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Brown, Braun elected new student leaders

Senate decides run-off tie in closed meeting by 15-13 vote

By SONIA RAO
News Writer

After a drawn-out election process, a decision on who will be next year's student body president and vice president was reached Sunday.

Student body presidential candidate Liz Brown and vice presidential candidate Maris Braun defeated Danny Smith and Ashley Weiss by a 15-13 vote Sunday night in a closed Student Senate meeting. Brown and Braun will assume their positions April 1.

Because neither Brown and Braun nor contenders Smith and Weiss received the 50 percent plus one of the student vote required to seal the election in the run-off, the Student Union Constitution required the decision to be made in a closed meet-

see WINNER/page 8



DUSTIN MENNELA/The Observer

Current student body president Lizzi Shappell, left, congratulates newly elected president Liz Brown after Sunday's closed Senate meeting.

Confusion over Constitution causes problems for senators

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

Senators had to deal with more than just election drama during Sunday night's closed meeting, after it came to light that they had been working from a copy of the Student Union Constitution with incorrect instructions for the tie-breaking procedure.

Prior to the conclusion of voting in Thursday's run-off election for student body president, Student Activities Office Director Brian Coughlin discovered that the copy of the Student Union Constitution given to senators at the beginning of their terms contained the wrong description of voting protocol for a closed meeting of the Senate, student body vice president Bill Andrichik said.

Since neither candidates Liz Brown and Maris Braun nor Danny Smith and Ashley Weiss

see SENATE/page 8

Female officials: Power at ND wielded not only by men

University's top women say bylaw restricting presidency to priest does not hinder their advancement

By AMANDA MICHAELS
Assistant News Editor

Media coverage surrounding the Feb. 11 election of Drew Gilpin Faust to the top spot at Harvard University focused on one fact and one fact only — that Drew Gilpin Faust is a woman.

Faust became the first female president in Harvard's 371-year history last Sunday, bringing the total number of Ivy League schools with women at the helm to four, including the University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University and Brown University. A 2006 survey by the

American Council on Education found that 23 percent of college presidents were women, up from 9.5 percent in 1986.

Notre Dame, however, will never join this trend. University bylaws state the president must always be a priest and a member of the Indiana Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

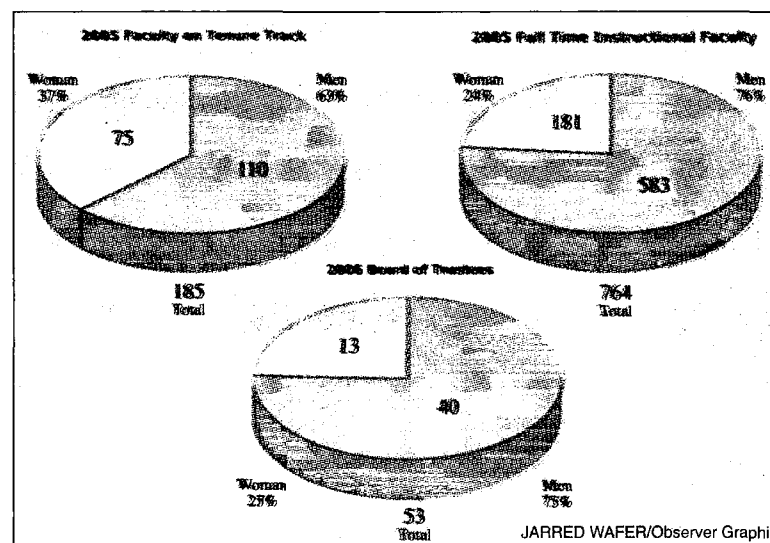
Yet several of the highest ranking women at Notre Dame said this rule doesn't bother them, and does not restrict power so much as it encourages the University's mission of providing a faith-based campus environment. In short, it insures that the University stays its course as a Catholic institu-

tion, they said.

"[The bylaw] absolutely does have an effect — but the effect to me is not on how leadership can therefore be expressed by women," said Carolyn Woo, dean of the Mendoza College of Business. "I think it's why we're able to maintain the whole Catholic mission and identity. If we didn't have [a priest as a University president] it would be very difficult to carry that DNA."

Woo said to view Notre Dame's situation only as one in which a woman can never be head of the University limits the

see WOMEN/page 4



'Monologues' aims to stir debate



KATE FENLON/The Observer
Junior actress Sara Nielsen rehearses for the SMC Monologues last Monday in Carroll Auditorium.

Annual SMC event addresses hard topics

By KELLY MEEHAN
Saint Mary's Editor

Inflammatory stereotypes, abortion and eating disorders were just some of the heavy issues the third annual SMC Monologues addressed this weekend.

The College's version of Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" drew a crowd of about 125 during the Friday and Saturday night performances. The

see SMC/page 6

'Loyal Daughters' to change hands, title

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

With the goal of making "Loyal Daughters" an annual production at Notre Dame, senior Emily Weisbecker and sophomore Sarah Van Mill are now interviewing a new wave of students and faculty members with stories about sex, sexuality and sexual violence.

"Loyal Daughters," a play that featured skits based on interviews with members of the Notre Dame community, premiered in November. Weisbecker, who wrote the script, said she conducted

about 50 to 60 interviews to collect the information and stories she needed. Van Mill, who will write a revised script over the summer, said she hopes to do between 30 and 40 interviews, since she will not completely rewrite this year's version.

Van Mill sent out several mass e-mails earlier in the semester to announce she was conducting confidential interviews with students and faculty from Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross.

"When we first started sending them out ... just the next

see PLAY/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

And the list goes on ...

The following is a list of 65 people who would have made better choices for commencement speaker than General Electric's Jeffrey Immelt. No offense to Mr. Immelt, but this is a Notre Dame graduation, not a lecture at Mendoza.

I didn't put any research into this list, so please, spare me the e-mails about how so-and-so is booked until 2009 or stopped speaking in public 15 years ago. I'm just trying to encourage the University to aim a little higher in choosing someone to send its seniors off into the world.

- In no particular order:
1. Bono
 2. Martin Sheen
 3. Barack Obama
 4. Bill Clinton
 5. Dick Ebersol
 6. Jon Stewart
 7. Stephen Colbert
 8. Bob Geldorf
 9. Oprah
 10. JK Rowling
 11. Kofi Annan (Sure, he spoke here in 2000, but he owes us one)
 12. Steven Spielberg
 13. Steve Jobs
 14. Bill Gates
 15. Al Gore
 16. Hillary Clinton
 17. Nancy Pelosi
 18. Angelina Jolie
 19. Rudy Giuliani
 20. Melinda Gates
 21. Alan Greenspan
 22. Madeleine Albright
 23. Diane Sawyer
 24. Brian Williams
 25. Bob Woodward
 26. Jerome Bettis
 27. Jodie Foster
 28. Meryl Streep
 29. Tom Brokaw
 30. George Lucas
 31. Teresa Heinz-Kerry
 32. Sister Helen Prejean
 33. Samuel L. Jackson
 34. Daniel Craig
 35. Maya Angelou
 36. Anna Quindlen
 37. Maureen Dowd
 38. Katie Couric
 39. Archbishop Desmond Tutu
 40. Sandra Day O'Connor
 41. Ray Bradbury
 42. Steve Carell
 43. Kiefer Sutherland, in character
 44. Elie Wiesel
 45. Clint Eastwood
 46. Bill Murray
 47. Aaron Sorkin
 48. Barbara Kingsolver
 49. Elaine Chao
 50. Judy Woodruff
 51. Christopher Gardner
 52. Christopher Walken
 53. Dan Rather
 54. Margaret Whitman (eBay CEO)
 55. Patricia Russo (Lucent CEO)
 56. Janet Robinson (NY Times CEO)
 57. Anne Mulcahy (Xerox CEO)
 58. Joyce Carol Oates
 59. John McCain
 60. Seamus Heaney
 61. Ben Stein
 62. Michael Douglas
 63. Peyton Manning
 64. Conan O'Brien
 65. Regis Philbin
- And the list goes on...

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@nd.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: WHAT'S THE BEST PLACE TO TAKE PARENTS OVER JPW?



Brandon Faus
junior
Morrissey

"We hit up Mikado's for sake bombs."



Mariana Montes
junior
Lyons

"My parents stood me up."



Noel Carson
senior
Fisher

"We enjoyed Second City."



Patrick Hill
senior
off campus

"My parents didn't come."



Paul Goedde
senior
O'Neill

"I took them back to my room. All right."



Ryan Sarb
junior
off campus

"We went to CJ's."



Parents of O'Neill juniors enjoy lunch in the dorm Saturday afternoon during one of many events held over Junior Parents Weekend.

OFFBEAT

English duckling born with four legs

LONDON — Webbed feet run in Stumpy's family, but he's the first to have four of them.

A rare mutation has left the eight-day-old duckling with two nearly full-sized legs behind the two he runs on. Nicky Janaway, a duck farmer in New Forest, Hampshire, 95 miles southwest of London, showed the duckling to reporters Saturday. "It was absolutely bizarre. I was thinking 'he's got too many legs' and I kept counting 'one, two, three, four,'" Janaway said.

Stumpy would probably

not survive in the wild, but Janaway, who runs the Warrawee Duck Farm in New Forest, says he is doing well.

"He's eating and surviving so far, and he is running about with those extra legs acting like stabilizers," Janaway said.

Mexican businessmen break kebab record

MEXICO CITY — A group of businessmen in the northern Mexican City of Chihuahua broke a tasty record Friday, making a hunk of meat on a skewer big enough to serve 24,000 tacos.

In the Friday event dubbed as the "Tacoton,"

the meat for a pastor taco, a variety of the Mexican dish that consists of pork squashed onto a stake, weighed 3.9 tons and was 13 feet high, Mexican government news agency Notimex reported.

Officials from the Guinness Book of World Records recognized the hunk of meat as the world's "largest skewer of kebab meat," Notimex reported.

Portions of the vast snack were sold with a drink for \$1 a piece to hungry spectators.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Architect Michael Dennis will give a lecture entitled "Between Bombs and Blobs: The Search for Contemporary Urban Architecture" today at 4:30 p.m. in 104 Bond Hall. Dennis specializes in creating award-winning academic buildings and masterplans for top universities throughout the United States.

There will be a panel discussion on "Imaging War: From Vietnam to Iraq" Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. in the Annenberg Auditorium of the Snite Museum of Art. Diana Matthias, curator of education and academic programs at the Snite, will moderate a panel comprised of members of the University community including U.S. Army Lt. Col. Kelly Jordan, writing program adjunct instructor David Griffith and doctoral candidate Todd Thorpe.

Author Lance Olsen will read from his book "Nietzsche's Kisses" Tuesday night at 7:30 in the Hospitality Room of Reckers.

This Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten season for Christians. Mass will be celebrated at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at 11:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

As part of the Foreign Film Series, "Milagros: Made in Mexico" will be shown Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium. The film is preceded by a reception with Mexican cuisine at 6 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center Great Hall.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 25 LOW 2	HIGH 15 LOW 2	HIGH 27 LOW 18	HIGH 35 LOW 25	HIGH 35 LOW 27	HIGH 37 LOW 27

Atlanta 56 / 38 Boston 22 / 16 Chicago 39 / 30 Denver 44 / 30 Houston 67 / 59 Los Angeles 63 / 47 Minneapolis 40 / 22 New York 28 / 24 Philadelphia 31 / 24 Phoenix 67 / 50 Seattle 47 / 42 St. Louis 54 / 38 Tampa 65 / 46 Washington 37 / 32

Students, parents enjoy JPW

By ROHAN ANAND
News Writer

Families gathered on campus this weekend for the 56th annual Junior Parents Weekend — an event considered by many an important part of Notre Dame tradition.

The weekend kicked off with an opening gala on Friday evening, where juniors and their families enjoyed a cash bar, hors d'oeuvres, portrait photography and dancing.

Junior class president Bridget Higgins' parents drove the six-hour trip from Pittsburgh Friday morning, and she said was delighted they could be there so she could introduce them to her friends.

"At the gala, wandering around and meeting people, you get more of a view of a person's life and their backgrounds, because sometimes you only see them in the context of school," Higgins said.

In addition to an evening of socializing, visiting parents were also given a glimpse of the University's academic and spiritual aspects of the University during Saturday's program.

From 10 a.m. to noon, parents and students had the opportunity to attend workshops and lectures at the University's four colleges.

Joe Real showed his parents the newly constructed Jordan Hall of Science, in addition to the resources available for pre-

professional students like him.

"At the reception and the workshops that followed, we learned a lot about the future in medicine," said the Philadelphia resident. "We also learned important things about entrance into medical school, relieving my parents about some of our concerns about the process."

Immediately following were luncheons in the individual residence halls, concerts performed by student ensembles and receptions for honors groups.

A highlight of Saturday evening was the 5:30 Mass held in the Joyce Center.

University President Emeritus Father John Jenkins presided, and Zahm Hall rector Father Daniel Parrish delivered the homily.

Keating said the Mass served as a great opportunity for personal reflection.

"With all of our families and friends together, we really had the chance to reflect on the blessings that we have as members of the Notre Dame community," said Keating, who also writes news for The Observer.

Keating also addressed the class during the President's

Dinner at the Joyce Center Fieldhouse after Mass.

She said it was "incredible that nearly 3,500 parents from coast to coast had traveled in this horrible weather for this year's JPW," in comparison to the 120 in attendance during the inaugural event in 1952.

The weekend concluded Sunday morning with a closing brunch featuring guest speaker Lou Holtz, head Irish football coach from 1986-1996, in addition to C h a n d r a Johnson, associate director of C a m p u s Ministry and Kerry Carroll, JPW chairperson.

"With all of our families and friends together, we really had the chance to reflect on the blessings that we have as members of the Notre Dame community."

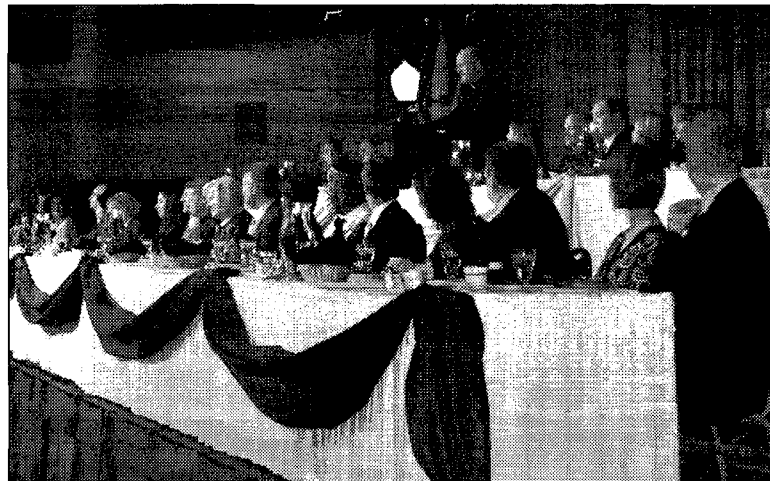
Bridget Keating
junior class president

University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh gave the benediction.

Nancy McEvily said the closing speakers made her realize how important JPW was in making her Notre Dame experience truly unique.

"During your junior year, you have a really solid group of friends and you know who's important to you," she said. "And this event allows your parents to meet those people who are really important to you."

Contact Rohan Anand at
ranand@nd.edu



Above, Father Bill Lies gives the opening prayer for the President's dinner Saturday night. Below, juniors and their families walk around the Joyce Center before the event.

PHOTOS BY
ANDREW STEVES



HAITI AWARENESS WEEK

<http://haiti.nd.edu>

MONDAY

FEB 19TH

Public Health Mass
Father Fritz Louis, CSC

Cosponsored by Zahm
Cavanaugh Chapel
7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

FEB 21ST

Haitian Art Bazaar
Sorin Room @ La Fun
11 AM - 2 PM
7 PM - 12 AM

TUESDAY

FEB 20TH

CARNIVAL!

La Fun Ballroom
7-9 PM
FOOD! DANCING!

THURSDAY

FEB 22ND

Movie & Discussion:
"HEADING SOUTH"
Hesburgh Center Auditorium
7 PM

Visit the Snite sometime during the week to view the African Art in Two Worlds, featuring art of the Yoruba people in Nigeria, and the Vodou religion in Haiti.

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Department of Biological Sciences
International Student Services and Activities
Institute for Latino Studies

The Snite Museum of Art
Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies
Cavanaugh Hall & Pangborn Hall

Details of Student Union Board's budget up for debate

By JOHN-PAUL WITT
News Writer

The Student Union Board (SUB), responsible for bringing events like last semester's Ben Folds concert to Notre Dame, has been mired lately in Student Senate debates about control over its budget.

Two potential resolutions dealing with limitations on who can spend SUB's money and how much those people can spend have seen discussion on the Senate floor.

The first resolution proposes that the amount SUB can spend without authorization from the Financial Management Board (FMB) — the group that oversees SUB's budget — be raised from the current \$5,000.

The other proposes that money allotted to the Office of the President but kept in a SUB account be given entirely to student government, said student body vice president Bill Andrichik.

"The most likely [outcome]

will be a compromise — student groups will have to seek approval for requests of \$5,000 or a certain percentage of their budget, whichever is higher," Andrichik said.

SUB had an initial budget of \$217,000 for the 2006-07 school year, said SUB manager Patrick Vassel.

After winter break, SUB received \$21,000 — its share of The Shirt proceeds, which are allocated to student groups.

SUB divides its budget between its 11 programming committees, an administrative account and an advertising account.

Concerts are by far SUB's largest cost, though the "Issues and Ideas" fund for bringing speakers to campus is also substantial, Vassel said. The Notre Dame Literary Festival, Jazz Festival and Special Events committees are also large expenses.

Revenue from ticket sales at events is looped back into the fund to pay for programming later in the year, Vassel said.

"Anything left in the budget at the end of the year doesn't turn over [to us], so we're aiming for zero [left in the budget]," Vassel said.

The \$5,000 limit is central to the current debate in the Senate. Vassel has argued that since SUB's budget is much larger than other student groups, an exception to the authorization restriction should be made so that SUB can secure bigger-name artists.

If a week passes before FMB can approve an offer over \$5,000, the delay can break a deal, he said.

"What we do is time sensitive. Often, artists have only a few dates open, and by the time our offer is approved, the artist is booked," Vassel said.

SUB treasurer Steve Friend said on several occasions, top artists could not be contracted because of the delay in the approval process. The new proposal will raise SUB's spending limit, provided that SUB gives regular updates to the FMB.

"As long as SUB is willing to

keep the FMB informed of its expenditures, I am not opposed to the proposal to amend the spending limit," Friend said. "The student body will benefit from superior performers."

Vassel and Friend said they support the \$5,000 limit for groups with smaller budgets, but argue that SUB's size puts it in a different league.

"What [SUB] does is more significant than any other student group, and the [Student Union] constitution should reflect this," Vassel said.

The other issue before the Student Senate relates to the funding of the Presidential Division, tasked with implementing programs directly from the Office of the President.

The funding is currently in an account controlled by SUB, which is compelled to provide funding from the account to student government when requested.

The resolution would remove the involvement of the SUB and place the account under the

control of student government, something that Andrichik said he favors because the current text "creates an extra barrier for student government to withdraw its already-approved money."

The next step in the process of changing the Constitution is the submission of draft resolutions for debate in the Senate by Oversight committee chair Chris Hollon.

"The versions [of the resolutions] my committee has endorsed [read]: an organization would be able to spend \$5,000 or five percent of their budget, whichever is more, without FMB approval," Hollon said. "This would reduce the amount of times SUB would have to seek FMB approval to a more reasonable level, while still maintaining strong student oversight over funds."

The resolution will likely be introduced in the Senate on Feb. 28, Hollon said.

Contact John-Paul Witt at
jwitt1@nd.edu

Women

continued from page 1

question to formal power.

"I don't believe that leadership is just a formal title. In terms of formal power, no, women will not have as much power at Notre Dame. But I also don't believe that formal hierarchy is the only source of power," she said. "Power comes from credibility, respect that a person generates, the informal type of power — which isn't less powerful by any means."

And while the University does have hierarchy that formally favors men, it does not bar women from having as much influence as men, Woo said.

"Does it prevent women from the exercise of leadership just because there's a man as president? No. Not at all, in fact," she said.

For Christine Maziar, vice president of the University and associate provost, academic administration is about service rather than power in the strictest sense.

"I think a place like Notre Dame, where by the bylaws, our president must be a member of the Indiana province of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, guarantees that the person asked to play that role is a person who feels very deeply about service," Maziar said. "That really should be a guarantee at every university."

At the head of the class

Differences in the University's

gender makeup among University professors — "an institution's true power center," said Maziar — may also be cause for concern for those playing the numbers game, but the female administrators were optimistic about the future of women faculty members at Notre Dame.

Women made up only 23.6 percent of Notre Dame's full-time instructional faculty in 2005, up from 15.6 percent in 1992, according to the Office of Institutional Research. In 2005, only 12.2 percent of full professors were women.

