

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 41 : ISSUE 104

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2007

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

STUDENT SENATE

Jenkins fields questions from group

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

University President Father John Jenkins ended an afternoon that included open office hours by visiting the Student Senate Wednesday, giving members the opportunity to ask questions about topics ranging from tuition increases to research.

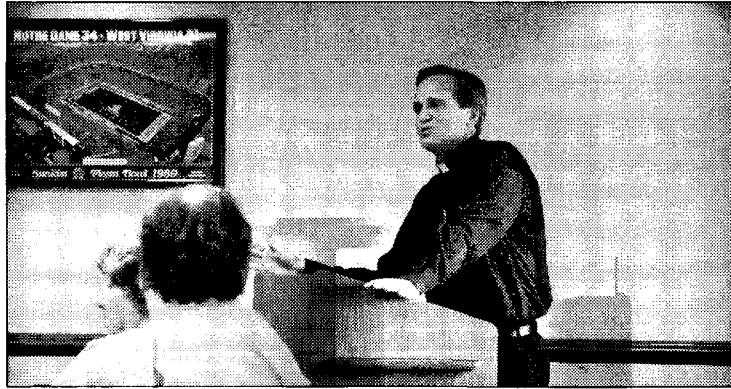
Jenkins opened the floor for discussion and told senators he appreciated their work as representatives of the student body.

"Please know that your work is important and we value it, and whatever you say we will listen to it," Jenkins said. "We may not agree with everything you say but we will listen to you."

Welsh Family senator Mary Popit asked Jenkins for his thoughts on a resolution the Senate passed two weeks ago, which urged the University to add sexual orientation to its anti-discriminatory clause.

Jenkins said he had not yet

see JENKINS/page 4



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

University President Father John Jenkins discusses senators' concerns at Wednesday's Student Senate meeting.

Cathedral High gives up ND logo

Use of Leprechaun violated trademark

By KATIE KOHLER
Saint Mary's Editor

After almost 90 years of using Notre Dame's Leprechaun logo, Cathedral High School in Indianapolis is changing its image — a move strongly supported by Cathedral's principal, if not its alumni.

Cathedral, whose students have been known as the Fighting Irish since the school's founding in 1918, will no longer be permitted to use the Leprechaun logo due to the University's allegation of trademark infringement.

An Indianapolis Star article published on March 16 said Cathedral will stop using the logo, much to the chagrin of many alumni who feel "dis-owned by their own family," as Mary Boyle, president of the Cathedral Alumni Association, told the Star.

Dave Worland, Cathedral High School principal, had a more optimistic view of the situation.

"I can understand why some people are upset because it has been part of our identity for so long," he said in a telephone interview with The Observer.

Worland said he has not experienced any backlash from the students and sees the situation as a positive one.

"The students think it is

see LOGO/page 8

ACE teacher, alum meets with First Lady



Photo courtesy of Liz Stowe

ACE teacher and Notre Dame alumna Liz Stowe meets with First Lady Laura Bush to speak about education on Feb. 22.

Class of 2005 grad discusses state of schools post-Katrina with Laura Bush

By AARON STEINER
News Writer

Notre Dame alumna Liz Stowe has had her fair share of extraordinary experiences in recent years, including living through Hurricane Katrina as a second grade teacher in Mississippi. She can add meeting the First Lady to her list.

A second-year participant in Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program — a two-year post-graduate service program that allows participants to teach in Catholic schools across the coun-

try — Stowe has spent nearly two years in Pascagoula, Miss., where she has helped those struggling in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

A year and a half after the hurricane, Stowe is a few months away from ending her term in Mississippi. Schools and students along the Gulf Coast continue to struggle, Stowe said, and First Lady Laura Bush recently assessed the state of schools and the obstacles they still face.

Stowe said Bush's secretary called her personally to invite her to meet

see STOWE/page 6

Irish mascot competes on SpikeTV program

By JENN METZ
News Writer

Just because Notre Dame's basketball season has come to an end doesn't mean that Leprechaun Kevin Braun's duties are over. Tonight, the senior will be featured in a special college mascot edition of SpikeTV's "Pros vs. Joes 2" — potentially the last time he will be seen in the green suit.

Braun, along with Penn State's Nittany Lion Dave Johnson and Wisconsin's Bucky Badger Sky Halverson, flew to California to film the episode last December on an all-expenses paid trip.

Preparation began early last fall when Notre Dame cheerleading coach Jo Minton told

Braun he had an offer to be on the show, which airs at 10 p.m. tonight. With the help of his fellow cheerleaders, Braun prepared an audition video that showcased him playing basketball and football around campus.

Braun said the show usually puts three regular "Joes" — in this case, the mascots — with varied athletic skills up against retired professional athletes, or "Pros," in their respective sports.

While the three mascots signed documents that forbid them to discuss the results of the contest, Braun said keeping that information from family, roommates and teammates "has been pretty diffi-

see BRAUN/page 8

Panel evaluates Honor Code

By STEVE KERINS
News Writer

Academic integrity is an essential aspect of Notre Dame's mission, and students, faculty and administrators share the responsibility of upholding the Honor Code, a three-person panel said Wednesday.

University Vice President and Associate Provost Dennis Jacobs, philosophy professor Bill Ramsey and senior Sarah Glatt spoke to about 30 people at this semester's second-to-last Theology on Tap event, "To Cheat or Not to Cheat: The Academic Honor Code."

The issue of academic integrity "really cuts right to the heart of the University," Jacobs said, citing a phrase in Notre Dame's mission statement requiring members of the community to "seek and share truth for its own sake."

Jacobs said the Undergraduate

see CHEATING/page 10



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

Professor Bill Ramsey, right, discusses cheating with Associate Provost Dennis Jacobs and senior Sarah Glatt Wednesday.

INSIDE COLUMN

Squirrels are evil

If there's one thing that I have learned while at Notre Dame, it doesn't have to do with theology or English. It's not about friendship or religion, life, work, society or university life. It has nothing to do with relationships, truth, faith, imagination or the development of a viable skill set that will help me in the real world. It's simply that squirrels are evil.

Chris McGrady

Assistant Scene Editor

Yeah, I said it. These furry fiends attack at a moment's notice and the truth is that the squirrels of Notre Dame are multiplying.

Yeah, you know the ones — the obese little fluff-balls that roam this campus like bloodthirsty scavengers. They are growing in numbers by the day. In their plot to control the football team, run the dining halls and disrupt the campus sprinkler systems, the squirrels require a large amount of funding. To defray the cost, these beasts seek monetary "donations" obtained largely through armed robbery of helpless North Face wearing, iPod-toting students.

To help avoid these surprisingly carnivorous beasts, I'd like to make you aware of a few of their strategies for overtaking the common student. Remember, knowing your enemy is key to survival.

The first tactic is called the "wolf pack." In this strategy, the squirrels attack in large numbers, sometimes 40 or 50 deep. They overtake the victim by sheer force and drag them off to their secret lair (thought to be somewhere in South Dining Hall).

Another tactic often employed by these animal assassins is the "kitty coup." Only certain squirrels are able to pull this off, but given the large size of these monsters, it can be done. A particularly chunky squirrel is outfitted with a cat collar and poses on the quad as a harmless feline friend. The unsuspecting victim approaches the "cat" and is quickly subdued by a strong tranquilizer stolen from the chemistry lab. Hours later, the injured party awakens frightened, alone, and 100 Flex Points poorer. These creatures will show no mercy.

In addition to the large possum or "cat-like" squirrels, there is another variety called sprinters. These smaller, more agile creatures dupe their victims with exceptional speed.

As one undisclosed junior says, "Those squirrels are quick as [expletive]. They'll run up your pant leg and take you down."

This is not an exaggeration — this is the plain and simple truth. Try out running these speedsters and you'll find yourself on the wrong end of a squirrel showdown.

Until NDSP starts an initiative to help control the squirrel population, it is necessary to become educated about the dangers of these horrific brutes. This may seem ridiculous to you, but when you see one of these fatal mammalian creatures approaching you, you'll know to be on your guard.

Contact Chris McGrady at cmcgrad1@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: DO YOU THINK THE WARM WEATHER WILL LAST?



David Wilkerson
sophomore Carroll

"Absolutely not. We live in South Bend."



Kate Kinasz
freshman BP

"Of course. It's always hot when I'm around."



