as all of those guys, if I could be half as good, I'll be okay.' And I



Powlus

see BROWN/page 18

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

ND WOMEN'S HOOPS

Notre Dame 83
Syracuse 55

Irish guard Charel Allen's 25 points and 10 rebounds helped the Irish easily defeat the Orange Saturday.

page 17

SMC BASKETBALL

Saint Mary's 84
Adrian 72

A 21-4 Belles run at the end of the first half leads Saint Mary's to the win.

page 16

SMC SWIMMING

The Belles fell in two meets this weekend to Kalamazoo and Hillsdale, but remain optimistic about their season.

page 16

FENCING

The Irish women went undefeated to win the Notre Dame Duals while the men came within one point of upending No. 3 Ohio State.

page 14

MEN'S SWIMMING

Notre Dame was able to take three events against No. 8 Northwestern, but ultimately fell 167-131.

page 14

NFL

Colts 38
Patriots 34

Indianapolis erased a 21-6 halftime deficit to advance to the team's first Super Bowl appearance since 1972.

page 13