However, 40.5 percent of faculty members on the tenure track were women — a statistic University Vice President and Associate Provost Jean Ann Linney said reflected both changing trends in doctoral program graduates as well as a greater effort on the part of Notre Dame to recruit a diverse faculty.

"Nearly half of the Ph.D. degrees awarded in the U.S. are now going to women, so the applicant pool for entering tenure track positions includes significant numbers of women. Notre Dame's gender distribution at the assistant professor

[tenure track] rank reflects the changing demographics of the doctorally-educated population," Linney said. "At the same time, there has been some focused attention toward increasing the numbers of women on the faculty at Notre Dame."

Woo agreed, noting that while faculty members are not hired "just because they're women," the University is working to expand its pool of applicants to include qualified women.

"It is important to have more women faculty members because we have so many women students, and these students benefit from having a role model to show them what they can be," Woo said.

Along with gender diversity, she said, it is important to encourage differences in ethnicities, cultural backgrounds and personal styles among students, faculty and administrators.

The total package

Not only does having a priest at Notre Dame's helm reify its Catholic character without disadvantaging female leaders, but it also creates a unique "administrative structure and rhythm," Maziar said.

"What has happened both in public education and increasingly in private higher education is that the lifetime of a uni-

versity president has become very short. That takes institutions through enormous churning when the leaders frequently switch," Maziar said. "In contrast, Notre Dame has enormous stability in senior leadership."

She said another positive is the allowance for the University's other two executive officer positions — provost and executive vice president — to be filled by laymen.

"That means that within the executive team the opportunity for Notre Dame to draw on talent from all around the country exists," she said.

The Board of Trustees, which is responsible for electing the officers of the University as well as exercising the University's corporate powers, does not have restrictions on its members. Currently, 13 out of 53 Trustees are women, according to Father Jim McDonald, associate vice president and counselor to the President.

"[The number of female Trustees] is roughly 25 percent [of the Board] and is consistent with the numbers generated by the Association of Governing Boards of universities and colleges," McDonald said.

One of these women is also one of six lay "fellows," part of the 12-person group of fellows

that stands at the head of University governance.

Woo said she sees Notre Dame's unique academic and administrative environment realized in the classroom.

"Particularly within the College of Business, our mission is to prepare people to succeed, but succeed in the right way. We believe that people can suc-

ceed, but also that we must succeed together, but rather than against each other," Woo said. "That is such a predominate ethos; that is what we believe in. It's not that other schools don't believe in that, but for us it is explicit and intentional. That's what makes the difference."

Notre Dame's is not, therefore, an ethos based on male leadership versus female leadership — it is one deeply reliant on religion.

"University president is a very special position, and to require this University's president to be a Holy Cross priest gives Notre Dame a special kind of connection to its history and its roots," Maziar said. "And it also shows a special concern and need to care for the legacy that each president will leave."

Contact Amanda Michaels at
amichael@nd.edu

brought to you by:

WED. FEBRUARY 21
8:00pm Jazz Coffeehouse – LaFortune Ballroom *FREE*

THUR. FEBRUARY 22
8:00pm Jazz and Swing Night – Oak Room SDH *FREE*

FRI. FEBRUARY 23
6:00pm Evening Concert Block – Washington Hall

SAT. FEBRUARY 24
6:00pm Evening Concert Block – Washington Hall

Tickets are FREE for ND/SMC/HC students. Non-students: \$5/night or \$7/both nights. Tickets are available at the LaFortune Box Office. Any remaining tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets will become available on February 12, so make sure to reserve your ticket.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Chinese ring in Lunar New Year

BELJING — Asians flocked to temples, parks and Disneyland on Sunday to pray, play, eat, and celebrate the first day of the Lunar New Year, ushering in the Year of the Pig.

At the Lama Temple and White Cloud Temple in Beijing, faithful burned incense and tossed coins at incense burners, believing that if they landed in the pot they would have better luck in the New Year.

At a traditional fair in the capital's Ditan Park, performers sang folk songs and snippets of Peking opera for throngs of people snaking through the park, many carrying balloons and pinwheels. Vendors sold pork dumplings and other treats, such as freshly made caramel candy sculpted into chubby pig shapes.

U.S. helicopter crash kills eight

SHAHJOI, Afghanistan — A U.S. helicopter suffered a "sudden, unexplained loss of power" and crashed Sunday in southeastern Afghanistan, killing eight American troops, the military said. Fourteen people on board survived.

A NATO spokesman denied the helicopter had been shot down, saying the pilot had radioed ahead to report engine problems. It was the deadliest U.S. crash in Afghanistan since last May.

The CH-47 Chinook helicopter was carrying 22 U.S. service members under overcast skies when there was a "sudden, unexplained loss of power and control and crashed," U.S. military spokesman Lt. Col. David Accetta said. The 14 survivors suffered injuries.

The helicopter crashed in the Shahjoi district of Zabul province, about 50 yards from the main highway between Kabul and Kandahar, and appeared to be destroyed and scattered in several pieces.

NATIONAL NEWS

N.J. civil unions law takes effect

HADDONFIELD, N.J. — Diane Marini used to joke that she was always the bridesmaid and never the bride because, as a lesbian, she thought it was unlikely New Jersey would ever approve same-sex marriage.

Still, she and longtime partner Marilyn Maneely campaigned for gay marriage. They were among seven couples who sued the state in 2002 demanding the right to marry. While their suit didn't lead to a gay marriage law, it has led to New Jersey becoming the third state to offer civil unions to same-sex couples.

The civil unions law takes effect Monday and some same-sex couples are planning ceremonies. For couples who are not already in civil unions from other states, however, there is a 72-hour waiting period after applying for a license — just like with marriages. A few town halls around the state planned to open at 12:01 a.m. Monday so couples could file their applications.

Food inspection policy updated

WASHINGTON — The first major changes to food inspection in a decade will increase federal scrutiny of meat and poultry plants where the danger from E. coli and other germs is high or where past visits have found unsafe practices.

The new policy will result in fewer inspections at plants with lower risks and better records for handling meat and poultry.

LOCAL NEWS

Indy mayor won't run for governor

INDIANAPOLIS — Democrat Mayor Bart Peterson of Indianapolis said Saturday he will not be a candidate for governor in 2008.

Peterson made the statement after accepting the Marion County Democratic Party's nomination for re-election as mayor.

"I thought it was important before announcing my candidacy for mayor to state that I will not be a candidate for governor in 2008," said Peterson.

Peterson said he would not rule out running for governor later, but said that if he is re-elected he would complete his four-year term as mayor.

ISRAEL

Peace bid begins amid doubts

Rice encounters stalemate between governments over Palestinian militants

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Hoping to turn the page on six years of stalled Mideast negotiations, the U.S. instead found itself boxed in Sunday by a characteristically complex political impasse involving ally Israel and the Palestinians.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice came to the region intending to lead a symbolic peace summit. Her plans, however, have been eclipsed amid uncertainty and disagreement over how to handle last week's sudden announcement of a power-sharing deal to end internal Palestinian fighting.

Rice met for two hours with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, resolute in his position that he must govern hand-in-hand with Hamas militants who refuse to moderate anti-Israeli policies. The United States consider Hamas a terrorist group.

Later Sunday, the U.S. diplomat held a similarly long meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert over a similarly hard-line position.

Israel will not recognize a Palestinian government that refuses to renounce violence, honor past commitments and accept Israel's right to exist.

Olmert says Washington agrees and will shun the new government. U.S. officials, however, are not going that far — yet.

The United States, still hoping Abbas will change Hamas or change his mind, says it will reserve judgment until the planned Palestinian government takes shape.

Rice acknowledged that the moment is awkward for discussions of peace. But she wanted to go ahead with Monday's summit with Abbas and Olmert.

"We could have decided not to meet during this time, but I actually think that when people have questions and want to explore issues that arise out of something like the agreement to form a national unity government that it's better that they be



Israeli Defense Minister Amir Peretz, left, meets with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in Jerusalem Sunday. Rice met with Israeli and Palestinian leaders during her visit.

able to do it face to face," Rice told reporters.

The meeting was planned before Abbas made his pact with Hamas. The gathering was meant to offer weary Palestinians a brighter vision for their future by opening a discussion of the contours of an eventual Palestinian state.

It also was a way to strengthen Abbas in his power struggle with Hamas, which surprised the Bush administration by defeating Abbas' secular Fatah Party in elections 13 months ago.

Although U.S. officials brush off any suggestion the pact has tainted Abbas, diplomats have not hidden their displeasure with both the content and timing of the deal he made.

Neither the U.S. nor Israel

has said it would boycott Abbas, who is widely known by his nickname, Abu Mazen. As head of the Palestine Liberation Organization, he would represent the Palestinians in any peace talks. Negotiations broke down more than six years ago in an explosion of violence between the two sides.

"I think that we can continue to work with Abu Mazen, continue to discuss with Abu Mazen, continue to explore with Abu Mazen," Rice said.

Rice was the latest U.S. official to lower expectations for Monday's meeting even as she described a deep commitment to the larger goal of peace.

"Nobody is at the point of talking about a deal," Rice

said. "We're talking about ... what the destination might look like."

Many of the core questions that frame the hoped-for destination — an independent Palestine alongside Israel — apparently would not be on the table Monday. Those include the borders and the fate of disputed areas of Jerusalem.

Israeli leaders were lukewarm about the session even before Abbas' deal; some have been openly skeptical since.

The United States, United Nations, European Union and Russia have said jointly that a Palestinian government must renounce violence, abide by past agreements with Israel and others and accept Israel's right to exist.

Democrats seek limit on Iraq war

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Democrats pledged renewed efforts Sunday to curtail the Iraq war, suggesting they will seek to limit a 2002 measure authorizing President Bush's use of force against Saddam Hussein.

The top Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said the proposal had little chance of succeeding. "I think the president would veto it and the veto would be upheld," said Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana.

A day after Republicans foiled a Democratic bid to repudiate Bush's deployment of 21,500 additional com-

bat troops to Iraq, Senate Democrats declined to embrace measures — being advanced in the House — that would attach conditions to additional funding for troops.

Sen. Carl Levin, who chairs the Armed Services Committee, said Democratic senators would probably seek to capitalize on wavering Republicans to limit the "wide-open authorization" Congress gave Bush in 2002.

"We will be looking at a modification of that authorization in order to limit the mission of American troops to a support mission instead of a combat mission, and that is very different

from cutting off funds," said Levin, D-Mich.

Sen. Joe Biden, a 2008 presidential candidate who leads the foreign relations panel, said the 2002 authorization should be repealed to restate the president's authority and clarify the mission of U.S. troops in Iraq.

"I've been working with some of my colleagues to try to convince them that that's the way to go ... make it clear that the purpose that he has troops in there is to, in fact, protect against al-Qaida gaining chunks of territory, training the Iraqi forces, force protection and for our forces," said Biden, D-Del.

Play

continued from page 1

day we had four responses," Van Mill said.

Weisbecker said she experienced a similar response last year.

"I was really amazed and impressed with how much people were ready to come in and share their personal experiences with me," she said. "They were very open and there was definitely no shortage of volunteers."

Van Mill was not involved in last fall's production of "Loyal Daughters," but went to several rehearsals and all three shows to aid in her research of rape on campus. She decided to take up the task for next year since Weisbecker will graduate in May.

Van Mill changed the name of the project to "Loyal Daughters and Sons," since last year many men eager to tell their stories responded to Weisbecker's interview requests.

"Sexual assault isn't just one gender's issue," Van Mill said. "[The play] still focuses on the women's experience, but men are a part of that experience."

Sitting through the interviews can be a difficult experience, Van Mill said. Weisbecker advised her to never schedule more than two in a day to avoid an emotional overload.

To learn how to best conduct the interviews, Weisbecker received training from the S-O-S rape crisis center in South Bend.

Weisbecker said she starts the interviews casually to establish a connection with the interviewee and then she lets them guide where the interview goes.

"I ask questions for clarification, but I don't push people beyond where they are comfortable going," she said. "It's about trying to help people, not repeat the experience."

Many people who respond to her e-mails are not survivors of sexual assault, but just want to talk about their own feelings on sexuality and sexual assault, Van Mill said. For many interviewees, telling their story is part of their healing process, Weisbecker said.

"It's really hard emotionally, but it's also really exciting that people are willing to trust you with their stories," Van Mill said.

Van Mill has recorded the interviews, and over the summer she will write the play based on her transcriptions. Van Mill said she applied for research permission last week and will also apply for a UROP grant to subsidize her time spent writing and interviewing.

To reserve a place for the play to be performed next year, Van Mill needs to get either club or departmental sponsorship, Weisbecker said. Last year, the Gender Studies department sponsored the production. Weisbecker would not comment on which departments may sponsor the event next fall, but said three have expressed interest.

While her close involvement in the project is drawing to an end, "Loyal Daughters" is a production Weisbecker said she thinks should continue to be produced at Notre Dame.

"I think the fact that we sold out every night is an indicator that this is something that people want around and they want to see it because it is a difficult thing to talk about and even though it's not pleasant, it's good to know that it happens," she said.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

SMC

continued from page 1

goal, said producer Becki Faunce, was to alter the audience's views of women and the world.

The production's 17 monologues, written by members of the College community and performed by student actresses, touched on issues ranging from Notre Dame's academic freedom debate to middle school sex education class — topics Saint Mary's senior Dana Christiano said increased campus consciousness.

"[SMC Monologues] raised issues that are not talked about openly on campus," she said. "I think [the production] allows for more freedom to express and not to be afraid of certain issues on campus."

While junior actress Giuliana Rosato said she enjoyed "hearing the audience laugh so much," the lightheartedness of some monologues left senior Erin Bergman questioning the skit's message.

"I thought that some of the skits were relatable," she said, "but other times they tried too hard to be too humorous. The message was kind of lost."

The SMC Monologues' message was clear, however, for faculty advisor Catherine Pittman, who called the production an "emotional rollercoaster" — an experience that "gives the audience a sense of the strength of the intimate personal and emotional experiences that are associated with one's sexuality."

While Pittman said she did not anticipate that people would agree with every

monologue, she said she "just [asks] that people listen, and be aware of the diversity of sexual experience and perspective that is part of this campus."

The energy of the audience's reactions fueled the actresses' spirits, said director Renee Woodward, "which made our monologues even more exciting."

"The audience responded in ways I would have never imagined," she said, recalling a student's father who approached her after Saturday's performance to tell her "how moved he was by the production."

Pittman said it was the vocalization of silenced campus voices that impressed upon her how diverse the Saint Mary's community really is.

"When we call for monologues," she said, "we seem to get the most responses from survivors of sexual assault, women asking questions about their sexuality, women questioning the views of sexuality that they have been taught and women celebrating their sexuality, whether it be heterosexual, bisexual or lesbian."

In the future, Pittman said she would like to find a way to reach out to alumnae during the monologue submission process.

"Some of our best monologues are written by alum-

nae," she said. "Graduates have a perspective on their experiences at Saint Mary's that our current students don't have yet."

As Woodward reflected upon her first year directing the SMC Monologues, she said next year she would have a "better idea of what need to be done and how to do it."

"I learned what works best on stage and what the audience enjoys to hear," she said.

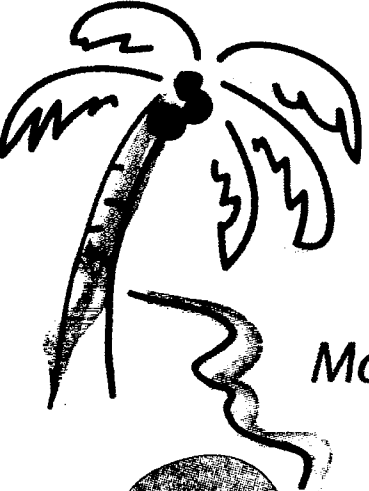
Pittman said part of the Monologues' continued success could be attributed to the suggested \$3 admittance donation, which raised more than \$600 for the South Bend S.O.S. Rape Crisis Center at Madison Center.

"We appreciated the audiences' enthusiastic response," she said. "We received a great deal of support from those who came."

Contact Kelly Meehan at kmeeha01@saintmarys.edu

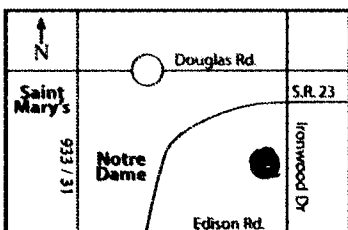


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Up:	1,634	Same:	140
Down:	1,618	Composite Volume:	2,400,320,940

AMEX	2,167.98	-10.16
NASDAQ	2,496.31	-0.79
NYSE	9,433.42	-1.54
S&P 500	1,455.54	-1.27
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	17,956.18	+80.53
FTSE 100(London)	6,419.50	-13.80

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 100 TR (QQQQ)	-0.33	-0.15	44.71
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	-0.05	-0.07	145.73
ONYX PHARM INC (ONXX)	+12.35	+3.05	27.75
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-2.44	-0.72	28.74

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	-0.534	-0.016	4.690
13-WEEK BILL	+0.20	+0.01	5.030
30-YEAR BOND	-0.33	-0.016	4.788
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.23	-0.011	4.676

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Exchange Rates			
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EURO			0.7600
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CANADIAN \$			1.1641

Fox News competes with CNBC

Murdoch says new business channel will be more accessible than competitors

Associated Press

NEW YORK — News Corp. chief Rupert Murdoch says the new Fox Business Channel will be “more business-friendly” than rival CNBC, making that point on the day he announced his network would launch at the end of the year.

It was the first hint that a classic political tactic used in launching Fox News Channel a decade ago — defining the opposition — was back in play.

Within a day of Murdoch’s statement on Feb. 8, Fox News business anchor Neil Cavuto told MarketWatch that “we’re going to be a channel for America — not for old white men with money.”

Roger Ailes, chairman and chief executive for Fox News, told The New York Times that he’d often seen things on CNBC where they aren’t as friendly to corporations and profits as they should be.

“We don’t get up every morning thinking business is bad,” Ailes said.

Substitute “America” for “business” in that quote and you’d swear it was 1996 again, and Ailes was needling CNN.

The tactic worked for Fox News Channel. Worked brilliantly. Many people doubted the network was even necessary yet it charged past the industry pioneer within six years and hasn’t been caught since. Now many are questioning whether Fox Business Channel can compete against CNBC.

CNN will be defined by what it delivers on the air every day, and not by Fox, said Jeff Zucker, chairman and CEO of NBC Universal, CNBC’s parent company.

“When you don’t have a product, it’s easy to throw darts,” Zucker told The Associated Press. “We’re not concerned at all.”

Rick Kaplan, who ran CNN from 1996 to 2000, wasn’t much concerned back then, either. Why worry about snide references to the Clinton News Network or a Fox slogan like “fair and bal-



Fox News business anchor Neil Cavuto tapes a program in 2002. Cavuto and News Corp. Chief Rupert Murdoch say the new Fox Business Channel will have broader appeal.

anced,” with the inference that CNN wasn’t? Fox’s ratings were so negligible it didn’t matter.

“I thought that people were not going to buy the argument,” Kaplan said.

CNN didn’t bother responding.

Yet Fox caught on with an audience that believed the slogans. Partly it was because there was a ring of truth, Kaplan said. Not that CNN was partisan, but mainstream news organizations may not have been sensitive enough to other points of view, he said. President Clinton’s impeachment troubles galvanized what became Fox’s audience, he said.

What should CNN have done?

“I’m not sure,” he said.

“Maybe fight back harder and not just show disdain for Fox News Channel and the noise that was coming out of Fox and their advertising campaigns.”

CNN counterpunches now, as it did recently when Fox referred to Anderson Cooper as the Paris Hilton of TV news.

CNBC hasn’t sat back. Spokesman Kevin Goldman answered the criticism coming from Fox Business Channel: “It doesn’t surprise me that our alleged competition is already starting with its usual lies and propaganda.”

Like a boxer training before a fight, CNBC has also made several changes in the two years since Mark Hoffman became president.

It has added a business newsmagazine, retooled “Squawk Box” and added the popular “Fast Money.”

What worked in politics is not likely to work in business, said Porter Bibb, of Wall Street’s Mediatech Partners and author of a biography on CNN founder Ted Turner released the year after Fox News Channel started.

Bibb believes CNBC’s advantage will be too much for Fox to overcome. CNBC, which started in 1989, is in more than 90 million of the nation’s 110 million homes; Fox will start this fall in 30 million homes. There’s usually room for only one TV on the desks of business leaders, and it will stay tuned to CNBC, he said.

IN BRIEF

Housing industry in major slowdown

WASHINGTON — Housing construction plunged to the lowest level in nearly a decade last month as the housing industry continued to struggle with a severe slowdown.

Meanwhile, wholesale prices fell 0.6 percent in January, the biggest drop in three months, providing fresh evidence that inflation pressures are easing.

Construction of new homes and apartments plunged by 14.3 percent in January, pushing total activity down to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.408 million units, the Commerce Department reported Friday.

The decline pushed activity to the slowest pace since August 1997, with construction in January 37.8 percent below the pace of a year ago. The steep decline last month followed two months of construction increases that had raised hopes that perhaps the worst of the housing slump was over.