Patricia Wilbur
freshman McGlenn

"Of course, or at least I hope so."



Jenny Plagman
freshman BP

"I don't know, but I hope it snows soon."



Lauren Plenn
senior Lyons

"No, that would be too good to be true."



Ted Lee
freshman Alumni

"Hell yeah, I'm going to hang out with Kate Kinasz."



KATE FENLON/The Observer

Saint Mary's president Carol Ann Mooney, right, and philosophy professor Patricia Sayre, second from right, speak to two Saint Mary's students before the College's "Women Honoring Women" event Wednesday night.

IN BRIEF

The 2007 Natural Law Lecture, entitled "Why I Am (Almost) a Natural Lawyer," will be given by John Gardner, Professor of Jurisprudence from the University of Oxford at 4 p.m. today in the Notre Dame Law School Courtroom.

John Bruton, the EU ambassador to the United States, will speak about "The Future of Economic and Political Relations between the European Union and the United States" today at 4:30 p.m. in the Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business.

As part of the Nanovic Institute film series: "Terrorism: Perspectives from European Cinema," the film "Battle of Algiers" will be shown tonight at 7 and 10 in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$3 for students.

Clayton Eshleman, professor emeritus of English at Eastern Michigan University, and poet Johannes Goransson will give a poetry reading tonight at 7:30 in the Reckers Hospitality Room.

The Class of 2008 presents Irish Idol tonight at 10 in Legends.

Men's baseball will play South Florida Friday at 5:05 p.m. at Frank Eck Stadium. For tickets, call the Athletic Department's ticket office at 631-7356.

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

OFFBEAT

Man gets probation for dead deer sex

SUPERIOR, Wis. — A 20-year-old man received probation after he was convicted of having sexual contact with a dead deer. The sentence also requires Bryan James Hathaway to be evaluated as a sex offender and treated at the Institute for Psychological and Sexual Health in Duluth, Minn.

Hathaway's probation will be served at the same time as a nine-month jail sentence he received in February for violating his extended supervision.

He was found guilty in April 2005 of felony mis-

treatment of an animal after he killed a horse with the intention of having sex with it. He was sentenced to 18 months in jail and two years of extended supervision on that charge as well as six years of probation for taking and driving a vehicle without the owner's consent.

Man in WWII uniform attacks 2 at museum

McMINNVILLE, Ore. — A man dressed in a World War II military uniform attacked two employees at the Evergreen Aviation Museum this week, police said. McMinnville Police Capt. Dennis Marks said Gerald

Lahey, a transient, broke into the rear of the building and smashed the glass panel of a display case. He then removed the coat, hat and pants from a World War II uniform and put them on.

Lahey was inside when operations director Phillip Jeager, 33, of McMinnville and cafe manager Cheryl McKay, 62, of Sheridan arrived for work Monday morning. Marks said Lahey punched Jeager several times and bit McKay.

Neither employee required hospitalization.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 65 LOW 42	HIGH 55 LOW 42	HIGH 57 LOW 40	HIGH 62 LOW 45	HIGH 65 LOW 42	HIGH 53 LOW 45

Center holds annual luncheon

By JOHN TIERNEY
News Writer

With former Notre Dame football star Mike Golic as its keynote speaker, the annual Nose-On Luncheon raised an estimated \$70,000 Wednesday for the Logan Center, a developmental-disorder support organization in South Bend.

Organizers hoped the event, more than just a fundraiser, served as a way to increase awareness of developmental disorders in the community.

During his speech, Golic emphasized the importance of sports in the life of those who are helped by the Logan Center.

The Logan Center serves individuals with developmental disabilities in all stages of life. It also provides resources for individuals and their families and advocates for developmental disability awareness, but is not an institutional setting with caregivers.

Golic told the audience that the biggest smile that he ever wore — when he ran out of the tunnel as a Notre Dame football player — could not compare to the smiles he saw on Logan Center clients Wednesday morning at the

“Breakfast of Champions,” at which sports enthusiasts had breakfast and talked to the ESPN personality.

The positive reaction of the Logan “Champions” at the breakfast reminded Golic that “sports are a good thing” and that they are capable of helping people feel happy about life, he said.

Golic said the most important thing for the public to remember is to remain aware of the efforts at the Logan Center.

“It’s a wonderful thing they’re doing and we can keep it going,” he said.

Like many support groups, the most important thing the Logan Center provides is hope, Logan CEO Dan Harshman said.

The Logan Center maintained a focus on community awareness in March, which is Disability Awareness Month. Next week the center will welcome hundreds of fifth graders to tour the facilities and see the equipment.

The trip is a reward for the students who sold

green noses to fundraise for the Logan Center this month. Students from the Stanley Clark Elementary School, which sold the most noses of any area school, were invited to attend the luncheon Wednesday.

More than 600 community members volunteer at the Logan Center every year, and many of the helpers come from Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s, according to Ann Lagomarcino of the Logan

Center.

Logan Center volunteers do a variety of work, ranging from serving as board members, working on committees, planning fundraisers and working directly with individuals.

In addition to volunteers, the Logan Center is always in need of monetary donations.

“It’s always a stretch for us,” Lagomarcino said of the center’s finances. “Government funding never meets our needs and we always struggle to reach more people.”

Contact John Tierney at jtierne1@nd.edu

“It’s a wonderful thing they’re doing and we can keep it going.”

Mike Golic
keynote speaker

Professor honored by women of Saint Mary’s

By MANDI STIRONE
News Writer

Susan Latham, professor of communicative disorders, received the “Women Honoring Women” award Wednesday night during Saint Mary’s fifth annual Women Honoring Women ceremony.

Latham was joined by fellow finalists women’s studies professor Astrid Henry and education professor Nancy Turner, who were selected from several nominees by the Student Academic Council (SAC), said event organizer Maggie Siefert, student body vice president and SAC coordinator.

Siefert said the ceremony was expanded this year to include the students who nominated the finalists. Originally only SAC members, a professor of her choice and two students chosen from every department were invited, as well as the nominees and their husbands, Siefert said.

“We are just excited that it is an ongoing event that has become a tradition to celebrate the great women of Saint Mary’s,” she said.

The event, a formal dinner, began with a “cocktail hour” and then a dinner, after which the students who nominated Latham, Turner and Henry each read their nomination presentations.

Senior Grace Guebert nominated Henry for being an outstanding educator as well as a mentor and friend, she said in her speech. She described Henry as having “great respect for the women of the college.” Guebert talked about Henry’s warm smile and “open,

understanding nature,” going on to call her a “sister to all the women of Saint Mary’s.” She also shared a personal account of how welcome Henry made her feel during Guebert’s first year.

Next, senior Erin Turner read her nomination of Nancy Turner for “putting her whole heart into her work,” and being a role model for her students. Erin Turner spoke about how Nancy Turner is organized and efficient in everything she does and is someone who has good moral qualities. She also spoke about the new program in Special Education Nancy Turner is working on.

Senior Jessica Andrusiak then took the podium to speak about Latham. She said she was “blessed to be in her class,” and talked about Latham’s crucial research and development of a speech communicative disorders major at Saint Mary’s. Andrusiak also said how responsive and enthusiastic Latham is during classes, sometimes bringing her students bagels.

Siefert then took the podium along with last year’s award recipient, Mary Ann Merryman, to announce the winner.

After the announcement, a choked up Latham spoke of arriving at Saint Mary’s 20 years ago as a student and how the campus was filled with “so many amazing women.” Latham then went on to say how blessed she felt because she was still a part of the college.

“I just feel grateful everyday that I get to come and work here,” she said.

Contact Mandi Stirone at astiro01@saintmarys.edu

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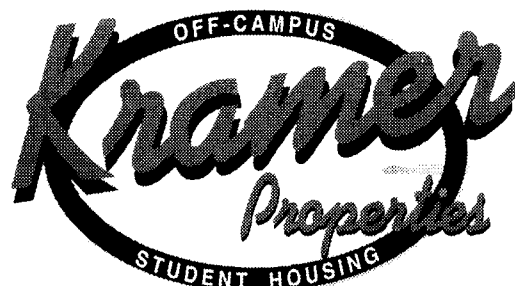


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Jenkins

continued from page 1

seen the recommendation but that he is committed to supporting people of all sexual orientations and encouraging that they be treated with respect and not excluded or ridiculed in any way.