The weather was blamed for part of the setback. November and December had been unusually mild while more normal winter weather returned to much of the country in January, depressing building activity.

However, economists said the depth of the decline showed that housing was still facing major problems after a five-year boom that ended last year.

House passes business tax breaks

WASHINGTON — The House overwhelmingly approved business tax breaks worth \$1.8 billion over 10 years, a key step toward forging a congressional compromise on increasing the minimum wage.

Friday’s vote on the tax cuts was 360-45.

Passage of a wage hike for the lowest-paid workers now depends on how quickly the House and Senate work out differences between their tax packages. The Senate tax breaks — worth \$8.3 billion — are more than four times bigger than the ones passed in the House.

Under the House bill, small businesses would see an extension in some tax write-offs that are scheduled to expire and would be able to continue to claim a tax credit for hiring disadvantaged workers.

Associated Press

NEW YORK — JetBlue called off almost a quarter of its flights for Monday but hoped that would be the last round of cancellations as it struggles to recover from the snowstorm that saw some travelers sitting on grounded planes for hours.

The news sent passengers scrambling to deal with the disruption to their plans.

The airline had scheduled 600 flights for President’s Day, more than the 550 to 575 flights it has on a normal Monday, but 139 of them were canceled, JetBlue announced late Saturday.

The latest cancellations were needed

to make sure all flight crews had gotten the legally mandated amount of rest before returning to service, JetBlue Airways Corp. spokesman Sebastian White said Sunday.

“Canceling one more day’s operations will really help reset our airline,” White said Sunday.

All JetBlue flights were canceled in and out of 11 airports: Richmond, Va.; Pittsburgh; Charlotte and Raleigh/Durham, N.C.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Austin and Houston, Texas; Columbus, Ohio; Nashville; Portland, Maine; and Bermuda.

The cancellations followed hundreds of other canceled and delayed flights since Wednesday, when the snow and ice storm that had plowed across the

Midwest struck the Northeast, grounding the company’s airliners at John F. Kennedy International Airport.

Maria Arbelo and two companions had been ticketed for a JetBlue flight to Houston on Saturday morning to get on a cruise. That flight was canceled, as were all flights to Houston on Sunday. The airline put the three women up in a hotel for the night, and had them on a Sunday evening flight to Cancun. From there, they would have to find a driver to take them on a four-hour trip to meet their ship.

“Oh my God, horrendous,” Arbelo, a teacher from New Haven, Conn., said of her experience. “It’s been a terrible ordeal, I tell you. We’ve been from line to line.”

JetBlue cancels more flights, ‘resets’

Winner

continued from page 1

ing of the Student Senate, said Judicial Council president Liz Kozlow.

"Each senator is mandated by the Constitution to follow the plurality of their dorm, which means they must vote according to the majority vote in their dorm," Kozlow said. Only in the event of a tie within a dorm will a senator be able to vote freely, she said.

Each senator received an envelope with the voting breakdown of his or her dorm directly before the Senate meeting vote took place. Four senators were not present for the formal vote, but none of the four had ties within their dorms and therefore their absence did not affect the outcome, Kozlow said.

McGlinn and O'Neill were the only two dorms with a tied vote, and both senators voted for Smith and Weiss.

Even those swing votes, however, were not enough for Smith and Weiss to pull away with the presidency.

"It happens," Smith said following the decision. "I'm just going to take a step back, start focusing a little bit on school again and see what comes my way."

Brown said she felt "a little bit shocked and overwhelmed" after the results were announced.

"It was a long meeting and it's been a long process," she said.

Resorting to a Student Senate meeting to determine a president is "not something that people are hoping for," Kozlow said.

"[The meeting] was a tense and difficult environment," she said. "It's not ideal. We

would have all liked it to end after the run-off vote."

A contributing factor to that "tense" environment is the fact that senators may strongly support one candidate but be required to vote a different way.

"[Senators] must follow their constituents," Kozlow said. "No one wanted it to end like this [a Senate vote]. We didn't feel great."

Brown said there was a concerted effort to make sure correct protocol was followed.

"I think everyone wanted to make sure that the procedure for voting was correct and accurate so that it was done as professionally and accurately as possible," she said. "There wasn't a lot of antagonism. I just think that everyone was just in a little bit of high stress and wanting to make sure it was done right."

Though this process is unpleasant, it is also rare.

"The only time I know of [an election being determined by Student Senate] is three years ago," Kozlow said. "That's the only time I can think of. It's a huge deal."

Kozlow was referring to the 2004 election, when the Senate elected Adam Istvan and Karla Bell in a 15-13 vote over opposing ticket Charlie Ebersol and James Leito.

Now that the election process is finally over, Brown and Braun will be able to take a breather before assuming their roles as leaders of the student body.

Brown, speaking for an absent Braun, said they hope to "hit the ground running on our initiatives," and that both she and Braun are "definitely excited" about the decision.

"I think we're all just happy it's over," she said.

Contact Sonia Rao at srao@nd.edu

Senate

continued from page 1

received 50 percent plus one vote in the student body run-off election, the Constitution dictated that the winner be decided by a majority vote in a closed meeting of the Senate. Andrichik, who as vice president is also the Student Senate chair, called an emergency meeting of the Senate for Sunday night at 6 p.m.

In an e-mail sent Thursday, which The Observer obtained, Andrichik included the text of the Constitution that applied to the voting protocol in the closed meeting. Article VII, Section VI, Part 1c of the Constitution read:

"Senators must cast their votes for the candidate capturing the plurality of his constituency's votes. Each senator shall be informed of the vote in his or her constituency by the Judicial Council President immediately preceding the meeting."

But the copy of the Constitution given to senators at the beginning of their terms last spring read differently and did not say senators were compelled to cast their vote in accordance with the plurality in their residence hall.

The section of the Constitution that senators have had since the beginning of their terms reads:

"Prior to the meeting, the Judicial Council president shall present each senator with the voting breakdown from the Senator's respective dorm. In light of this information, each Senator may cast his vote freely."

Coughlin discovered this discrepancy Thursday and called a meeting of various members of student government including Andrichik, student body president Lizzi Shappell, Judicial Council president Liz Kozlow, Senate Oversight chair Chris Hollar and parliamentarian Matt Barlow to decide which version to follow, Andrichik said.

"The decision of the meeting was that, for the integrity of the Constitution, we felt that regardless of what information was disseminated at the beginning [of the term], the correct Constitution should be followed for this election," Andrichik said.

The correct version called for senators to vote according to the plurality in their residence hall, he said. The version of the Constitution that allows senators to vote freely was never actually voted on by senators during the 2003-04 term, when the Constitution underwent major revisions.

"According to minutes from the 2003-04 Senate that we reviewed during this whole process, the Constitution was never changed from how it was initially read, which required the senators to vote as their dorm voted, which is why we went with the actual Constitution," Andrichik said.

But one senator, who wished to remain anonymous to avoid conflict with fellow senators, disagreed with the decision to substitute a section of the Constitution without consulting the senators.

"To give a version of the Constitution and then to say, well, actually, that's not true — we have a different set of rules we are going to go by — it sets a dangerous precedent."

At the closed meeting, many senators expressed confusion over the changes and over being left out of the decision to insert a different clause regarding closed meetings into the Constitution, the senator said.

"The biggest issue is that the clause concerned senators so much," the senator said. "Doing

something like this to change it so close to this emergency meeting almost seems like pulling the rug out under our feet."

There is no information in the Constitution as to what to do if there is a discrepancy in rules, the senator said.

Fisher senator Drew Clary called the mix-up a "terrible situation." Forcing senators to vote according to their dorm pluralities gave the Brown-Braun ticket an advantage, Clary said.

Smith-Weiss would have had a better chance of winning if senators could vote according to their own preference, he said, since many

senators served on their campaign committee. Clary worked on the Smith-Weiss campaign.

And had the two tickets known different rules would be followed in the closed meeting than those that were laid out in the Constitution possessed by senators, the candidates could have changed their campaigning strategies and spent the final hours of the election week trying to win votes in dorms with close numbers, Clary said.

Some senators were also unhappy to be at a meeting where their vote was predetermined.

"Another main concern was that since we have to vote with our dorm no matter what. ... A lot of people were ticked off that they were forced to go to a meeting in which they had no control over their vote," he said.

Brown-Braun won the majority with a 15-13 vote and will be student body president and vice president starting April 1.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

Fallen climbers on Mt. Hood all found alive

Associated Press

GOVERNMENT CAMP, Ore. — Rescuers located three climbers who fell from a ledge on snowy Mount Hood on Sunday, but rescue efforts were being hampered by blinding snow and wind, officials said.

Rescuers were trying to rappel 150 feet to reach the climbers, but were caught in whiteout conditions. Officials were in sporadic cell phone contact with the three, and believed they were in decent condition.

All three — a man and two women — were able to walk, and rescuers suggested they cautiously try to work their way down the mountain as rescue teams worked their way up toward them, said Sgt. Sean Collinson, a spokesman for the Clackamas County Sheriff's office.

At least one of the three had a mountain locator unit, which emits signals used to find missing or stranded climbers. Rescuers were using the signals to keep track of the trio's position on the mountain.

"They're very cold," said Russell Gubele, who was coordinating communications for the rescue operation. "It's snowing heavy. Conditions are awful."

Collinson said the two women appeared to have suffered some bumps and bruises and their male companion is in good condition. He said all three "were in fairly good spirits when we talked to them on the phone."

The drama on Oregon's highest mountain began shortly before noon, when someone in the eight-person climbing party called emergency dispatchers to say three of the climbers had fallen off a cliff.

The climbing mishap occurred at about the 8,300-foot level on the mountain, which is about 60 miles east of Portland.

Battling snow and winds that exceeded 70 mph, a team of rescue mountaineers scrambled up the mountain to search. The other members of the party were told to dig a snow cave and wait for help.

Authorities said the climbers' electronic locator device helped rescuers find them. One of the devices was activated after the fall, authorities said.

The three climbers who fell were found near the five others, authorities said. The five were taken down to Timberline Lodge, a ski resort at the 6,000-foot level of Mount Hood, and all are reported in good condition, the sheriff's office said in an e-mail.

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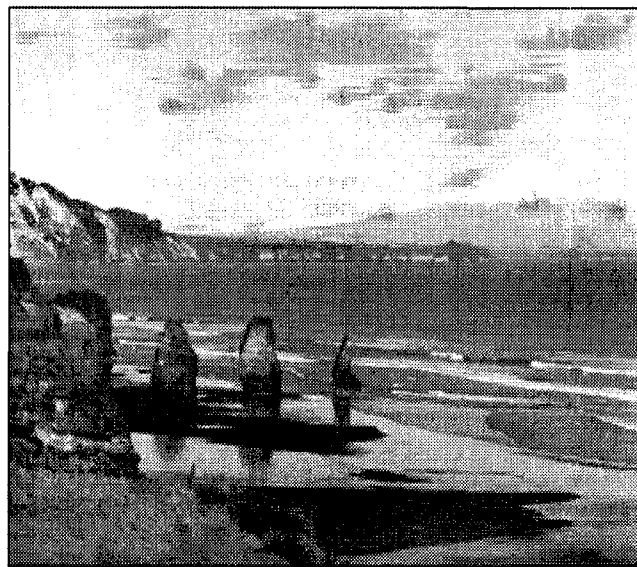
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By now, tear stains would have formed near Milo's eyes into his fur, which would appear dark brown. He could be wearing a red sweater and would have a teal colored collar, with matching leash. I believe his rabies shot was given by Kryder Clinic so he should have that tag on his collar. Milo was apprehensive of people he didn't know. He was a "puppy mill" dog. We believe he would run from someone if he was approached.

If found, please contact Animal Hospital of South Bend (MILO'S VET) 282-2303

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

Monday, February 19, 2007

page 11

Looking for comedy in the conservative world

It's often tempting for a tree-hugging, anti-war, blue-state Yankee like me to get a little self-important while watching the foibles of conservative America in recent months. As if hearing President Bush say "Madam Speaker" at his State of the Union Address wasn't satisfying enough, learning that the leader of the National Association of Evangelicals had an affair with a gay prostitute last fall almost caused me to spit my free-range chicken out onto a biodegradable recycled napkin, and what an eco-waste that would have been!

I soon realized, however, that much of my liberal arrogance and ability to laugh at the antics of the Keystone Kops in the White House can be attributed entirely to the fact that nearly all of America's current comedy is wholeheartedly liberal. Having Jon Stewart or Jay Leno cue me in on when to laugh at a presidential misnomer certainly makes me feel better for not supporting the president's Iraq troop buildup. And hearing Stephen Colbert mock Republican ideology by sounding like a stubborn fool who honors blind faith over solid fact definitely allows me to pat myself on the back for encouraging increased measures to eliminate global warming.

But what about conservatives? Maybe the reason they're so glum all the time — picketing abortion clinics, chopping down trees, blowing up

other countries, fantasizing about Jack Bauer — is that they don't have any conservative comedians to brighten their spirits and bolster their ideology. Whenever Nancy Pelosi is feeling down, she can simply turn on "The Daily Show" and listen to Jon Stewart do his Dick Cheney impression. But what about Dick? Where does Dick turn when he needs to laugh at America's silly liberals?

Sure, there are a few bright spots of Republican humor in America. Trey Parker and Matt Stone, the creators of "South Park," famously announced a few years back that they voted Republican because, while they "hate conservatives, they really [expletive] hate liberals." "South Park" is possibly the funniest show on television, but one can hardly call Parker and Stone's outrageously offensive humor "conservative." Then there are the members of the highly successful Blue Collar Comedy Tour — certainly some of the favorite comedians of the American South. Unfortunately, these four men are only at their best when they are either fall-down drunk (Ron White) or making fun of themselves for being hicks (Jeff Foxworthy and the Get 'R Done guy). One could also point to the so-called "American Conservative Comedian" Brad Stine as a beacon of humorous hope for the conservative world, but a quick scan of YouTube proved that Brad Stine's rants on the difference between cat names and dog names were about as comically inspiring as Ben Stein's deadpan teaching voice in "Ferris Bueller's Day Off."

Simply put, there is no truly funny conservative comedian out there who rips into the left wing like Stewart, Colbert, and Sacha Baron Cohen

(Borat) rip a new one into the political right.

Then along came the programming gurus at the Fox News Channel. In an effort to tap into the market for political comedy exposed by Stewart and Colbert, Fox News introduced a conservative version of "The Daily Show" last night, cleverly titled "The Half-Hour News Hour." Unfortunately, that title was really only clever the first time it was used — in the short-lived 1983 MTV show featuring Victoria Jackson titled "The Half-Hour Comedy Hour." Strike one, Fox News.

The new show is the brainchild of Joel Surnow, the co-creator of the most patriotic show in the history of the world, "24." Surnow, who actually calls himself "a right-wing nut job," decided that a conservative comedy news program was necessary because "the other side hasn't been skewered in a fair and balanced way." To further clarify this point, advertisements leading up to the show's premiere announced that it might offend "the left, the far left, anyone standing to the left, gay penguins, lawyers, the ACLU, anyone with the ACLU in their name, etc." Clearly, skewering in a "fair-and-balanced way" meant attacking both liberals and their gay counterparts in the penguin community. Unfortunately, if Morgan Freeman taught us anything last year, it's that Americans love penguins — even penguins who like dudes. Strike two, Fox News.

When portions of "The Half-Hour News Hour" were finally released to the public in the past few days, one would have expected a truly rollicking zinger to introduce the show to the world. Instead, co-anchor Kurt Long

led with the following: "Illinois Sen. Barack Obama admits that as a teenager he sometimes used cocaine. This news sent Obama's approval rating among Democrats plummeting to an all-time low of 99.9 percent." A laugh track (I didn't even know they still existed) filled in the awkward silence that followed until Long added, "But, in a related story, Sen. Obama has just been endorsed for president by former Washington, D.C. Mayor Marion Barry." Even the prerecorded laugh track had a tough time giggling after this one. Strike three, Fox News.

Clearly, conservative Americans are faced with a serious dilemma. Without any truly great comedians or remotely funny political satire shows to tickle his gun-toting funny bone, what is a right-wing boy to do when he needs to let out a good laugh after a long day of melting the polar ice caps with the exhaust from his Hummer? Certainly, he cannot be expected to laugh along with Stephen Colbert as he unabashedly mocks Bill O'Reilly.

No, without a talented conservative comedian to incite their laughter, right-wing Americans will simply have no choice but to continue to grumpily invade foreign nations, attack illegal immigrants and destroy the happiness of gay Americans — and gay penguins — everywhere.

It's not their fault. They just haven't had anything to laugh at in awhile.

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

ACE for all reasons

Thirteen years ago I graduated from Notre Dame with majors in marketing and sociology, an optimism for the future and a desire to serve. One of 40 fortunately selected to comprise the first class of a new program called the Alliance for Catholic Education, I had an undergraduate degree, a big heart and a thirst for adventure.

We spent that first summer developing in each of the three pillar areas of ACE: teaching, community and spirituality. Then it was off to Hammond, La. For the next two years I taught religion and English to fifth and sixth graders at the under-resourced Holy Ghost Catholic School there. I lived in a community with fellow ACE teachers and we shared everything from evening meals to lesson plans. We celebrated classroom triumphs, supported one another when people less than half our age got the better of us and wondered together about the futures of our students, our schools and ourselves.

Now former pupils are calling me with engagement announcements, career plans and questions of their own about what impact they will have on the world. I know that somewhere in there a seed was planted a dozen years ago, and I hope that I played some part, even if a slight one, in these young men and women growing and blossoming into committed Christians and citizens who are going on, in turn, to create a better world.

In my current work with homeless men, women, and children, I'm tasked with thinking of new and more effective ways to break the ruthless cycle of generational poverty afflicting our nation today. It's a very large and complicated problem, but there's one thing I know for certain: there's no replacement for a strong

education. There's no exaggerating the impact a teacher can have on the life of a young mind. I have also come to realize that there's no exaggerating the importance of the preparation needed to become a highly effective teacher. I am convinced that ACE not only prepared me to be the best possible teacher I could be, but that it continues to get better each year.

There's also great need in our Catholic schools today. Our Church is in a position to continue, as it has historically, to serve immigrant and inner-city families by providing them with quality schooling and formation in faith and character. But this is only possible if people like you commit your time and energy to the mission. ACE teachers today have a unique and crucial role to play in the future of our Church and country. Last July, the U.S. Secretary of Education, Margaret Spellings, speaking at the ACE Commencement Exercises, praised Catholic schools as "national treasures" that must be preserved. In particular, she cited their heroic work to educate the poor and marginalized, whether the students are Catholic or not.

So if you seek to change the world one life at a time or if you're looking, like I was, to give to give back something of what you've been given here under the Dome, ACE is one incredible experience for a truly credible cause. I have profound gratitude for my challenging, awe-inspiring time in ACE, and I hope many of you will look to serve in this program that, without question, was the most transformative experience of my life.

Steve Camilleri

executive director, Center for the Homeless

Feb. 14

Kaleidoscope a valuable addition

Vu Nguyen's criticism of the comic strip Kaleidoscope McDaniels ("Kaleidoscope McDaniels proves its poor taste," Feb. 16) is unwarranted. It is true that the comic does dance along the border between decency and obscenity, but it also takes on issues that we must confront ourselves. One example of this is the very memorable comic that featured University founder Father Edward Sorin shotgunning a Natural Light. That comic showed the irony that Notre Dame is riddled with. Here we have arguably the most famous Catholic university in the world, yet there is an unending search for debauchery on the weekends.

Another example is the Eating Disorders Conference comic Nguyen mentioned. To be perfectly honest, the reality of the importance of such a conference was not apparent to me until I read the comic which made fun of Notre Dame's perceptions of eating disorders. Our inability to laugh at the imperfections we are riddled with is a reflection on our inability to correct these imperfections. For example, the constant comparison of girls to gremlins reflects the dominant opinion of many Notre Dame men who feel that Notre Dame women do not fit society's norms for beauty. As most of us will admit, society's "norm" for beauty is an exaggeration and is not representative of reality anyway. The comic's portrayal, then, challenges the men to alter their perceptions of women here.

It is true that sometimes the portrayals are ridiculous, such as Nguyen's reference to the comic featuring University president Father John Jenkins smoking marijuana. What makes this comic funny, though, is not that Jenkins is portrayed as being a pothead, but that this is very unlike Jenkins. Personally, I find Liam Moran's sarcasm and satire a refreshing escape from the surrealistic life that Notre Dame is famous for. Kaleidoscope McDaniels is a valuable addition to The Observer. We spend so much time worrying about the image of the University and the student body, but most of us are not willing to make a change. We want the world to see us as a pristine and wholly moral institution. So every now and then, we need a humorous reminder that the world and even Notre Dame are not perfect places.

Levi Checketts

freshman

Stanford Hall

Feb. 17

DVD REVIEWS

New 'Dogs' DVD has bite to match bark

By BRIAN DOXTADER
Scene Editor

Has it really been 15 years since "Reservoir Dogs" came along and introduced the world to the mad genius of writer/director Quentin Tarantino? The cooler-than-cool dialogue, the matching suits, the ear-slicing violence and the constant cultural references made Tarantino a hot commodity in Hollywood. Those elements laid the groundwork for his next picture, "Pulp Fiction." Yet "Reservoir Dogs" remains a great film on its own merits, an involving and fast-paced heist movie with a freewheeling energy and desultory sense of detached cool.

The basic plot revolves around a diamond heist organized by Joe Cabot (Lawrence Tierney). Cabot hires a group of professional thieves, who are all given code names: the unstable Mr. Blonde (Michael Madsen), the seasoned veteran Mr. White (Harvey Keitel), the rookie Mr. Orange (Tim Roth) and the consummate professional Mr. Pink (Steve Buscemi). After the robbery — which is never shown on-screen — goes awry and Mr. Orange ends up with a bullet in his gut, the

thieves assemble at the meeting point and try to determine which one of them is the rat.

"Reservoir Dogs" didn't quite have the massive cultural impact of "Pulp Fiction," but it came pretty close, though accusations that it ripped off the Hong Kong film "City on Fire" slightly hampered its reputation. Still, Tarantino's sense of dialogue (much of which has little to do with the plot) and pacing drive "Reservoir Dogs" and are the main reasons it doesn't feel outdated.

Artisan released a special edition to commemorate the 10th anniversary, and five years later, Lions Gate has released a 15th anniversary edition. This is something the studios can keep milking, with a new release of "Reservoir Dogs" every five years — fans will surely appreciate shelling out more money for bigger and better editions.

Actually, however, in this case there is ample reason to upgrade. The picture quality was one of the weakest points on Artisan's release, with faded, washed-out colors. The image has been remastered on Lions Gate's version and the difference is immediately noticeable. The colors are much more vibrant and the image looks much sharper. The audio is improved as well, with a 6.1 DTS-ES track (and a 5.1 Dolby Digital Surround EX mix), which doesn't sound a whole lot different than Artisan's 5.1 DTS track — still, it's



Photo courtesy of follow-me-now.de

"Reservoir Dogs," Tarantino's first film, has been recently released in a new 15th anniversary edition with noticeable picture and audio improvements.

an immersive mix that uses quite a bit of surround. "Reservoir Dogs" is a dialogue-heavy film, and the dialogue is clear and upfront.

This edition jettisons the worthless full screen version of the film in favor of some new special features, which include a documentary about the impact "Reservoir Dogs" has had, and some interesting featurettes on the characters. The commentary tracks are the same as on the 10-year anniversary edition, which means it's snippets of Tarantino, and not an actual track he recorded specifically for the film.

"Reservoir Dogs" is released in some of the funkiest packaging to come

around in a while. It comes in a tin case shaped like a gasoline barrel, with the DVDs themselves housed in a giant cardboard matchbox. Unfortunately, there's no booklet to accompany the set, but the packaging is definitely unique.

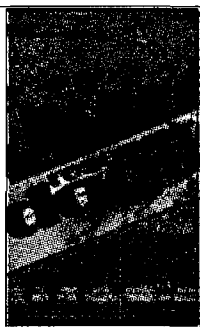
It's usually difficult to recommend upgrades on films, especially since it encourages studios to release multiple versions. In the case of "Reservoir Dogs," however, the remastered picture and audio are enough to make this a worthwhile release of a groundbreaking picture.

Contact Brian Doxtader at
bdoxtade@nd.edu

Reservoir Dogs

15th Anniversary Edition

Lions Gate Entertainment



The audio is improved as well, with a 6.1 DTS-ES track (and a 5.1 Dolby Digital Surround EX mix), which doesn't sound a whole lot different than Artisan's 5.1 DTS track — still, it's

Anniversary of 'The Doors' breaks on through

By BRIAN DOXTADER
Scene Editor

Oliver Stone's biopic "The Doors" is much like the band itself — sometimes brilliant, maddeningly inconsistent, yet ultimately memorable. It was released to mixed reviews a decade and a half ago, and its uneasy mixture of standard biopic, neo-psychedelic head-trip, and rock god worship understandably caused reservations with critics and audiences. Yet it's still a fascinatingly atypical look at a major rock band, anchored by a strong cast and the group's music.

"The Doors" hits all of the major points in the band's development: its formation in Los Angeles in the mid-1960s, the skyrocketing popularity of its first album, its infamous performance on Ed Sullivan, Morrison's trial for indecent exposure and his death in Paris in 1971. The band consisted of singer Jim Morrison (Val Kilmer), keyboardist Ray Manzarek (Kyle MacLachlan), guitarist Robby Krieger (Frank Whaley) and drummer John Densmore (Kevin Dillon). The film focuses on Morrison, whose increasingly erratic behavior and difficult relationships

with girlfriend Pam Courso (Meg Ryan) and rock journalist Patricia Kennealy (Kathleen Quinlan) form the bulk of the picture.

Kilmer's performance may be the best thing about "The Doors." He effortlessly embodies the spirit and quirks of Morrison, drawing the audience into the character. Stone, however, makes the charismatic front man almost impenetrable, which means that "The Doors" isn't as insightful as it could (and should) be. The Doors' music, which forms most of the soundtrack, is great, with many of the band's biggest hits and best known tracks ("Light My Fire," "Break On Through," "Riders on the Storm") making appearances.

Stone remains an energetic and powerful director, and there are scenes of great power and beauty. The strangeness of the film often matches the strangeness of the band, which is why many of the sequences feel oddly appropriate, despite their seemingly unfocused nature. The concert scenes in particular are often fantastic, and the film version of the band does a great job of imitating the strangeness of The Doors' stage show.

Unfortunately, the film often gets bogged down in neo-psychedelic fantasy, much of which does little to advance the plot. This would be forgivable if "The Doors" made much effort to give psychological insight into the mind of Morrison, but it instead chooses to celebrate his legend. The film includes plenty of familiar folklore about The Lizard King, such as



Photo courtesy of beinamovie.com

Val Kilmer stars as Jim Morrison in Oliver Stone's "The Doors," a biopic about the 1960s band. The film has just been released in a 15th anniversary edition.

his claim that the spirit of a dying Indian entered his body when he was a child.

"The Doors" was already released once on a special edition DVD, now usurped by this new 15th anniversary edition. Both versions were two-discs, but the 15th anniversary edition has received a picture and audio upgrade. The 6.1 DTS track sounds fantastic, with The Doors' music popping out of the speakers. Most of the special features, which are housed on the second disc, focus on the band rather than the film. Sadly, the DVD does not contain an audio commentary from director Oliver Stone, which would have been welcome, especially

considering Stone's outspokenness and the mixed reaction to the film.

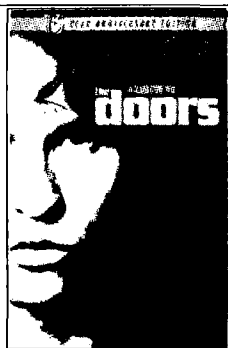
As a document of its time and a straightforward examination of the band, the impact of "The Doors" is negligible. It's not quite a great picture, but it's not nearly as bad as its reputation, either. The new 15th anniversary edition is a welcome upgrade, especially for those who have never seen the film — it's a strange and sometimes powerful ode to one of the 1960s most revered rock gods.

Contact Brian Doxtader at
bdoxtade@nd.edu

The Doors

15th Anniversary Edition

Lions Gate



SCENE & HEARD

The dangers of walking in a winter wonderland

Normally I'm a fairly sure-footed fellow, save for those occasional exceptions when my internal inner-ear mechanism seems to be out of whack (such as late at night Thursdays, Fridays or Saturdays on my way to and from Sbarros).

So imagine my shock when I was exiting DeBartolo last week, bundled up in my jacket like a South Park character to protect against the cold, when I slipped on some ice and bit it. Hard. I felt like Kenny as he suffers one of his many ignominious deaths.

As I lay there dazed, random passers-by looked at me in derision, laughter written all over their faces. (Oh, and by the way, thanks to random South Quad guy for stepping over my prone form. What a Good Samaritan you are.)

Of course, I have been on the other side of that scenario, pointing and giggling like a schoolchild as other people wiped out on the treacherous slip 'n' slides that pass for walkways around this campus. However, I found the sudden role reversal somewhat less than hilarious.

It's all fun and games until you're splattered on the ground like Humpty Dumpty: Trust me, it's no fun when you find yourself in that position. So as I lay there in what some would refer to as the "Awkward Turtle" position, flipped backwards onto my shell as my arms and legs

waved feebly in the air, a variety of thoughts occurred to me.

The first was just to lie there and die of embarrassment and hypothermia. "I'll wait it out until I succumb to the freezing temperature and my body shuts down," I thought. Well played, Mother Nature, I thought, as I waited for Death to take me (complete with scythe and Norm MacDonald's voice).

Yet apparently a part of my psyche wanted to live, for some spark within me burst into flame. "No," I thought, "it's not my time to die. Not yet." As such, the next issue at hand was how to get up. This turned out to be easier said than done. However, as Jeff Goldblum and the Jurassic Park movies taught us, "Life will find a way."

I recalled a news story I read once about how a pair of hikers trapped in a snowstorm built an igloo and weathered the frozen tempest. So I started to gather snow about me in the hopes of insulating myself against the cold. Unfortunately, all I succeeded in doing was creating a sort of sloppy snow angel out of the muddy slush around me.

Finally, I was able to roll over and pick myself up off the ground, wet and cold with a bruised knee and a battered ego.

So if you find yourself in that position, perched precariously at the tipping point between keeping your footing and finding yourself splayed out on some black ice, here are a few tips:

- ◆ Yelp for help and latch onto anyone and anything close at hand. Maybe you'll be able to stay upright, but even if you can't, misery loves company and it always helps to drag people down with



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

With much of campus still covered in snow, simply walking to and from class can be a hazard. There are, however, ways to avoid embarrassment if you slip and fall.

you.

- ◆ Tuck your shoulder and try to snap roll like a ninja (you could also try to launch into some break-dancing move like the step-over). The upside to this one is that if you pull it off, you'll probably look pretty cool, although the downside is that if you don't pull it off, you'll probably just face-plant and eat some ice.

- ◆ Try to increase the coefficient of friction on your shoe soles by wrapping chains around your sneaker soles. Who says snow tires are just for cars?

- ◆ Or you could try to build a protective

igloo or pass off your wiping out as an impromptu snow angel-making session.

Regardless of what you decide to go with, remember to keep a smile on your face as you traverse the treacherous crosswalks on campus. Whoever thought that walking could become an extreme sport?

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu.

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

DVD REVIEW

Taut, tight thriller 'Unknown' arrives on DVD

By SEAN SWEANY
Assistant Scene Editor

Fear of the uncertain is one of the most alarming and terrifying feelings. Not knowing where one is, how one got there or — worst of all — who one is can instill a terror so profound that one resorts to desperate measures to find the answers to these simple questions.

This is the dilemma facing five men who awake to find themselves injured and locked inside a warehouse in the movie "Unknown." Confused as to who they are and why they are injured, the men learn from a discarded newspaper they are all connected with a kidnapping plot — and that two were kidnapped while the other three were kidnappers.

A phone call alerts them that the ring-leader of the kidnapping will return to the warehouse in several hours to "sort out" the situation. What follows is a race against time for the men to piece together their collective memories and escape the warehouse before the other kidnappers arrive.

The greatest strength of "Unknown" is its script. Penned by Notre Dame grad Matthew Waynee, the smart writing drops hints and creates mystery at just the right times. Cerebral explorations of good and evil take place at the same time as character development and even brief flashes of humor, demonstrating Waynee's skill in his first screenplay.

The narrative is quick-paced and complex, using flashbacks to gradually reveal the truth to the audience slightly before the characters themselves realize it. One man (Jim Caviezel, "The Passion of the Christ") seems most integral to the plot and quickly becomes the story's protagonist.

Caviezel's fellow actors include Greg Kinnear ("Little Miss Sunshine"), Barry Pepper ("Saving Private Ryan"), Joe Pantoliano ("Memento") and Jeremy Sisto ("Six Feet Under"), all of whose story arcs weave in and out of each other as their characters gain and lose each other's trust.

At its heart, "Unknown" is a psychological thriller about the interaction of fear and trust, and all five men convey this perfectly in their acting.

Occasionally, the narrative eases the tension by leaving the warehouse to show us the head kidnapper (Peter Stormare, "Prison Break") and the wife of one of the kidnapped men (Bridget Moynahan, "I, Robot"), two deep characters that add



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Greg Kinnear stars in Simon Brand's "Unknown," a moody and effective thriller about criminals and kidnappers. The film was just released on DVD.

much to the film.

The excellent script and acting overcome what is mediocre directing and camera work, especially since the unchanging setting provided director Simon Brand a realm of creative possibilities. The simple and repetitive cinematography becomes evident towards the end of the film, which is also when the whole ship starts to sink.

In any film of this genre, like "Reservoir Dogs," one expects plot twists, and they begin in earnest in the last 15 minutes of "Unknown." As the plot twists begin to pile up like the dead bodies in the film, howev-

er, the plausibility becomes questionable.

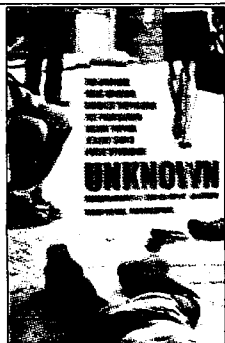
Ultimately, the good traits of the first thrilling hour of the movie become negated by unrealistic events and connections viewers are asked to believe in the last few minutes. This is not to say that the movie is not worthwhile — the acting is superb, and the first five minutes alone should be enough to hook anyone. However, it is hard to imagine what "Unknown" could have been had its ending kept pace with the rest of the movie.

Contact Sean Sweany at ssweany@nd.edu

Unknown

Widescreen Edition

Weinstein Company



NHL

Stars close gap in Pacific with win over Sharks

Malkin's bad-angle goal helps Penguins top Capitals, extend Pittsburgh's streak of games with at least 1 point to 16

Associated Press

DALLAS — The Dallas Stars keep gaining ground in the Pacific Division.

Mike Ribeiro and Jere Lehtinen each scored two goals, Darryl Sydor added three assists and Marty Turco made 17 saves as the Stars beat the San Jose Sharks 5-2 on Sunday.

The Stars have 72 points, one behind the second-place Sharks and six behind first-place Anaheim in the Pacific before the Ducks' game against the Los Angeles Kings on Sunday night.

On Jan. 15, the defending Pacific champion Stars trailed the Ducks by 15 points and the Sharks by seven.

"We're confident we can keep moving up," Ribeiro said. "We know where we stand. This was a four-point game for us."

Stu Barnes added a goal and Sergei Zubov had two assists for the Stars.

Lehtinen capped the scoring with 1:35 left on an empty-netter to help Dallas improve to 9-3-1 in its past 13 games, including a 6-1-1 run at home.

"(The Sharks) are a good team so we knew we had to come out and play hard," Sydor said. "We know what the standings look like. For us, this game meant a one-point deficit or a five-point deficit (behind San Jose)."

After consecutive shutouts, the Sharks ended their team-

record scoreless streak at 190 minutes, 22 seconds on Mark Bell's power-play deflection at 1:52 of the third period. San Jose's previous record was 165 minutes, 38 seconds from Jan. 21-Feb. 1, 1999.

Mike Grier also scored and Evgeni Nabokov stopped 16 shots for the Sharks, who have lost their past three and were beginning the second half of a season-long eight-game road trip.

"It's a little late in the season for moral victories," Grier said. "We're not getting it done, not playing well enough to win games."

Turco was returning as Dallas' starter after backup Mike Smith played in the previous four games. Smith had started two of the previous four games and came on in relief of Turco in the other two, but coach Dave Tippett says there is no goalie controversy, that he was merely giving Turco a rest.

"He's looked good the last couple of days in practice," Tippett said. "You can tell he was fresh and rejuvenated out there."

Penguins 3, Capitals 2

Alexander Ovechkin didn't do much offensively, a commonplace event lately. Instead, it was the runner-up Russian who created a goal out of nothing, keeping the Pittsburgh Penguins' most successful stretch in 14 years going.



Pittsburgh defenseman Sergei Gonchar, left, knocks Washington forward Alexander Ovechkin to the ice as he shoots Sunday during Pittsburgh's 3-2 win.

Evgeni Malkin scored a bad-angle goal to give Pittsburgh the lead in another tightly played game against Washington and the streaking Penguins won their sixth in a row, beating the Capitals Sunday.

The Penguins have gained at least a point in 16 consecutive games, going 14-0-2 — their longest run since they won a league-record 17 in a row and tied one to end the 1992-93 season. The surprise is that NHL scoring leader Sidney Crosby, who has 91 points, is slumping with only one goal in 10 games.

Malkin has keyed the Penguins' first playoff run since 2001 with 10 goals and 16 assists in 17 games. His teammates are convinced that Malkin, the No. 2 pick in the 2004 NHL draft to Ovechkin, is more than a little motivated any time he goes against his Russian rival. It was the first and only time two Russians were picked 1-2.

"They're very competitive, good hockey players and good friends so there's definitely a little bit of something with him," Mark Recchi said.

Of Malkin's 29 goals as a rookie, perhaps none was more creative than his score late in the second period. With the score tied 1, Malkin carried the puck out from behind the Capitals' net and fed it up the right wing boards to Sergei

Gonchar — at this time a year ago, Malkin's Russian Olympic teammate.

Malkin took Gonchar's give-back pass and, from along the goal line, one-timed a perfectly placed left-handed shot inside the far post, almost before Washington backup goalie Brent Johnson could react.

The goal reminded Recchi of some of those scored by a former Penguins teammate named Mario Lemieux.

"With his size and his hands, Geno looks like him," Recchi said. "Mario was one of those guys who can score from that angle, and only a few guys can. A lot of guys don't even try that."

Rangers 2, Blackhawks 1

Brendan Shanahan made his mark on the latest New York Rangers' win without even lacing up a skate.

A simple hello in the dressing room when none of his teammates expected to see him lit the fuse Sunday and provided a lift in a victory Sunday over the Chicago Blackhawks.

"It didn't hurt, that's for sure," coach Tom Renney said of Shanahan's impromptu visit. "It was good to see him standing up."

The last time the Rangers saw Shanahan he was strapped to a back board with a brace around his neck, being wheeled out of Madison Square Garden on a stretcher.

Shanahan was released from the hospital Sunday after spending the night under observation for a concussion. The 38-year-old forward was knocked unconscious Saturday during a 5-3 home loss to Philadelphia after colliding hard with Flyers forward Mike Knuble.

Tests didn't reveal neurological damage, and Shanahan doesn't have any other serious injuries beyond the concussion and general aches and pains. It is unknown how long he will be sidelined, but he won't play for at least a week.

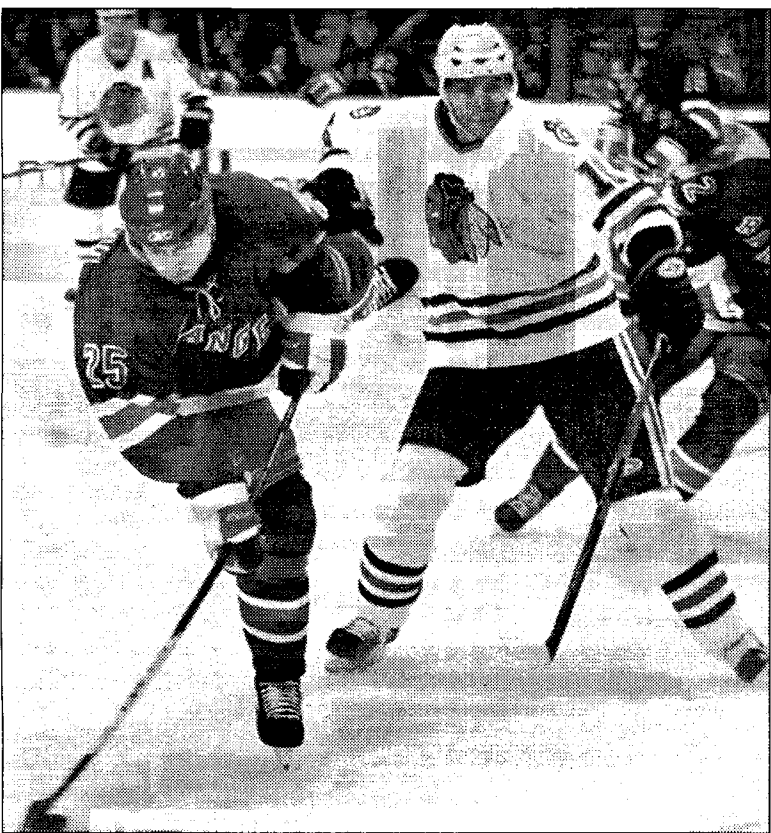
That didn't stop him from taking a detour to see the Rangers about an hour before the first puck dropped.