He said concerns could arise with the statement, however.

"The problem with non-discrimination against sexual orientation is it's sometimes not clear what that means," he said. "What am I committing to when I am committing to that?"

Fisher senator Drew Clary touched on another controversial topic when he cited the announcement made in February that tuition would climb 5.4 percent — up to \$35,187 for the 2007-08 school year. Clary asked Jenkins if there were any plans to "put the brakes on" future tuition increases.

Jenkins agreed with Clary that tuition is expensive, but said even the high price to attend Notre Dame does not fully pay for everything. Instead, he said, the balance is achieved

through the University's endowment and various benefactors.

But, Jenkins said, the high price of attending Notre Dame is a good investment.

"If you are going to spend money on anything, it's not a bad investment," he said.

Jenkins pointed out that the earning power of a person with a college degree — and especially a person with a Notre Dame degree — is, on average, thousands of dollars a year more than a person without a degree.

But a Notre Dame degree does not necessarily translate into a large salary, Morrissey senator Greg Dworjan said. He asked Jenkins how students who plan to go into careers in education and government can afford these lower-paying jobs with thousands of dollars of debt from a Notre Dame education.

The University gives out financial aid in an effort to make a four-year education at Notre Dame affordable, which makes the school more accessible for people of varying economic brackets, Jenkins said.

"I know it's still not cheap, but at least it gives people access," he said.

Nonetheless, he said the problem of debt for graduates who go into service is a dilemma that warrants more attention.

Giving people access to better living areas is another topic Jenkins addressed. Judicial Council president Liz Kozlow asked Jenkins what the priorities are for new residence halls — whether they are to increase the student body population or to make the current halls less crowded.

Jenkins said the addition of new residence halls is not meant to increase the number of students admitted to the University.

"This may shock you," Jenkins quipped, "but some of our dorms are crowded."

Compared to other colleges, Notre Dame's residence hall system has become overcrowded and students need more space, he said.

"[With the new residence halls], we will be able to create

study halls, we will be able to create study space and we will be able to bring in transfer students," Jenkins said.

Howard senator Analise Lipari, who is also an Observer assistant Scene editor, asked Jenkins about the low grade Notre Dame recently received from the Sustainable Endowment Institute. In its annual College Sustainability Report Card, which covers environmental and endowment practices, the institute gave Notre Dame a D-

minus — the lowest grade given in the survey.

Jenkins said environmental concerns are issues Notre Dame needs to tackle.

"It's something that we need to continue to reflect on and address in an appropriate way," he said.

Jenkins said the new engineering building should meet certain criteria for an environ-

mentally-friendly building.

Keough senator Brian Corrigan asked Jenkins how, in Notre Dame's pursuit to improve its reputation as a research institution, it could avoid diminishing its dedication to undergraduate education.

Jenkins said Notre Dame will not lose its dedication to undergraduate education, even as it pushes for more research achievements.

"Insofar as we are better at research, we are better at undergraduate education," Jenkins said. "If you look at the [teacher course evaluations], it's often the case that people who are strong at research are good teachers too. I don't think they are in opposition to each other."

In other Senate news:

♦ The Senate unanimously approved Student Union Board manager Patrick Vassel as this year's recipient of the Michael J. Palumbo award, which annually honors an undergraduate student for his or her dedication and service to the Student Union.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

University remembers Romero

Associated Press

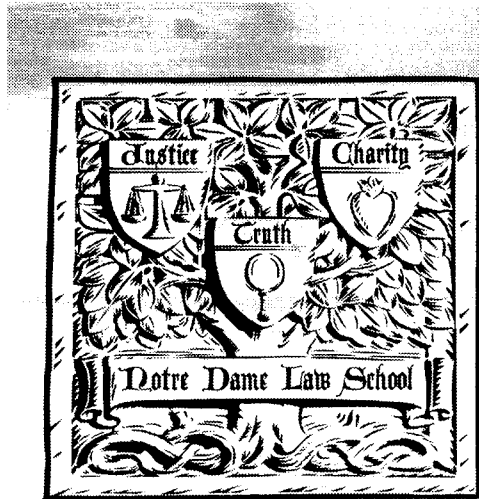
The 27th anniversary of the assassination of Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero will be commemorated at Notre Dame March 27 and 29 with a panel discussion, a Mass and a lecture by Judge Victoria Marina de Aviles of the Supreme Court of El Salvador.

The panel discussion, "Human Rights in El Salvador Today," will be held at 12:30 p.m. March 27 in Room C103 of the Hesburgh Center for International Studies. Panelists will include Aviles; Neris Gonzales, a Salvadoran Catholic Church worker and plaintiff in the recent Florida trial of Salvadoran military leaders responsible for torture and other human rights abuses during their country's civil war; Douglass Cassel, director of Notre Dame's Center for Civil and Human Rights; and John French, associate professor of history at Duke University and visiting fellow at the Kellogg Institute.

Following the discussion, a Mass for women who serve in Latin America will be celebrated at 4 p.m. in the Church of Loretto at Saint Mary's College.

Aviles also will give the annual Romero Lecture, "El Salvador's Reform of the Judiciary," at 8 p.m. March 29 in the auditorium of the Hesburgh Center. The lecture will be in Spanish, but an English translation will be available.

Archbishop Oscar Romero was assassinated by a right-wing death squad while presiding at Mass on March 24, 1980, in a hospital in San Salvador. His outspoken advocacy of human rights, his denunciations of U.S. military aid to El Salvador, his call for Salvadoran military personnel to disobey immoral orders and his insistence that the Church be inseparable from the poor all made him a figure of some controversy before and after his death.



The Notre Dame Law School
Natural Law Institute presents

The 2007 Natural Law Lecture

Why I Am (Almost) a Natural Lawyer

John Gardner

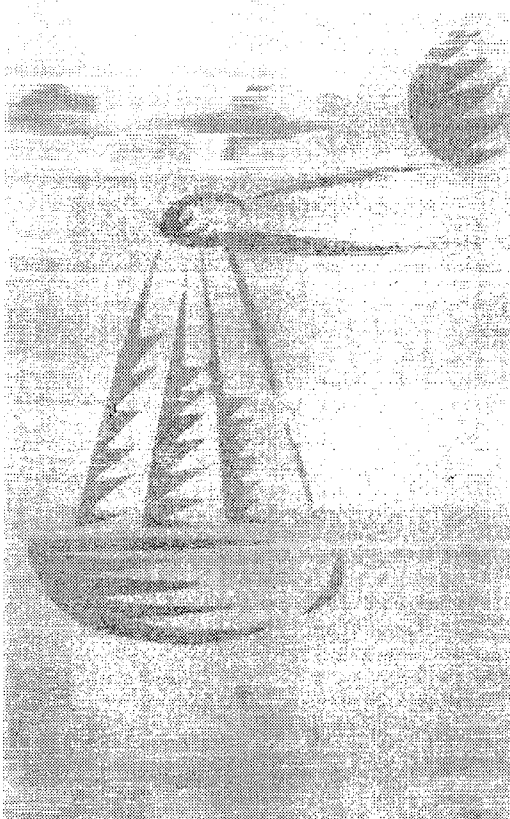
Professor of Jurisprudence

University of Oxford

Thursday, March 22, 2007

4 p.m.

Notre Dame Law School Courtroom



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Palestinians find international help

RAMALLAH, West Bank — A top European Union envoy met with a senior member of the new Palestinian government Wednesday, joining the U.S. in ending a year of ostracism and leaving Israel increasingly isolated in its demand for a total boycott of the Hamas-Fatah coalition.

However, the Islamic militant Hamas itself is still being shunned, and economic sanctions remain in place. The boycott has been a costly policy, international aid officials indicated.

Donor countries had to send more aid to the Palestinians in 2006 than the year before to ease a humanitarian crisis set off by the embargo. Despite the increased aid, public institutions and services suffered because the funds bypassed the government, and the Palestinian economy shrank by 6.6 percent.

The Palestinians hope the government installed Saturday, an alliance of Hamas and the Fatah Party of President Mahmoud Abbas, will lead them out of international isolation — even though the coalition did not meet international conditions for acceptance, such as recognizing Israel's right to exist.

Chirac endorses rival as successor

PARIS, France — After holding out for months, President Jacques Chirac on Wednesday endorsed fellow conservative Nicolas Sarkozy's bid to succeed him, despite long and sharp personal and political differences between them.