"It was pretty inspirational to see him come when he is supposed to go right home and just rest," said Matt Cullen, who assisted on Marcel Hossa's goal. "For him to go out of his way and do that shows how much he cares."

"It was really impressive."

And the message was simple. Shanahan wanted his teammates to know he was thinking about them. He gave them good luck wishes and expressed his desire to rejoin them quickly.

"He said thank you for all the phone calls he got from the guys, but he didn't remember who called," said Henrik Lundqvist, who made 21 saves. "It was just good to see him smiling."



New York forward Petr Prucha takes a shot in the second period of the Rangers 2-1 at Madison Square Garden Sunday.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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Blondin loves his Wii

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Notre CAN win a game on the road. Who knew?

Gumby's stat line: 12 pts, 4-4 3 pt. field goals, and 1 Dirk Nowitzki impression

above freezing this week

AROUND THE NATION

Monday, February 19, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NCAA Men's Basketball Big East Standings

	team	conference record	overall record
1	Pittsburgh	10-2	23-4
1	Georgetown	10-2	20-5
3	Louisville	9-4	19-8
4	NOTRE DAME	8-5	20-6
4	West Virginia	8-5	20-6
4	Marquette	8-5	21-7
4	Syracuse	8-5	19-8
8	DePaul	7-6	16-11
9	Villanova	6-6	18-8
9	Providence	6-6	16-9
11	St. John's	6-8	15-12
12	Connecticut	5-7	16-10
13	Seton Hall	3-9	12-13
14	South Florida	3-10	12-15
14	Rutgers	3-10	10-16
16	Cincinnati	1-11	10-16

NCAA Women's Basketball Big East Standings

	team	conference record	overall record
1	Connecticut	13-0	24-2
2	Rutgers	10-3	17-7
2	Marquette	10-3	22-4
4	NOTRE DAME	9-4	18-8
5	Louisville	8-5	22-5
5	Pittsburgh	8-5	20-6
5	West Virginia	8-5	17-9
5	South Florida	8-5	18-8
9	Seton Hall	7-6	16-9
10	DePaul	6-7	16-10
11	St. John's	4-9	8-16
11	Cincinnati	4-9	13-12
13	Providence	3-10	13-13
13	Syracuse	3-10	9-17
15	Georgetown	2-11	12-14
16	Villanova	1-12	7-19

NCAA Hockey CCHA Conference Standings

	team	conference record	overall record
1	NOTRE DAME	20-3-3	26-5-3
2	Michigan	17-8-1	22-11-1
3	Miami	15-7-4	22-10-4
4	Michigan State	14-9-3	18-11-3
5	Western Michigan	13-12-1	16-15-1
6	Nebraska-Omaha	11-11-4	14-14-8
6	Ohio State	11-11-4	13-14-5
8	Lake Superior	10-13-3	16-15-3
9	Ferris State	9-15-2	12-19-3
10	Alaska	7-14-5	9-17-6
11	Northern Michigan	9-16-1	12-20-2
12	Bowling Green	4-21-1	6-26-2

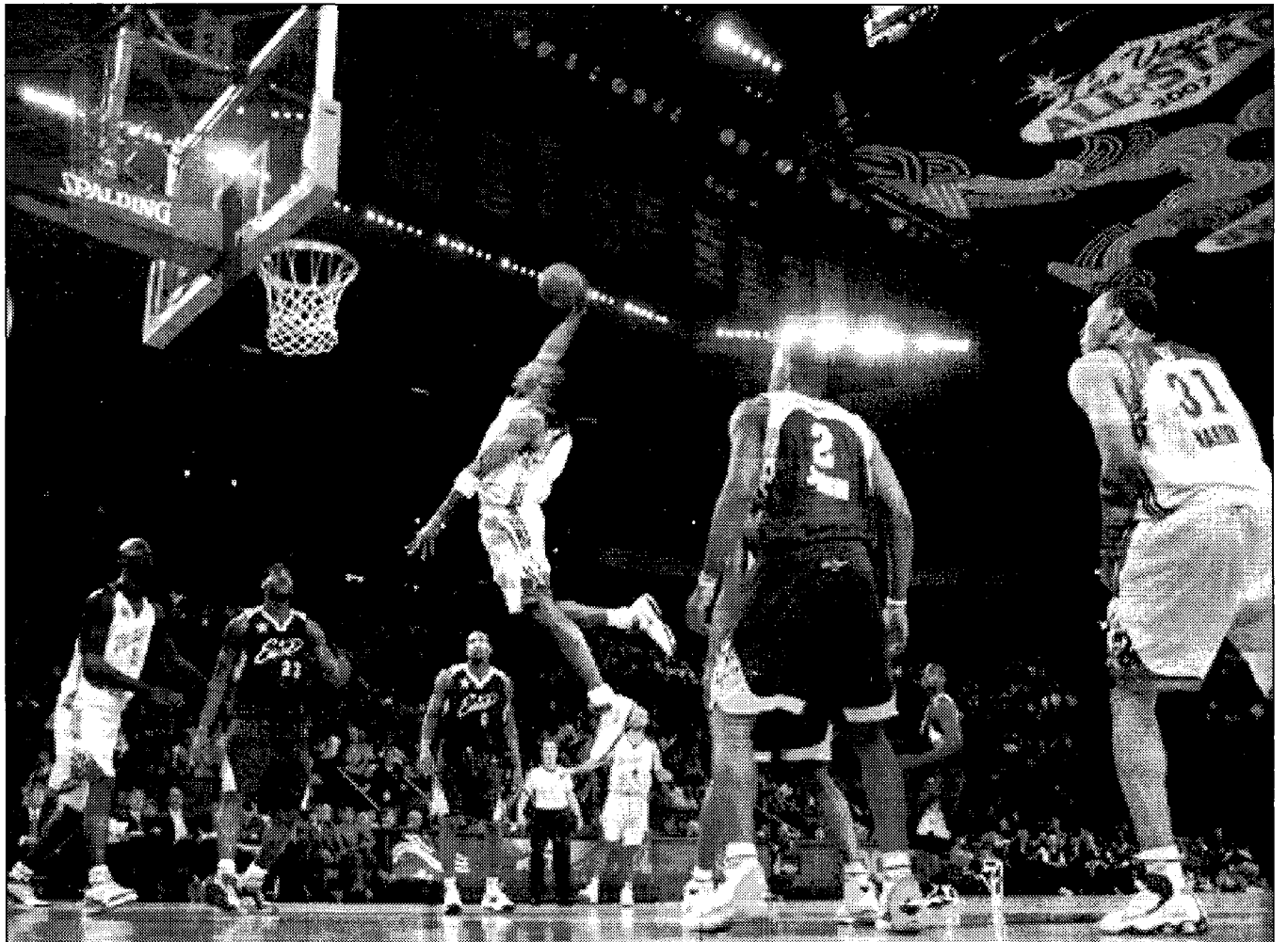
around the dial

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL
Villanova at Marquette
7 p.m., ESPN

Kansas at Kansas St.
9 p.m., ESPN

NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Tennessee at LSU
7 p.m., ESPN2

NBA



Western Conference guard Kobe Bryant elevates for a dunk during the West's 153-132 victory in the NBA All-Star Game Sunday. Bryant finished with 31 points and six assists and was named the game's Most Valuable Player. AP

West dominates All-Star Game

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — The Eastern Conference turned the NBA's big game in Las Vegas into a dud.

Overmatched by the West — or perhaps worn out from a weekend of partying in Sin City — the East bumbled its way to a 153-132 loss Sunday night in the All-Star game.

Kobe Bryant had 31 points and six of the West's record 52 assists and was the game MVP. Amare Stoudemire added 29 points for the West, which quickly built a big lead and held it this time, a year after blowing a 21-point cushion in a loss in

Houston.

LeBron James scored 28 points for the East, and Dwight Howard had 20 points and 12 rebounds, but offense wasn't the problem — the East allowed a record 69 field goals.

An event that some locals called the biggest thing to hit Las Vegas featured showgirls, acrobats, magicians and Elvis impersonators — all the glitz and glamour that this city offers in excess.

Good thing the players had plenty to deflect the attention away from them.

The East was hovering at barely 40 percent shooting for nearly all of the first three quarters in a game

that isn't known for its defensive intensity before a late flurry during garbage time brought it up to 49 percent.

Late All-Star addition Carmelo Anthony scored 20 points and Shawn Marion of Phoenix, who played at the Thomas & Mack Center at UNLV, added 18.

Dwyane Wade had only 10 points on 5-of-12 shooting, but he had reason to be tired after hosting events Thursday and Friday night. Those were two of the many functions that kept the players out until all hours of the night.

Still, the game was secondary to the show in this most unusual of All-Star

games — and it was quite a show.

With tickets unavailable to the public, brokers were asking more than \$20,000 for a top seat. Jay-Z, Beyonce, Diddy, Prince, Eva Longoria and Adam Sandler were among those who scored spots in the front row, and Christina Aguilera and Toni Braxton performed at halftime.

The event started with a celebrity red carpet, where Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman, flanked as usual by his showgirls and backed by entertainer Wayne Newton, vowed again to get the NBA here full-time with a new arena to play in.

IN BRIEF

Howell defeats Mickelson in playoff to win Nissan Open

LOS ANGELES — Charles Howell III finally ended that nasty habit of finishing second, making three clutch pars in a playoff that delivered a dramatic victory over Phil Mickelson in the Nissan Open on Sunday.

Howell closed with a 6-under 65 and got into a playoff when Mickelson bogeyed the 18th hole. Howell put away the two-time Masters champion with his third straight par save, holing a 3-foot putt on the 14th hole and raising his head to the sky in utter relief.

"I said a prayer before I hit the putt," Howell said, his voice cracking. "I said, 'It's time. Go in.'"

It was only the second victory of his career, and Howell had been haunted by nine runner-up finishes since winning the now-defunct Michelob Championship in the fall of 2002.

Harvick edges Martin for win in rough Daytona 500

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Kevin Harvick nosed out Mark Martin in a frantic wreck-filled finish to win Sunday's Daytona 500.

Martin, making his 23rd attempt at a 500 win, seemed to have victory in hand when a hard-charging Harvick barreled along the outside of Martin to earn his second victory at Daytona International Speedway in two days. Harvick won Saturday's Busch race — his first victory at Daytona.

As Harvick pushed into the lead, Kyle Busch wiggled behind them and bumped into Matt Kenseth to start a melee. Harvick and Martin raced side by side, waiting for NASCAR to call for a caution. When it finally came, Harvick was barely ahead.

"My go-kart experience over the winter paid off, because I didn't let off the floor and we just kept hitting things and the wall and bouncing off everything," Harvick said.

Shvedova sweeps Santangelo to win first career WTA event

BANGALORE, India — Yaraslova Shvedova of Russia won her first WTA Tour title by stunning top-seeded defending champion Mara Santangelo of Italy 6-4, 6-4 at the Sony Ericsson International on Sunday.

Shvedova, ranked 143rd in the world, again showed the outstanding form she displayed all week to overcome the 36th-ranked Santangelo.

"It's been a wonderful week, winning one's first title surely is a very special moment," said an excited Shvedova.

"Playing my first final, I took one game at a time and tried to keep things simple," said Shvedova, who had the spectators rooting for her in this southern Indian city.

Santangelo committed too many unforced errors.

"I played well to reach the final, but she played better than me today," Santangelo said.

ND SOFTBALL

Irish win twice in last at-bats in opening tourney

Freshman Johnson goes 8-for-16 with a homer in her collegiate debut

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Freshman Heather Johnson wasted no time making her presence known at Notre Dame.

In her debut this weekend, the rookie racked up eight hits, four RBIs and a walk-off home run as the Irish went 2-3 to open their season at the Tiger Invitational.

Trailing 5-4 in the bottom of the seventh against Tennessee Tech Saturday, Johnson stepped up to the plate with a runner on third. She got a hold of a pitch and drove her third hit of the game over the fence to help Notre Dame pick up a win over a weekend where the Irish went 2-3.

Johnson, who leads the team with a .500 batting average, also played a big role in the first win of the season. Friday afternoon the Irish took on Auburn at Jane B. Moore field and won in another final at-bat thriller.

Tiger outfielder Myesha Finney gave Auburn a 2-1 lead in the seventh with a sacrifice fly, but the advantage did not last long. Senior captain

Stephanie Brown led off the inning with a bloop single for Notre Dame and eventually scored on a sacrifice from Johnson to tie the score.

Sophomore Erin Glasco ended the game in the very next at bat with a line drive single down the right field line.

Sophomore pitcher Brittany Bargar threw complete games in both wins, striking out a combined total of 15 batters and allowing three earned runs. Bargar lost her first game of the year Sunday in a 2-0 pitcher's duel with Virginia Tech.

Hokie junior Angela Tinchler continued her incredible start to the season with a one-hit complete game shutout. Tinchler (5-0, 0.60 ERA) has thrown complete games in all five of her starts so far this season. She has three shutouts and is averaging more than two strikeouts per inning. Tinchler rang up 15 batter against the Irish.

Notre Dame also dropped games to UAB and Tulsa.

UAB (4-4) jumped out to a quick lead in the second game of Friday's doubleheader by scoring at least one run in each of the first four innings. Junior shortstop Holly Krzan put the final nail in the coffin for the Blazers with a two-run double in the sixth to bring the score to 8-0.

The Irish bats also struggled



TOM FOLEY/The Observer

Junior infielder Katie Laing bats during an exhibition game Oct. 13. Laing and the Irish opened up the regular season with a 2-3 performance at the Tiger Invitational in Auburn, Ala. this weekend.

in their loss to the Golden

Hurricanes. Notre Dame's offense was dormant until the fifth inning when Brown drove in junior outfielder Sarah Smith on a double and later came around to score junior shortstop Katie Laing got a ball deep enough for Brown to tag

up on.

However, the short burst was too little, too late for the Irish who had dug themselves a four-run hole earlier in the game.

Notre Dame will continue with their early season slate next weekend as the Irish head

to California for five games in the Palm Springs Tournament. No members of the team were available for comment following the weekend's games due to travel.

Contact Dan Murphy at
dmurphy6@nd.edu

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Buckeyes spy top ranking

Ohio State may jump UF in the polls after taking down Gophers

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — The last time Ohio State was No. 1 in the AP men's basketball poll, John Havlicek, Jerry Lucas and a sub named Bob Knight were leading the Buckeyes to the NCAA championship game.

That was 45 years ago, but after Greg Oden and No. 2 Ohio State breezed to an 85-67 victory over Minnesota on Sunday, Hondo and the General might finally have some company.

Oden had 19 points, nine rebounds and two blocks, Ron Lewis scored 16 points and Mike Conley Jr. finished with 10 assists and five steals for Ohio State, which is looking for its first No. 1 ranking since 1962.

"Right now it doesn't mean as much as it would at the end of March in the tournament," Conley said. "Regardless of what ranking we are — 1, 2, 3, 4 — it doesn't matter to us. We're trying to get better as a team and hopefully make a run."

The Buckeyes (24-3, 12-1 Big Ten) have won 11 in a row, with losses only to heavyweights Florida, North

Carolina and Wisconsin this season.

Lawrence McKenzie scored 22 points for the Gophers (9-18, 3-10), but he didn't get nearly the help from his supporting cast that Oden did. The Gophers lost their fifth straight and 10th in their last 12.

The No. 1 ranking is up for grabs Monday after top-ranked Florida lost at Vanderbilt on Saturday night, but Ohio State isn't the only team to have a legitimate claim.

Third-ranked Wisconsin (26-2) is the only Big Ten team to beat the Buckeyes this year and travels to Columbus for a showdown with Ohio State next Sunday.

Fifth-ranked UCLA (23-3) also could make the jump to No. 1 after soundly beating No. 19 Arizona 81-66 in Tucson on Saturday.

Being ranked No. 1 heading into selection day would give Ohio State the inside track on the top seed in the St. Louis bracket. Coach Thad Matta was asked after the game about the advantages of staying close to home as opposed to being seeded in, say, the Meadowlands.

"You just named sites and I didn't even know there were sites," Matta said. "Maybe it's superstitious of me, but if we

start thinking about a seeding, my mind is not on this team and getting better."

Interim Gophers coach Jim Molinari has no such worries. His team looked to its past Sunday, not a tournament seeding.

Minnesota honored the 25th anniversary of its 1982 Big Ten championship team, bringing back such former players as Trent Tucker, Darryl Mitchell and Randy Breuer to be recognized in the second half.

Also in attendance was Detroit Pistons coach and Minnesota alum Flip Saunders, who was an assistant on that 1982 team. When he was introduced, Saunders was serenaded with chants of "We want Flip!" by a crowd hoping he leaves Motown to coach the Gophers next season.

Molinari is filling in after Dan Monson was fired seven games into this season, and Gopher basketball is reeling. Monson struggled mightily in recruiting, and the Gophers have been overmatched in most Big Ten games this season.

Sunday was no different. "A lot of them are pros," Molinari said of the Buckeyes.

Ohio State took control early, scoring eight straight points to open a 14-7 lead in the first 6:30. But McKenzie came right back, scoring 13 points in a three-minute stretch to keep the Gophers in it. His three-point play at the end of the half pulled Minnesota within 24-23.

MEN'S LACROSSE

No. 11 ND starts year with win over Loyola

Hubschmann notches hat trick to come back against the Greyhounds

By PAT O'BRIEN
Sports Writer

Trailing 7-5 in the third quarter, Notre Dame outscored Loyola (Md.) 4-0 down the stretch and came from behind to beat the Greyhounds 9-7 Saturday at the Loftus Center.

Senior attacker Brian Hubschmann led all scorers with three goals and an assist in the victory. Freshman attacker Will Yeatman added a goal and two assists while sophomore attacker Ryan Hoff and junior midfielder Lucius Polk each had two goals

and an assist of their own. Junior midfielder Michael Podgajny netted a goal as well.

"It felt good to contribute our team," said Hubschmann of his eighth-career hat trick. "Loyola is a very tough team."

Joey Kemp also helped out by making nine saves in goal and holding the Greyhounds scoreless in the last quarter and a half of the game.

"This was a good win for

us," Kemp said. "We were down in the beginning, but this tells us a lot about our team. We had a lot of questions about our midfield, but they played well on both offense and defense. I was slow in the first half," Kemp added. "But I bounced back in the second half. I made saves that I normally would not have made."

Irish coach Kevin Corrigan also shared enthusiasm about the victory.

"[The game] felt great," Corrigan said. "It wasn't very pretty, but we played physically and with a lot of poise. Joey

Kemp was terrific from goal. We plan to look for help from freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors."

Loyola held a 39-37 advantage on total shots in the contest while both teams made nine saves.

Loyola (0-1) was led by Shane Koppens who had one goal and two assists. Patrick Kennedy, Dan Bauers, and Greg Leonard all netted two goals each for the Irish at the Loftus Center in front of over 1,000 fans.

Notre Dame (1-0) travels to Penn State for its next match Sunday.

Contact Pat O'Brien at
pobrien5@nd.edu

"It felt good to contribute to our team. Loyola is a very tough team."

Brian Hubschmann
Irish attack

MEN'S TENNIS

Irish fall to Pepperdine, blank Pennsylvania

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

Friday's match against Pepperdine was a rollercoaster of ups and downs.

No. 9 Notre Dame had convincing leads against the Waves but was unable to pull away with a win, losing 4-2 on the road.

The Irish fell behind 1-0 early in the ITA National Indoors match after dropping the doubles point. Senior Ryan Keckley and junior Sheeva Parbhu faltered at No. 1 doubles, losing 8-4 to Omar Altmann and Richard Johnson. Pepperdine clinched the doubles point when Andre Begemann and Mahmoud Kamel defeated Barry King and Brett Helgeson 8-5 at No. 2 doubles.

Despite falling behind, the Irish came out swinging in singles action.

Notre Dame jumped to a 2-1 lead when Parbhu and King

grabbed victories at No. 2 and No. 5 singles, respectively. Parbhu trailed 3-0 in the first set but turned around to win it 7-5 and take the second set 6-1 for the win over Johnson. King followed in Parbhu's tracks with a 6-3, 6-4 win over Altmann.

Stephen Bass could not hold on to Notre Dame's lead at No. 1 singles. Bass took the first set 6-4 but lost his momentum dropping the next two sets 6-3, 6-3.

Number four singles played out in similar fashion as Keckley took the first set 6-1 from Bassam Beidas but could not do the same in the second and third set. Beidas defeated Keckley 1-6, 6-4, 6-4 to give the Waves the go-ahead point.

No. 6 singles marked the third match in which the Irish would take the first set but drop the match. Andrew Roth battled to a 7-5 win in the first set but ultimately fell 7-5, 3-6, 5-7 to Mahmoud Kamel to give

Pepperdine the winning point.

"Some of our veterans didn't quite get it done," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "It is uncharacteristic of our team but that's the way it was."

Notre Dame avenged its loss to Pepperdine with a 4-0 blanking of Pennsylvania. The Irish swept doubles play to take the early 1-0 lead and never looked back. Notre Dame proceeded to take straight set victories at Nos. 1, 3, and 4 singles. Keckley opened

up play for the Irish with a 6-1, 6-2 win over Joseph Lok, and Helgeson followed with a 6-2, 6-3 win over Mikhail Bekker. Bass secured Notre Dame's victory with a 6-2, 6-4 beating of Jason Pinsky.

The Irish finished off their weekend with a 4-1 win over No. 18 Texas.

Notre Dame again took the doubles point to jump ahead 1-0. Parbhu followed with a 6-3, 6-2 win over Milan Mihailovic at No. 2 singles.

Texas' only glimmer of hope came at No. 3 singles when Helgeson dropped the match 6-2, 6-4 to Dimitar Kutrovsky, but Bass brought the Irish closer to victory with a 6-2, 7-5 win over Miguel Reyes Varela at No. 1 singles.

King battled sickness to take the win for the Irish. King — who had been suffering from a fever and soar throat — took the first match 6-3 from Josh Zavala. It looked like King might succumb to his fever in the second set but

he rallied to win the tiebreaker 7-6 (4).

"He got out in front early and won the first set and you could see his strength kind of wane and he got broken back," Bayliss said. "He got down in the tiebreaker and really hit some big shots and finished the match very aggressively."

The Irish will return to South Bend to prepare for Michigan Friday. Bayliss said the team will focus on improving doubles and put the loss to Pepperdine behind them.

"There is a lot of tennis to be played," he said. "We can't worry too much about the immediate results. We have to worry about making our team better week to week and showing improvement so that we can play our best at the end of the year, that's the goal."

Contact Deirdre Krasula at dkrasula@nd.edu

"We can't worry too much about the immediate results."

Bobby Bayliss
Irish coach

TRACK AND FIELD

Relay team locks up Big East title

Women fall 10 points short of Georgetown in second-place finish

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

Once again, Notre Dame stands atop the Big East, winning the men's championship and finishing second at the conference indoor meet in the women's division this weekend in Miami, Ohio.

On the men's side, the Irish had outright wins in just two events — the 800 meter dash and the 4x800 meter relay. In the 800, senior Thomas Chamney won in 1:51.76, setting the pace throughout the race.

"He looked very dominant in the prelims and he just controlled the race in the finals," Irish coach Joe Piane said.

Chamney competed with juniors John Cavanaugh, Brett Adams and Adam Currie in the 4x800 victory, and he ran the anchor leg of the relay in around 1:50, Piane said, to cement Notre Dame's win.

"He certainly ran a very nice anchor leg," Piane said. "It was a wonderful team performance across the board."

Even though the two victory were important to the Irish title, Piane was most impressed with Notre Dame's ability to perform well in important events, especially in the field.

"I think that would be the success of the field events because we had to get some help in the field events and we did," he said. "We got some in the vault, we got some in the high jump."

Freshman jumper Eric Quick entered the Big East meet as the No. 7 seed in the triple jump. Quick rose to the occa-

sion and scaled 14.86 meters to finish second in the event.

Senior Christopher Jacques also exceeded expectations, clearing 2.06 meters in the high jump for a personal-best and second place finish.

In the throws, Irish senior Garet Koxlien set a Notre Dame record in the weight throw with his toss of 18.77 meters. The previous mark was set by Matt Thompson in the 2000 Alex Wilson Invitational.

"We had a lot of kids perform above our expectations," Piane said. "We had a lot of guys perform very, very well."

Notre Dame's distance team ran well again, especially in the 1,000 meter run. Junior Adam Currie (2:26.65, 4th place) led the Irish contingent, followed by senior Todd Ptacek (2:27.22, 6th place) and freshman Blake Choplin (2:27.31, 8th place) and Jim Notwell (2:32.20, 9th place).

Junior Jake Watson earned all-conference honors in the mile with a third-place finish in 4:05.30.

Because of Notre Dame's success this season, the Irish men's coaches were named Big East coaching staff of the year. Along with Piane, assistant coaches Tim Connelly, John Millar, Scott Winsor and B.J. Linnenbrink were honored.

"I like the idea that the Big East calls it staff of the year not coach of the year because everyone on the staff contributed to

our victory," Piane said. "I'm thrilled for everyone on the staff."

Notre Dame came close to a season sweep of the Big East indoor championships, but the women's team fell 10 points short of Georgetown. The Irish

finished second behind the Hoyas, 112-102.

"When you're scoring that many points, eleven points isn't that much," Piane said.

The Irish women did not win any individual honors this weekend, but did place second in three events. In the triple jump, senior Cassie Gullickson set a personal-best with a score of 12.33 meters. Sophomores Mary Saxer and Kate Mattoon placed second and third, respectively, in the pole vault with scores of 3.86 and 3.60 meters.

One highlight was the performance of thrower Anna Weber. Weber tossed the 20 pound weight a school-record 17.35 meters, and followed that with a 13.94 toss of the shot put — for fifth place in that event.

"[Weber] did a great job in the 20 pounds weight. She probably did a little better job than it said on the form chart," Piane said. "The women field events did a really, really good job."

Notre Dame's final second-place finish was in the 4X400 relay, manned by seniors Maryann Erigha and Okechi Ogbuokiri, junior Crysta Swayzer and freshman Joanna Schultz. Erigha ran the first leg of the race while Ogbuokiri finished it off with the anchor leg.

In the distance events, Notre Dame senior Amy Kohlmeier finished third in the 3,000 meter run with a time of 9:32.67 to garner all-Big East honors.

Overall, Piane was impressed with the women's team's performance in the Big East championships.

"The women did a great job. If you looked at the form chart, they probably should have been third or fourth, but they competed very, very well," he said.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

"We had a lot of kids perform above our expectations."

Joe Piane
Irish coach

"I'm thrilled for the entire staff."

Joe Piane
Irish coach

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INTERVIEWS:

Feb 21st.....8 pm
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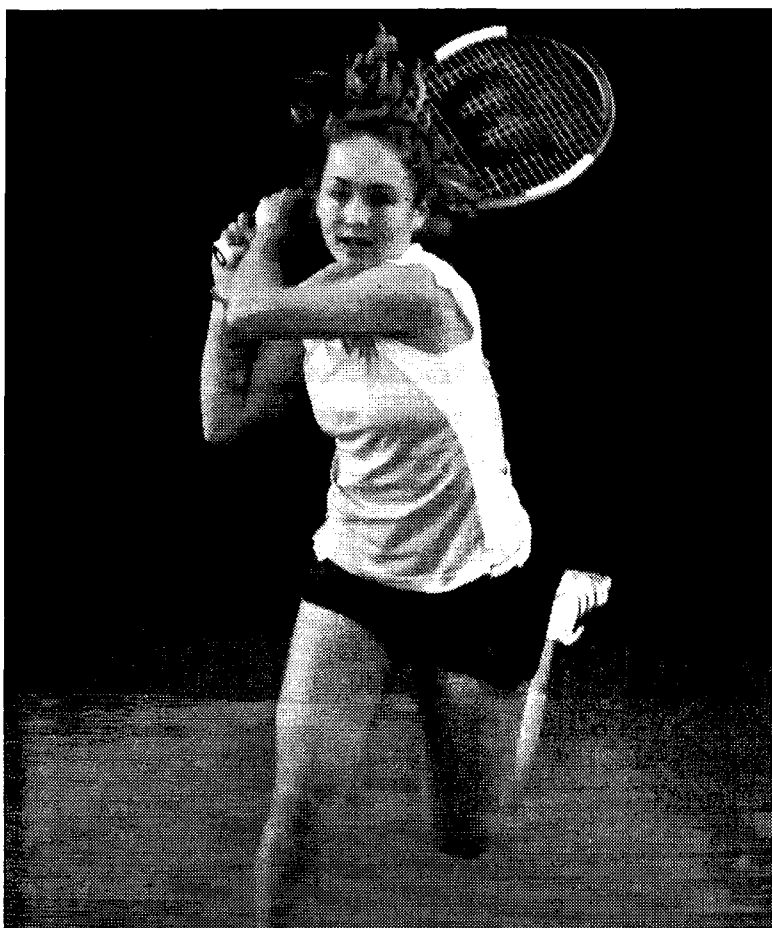
Feb 22nd.....9 am - 5 pm
Flanner Hall - Walk-in Interviews

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John Sissney 903-651-9575
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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

No. 2 Irish make case for top spot



VANESSA GEMPHIS/The Observer

Irish freshman Cosmina Ciobanu delivers a backhand during her match-clinching win Sunday afternoon against Wake Forest.

ND tops No. 7 UNC, No. 20 Wake Forest to stay unbeaten this year

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

No. 2 Notre Dame made its case this weekend for a No. 1 ranking, knocking off two more top-20 teams with a 5-2 win over No. 7 North Carolina Friday and a 7-0 win Sunday over No. 20 Wake Forest.

Against the Tar Heels, the Irish stumbled out of the gate, losing the doubles point for only the second time this season. Both doubles pairings of Christian and Catrina Thompson and Brooke Buck and Kelcy Tefft dropped their matches, giving the Tar Heels an early 1-0 lead.

"I was a little nervous after that," Irish coach Jay Louderback said. "[Freshmen] Cosmina Ciobanu and Kali Krisik played well, but our other two doubles teams just didn't play well."

Luckily for Notre Dame, the Tar Heels were missing some of their players due to sickness, including No. 7 Jenna Long.

"They fought harder than we did. I thought winning the doubles point gave us some momentum, but they came out and won a bunch of first sets and took some momentum away from us," North Carolina coach Brian Kalbas said. "I'm not so sure we would've won the match [if we were healthy] with the way they played singles."

After junior Brooke Buck made quick work of Tar Heels sophomore Meg Fanjoy 6-0, 6-1, North Carolina took a 2-1 lead when Christian Thompson fell to freshman Katrina Tsang 6-3, 6-2.

No. 41 Catrina Thompson dominated Tar Heels sophomore No. 33 Austin Smith in the first set, 6-1, and staved off a comeback by Smith in the second set, winning it 7-5 and tying the score at two

points apiece.

"Austin Smith played really well to stay in the match, and I was impressed with the way she played," Louderback said.

Freshman Colleen Rielley snapped her four-match losing streak with a 6-4, 6-2, defeat of Tar Heels senior Sara Anundsen to make the score 3-2.

Then, in a match that drew the attention of the crowd gathered at the Eck Tennis Pavilion, Ciobanu fought back from a 4-1 first-set deficit and a 5-2 second-set deficit to knock off North Carolina freshman Sanaz Marand 6-4, 7-5. Ciobanu's victory clinched the match for the Irish.

"That match was very tiring," Ciobanu said. "I think the difference was the momentum shifts. The first set, she played unbelievable, and then I had a good game at 4-1 and started playing better."

Tefft added the fifth point after dropping the first set to North Carolina's Caitlin Collins, 4-6, 6-2, and 6-3.

On Sunday, the Irish made quick work of Wake Forest. The Irish grabbed all three doubles matches, and Christian Thompson and Rielley won first-set tiebreakers to boost the Irish to victory.

"I just thought we played really well all weekend," Louderback said. "Our doubles bounced back [Sunday]."

Ciobanu preserved her perfect 10-0 dual match record and clinched the match again for the Irish.

Notre Dame has a couple of days off before it battles Iowa Sunday at home.

"We can get a couple of our kids to get a couple of days rest," Louderback said. "We've had three tough matches in five days. We've had a few nagging injuries with some players, so it's good to get them a few days rest."

Contact Chris Hine at
chine@nd.edu

13th Annual Mini-Medical School Lecture Series

Presented by the
Indiana University School of Medicine – South Bend

Sponsored by the Medical Education Foundation

Join us for 6 informative evenings as leading doctors, professionals and university/medical school professors discuss the hottest topics in medicine today. Free of charge and open to the general public.

Medical professionals attending the lectures may receive 2 CME credits per session. The Indiana University School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing education for physicians.

Session 1, Wednesday, February 21, 2007

"Women's Health and Hormone Replacement Therapy"
Sloan Shah, MD
South Bend, Indiana

Session 3, Wednesday, March 7, 2007

"Autism: Unlocking the Cause With Hope to the Future"
Elizabeth Berry Kravis, MD, PhD
Chicago, Illinois

Session 5, Wednesday, March 21, 2007

"Performance Enhancing Drugs Among Professional Athletes: The BALCO Investigation-Not Just Barry Bonds"
James Moriarty, MD
Notre Dame, Indiana

Session 2, Wednesday, February 28, 2007

"Alzheimer's Disease: A Looming Epidemiologic Nightmare"
Diana Kerwin, MD
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Session 4, Wednesday, March 14, 2007

"Avian Flu Epidemic: Are We Prepared For a Disaster?"
Joseph J. Contiguglia, MD, Colonel USAF
Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi

Session 6, Wednesday, March 28, 2007

"Diabetes: Everybody's Got It, What Do We Do Now?"
Mary Ann Emanuele, MD
Maywood, Illinois

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. (E.S.T.)

Place: Indiana University School of Medicine-South Bend
Raclin-Carmichael Hall
1234 Notre Dame Avenue
South Bend, IN 46617

(The southeast corner of the Notre Dame main entrance at Angela Blvd.)

Free parking in the lot adjacent to the building.

To register, or for more information, call Jami at (574) 647-7389.

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MEN'S SWIMMING

Irish fall just short in Big East championship



Irish freshman Ray Toomey swims during the Dennis Stark relays Oct. 6. Notre Dame finished in first with 264 points.

West Virginia denies Welsh and Co. third straight Big East title

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

Notre Dame achieved coach Tim Welsh's goal of swimming lifetime bests at the Big East championships this past weekend, but it still wasn't enough for the Irish to capture their third consecutive Big East title.

Heading into the final event of the four-day championships — the 400-yard freestyle relay — the Irish held a three-and-a-half point lead over West Virginia. The Notre Dame quartet of freshman John Lytle and seniors Louis Cavadini, Ted Brown and Tim Kegelmann touched the wall in a school-record time of 2:59.59, but they were outdone by the Mountaineers, who finished the race in 2:56.21.

The victory gave West Virginia 40 points while Notre Dame's third-place finish netted 32, which was the ultimate difference in the Mountaineers' 765.5-761 defeat of the Irish.

"It's crushing, but I don't feel like we lost the meet as much as West Virginia won it," Welsh said. "We had four guys set a school record in the last event, and it still wasn't enough. What more can you ask of them?"

In addition to the 400-yard freestyle relay, Notre Dame set nine school records, 13 season-best times and six NCAA consideration times.

"We swam fast, and we raced well," Welsh said. "If you look at anything other than the final score, we had a very good meet."

Despite Notre Dame's impressive performances, which included seven second-place finishes, the Irish did not win a single

event. West Virginia took 12 out of the 15 events.

"[Not winning any events] played an enormous role," Welsh said. "On the positive side, though, the fact that we almost won the title without winning a single event shows the emphasis we place on the team aspect. We're team-oriented rather than superstar-oriented."

Brown and Kegelmann, especially, stood out on the weekend. Brown, who picked up three all-Big East honors on the weekend, finished his career at Notre Dame with nine such accolades. Kegelmann, who also picked up three all-Big East honors, concludes his Irish career with a school-record 12 conference awards.

"They've been very dependable performers, and they go about things the right way," Welsh said. "We've leaned on them ever since they've been here, and we'll miss them."

In addition to the senior leaders, the team's underclassmen also raced well.

Lytle set school records in both the 100 and 200-meter freestyle. NCAA "B" cut times were posted by freshman MacKenzie LeBlanc (200-meter butterfly) and sophomore Sam Pendergast (100-meter breaststroke), and sophomore Daniel Rave achieved a NCAA consideration time in the 200-meter breaststroke. Juniors Jay Vanden Berg and Rob Seery, who both garnered all-Big East honors in the 1,650-meter freestyle, will also be back next season.

"We have a very good returning team, a very good incoming class, and we aren't graduating any of our divers," Welsh said. "We want some time to recover a little bit [from this weekend's loss], but we think the future's very bright for us."

Contact Greg Arbogast at
garbogas@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles fall just short of upset

Underdog SMC loses 79-71 to Flying Dutch

By DAN COOPER
Sports Writer

In the regular season finale for both teams, Saint Mary's made a run at No. 5 Hope, but ultimately fell 79-71 Saturday night at the Angela Athletic facility.

The loss dropped the Belles to 11-12 on the season and 10-6 in the MIAA. The Flying Dutchmen, ranked fifth nationally, held off Saint Mary's to improve to 21-3 overall and 13-3 in the MIAA.

Despite going into the game as a major underdog, the Belles kept the game close. After falling behind early, the Belles rallied and cut the lead to 36-33 going into halftime.

In the second half, Saint Mary's went on a 13-2 run and took a 50-48 lead with 11:31 remaining. For the next four-and-a-half minutes, the lead bounced between the two teams, but neither side held a lead of more than three points dur-

ing the stretch.

The Belles held their final lead of the game 60-59 with seven minutes left, but Hope went on a 13-3 run to take its largest advantage of the evening 72-63. The Flying Dutchmen hit seven of their final eight free throws to seal the deal.

After the game, Belles coach Jennifer Henley was pleased with her team's performance.

"We proved on Saturday that we can compete with the top teams in the country," she said. "We have had the great opportunity to play ranked teams in our conference this season."

Junior guard Allison Kessler led the team in scoring with 28 points, and sophomore forward Erin Newsome contributed 12 points and pulled down a game-high seven rebounds. Sophomore center Nicole Beier added 12 points off the bench.

The Flying Dutchmen displayed a balanced offensive attack that saw five players score in double digits. Senior Forward Ellen Wood led Hope in scoring and rebounding, hitting seven of her 12 shots for 20 points and pulling down 15 boards for the double-double.

"Ellen Wood is a tall, veteran post player," said Henley. "She was on the National Championship [Hope] team [last season], so she knows what it takes to be successful."

St. Mary's first opponent in the MIAA tournament will be Alma, over whom the Belles own a perfect 2-0 record.

"Alma is a well coached team, and they play a triangle-and-two defense that has given us trouble," Henley said. "I'm glad we're at home because our crowd has been so supportive all year, we'll be ready — that's for sure."

The third-seeded Belles will tip-off at 7:30 p.m. against sixth-seeded Alma Tuesday night at the Angela Athletic Facility.

Contact Dan Cooper at
dcooper1@nd.edu

"We have had the great opportunity to play ranked teams in our conference."

Jennifer Henley
Belles coach

"We proved on Saturday that we can compete with the top teams in the country."

Jennifer Henley
Belles coach

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

ND to tee off on season in Florida

6 top-30 squads set to compete at River Wilderness Golf & CC

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

Notre Dame begins the second half of its season with the seventh-annual Central District Classic in Parrish, Fla., today.

Fifteen teams from the NCAA's Central Region will showcase their talent at The River Wilderness Golf and Country Club in the tournament hosted by Michigan State.

The Irish face some stiff competition, including the Spartans, who are ranked No. 20 on Golfstat.com. Other top-30 teams include Arkansas at No. 23, Texas A&M at No. 24, Ohio State at No. 26, LSU at No. 27 and Northwestern at No. 30.

"This is a very strong field to open up the season with," first-year Irish coach Susan Holt said. "The positive with that is we have an opportunity right out of the gate to make a statement, and that's what I'm hoping for. It's early

in the season and everyone is getting started so we hope things can go our way."

The Irish are currently No. 66 and will compete against Missouri and LSU for the second time this season.

Irish senior co-captain Noriko Nakazaki will tee it up from the No. 1 spot in Florida. With her average score of 75.93, she posted the team's highest mark through 14 rounds, which spans five tournaments.

Sophomore Lisa Maunu will tee off from the second spot. Maunu twice achieved a score of one-under-par 71 during the fall portion of the season.

Freshman Kristin Wetzel will take the field from the third spot for the Irish. Wetzel is averaging a 79.14, and has played in all five tournaments of the season. Her best round of the season was a score of 72 at the Lady Irish Invitational.

Freshman Annie Brophy, will start from the fourth spot today. She ranks third on the Irish with an average score of 78.29. At the Cougar Classic last September, Brophy scored a two-over-par 74 — her best finish of the season.

Fellow freshman Julie Kim will round out the list at the fifth spot Monday. Due to an injury suffered in the fall, Kim will participate in her first collegiate competition.

Holt hoped the team would build some momentum after last week's practices.

"I think they really know where their game stands right now," she said. "We were able to knock the rust off and that felt really good. We hope to build on that at this tournament."

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at
lreyes@nd.edu

"I think they really know where their game stands right now. We were able to knock the rust off and that felt really good."

Susan Holt
Irish coach



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ND WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Irish win opener in sudden death

McKinney scores in final seconds to send game to extra period

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

A clutch performance by No. 5 Notre Dame gave the Irish a 10-9 overtime victory on the road against No. 12 James Madison in the first game of the regular season.

With 16 seconds remaining in sudden death, senior Lena Zentgraf assisted sophomore Jill Byers for the game-winning goal, the sixth of the game for Byers.