Chirac also said Sarkozy would quit as interior minister on Monday to devote himself fully to the close race in which he is narrowly the front-runner.

Chirac's declaration of support and Sarkozy's departure from government had long been expected. Even so, the president kept praise for his former protege and later rival to a terse televised declaration.

NATIONAL NEWS

Gore testifies on environment

WASHINGTON — Al Gore made an emotional return to Congress Wednesday to plead with lawmakers to fight global warming with moral courage while revealing nothing about whether he'll join the 2008 presidential race.

Fresh off a triumphant Hollywood appearance in which his documentary "An Inconvenient Truth" won two Oscars, Gore drew overflow crowds as he testified before House and Senate panels about a "true planetary emergency."

Gore faced a skeptical reception from Republicans who questioned the science behind his film.

"You're not just off a little, you're totally wrong," said Texas Rep. Joe Barton, as he challenged Gore's conclusion that carbon dioxide emissions cause rising global temperatures. Gore responded that he would like time to answer without being interrupted.

Chicagoan arrested in terror case

TOLEDO, Ohio — A Chicago man pleaded not guilty Wednesday to charges that he plotted to recruit and train terrorists to attack U.S. troops.

Khaleel Ahmed is charged with conspiring with his cousin and three Ohio men between June 2004 and February 2006 to kill or maim Americans overseas, including those in Iraq.

Ahmed, 26, and his cousin Zubair A. Ahmed, 27, were arrested last month; Zubair Ahmed has yet to enter a plea. Three Toledo-area men — Mohammad Zaki Amawi, Marwan Othman El-Hindi, and Wassim I. Mazloum — were charged.

LOCAL NEWS

Electronic highway tolls to expand

GARY, Ind. — Motorists on the Indiana Toll Road will be able to use electronic tolling in northwest Indiana by May.

Toll road operator ITR Concession Co. announced Tuesday it plans to introduce E-ZPass electronic tolling from the Illinois line to mile marker 23. It hopes to have electronic tolling on the rest of the 157-mile highway by October.

"It's the future of every toll road. You need to be electronic," ITR Concession spokesman Matt Pierce said.

The Indiana Toll Road E-ZPass will go by the name I-Zoom.

IRAN

Leader defends nuclear program

Khamenei threatens 'illegal actions' if provoked by U.N. or United States

Associated Press

TEHRAN — Iran's top leader warned Wednesday his country will pursue "illegal actions" if the U.N. Security Council insists it halt uranium enrichment, an apparent reference to nuclear activities outside international regulations.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei also warned the United States that Iran would fight back with "all its capacities" if attacked.

"Until today, what we have done has been in accordance with international regulations," Khamenei said. "But if they take illegal actions, we too can take illegal actions and will do so."

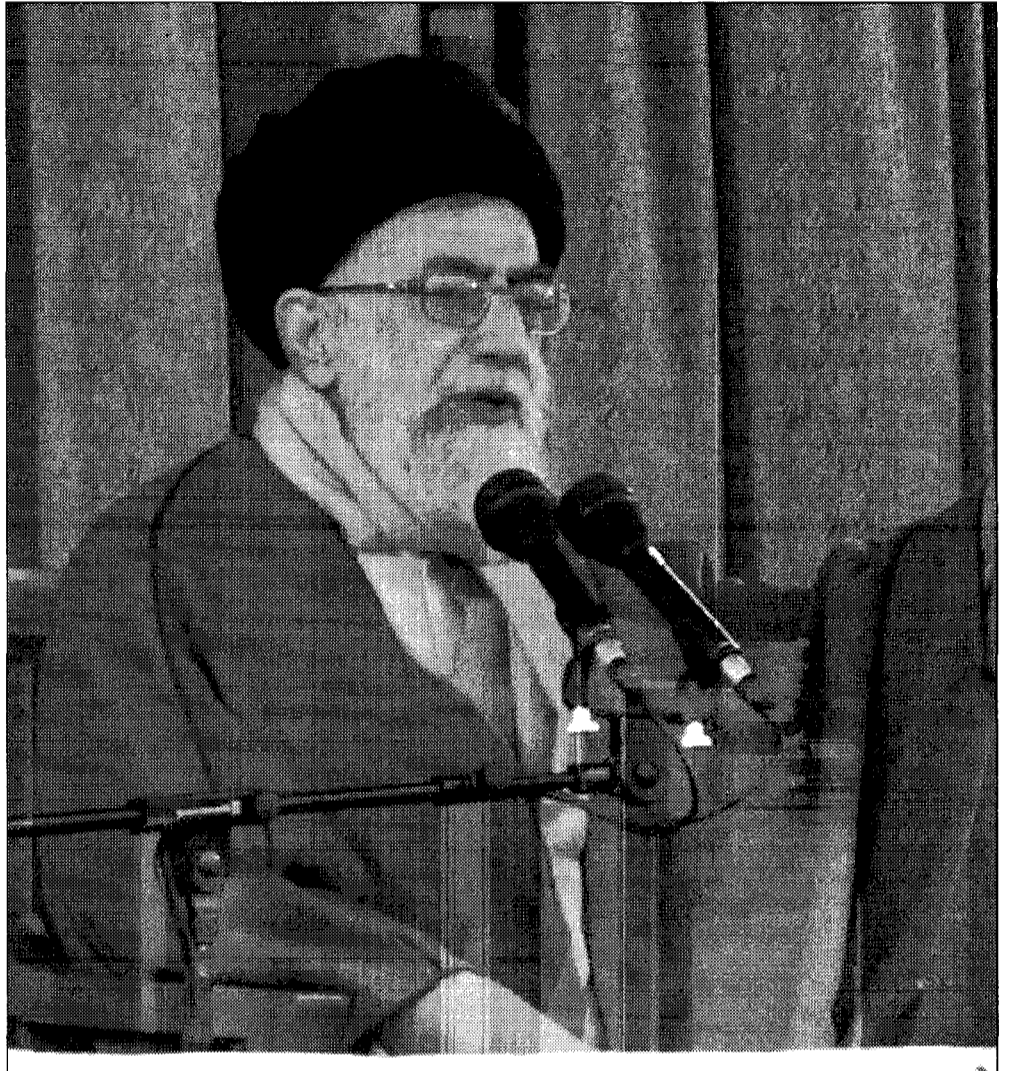
He did not elaborate on what the "illegal actions" could be, but Iran is a signatory to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the agreement under which the U.N. inspections are held.

Iran says it will never give up its right under the treaty to enrich uranium and produce nuclear fuel. But it has offered to provide guarantees that its nuclear program won't be diverted toward weapons — as the U.S. and some of its allies fear.

The five permanent members of the Security Council — the United States, Russia, China, Britain and France — and Germany have drawn up new sanctions to punish Iran for rejecting U.N. demands to halt enrichment — a process that can produce fuel for a reactor or fissile material for a nuclear warhead.

"If you want to treat us with threats and enforcement of coercion and violence, undoubtedly they must know that the Iranian nation and authorities will use all their capacities to strike enemies that attack," Khamenei told the nation in an address marking the first day of Nowruz, or the Persian New Year.

Ambassadors from the 15 Security Council nations



Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei delivers a speech in a public gathering at the city of Mashhad Tuesday. He said Tehran will pursue nuclear activities.

held informal discussions in New York on Wednesday ahead of a meeting to discuss possible changes to the draft sanctions resolution.

The new sanctions would ban Iranian arms exports and freeze the assets of 28 additional individuals and organizations involved in the country's nuclear and missile programs — about a third linked to Iran's Revolutionary Guard, an elite military corps.

The package also calls for voluntary restrictions on travel by the individuals subject to sanctions, on arms sales to Iran, and on new financial assistance or loans to the Iranian government.

In Washington, Bush

administration officials urged patience with U.S. efforts to crack down on Iran as Democrats leveled fresh criticism of the government's approach.

"Iran is a country very much on the defensive right now," said R. Nicholas Burns, undersecretary for political affairs at the State Department.

"The United States is committed to pursuing a diplomatic solution to the challenges posed by Iran. This will require patience and persistence," he told the Senate Banking Committee.

The U.S. and France are hoping the new sanctions will be adopted by the end of the week, but that goal seemed complicated. South

Africa, which holds the rotating Security Council presidency, has proposed extensive changes to the resolution — including eliminating the arms embargo — and a 90-day "time out" on all sanctions.

Although the five council powers remained united on their draft, discussion of South Africa's proposals seemed likely to delay a vote.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said his country "will not support excessive sanctions against Iran," and added that the draft resolution has been softened at Moscow's behest, including narrower restrictions on officials' travel.

Rove subpoena spurs fight in capital

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A House panel on Wednesday approved subpoenas for President Bush's political adviser, Karl Rove and other top White House aides, setting up a constitutional showdown over the firings of eight federal prosecutors.

By voice vote, the House Judiciary subcommittee on commercial and administrative law decided to compel the president's top aides to testify publicly and under oath about their roles in the firings.

The White House has refused to budge in the controversy, standing by embattled Attorney General Alberto

Gonzales and insisting that the firings were appropriate. White House spokesman Tony Snow said that in offering aides to talk to the committees privately, Bush had sought to avoid the "media spectacle" that would result from public hearings with Rove and others at the witness table.

"The question they've got to ask themselves is, are you more interested in a political spectacle than getting the truth?" Snow said of the overture Tuesday that was relayed to Capitol Hill by White House counsel Fred Fielding.

Publicly, the White House held out hope there would be no impasse.

"If they issue subpoenas, yes, the offer is withdrawn," said White House

spokesman Tony Snow. "They will have rejected the offer."

He added that the offer for interviews on the president's terms — not under oath, on the record or in public — is final.

Democrats dismissed the overture, in large part because there would be no transcript.

"There must be accountability," countered subcommittee Chairwoman Linda Sanchez, D-Calif.

The Senate Judiciary Committee scheduled a vote Thursday on its own set of subpoenas, with Democrats complaining that the threat of force is the only way to get a straight answer from the White House.

Stowe

continued from page 1

the First Lady on Feb. 22.

"[Her secretary] invited me to have lunch with the First Lady, [a local congressman] and eight other representatives from schools along the Gulf Coast," Stowe said.

Bush has been affiliated with ACE since 2001, when the Laura Bush Scholarship was established. The award is given to a student attending an ACE-participating school in Texas, Bush's home state.

"She wanted to know the condition of the [hurricane-affected] schools," Stowe said, adding that the First Lady's press secretary traveled with her and later wrote a report detailing their findings.

Bush's familiarity with ACE and another similar post-graduate teaching opportunity, Teach for America, led her to quiz Stowe on differences between the two different programs during their conversation.

"As a principal from another Catholic school said his greatest need was good teachers, Mrs. Bush turned to me and asked about the ACE program," Stowe said. "She asked something like, 'Now do you get as much

support through ACE as you would through Teach for America?'"

"I was able to tell her that we learn the current best practices ... while we gain experience in the classroom," Stowe said. "I told her that this all takes place with the support built into the program through our faculty, pastoral staff, principals, mentor teachers and the community in which we live."

Stowe said the First Lady was receptive to the positive things she had to say about ACE.

"I think she was impressed because they both have some things that are similar, but some [of the support ACE provides] isn't found in the Teach for America program," Stowe said.

As the only teacher present during the lunch, Stowe said she brought a different perspective to the discussion than the principals and representatives of schools there.

"Some of the principals were talking numbers," Stowe said. "As an administrator, that's what's on their minds. As a teacher, I had

the opportunity to talk about the kids ... and what I thought are the biggest needs for them."

Stowe said she feels the children's specific day-to-day concerns go unnoticed while administrators think about enrollment numbers, budgets and the like.

"Although they are there for the children ... I feel the needs of the kids are overlooked," Stowe said.

Stowe said she shared the feelings of her students with Bush in the form of journal entries, reflecting on the time immediately before the storm, and during and after the hurricane hit.

"My students made a Katrina book at the beginning of the year with each of their experiences," Stowe said. "We made a n o t h e r

[copy] for Mrs. Bush, so we were able to share our stories with the First Lady. I thought it would be great for her to see accounts of the storm from the eyes of a seven-year-old."

Stowe said these accounts are moving reflections of the struggles her students face.

"The children in this area are hurting," she said. "When they lost their homes and their schools, they lost their worlds."

She said her students are far from recovering from the trauma.

"When it storms during the school day, we gather on the rug and talk about why we are safe," Stowe said. "One of my students once asked, 'Ms. Stowe, when is the water going to come through the windows?' I couldn't tell him it was not going to, as I know he has already experienced this at seven years old."

Throughout the meeting, Stowe said she was impressed by Bush's friendly personality and concern for the issues discussed.

"She genuinely cared about what was going on, the problems and issues that people are facing," Stowe said, describing her as a maternal figure who was easy to talk to. "Mrs. Bush was a very nice woman. ... She related to the people; she wanted to hear their stories."

Bush did bring a small entourage, as she does wher-

ever she travels, Stowe said. "There was only one secret service agent in the room, so it wasn't very noticeable," Stowe said of the security.

In addition to the lunch, the First Lady visited a public school in the area and the nearby Boys and Girls Club, Stowe said.

While meeting Bush was certainly a special occasion, Stowe said she was more pleased to be able to relate her students' stories and their needs to the First Lady.

"I think I was most honored to represent the kids," she said.

During the rest of her time in Mississippi, Stowe said she hopes to be as much help as possible to the students and community.

"I hope that I can be fully present for the kids and their needs, as well as the community," she said. "It's been an amazing opportunity to be here during this time. ... I feel blessed to have been placed here."

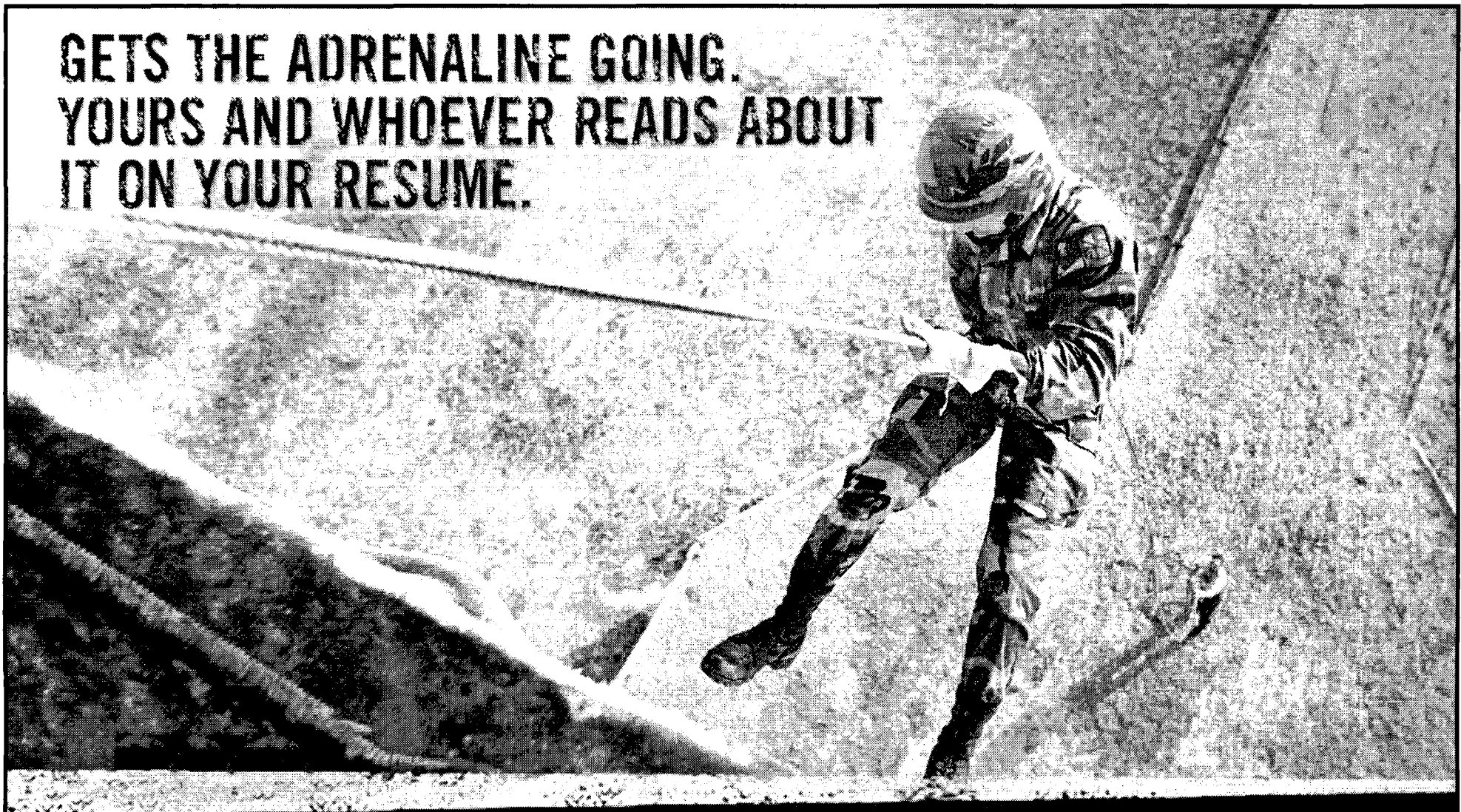
"[Laura Bush] genuinely cared about what was going on, the problems and issues that people are facing."