The Irish trailed most of game and were just 19 seconds from defeat when junior Caitlin McKinney netted an unassisted goal to tie the game at the end of regulation. The Dukes took a 9-7 lead in the opening half of the six-minute overtime period after two goals by senior Kelly Berger.

Notre Dame responded quickly in the second half of overtime with an early goal by sophomore Jillian Byers. Then, with just nine seconds left in overtime, McKinney scored another clutch goal to tie the game at 9-9 and advance to sudden-death.

Both teams played strong defense in the sudden-death overtime, and once again the Irish showed their flair for the dramatic in sudden death.

Notre Dame was led by Byers' six goals and McKinney's two clutch goals.

Senior Meghan Murphy also added two goals in the winning effort.

Berger led the Dukes with five goals, and junior Natasha Fuchs contributed a strong performance with two goals.

Irish coach Tracy Coyne said the team was confident it could pull through despite the late deficit.

"We have total confidence in our preparation, mental training and fitness," Coyne said. "Even in tight games we feel

like we'll win because of our experience and training."

The opening game for both teams was moved from James Madison's home field in Harrisonburg, Va., to the

University of Virginia's field in Charlottesville, Va., after a winter storm created unplayable conditions at the Dukes' facility.

"I think this game gave us a lot of momentum," Coyne said. "To win a close one like that against a worthy opponent, in that kind of adversity just shows what our team is made of."

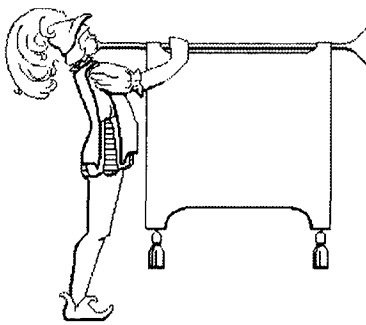
The Irish posted a 35-25 advantage on shots over the Dukes. Notre Dame sophomore goalkeeper Erin Goodman recorded four saves, and James Madison goalie Kelly Wetzel finished with seventeen.

Notre Dame will next face No. 16 Stanford in its home opener Saturday. The Cardinal are 1-1 after dropping their opener to Oregon and defeating St.

Contact Michael Bryan at
mbryan@nd.edu

"I think this game gave us a lot of momentum."

Tracy Coyne
Irish coach



Announcing the Year 2007 Annual Awards of the Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship

Thanks to a generous gift from the Albert Ravarino family, the Italian Studies Program is pleased to announce the year 2007 annual competition for travel in support of summer research and foreign study in Italy. Grants will be made in amounts not to exceed \$3,000, and will not normally cover all expenses. Notre Dame graduate and undergraduate students who are planning to pursue research or a formal program of summer study in Italy are invited to apply. Students must have completed at least one year of Italian language. The course work will normally be in Italian; will involve the study of Italian language, literature, and culture; and must be applicable to a student's degree program at the University of Notre Dame.

Recommended programs for foreign study include, but are not limited to: Loyola University in Rome, Boston University in Padua, UCLA in Pisa, Miami University in Urbino, Columbia University in Scandiano. Interested students are encouraged to consult the materials on Italian foreign study in the Department of Romance Languages, 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall.

Students are invited to submit a letter which should include:

- 1) an explanation of how the proposed research or foreign study will enhance their degree program at Notre Dame;
- 2) a personal statement indicating their background, interests, and long-term goals;
- 3) a description of the research project or the program they intend to follow;
- 4) a budget indicating the costs involved;
- 5) two letters of recommendation
- 6) a transcript showing all grades and courses completed
- 7) a list of other sources of funding (being sought or confirmed) for the same project (i.e. Office of International Studies, Nanovic Institute, etc.)

Application Deadline: Friday, February 23, 2007
Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship
Program in Italian Studies
343 O'Shaughnessy Hall
University of Notre Dame

POPS ON TOP



Irish captain T.J. Jindra skates up ice on a breakout during a 4-2 win over Nebraska-Omaha Feb. 9 at the Joyce Center.

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

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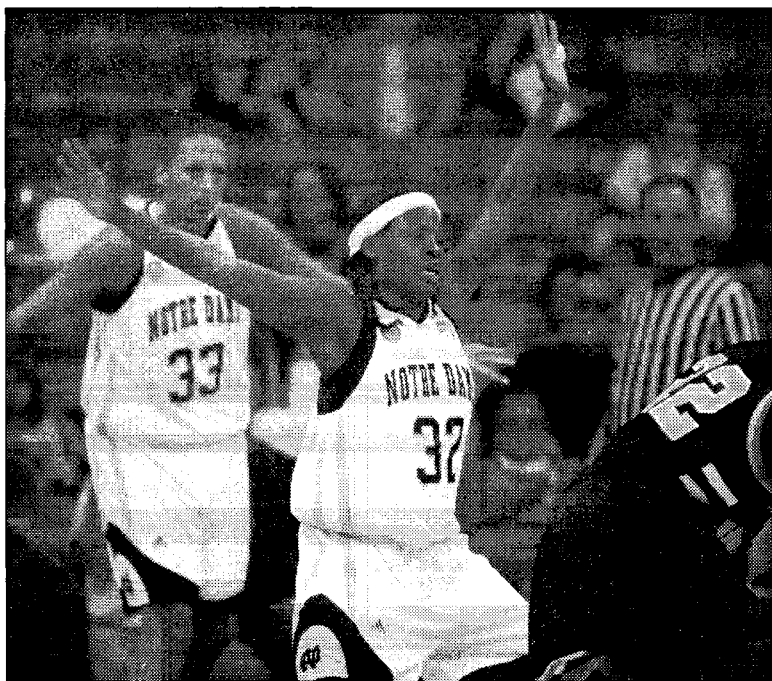
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If you cannot attend but would like information, please contact the Fellowships Office
105 O'Shag fellows@nd.edu

The Observer



Irish guard Breona Gray scored four points in Notre Dame's 82-65 win over Providence Saturday.

PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Friars

continued from page 24

she has topped 25 points. Allen became the first Notre Dame player who has scored upward of 25 points in three straight games since Katryna Gaither scored 25 in the first four rounds of the 1997 NCAA Tournament.

"[Allen has] been amazing the last few weeks," McGraw said. "She's shooting the ball well. She's taking good shots, she's not forcing things. She's scoring in the offense. She's patient — the team is looking for her and yet not exclusively. She's been just phenomenal."

Despite Notre Dame's second-half domination, the opening period was much more of a back-and-forth battle. Friars guard Chelsea Marandola took control of the first half, scoring 14 points with four boards and

three assists. Providence led for most of the stanza, and had a 33-31 lead with less than four minutes to play.

Allen nailed every shot she took down the first-half stretch, sinking two free throws and two jumpers to put the Irish up three.

Allen led all scorers with 26 points, but Notre Dame's offense was split between its entire lineup. Four Irish players finished in double figures, as freshman guard Melissa Lechlitner scored 16, junior center Melissa D'amico had 11 and freshman center Erica Williamson finished with 10.

Freshman guard Ashley Barlow finished with eight points and nine rebounds. Notre Dame's freshmen once again outplayed the opponents bench, outscoring the Friars reserves 34-11.

"I thought Melissa Lechlitner gave us a huge lift off the

bench," McGraw said. "She did a good job of looking to score, doing what she can do running the offense, running in transition. And I thought Erica came in and did a good job on the boards. And Ashley made some great contributions also."

After the convincing win, McGraw still felt that the Irish had some work to do, especially on the defensive end of the court.

"We've played a lot of man-to-man recently and so it was good to see our zone work today," she said. "Our press wasn't as good. I think we need to work on that a little more."

Notre Dame returns to the Joyce Center to finish out its home schedule this week with a game against Georgetown Wednesday and another with Rutgers Sunday.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

Start

continued from page 24

their belt. We have a young team, and we have to get our feet wet."

"We'll be fine once the Big East [schedule] starts [against South Florida March 23]."

In the first game Saturday, Notre Dame hit three home runs in a win over Prairie View A&M.

Designated hitter Mike Dury, third baseman A.J. Pollock and leftfielder Michael Wright all homered for the Irish.

Sophomore Wade Korpi gave up four runs on four hits in four innings to earn the win for Notre Dame.

The Irish jumped out to a 6-0 lead after three innings, but the Panthers (8-5) jumped on Korpi for four runs in the fourth to cut the lead to two. Notre Dame bounced back with a two-run single by sophomore Jeremy Barnes in the bottom half of the inning and then scored six in the sixth to blow the game wide open.

After the 15-run outburst against Prairie View, the Irish were shut down by Texas

State pitchers Mike Hart and Kyle Gembler, scoring just one run in two games.

Notre Dame scored the first run of Saturday's game on Hart, going up 1-0 on a sacrifice fly by centerfielder Danny Dressman that drove in Wright.

But the Bobcats bounced back with a run in the fifth and another in the eighth inning. Notre Dame got two men on in the bottom of the eighth, but couldn't drive the runners in.

The Irish stranded 10 runners Saturday.

"Hart did a great job," Schrage said. "He threw about seventy-five percent of his sliders for strikes."

On Sunday, Notre Dame managed just two hits for the game and was unable to score.

"Our focus was not good," Schrage said. "We were a little anxious at the plate."

"Our guys were trying a little too hard. They really wanted to win two out of three."

Dave Schrage
Irish coach

Irish pitchers Brett Gaffy, Sam Elam and Dan Kapala each threw a third of the game and gave up a combined 10 hits, with Elam taking the loss. The Irish made three errors behind them.

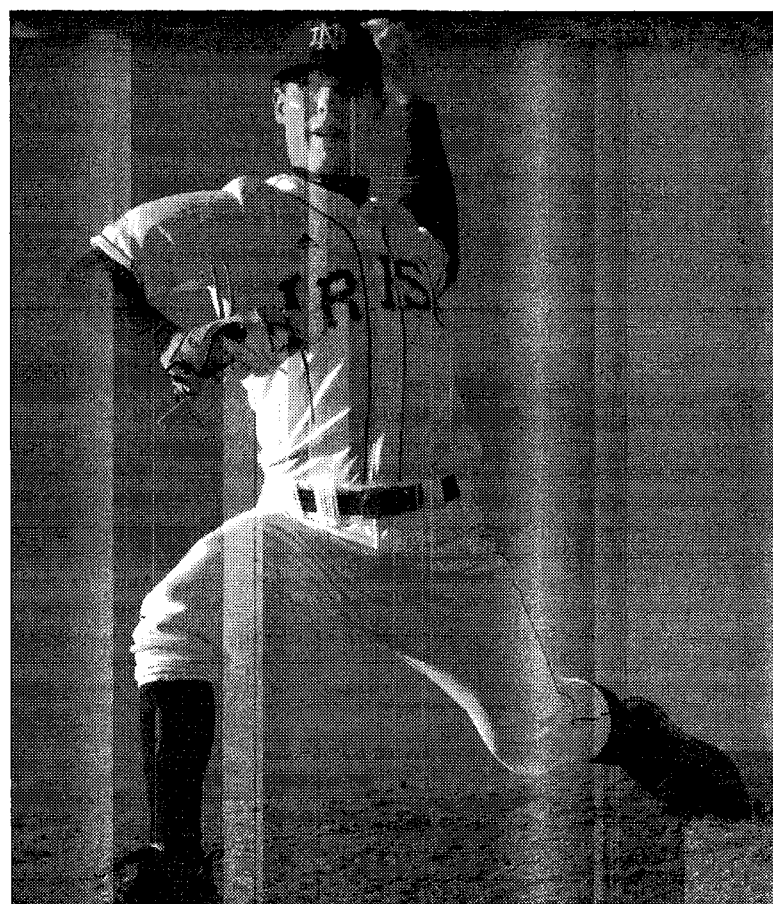
"We didn't play a very good game," Schrage said. "Our effort wasn't as good as [Saturday]."

The Bobcats slowly built a lead, getting runs in the second, third, fifth and ninth innings for an easy win.

"Our guys were trying a little too hard," Schrage said. "They really wanted to win two out of three."

Next week, the Irish travel to Myrtle Beach, S.C., to face UNC-Wilmington, TCU and Coastal Carolina in Baseball at the Beach.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Lefty Wade Korpi allowed four runs in four innings to pick up a win over Prairie View A&M.

Focus



Belles guard Bridget Lipke brings the ball upcourt during Saint Mary's 79-71 loss to Hope Saturday.

KATE FENLON/The Observer

History

continued from page 24

and 400 IM. Carroll was also part of the victorious 200 and 800-meter-freestyle relay teams. With those victories, she brought her career Big East championship win total to 15, and she was also named the Big East Most Outstanding Swimmer for the second time in her career.

Nixon gushed with praise when describing her captain.

"Irreplaceable is probably the word I would use [to describe Carroll]," Nixon said. "She's taken us to a whole new level. She's been a leader and a competitor from the day she's walked in, and I hope the younger girls learn a lot from here."

One underclassman already learning from Carroll is freshman Ashley

Edgell. On Friday night, Edgell touched the wall first in the 200-meter IM with an NCAA "B" cut time of 2:02.08, and she also earned All-Big East honors in the 400 meter IM.

"It was a nice changing of the guard," Nixon said. "Ashley [Edgell] did a great job, and winning an event as a freshman is a special accomplishment. She's worked very hard this year, so we were thrilled for her."

While the Big East title was one goal for the Irish, the team now has larger tasks ahead. With the NCAA Championships only three weeks away, Notre Dame will resume training in preparation for the biggest meet of the year.

"It's the culmination of your career to get [to the NCAA Championships], and it's

very important to perform well there," Nixon said. "It's going to be important for our recruiting, for our confidence, and it will give us a chance to break onto the scene nationally."

"It's a culmination of your career to get [to the NCAA Championships], and it's very important to perform well there."

Carrie Nixon
Irish Coach

With Carroll, Claire Hutchinson, Julia Quinn and the members of the 800-meter freestyle relay team as virtual

locks to compete in the NCAA Championships, Notre Dame will be sending more girls than ever to the event. That, more than anything else, has Nixon confident about her team's potential at this year's meet.

"Having more girls going is the big difference between this year's team and last year's," Nixon said. "The more girls you have going, the more emphasis you place on the NAAs and the more confidence it gives you."

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogast@nd.edu

Champs

continued from page 24

en route to a No. 1 ranking and a guaranteed NCAA Tournament berth.

"We sang the fight song, just like we always do," Jackson said. "There was still another game to be played. There will be time to celebrate later."

The Irish (26-5-3, 20-3-3 CCHA) took the conference title after a 1-0 win Friday over Alaska — the team that knocked Notre Dame from the first round of last year's CCHA playoffs — before completing the sweep Saturday with a 3-2 overtime victory in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Notre Dame eliminated Michigan, the only remaining contender, from the title race with the shutout win and then added a couple more points Saturday for a season total of 43 points with two games remaining — nine more than second-place Miami.

The Irish are the first conference champions in college hockey this season, with both No. 2 Minnesota and No. 3 New Hampshire one win away from taking their respective titles in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association and Hockey East. Notre Dame also has the most wins (26) in college hockey this season as the team heads into the final two games of the regular season this weekend at home against ninth-place Ferris State.

It is the third CCHA regular-season championship for second-year coach Jackson, who won his first while head coach of Lake Superior State in 1990-91. He earned his second in 1995-96 when the Lakers split the crown with Michigan.

"For me, it's all about Notre Dame and the hockey program," Jackson said. "It's huge stuff for us in such a short period of time. It's a real credit to the kids, and it's great for Notre Dame."

It is the second time this season that the Irish have swept Alaska (9-17-6, 7-14-5 CCHA), with Notre Dame taking 3-1 and 6-2 decisions at home Dec. 2-3 over the then-No. 14 Nanooks. Notre Dame has gone 16-2-2 since that weekend, including a current nine-game unbeaten streak that started after a Jan. 19 loss to Western Michigan on the road.

The Nanooks watched a promising start to their season give way to a free fall to the bottom of the league standings since that series. Alaska has gone 3-16-2 since Dec. 2, including a nine-game losing streak that ended with a 5-2 win Jan. 26 over last-place Bowling Green.

The Irish, however, needed a third-period goal in the first game from freshman Ryan Thang and an overtime tally from sophomore Garrett Regan to get past the Nanooks — the fifth straight game in which the Irish have won by only one goal, including a 4-2 win Feb. 9 over Nebraska-Omaha in which the Irish got an empty-goal with only seconds left.

"The thing is that we're winning those one-goal games," Jackson said. "It's more important that we win those

games, than we lose them. If it's by one goal, then that's not a huge thing."

Thang scored the only goal in Friday's 1-0 victory 4:47 into the third period when he stole the puck in Alaska's zone from defenseman Tyler Eckford and beat Nanooks goalie Wylie Rogers through his pads for the game-winner.

Irish goalie Dave Brown made 28 saves to earn his fourth shutout of the year and the 10th of his career, before he was replaced in net Saturday by sophomore and Alaska native Jordan Pearce.

"[Alaska is] a tough team to score against, and we are too," Jackson said. "We were fortunate to score at the end and be able to hold on. The teams at the bottom of the standings are not

much different than the teams at the top."

Pearce made 33 saves in the 3-2 Irish overtime win Saturday — his first start since a 4-2 loss Jan. 7 to Robert Morris. Sophomore center Christian Hanson also made his first appearance this weekend since he was sidelined by mononucleosis over a month ago.

"It was good to get Christian Hanson back in the lineup," Jackson said. "It was good to have Jordan Pearce get a game under his belt, play well and look confident. We want to get guys ready for the playoffs."

Regan scored the overtime winner 1:41 into the extra session on a three-on-one. He made a rush up the ice with center Mark Van Guilder and defenseman Wes O'Neill and dished the puck off to Van Guilder in the Nanooks zone. Van Guilder drew in the Alaska defenseman and sent the puck back to Regan, who beat Alaska's Rogers up high for the win.

"Once again, we found an answer," Jackson said. "It's a different guy every game."

The Nanooks forced the overtime period when Alaska's Trevor Hyatt shoveled a rebound past Pearce 17:45 into the third period to tie the game 2-2.

The Irish scored first with a power play goal from right wing Erik Condra at 8:29 of the second period. Alaska evened the game at 1-1 with a goal from right wing Kyle Greentree at 13:05, but the Irish got back into the lead 2-1 with Regan's first goal of the game a little over a minute later.

"You get to February, right as everyone is battling for position in the playoffs, [and] it gets tight," Jackson said. "In every level I've ever been involved in, there's a different level of hockey after Christmas time and a different level right before the playoffs."

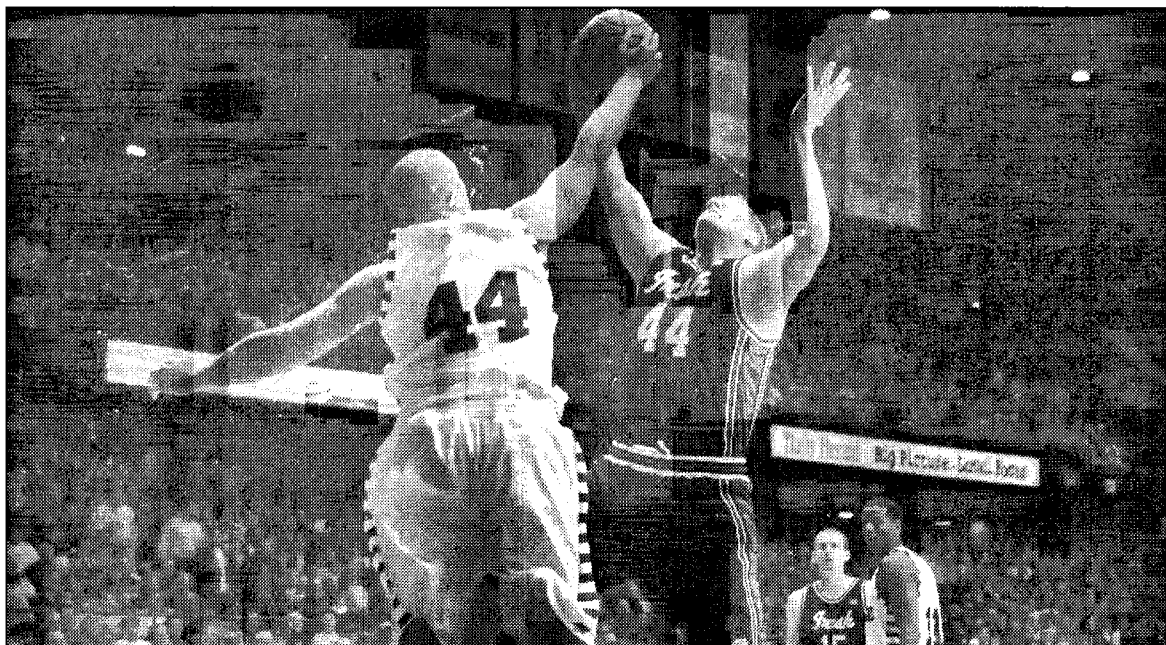
Notes:

♦ Jackson said senior forward Josh Sciba, who has been out of the Irish lineup for three weeks with an upper-body injury, will begin to skate again following next weekend's series against Ferris State. Sciba was last season's leading goal scorer and has seven goals and 10 assists in 27 games this year.