Liz Stowe
ACE teacher

"As a teacher, I had the opportunity to talk about the kids ... and what I thought are the biggest needs for them."

Liz Stowe
ACE teacher

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones 12,447.52 +159.42

Up: 2,679 Same: 130 Down: 586 Composite Volume: 1,977,205,620

AMEX	2,164.50	+24.38
NASDAQ	2,455.92	+47.71
NYSE	9,317.73	+159.46
S&P 500	1,435.94	+24.10
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	17,440.19	+276.99
FTSE 100(London)	6,256.80	36.50

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
ORACLE CORP (ORCL)	+3.53	+0.62	18.17
SIRIUS SATELLITE R (SIRI)	+1.81	+0.06	3.37
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	+2.44	+0.68	28.52
NASDAQ 110 TR (QQQQ)	+1.93	+0.84	44.42
INTEL CP (INTC)	+1.84	+0.35	19.34

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	-0.64	-0.029	4.518
13-WEEK BILL	0.00	0.00	4.910
30-YEAR BOND	-0.23	-0.011	4.696
5-YEAR NOTE	-1.23	-0.055	4.415

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl)	+0.36	59.61
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+1.00	660.00
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-0.68	102.88

Exchange Rates

YEN	117.5350
EURO	0.7467
POUND	0.5081
CANADIAN \$	1.1564

IN BRIEF

Biotech companies to focus on fuel

SAN FRANCISCO — Biotechnology was first applied in medicine, then farming. Today, dozens of lifesaving drugs are on the market, while many crops are genetically engineered to withstand weed killers.

Now, a 2-year-old push to develop alternative fuels is driving biotechnology's growth into the industrial sector.

Most of the 5 billion gallons of ethanol produced annually in the United States is still made by fermenting corn, but the crop is expensive and its use in biofuels cuts into the nation's food supply. So the Canadian biotech company Iogen Corp. has developed a method for deriving ethanol from a variety of plants including wheat, oats and barley. Others are genetically engineering microbes to produce enzymes that will convert the cellulose in crop waste, wood chips and other plants into ethanol.

President Bush helped breathe new life into this once-sleepy biotech sector by touting the need to ramp up production of this "cellulosic ethanol" in his last two State of the Union speeches.

FDA bars input from drug companies

WASHINGTON — Outside experts with more than \$50,000 in ties to drug and medical device companies regulated by the Food and Drug Administration would be barred from advising the agency under draft guidelines issued Wednesday.

The conflict-of-interest guidelines would allow scientific experts who accept less than \$50,000 in corporate grants, contracts and consulting fees — or hold less than that amount in company stock — to still serve on the FDA's advisory committees. But that could happen only if the need for their services outweighed the potential conflict, and only if they were nonvoting members, according to the draft.

The agency relies on its panels of outside experts for recommendations on drugs, vaccines and devices. It wasn't immediately clear how many advisers would be barred, but Randall Lutter, the FDA's acting deputy commissioner for policy, told reporters it was a "significant number." The release of the guidelines brought rare praise from a lawmaker and a watchdog who have criticized the FDA.

Sirius presses for XM merger

Satellite radio leader promises changes in bid for government approval

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Sirius Satellite Radio Inc. is promising more programming choices and lower pricing options as part of an effort to convince federal regulators to approve its proposed acquisition of rival XM Satellite Radio Holdings Inc.

The deal still faces opposition from several consumer groups, however, and what's certain to be a tough regulatory review in Washington by antitrust authorities and the Federal Communications Commission.

In an application submitted to the FCC on Tuesday and disclosed in a regulatory filing on Wednesday, Sirius said that the combined company would allow subscribers greater flexibility in choosing programming options, including a lower price if they elect to receive fewer channels.

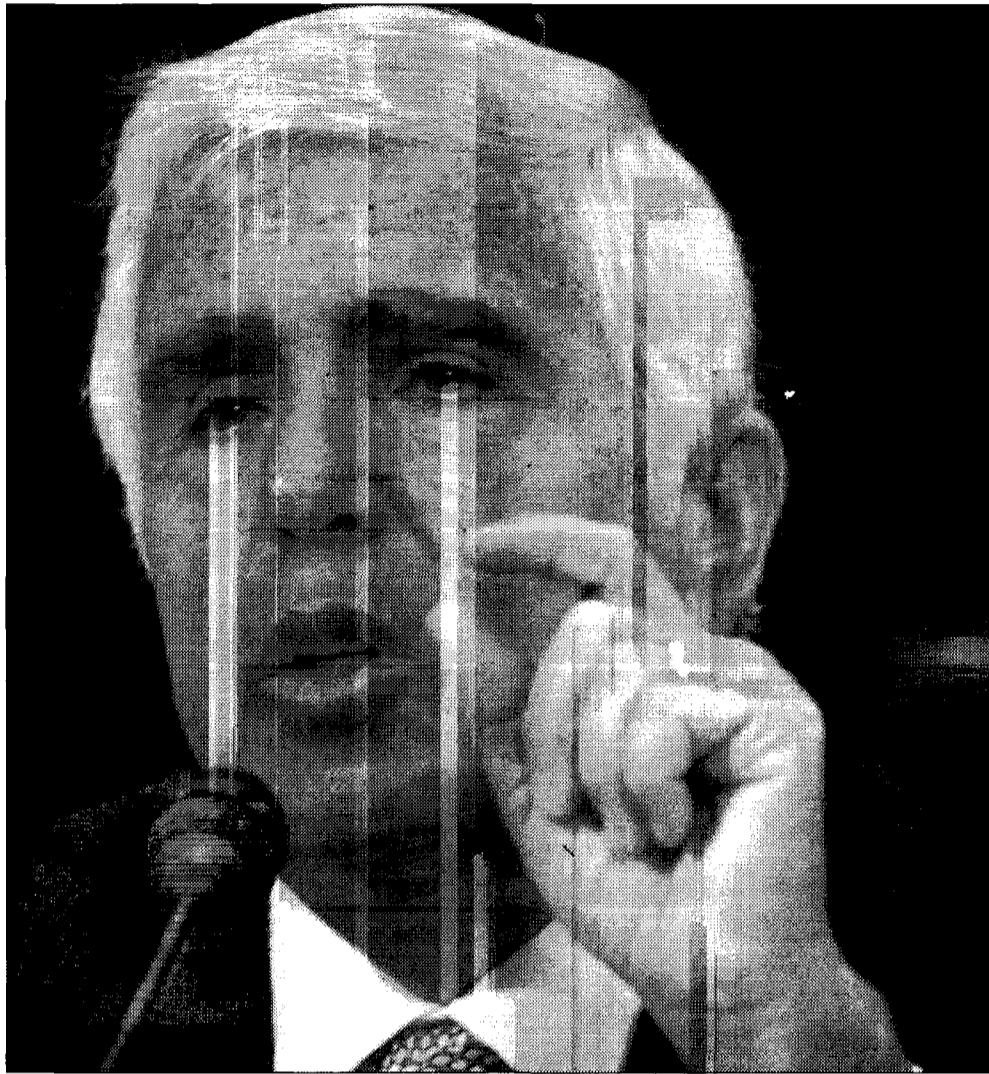
Customers of both Sirius and XM already can block out adult-themed channels such as Playboy, adult humor and urban music, but they don't receive any discount for doing so.

In their filing with the FCC, the companies said that customers could elect to receive fewer channels for a rate lower than the current monthly fee of \$12.95 offered by both companies.

Customers could also continue to receive the standard Sirius package or XM package for the same rate, or they could choose a best-of selection of channels from both services for what the companies said would be a "modest premium" to the cost of one service.

Sirius and XM have said that all customers will be able to continue using the radios they currently have even after the deal closes.

The FCC filing came on the same day that Sirius'



Sirius Satellite Radio CEO Mel Karmazin testifies Tuesday on Capitol Hill before a Senate Judiciary subcommittee hearing on the proposed XM-Sirius merger.

CEO Mel Karmazin made his third appearance in front of lawmakers to answer questions about the proposed transaction, to be paid for with stock valued at \$4.7 billion when the deal was announced Feb. 19.

During the hearing, Sen. Herb Kohl, D-Wis., questioned Karmazin's stance that the combined company would face competition from terrestrial radio, MP3 players and Internet radio.

Kohl also voiced concern that the combined company would raise prices in the future, particularly if it

signed exclusive contracts with sports leagues or popular entertainment providers. Karmazin said he was open to regulatory oversight of price increases as a condition of the merger.

Sirius and XM were explicitly forbidden from merging when their licenses were granted a decade ago, but the companies are arguing that much has changed since then, and that the companies now face increased competition from iPods and Internet radio, as well as traditional

terrestrial radio.

On Tuesday, a group of six consumer and advocacy groups asked the Senate panel to call for a tough regulatory review of the transaction, which would eliminate one of the only two competitors in the emerging satellite radio business.

The statement from Consumers Union, the Consumer Federation of America and others said that the deal would reduce competition and decrease choices for consumers, possibly lead to higher prices.

Stocks rally in largest gains since 2004

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street rallied sharply Wednesday after an economic assessment by the Federal Reserve ignited hopes that the central bank has warmed to the idea of lowering short-term interest rates.

Largely thanks to Wednesday's triple-digit gains, the Dow Jones industrials have surged 337 points this week, the best three-day performance for the blue chip average since November 2004.

Investors had nervously awaited the economic statement that accompanied the Fed's decision to leave short-term interest rates unchanged at 5.25 percent, and were encouraged that the central bank didn't refer to the possibility of "additional firming" of rates as it did in January. Policymakers said

"future policy adjustments" will depend on inflation and growth — more neutral language that the market interpreted as opening the way for a possible rate cut. The Fed indicated that it remains vigilant about the threat of inflation, though.

The market was also relieved that the central bank left in place language in its statement that it still expects the economy will "continue to expand at a moderate pace."

While a slowdown in the economy likely would quell the threat of inflation and perhaps open the way for a rate cut it would also dent corporate profits.

"I think it did a bit to assuage the equity market's concerns that the Fed understands there is a possibility that the drag on the consumer could bring GDP down below where

they expect," said Quincy Krosby, chief investment strategist at The Hartford, referring to gross domestic product — the broadest measure of the economy.

"They made it clear that they remain data-dependent. However, given the data they have today they see an economy that is still expanding, albeit more slowly."

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow Jones industrial average rose 159.42, or 1.30 percent, to 12,447.52, after having been little changed before the Fed announcement. It was the index's biggest one-day gain since July 24.

Broader stock indicators also posted strong gains. The Standard & Poor's 500 index jumped 24.10, or 1.71 percent, to 1,435.04, and the Nasdaq composite index advanced 47.71, or 1.98 percent.

Braun

continued from page 1

cult."

The competitions featured on tonight's show include baseball, football, soccer and basketball events with Darryl Strawberry, Andre Reed, Cobi Jones and Spud Webb, respectively.

The trip to California was "different," Braun said. He arrived late Sunday night and immediately began filming segments for the show.

"It was bizarre," he said. "I was jet-lagged. We were on a very nocturnal-like schedule."

The filming took place during class days, but Braun said his professors were very supportive and excited about his opportunity.

Though he's been featured on TV many times as the Leprechaun, Braun said filming on a set was a very different experience.

"I'm used to being in five-second clips ... [but] in [the episode] I'm prominently displayed performing athletic feats," he said. "It was fun playing sports on camera, but I had to perform with personality."

Braun said the show's events are creative and tended to focus on aspects of the sports the pros excelled in. One event with Strawberry featured the former MLB star hitting fly balls for the Joes to catch.

There are three preliminary events, and the top two mascots from those advance to overtime, which features more direct competition. The events were filmed in the Home Depot Center outside Los Angeles, the home of Major League Soccer's L.A. Galaxy.

The winner of the show gets to "take the jersey off the Pro's back" and receives signed jerseys. Braun mentioned a "Pros vs. Joes Tournament of Champions" as another incentive to win.

While they competed in normal athletic gear, Braun and the other mascots filmed the introductory segments in their suits.

"The pros heckled us in our goofy outfits," said Braun, who described the experience as "intimidating."

"The other two can't see [in their outfits], they don't talk, and they're covered in fur," he said. "It was interesting to see the other mascots' personalities come out and to watch them do their thing."

His three years of cheer-leading experience made him physically stronger, he said, but Braun had to think back to his high school intramural days to prepare for the competition. While he said he was pleased with his performance, he is curious how the editors treated the mascots during the production process.

"I have no idea what the final product looks like. The three of us did some very embarrassing things. ... I don't know how many bloopers they're going to show," he said.

Braun said he and the mascots didn't get to interact with the pros that much during the early filming.

"It was someone's job to take care of the pros so we wouldn't pester them," he said.

After the final event, however, they took the Joes back to their locker room and signed

autographs and took pictures.

"They [the pros] were very nice, but trash talk was encouraged. They wanted to make good, sensational TV," Braun said.

Braun said about 25 percent of the filming was devoted to the actual competition, while 75 percent was "reality TV stuff," like the trash talking. He's most concerned about how his acting looks on film.

"I want people to watch, but at the same time I'm afraid about how potentially embarrassing this could be," he said.

Even with the risk of embarrassment, Braun said all three mascots jumped on board with the show, which he called a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"Overall, it was a very exciting experience and I have maintained close contact with the other two mascots," Braun said. "Being in front of a camera and learning how many people go into the production of a successful TV show were very eye-opening experiences."

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

Logo

continued from page 1

something cool because we may have a contest to create a new mascot or something distinctly different than Notre Dame's Leprechaun," he said.

Worland, who sends weekly e-mails to parents, students, faculty and staff, said he frequently reminds his constituents that the phasing out process is in full swing.

Cathedral is not the only high school being asked to abandon its logo, Associate Vice President for News and Information Don Wycliff said.

"Our general counsel tells me there have been literally dozens of schools over the years that have done the same thing," he told The Observer. "And every one of those schools thinks it is a special case for which the University ought to make an exception."

Wycliff said the University had contacted Cathedral in 2000 about this issue.

"There's nothing unusual about what Notre Dame has done in this case," he said. "It's a protect-it-or-lose-it situa-

tion."

The controversy at Cathedral made news when a parent who worked for the Star forwarded the information to the Star's sports department.

"I think it really made a difference that the last e-mail was sent right before St. Patrick's Day," Worland said. "It became a story repeating news that was already published in December."

Still, the added publicity has not placed any more pressure on Cathedral or disturbed relations with the University.

"We have a great relationship [with Notre Dame] and I totally understand why they are asking us to do this," Worland said. "We are not expecting Notre Dame to make an exception for us because if they did, they might as well let loose for all the other schools who use the logo."

Notre Dame has not set a deadline for Cathedral to complete the phase-out, but simply requested it produce no new merchandise or apparel with the logo.

"The fact that the discussions between Notre Dame and Cathedral High have been going on since 2000 indicates

that we have been generous in allowing the school to phase out the use of the University's marks and adopt others," Wycliff said in a press release Saturday.

Since the process to change logos began years ago, Worland has been encouraging the use of the Celtic cross, another symbol of the school's Irish heritage.

Overall, Worland said he and other members of the Cathedral community respect Notre Dame's stand on the issue and are willing to comply as soon as possible.

"We respect their trademark rights. That's what trademarks are for," he said. "This issue will not change our relationship one bit."

Worland said he is using this as a learning experience for his students.