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

"For me, it's all about Notre Dame and the hockey program. It's huge stuff for us in such a short period of time."

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish forward Luke Harangody, right, fights for a rebound with DePaul center Keith Butler during Notre Dame's 67-66 loss to the Blue Demons Feb. 8.

Record

continued from page 24

see in practice everyday that he's got a great stroke. He's a very good shooter. That's something we want him to do, if he's open or even if he's a little bit contested ... because he's a long guy and can get the shot off against any other perimeter player."

Ayers and Falls contributed to Notre Dame's (20-6, 8-5 Big East) 13-of-20 performance from 3-point land.

Carter, who has been nursing a hip flexor injury over the past few weeks, finished with only three points in limited minutes.

"Once he gets back and he's healthy, we'll be hitting on all cylinders," Falls said. "It's huge for guys like Ayers to step up when he's not in the lineup."

Trailing 37-30 at halftime, the Bearcats (10-16, 1-11 Big East) could only get as close as four in the second half. Twice in the frame, Cincinnati scored four straight points and picked up some momentum, but Falls came down and knocked down 3-pointers — giving the Irish some breathing room and quieting the sold-out crowd of 11,038 at the Fifth Third Arena.

"It's very fitting that [Falls] broke the record here because every one of those shots had a lot riding on it," Irish coach Mike Brey said.

Bearcat forward John Williamson matched Falls' game-high 23 points and guard Deonta Vaughn pitched in 22 for Cincinnati.

The Bearcats utilized back-court zone pressure on the Irish for much of the second half, but could not create enough turnovers to give them the lead.

"We were patient and took our time," Hillesland said. "A press like that is designed to make you go faster than you want to. They were quick, so it was just a matter of taking our time."

Irish forward Luke Harangody gave the Irish a lift inside. The freshman scored eight in the second half, finishing with 11 points and eight rebounds for the game.

"I just felt like I had good position down low on the block and I could get my shot off — and I did," Harangody said.

In the first half, Notre Dame used 3-pointers from Falls and guards Tory Jackson and Jonathan Peoples to open up

a 20-11 lead at 11:43. Cincinnati cut the lead to 22-18, but never got ahead.

The victory lifted Notre Dame into a four-way tie for fourth place in the Big East with Marquette, West Virginia and Syracuse. The Irish own tiebreakers over the Orange and the Mountaineers, and

face Marquette next Saturday at home.

Notre Dame returns Tuesday to the Joyce Center to take on DePaul. The Blue Demons bested the Irish 67-66 in Chicago Feb. 8.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

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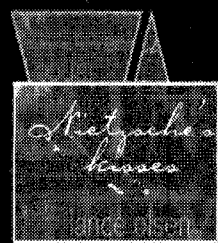
StudentUniverse.com

LANCE OLSEN

reads from
*Nietzsche's
Kisses*

FEBRUARY 20 7:30pm

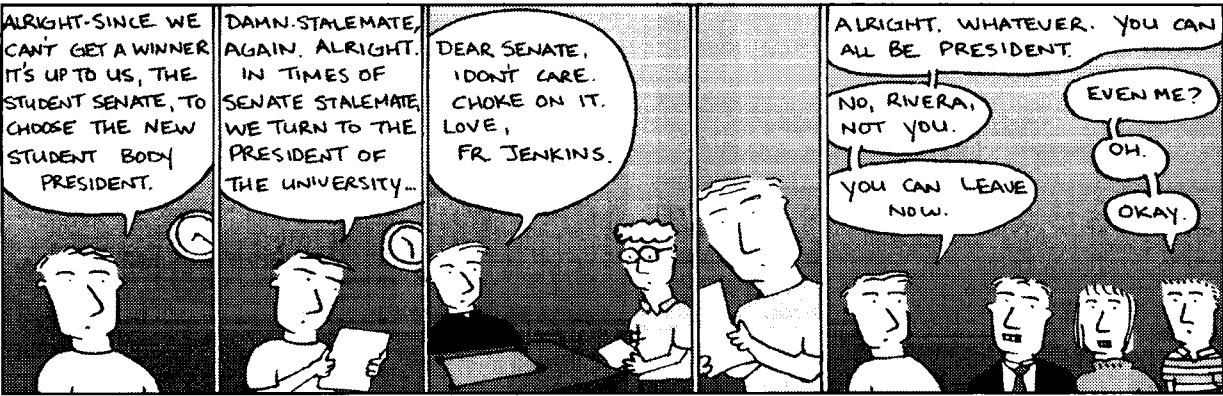
Hospitality Room, Reckers, South Dining Hall



Presented by The Notre Dame Creative Writing Program 2007

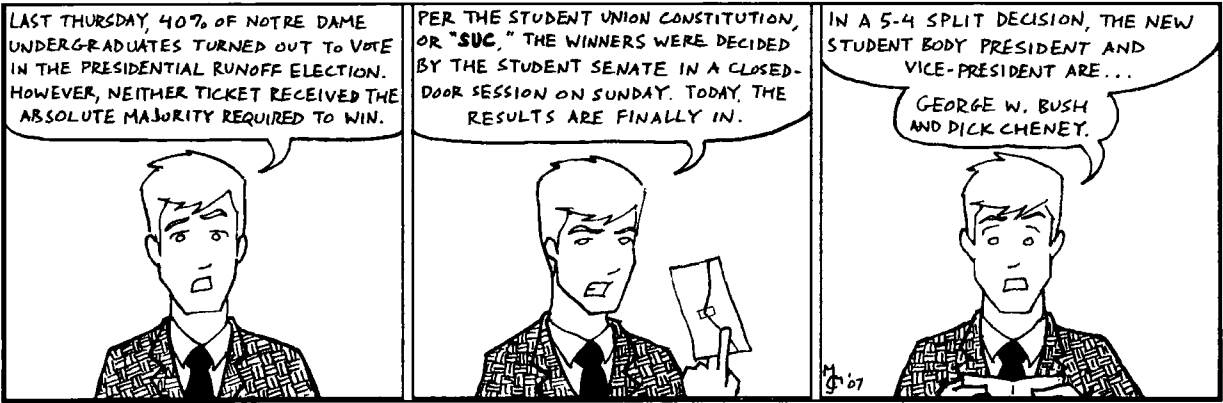
CROISSANTWORLD

ADAM FAIRHOLM



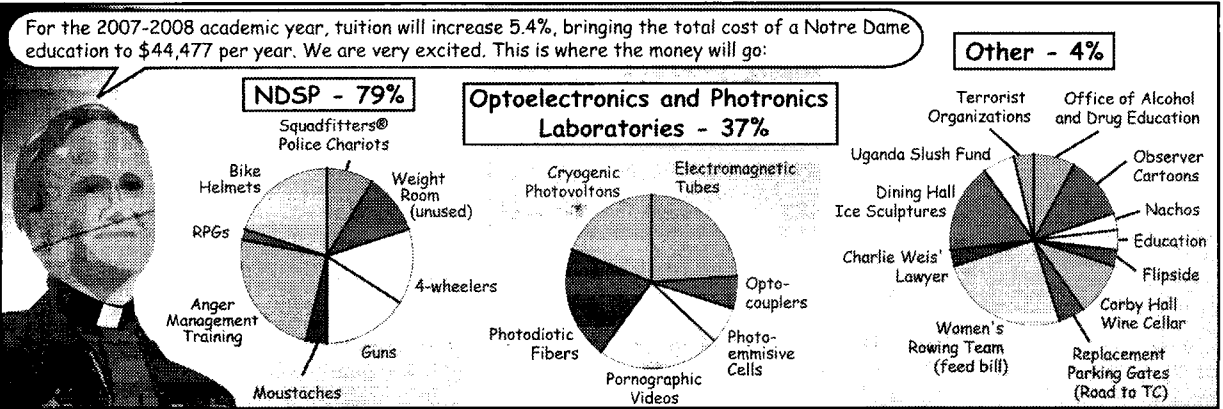
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MICHAEL MIKUSKA



KALEIDOSCOPE McDANIELS

LIAM MORAN



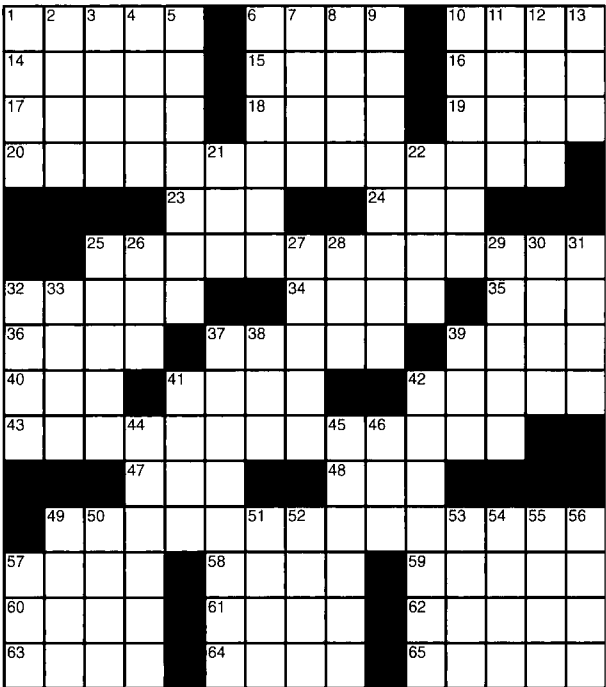
CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Heartbeat
 - 6 Impersonator in "Little Red Riding Hood"
 - 10 Heavy, durable furniture wood
 - 14 Santa _____ racetrack
 - 15 Jai _____
 - 16 Folkie Guthrie
 - 17 Think tank products
 - 18 Not so much
 - 19 Dec. 25
 - 20 Skeptic
 - 23 Web address ender
 - 24 "Little" girl of "Uncle Tom's Cabin"
 - 25 What a 20-Across might say
 - 32 Washed (down), as a sidewalk
 - 34 Just managed, with "out"
 - 35 Historic time
 - 36 Cut _____ (dance)
 - 37 Ways
 - 39 Nose-in-the-air type
 - 40 Snoring sound
 - 41 Plain crazy
 - 42 Scalds, e.g.
 - 43 What a 20-Across might say
 - 47 Baseball stat
 - 48 Hoopsters' org.
 - 49 What a 20-Across might say, ignoring grammar
 - 57 Tobacco plug
 - 58 Jacob's twin
 - 59 Designer Donna
 - 60 Wintry
 - 61 Angry outburst
 - 62 Turn inside out
 - 63 Meowers
 - 64 Bend in the wind
 - 65 50 minutes after the hour
- DOWN**
- 1 Settled up
 - 2 Nullify
 - 3 Stead
 - 4 Knife
 - 5 Where Cockney is spoken in London
 - 6 Heavy, durable furniture wood
 - 7 Designer Cassini
 - 8 Bringing up the rear
 - 9 Unfriendly looks
 - 10 I.R.S. worker
 - 11 Humorist Bombeck
 - 12 "Oh, woe!"
 - 13 Some boxing wins, briefly
 - 21 Wedding words
 - 22 "Ars Amatoria" poet
 - 25 Maker of the Rodeo
 - 26 Computer storage unit, informally
 - 27 Words before roses or lettuce
 - 28 Instrument making HI notes?
 - 29 Variety
 - 30 Do post-laundry work
 - 31 Setters of indents

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

CAPECOD STABS
OVERUSES STORES
HERGRACE MARTEN
ERS EGOTRIPPERS
RAP RECOILLESS
EGIS STUDIED
DERAT STENTON
DELIS GONER
DEMOTIC NEWEL
SENORAS TRUE
PICCALILLI ENS
TALLANDSLIM GIS
ASSERT ESPOSITO
CHARDS STONEMEN
TASKS ONAGERS



Puzzle by Harriet Clifton

- ACROSS**
- 32 Having a bit of smog
 - 33 Ricelike pasta
 - 37 Nicknames
 - 38 Columbus Day's mo.
 - 39 1 + 2 + 3, e.g.
 - 41 Pharmaceutical workplaces
 - 42 Relative of a quilt
 - 44 After-Christmas shopping scenes
 - 45 Working, as a police officer
 - 46 Sash in Sapporo
 - 49 "Stop!"
 - 50 "Stop!"
 - 51 "The Last Time _____ Paris"
 - 52 Comic Carvey
 - 53 "I _____ at the office"
 - 54 Wee warbler
 - 55 Male deer
 - 56 Not duped by
 - 57 Roman 300

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$34.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

PECOU

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NEPOR

www.jumble.com

MEEDER

www.jumble.com

KATEIN

www.jumble.com

Answer here: HE " _____ " (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: BASIN LOGIC WHOLLY IMPOSE
Answer: Where to find runners-up no matter who wins the race — ON A HILL CLIMB

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



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

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Shane Lyons, 19; Molly Ringwald, 39; Matt Dillon, 43; John Travolta, 53

Happy Birthday: You'll have everything going for you this year, as long as you can keep your head screwed on straight. Stick to basics and implement moderation and you will surpass your dreams, hopes and wishes. Nothing is unattainable if you maintain honesty and integrity. Your numbers are 13, 16, 26, 35, 39, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): This is the perfect time to go through your files or reconsider your financial position. Changes can be made that will increase your cash flow and give you room to breathe. Someone in the know will offer you some creative suggestions. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Have faith in your own abilities and don't second-guess your choices. Avoid anyone who tries to put you down. By participating in an event you believe in, you will align yourself with people who will build you up and help you out. 4 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Listen to your own inner voice, not that of someone trying to manipulate your situation. Follow through. A change is required and, if someone doesn't like it, you may have to rethink this connection. 2 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Reevaluate your position and prepare to make adjustments. You will be in a position of power today and what you decide will be what you should do. A money deal can be put to rest. Collect old debts. Plan a romantic evening with someone special. 5 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Be honest about your goals and practical about how long it will take you to get things off the ground. You may have to rethink your strategy. If you are careful, you can turn a small idea into something big. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't allow yourself to be put in an awkward position. Lay your intentions on the table and ride out the storm. Most of all, don't get sucked into any form of overindulgence, overspending or overdoing. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Look on the bright side of things today and get out and have some fun. The more positive your attitude, the more you will accomplish. Travel and visiting friends or relatives will be enlightening and will help you make an important decision. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Network, network, network. You have to put yourself in a position to present and promote. You are so close to getting what you want personally and professionally. Make time for love and you will not be disappointed. 5 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Someone you least expect will catch you in the act or do something to make you look bad. If you have been doing things by the book, you have nothing to worry about. If not, you had better cover your tracks and protect your assets. 2 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can formulate the changes that must be made in order to do what you really want to do. A change in your direction is apparent and will give you a whole new lease on life. Compassion will play a role in your future today. 4 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't let situations get blown out of proportion. Listen to what others have to say and, rather than argue, nod your head and move on. An opportunity is apparent but you have to be willing to do the groundwork to take advantage of it. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You will be emotional, passionate and ready to make changes but, before you do, question your motives. You may have been overreacting lately. Drastic measures don't usually have positive or lasting effects. 3 stars

Birthday Baby: You instinctively know how to implement what's necessary to get your way. You are intelligent, original and draw on the unfamiliar to give whatever you do a unique twist.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

THE OBSERVER

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

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HOCKEY

Conference clinched

Irish win their first-ever CCHA regular season championship

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

Only two years removed from a five-win season and a year after a rebuilding campaign ended in an early tournament exit, No. 1 Notre Dame has won the CCHA regular season title for the first time in the program's 39-year history.

But Irish coach Jeff Jackson continued to walk the modest line that has been characteristic all year of a Notre Dame program that has shattered and barnstormed its way through records and ranked opponents

see CHAMPS/page 22



Irish defenseman Wes O'Neill, right, skates past Nebraska-Omaha forward Dan Swanson in Notre Dame's 4-2 win Feb. 9 at the Joyce Center. The Irish clinched their first CCHA title Saturday.

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

BASEBALL

ND drops 2 of 3 to open year

By CHRIS KHOREY
Associate Sports Editor

It wasn't a pretty start to the 2007 season for Notre Dame in San Antonio this weekend.

After beating Prairie View A&M 15-8 in their first outdoor action of the year Saturday, the Irish (1-2) lost two games to Texas State, 2-1 Saturday and 6-0 Sunday.

"I'm not too worried," Notre Dame coach Dave Schrage said. "Texas State and Prairie View both had eight or nine games under

see START/page 21

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Notre Dame stakes place in Big East history

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

The Irish have earned a spot in Big East history.

With a 758-530 victory over Rutgers, Notre Dame won its 11th consecutive Big East

championship and became the first program in the conference to win 11 consecutive titles in any sport. Before this weekend, the Irish shared the record with the Pittsburgh men's swimming and diving program, which won 10 straight titles between 1983-

92.

"It shows what a dominant force we've been in the Big East for 11 years," Irish coach Carrie Nixon said. "After how close last year's championships were, dominating the way we did this year really sent a message to

the rest of the conference that we're not going away anytime soon."

The result was never in doubt as Notre Dame led wire-to-wire during the course of the four-day meet. The Irish won six events in addition to garnering 12

NCAA consideration times and setting two school records.

Leading the way for Notre Dame was senior captain Katie Carroll, who finished first in both the 500-freestyle

see HISTORY/page 21

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Big second-half run fuels squad's victory

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

After going into the locker room with just a 3-point lead over Providence, Notre Dame scored the first 21 points of the second half en route to a dominating 82-65 road win Saturday.

Notre Dame (18-8, 9-4) held Providence (13-13, 3-10) scoreless for the first 8:57 of the half until Friars guard Brittany Dorsey hit a pair of free throws to make the score 60-38. Providence did not score its first field goal until 10:37 in the half, when Shauna Snyder sank a jumper at the free-throw line, pushing her over the 1,000 point

mark for her career.

In the opening nine minutes of the half, the Irish shot 7-of-10 from the floor while the Friars were 0-of-12.

"We switched to zone, we played mostly man in the first half, and [the switch] worked pretty well," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "They missed some shots, we rebounded well and we didn't give them any second chance opportunities."

Irish guard Charel Allen was crucial to Notre Dame's second half success, scoring eight points in the first eight minutes of the half. Allen finished with 26 points — the third straight game

see FRIARS/page 21

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Falls breaks record in win

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

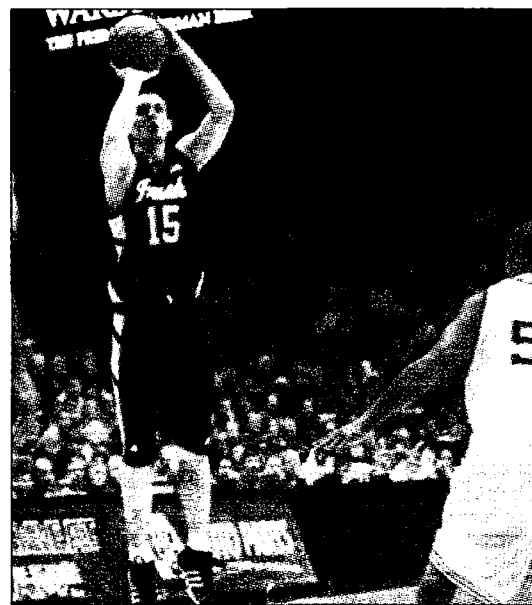
Irish guard Colin Falls scored 23 points and broke Notre Dame's career 3-point record as the Irish reached 20 wins Sunday for the first time in four seasons with a 76-64 victory in Cincinnati.

Falls netted 5-of-8 threes to boost his career total to 305, surpassing former guard Chris Thomas (302) for the school mark.

"It's a great accomplishment. There have been a lot of great shooters in Notre Dame's past," Falls said. "I've had a lot of great point guards that have gotten me the ball in positions where I could make a lot of shots."

Sophomore forward Ryan Ayers, who saw significant playing time in place of injured guard Russell Carter, shot 4-of-4 from beyond the arc to finish with a career-high 12 points.

"That's something we've been waiting on him to do," Irish forward Zach Hillesland said. "We



Irish guard Colin Falls pulls up for a 3-point shot in Sunday's 76-64 win at Cincinnati.

AP

see RECORD/page 22

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

SMC BASKETBALL

Hope 79
Saint Mary's 71
Belles end regular season with home loss.

page 19

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

No. 2 Irish top North Carolina 5-2 and beat Wake Forest 4-0 over weekend.

page 18

TRACK AND FIELD

Irish men win Big East meet as Notre Dame women take second.

page 17

MEN'S LACROSSE

Notre Dame 9
Loyola (Md.) 7
Attacker Brian Hubschmann's hat trick leads No. 11 Irish over No. 13 Greyhounds.

page 16

NHL

Stars 5
Sharks 2
Dallas pulls within six points of lead in Pacific Division with win over San Jose.

page 14

NHL

Rangers 2
Blackhawks 1
Henrik Lundqvist makes 21 saves for New York in win over Chicago.

page 14