"We want to teach students that not respecting the trademark is the same as copying music or work. We don't want to teach the wrong example," he said. "This situation is no different. It shows our students the right thing to do."

Contact Katie Kohler at kkohle01@saintmarys.edu

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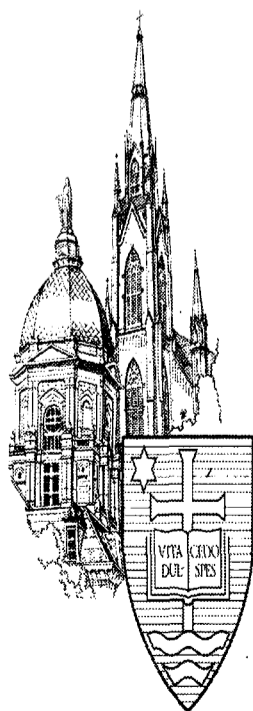
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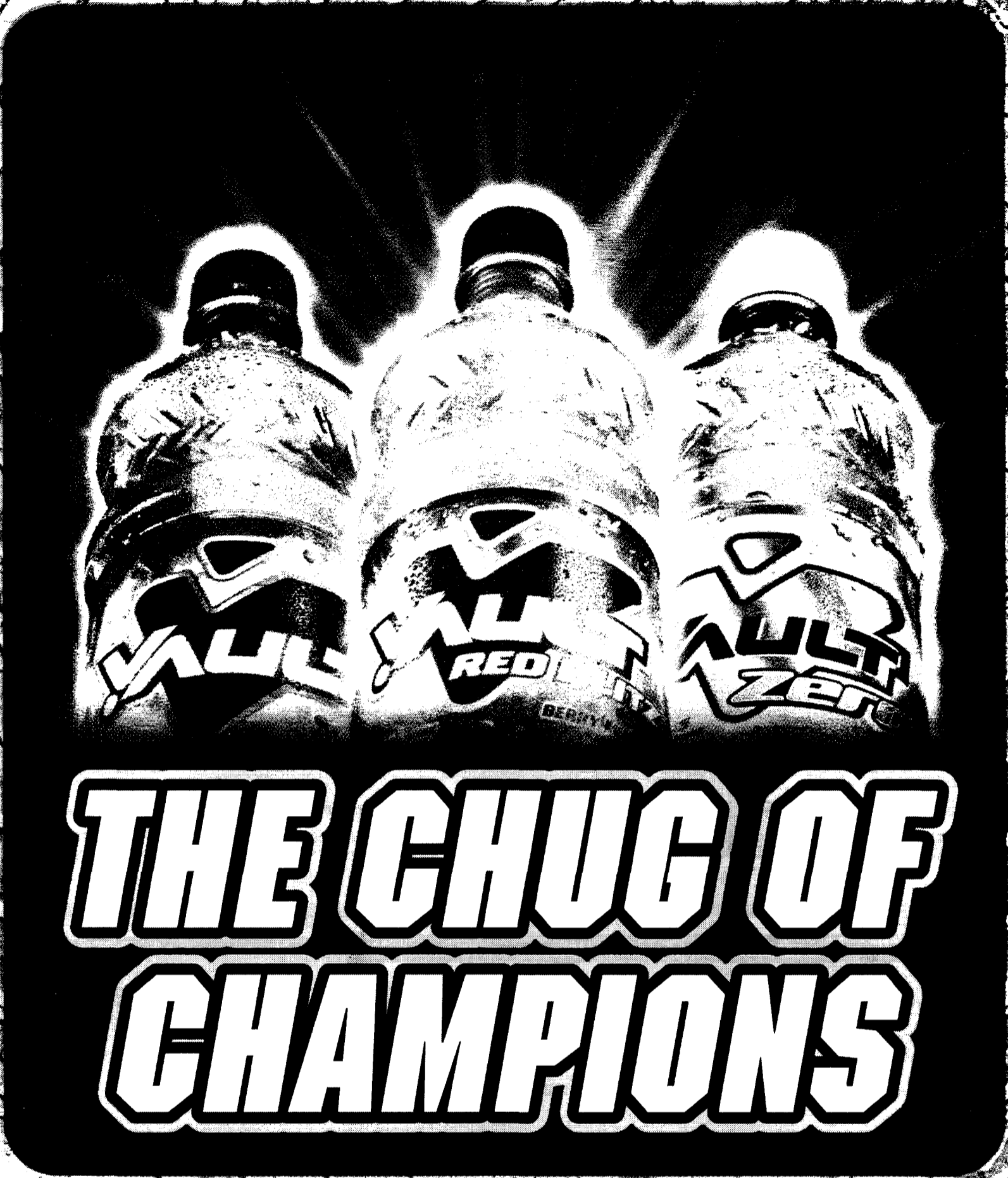
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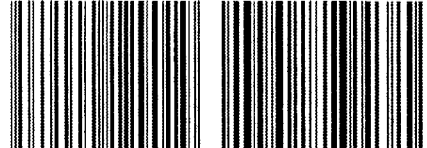
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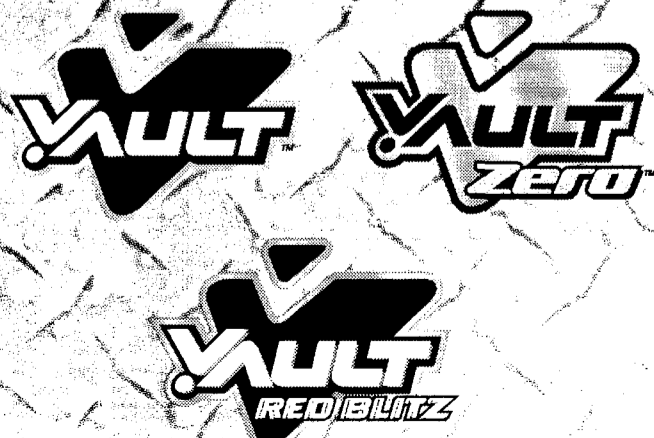
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Pet owners frightened after recall

Associated Press

ATLANTA — A recall of potentially deadly pet food has dog and cat owners studying their animals for even the slightest hint of illness and swamping veterinarians nationwide with calls about symptoms both real and imagined.

"It's like we're on pins and needles," said Brian Paone, a 27-year-old loan auditor in Knoxville, Tenn., who scheduled a blood test with his vet after realizing both of his cats had eaten brands on the recall list.

"You kind of sit there and wonder — it's terrible to say this — you wonder if this is going to be your last moments with your pet. It's not pleasant."

Some of the 60 million cans and pouches of food have been blamed for kidney failure in scores of animals and killed at least 16 pets. Neither the manufacturer nor authorities have been able to determine why the pets died.

Atlanta veterinarian Will Draper received so many calls and e-mails about the recall that he drafted a newsletter on it and e-mailed his customers.

"That helped tremendously," Draper said. "It has calmed clients."

Since Friday, nearly 100 brands of the "cuts and gravy" style food have been recalled by Menu Foods of Canada, including popular labels sold at Wal-Mart, Kroger and other large retailers.

Veterinarians are directing most questions to the Food and Drug Administration's recall Web site. Some have agreed to run blood tests on pets, even though many of the animals have not consumed any of the recalled brands.

Pet owners with animals showing symptoms such as vomiting, lethargy and extreme thirst are being told to bring them in for immediate examination.

"The recall is huge. It's unprecedented, and people are seeing their dog food is on the list and picking up the phone, wondering if there's anything they can do or what to do," said Tim Hackett, who runs a small-animal clinic at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. "Fortunately, most of these animals are absolutely fine."

Julie Benesh of Chicago brought her cat, Truffle, to a vet's office Wednesday after realizing the animal had eaten some of the contaminated food. The cat was lethargic and had been drinking an unusual amount of water.

"That's my baby," Benesh said of the black-and-white cat she's had since the animal was a kitten. "We've been through a lot together."

The Animal Medical Center on the East Side of Manhattan has tested 143 animals for renal failure since Saturday. Of those, 10 were confirmed to be diet-related cases, and one cat died.

"I have people coming in who haven't even said their pet's eaten the bad food, but they're worried that maybe the recall has not been broad enough so they want their pet tested to be sure," said Ann Hohenhaus, a veterinarian at the clinic.

Cheating

continued from page 1

Academic Code of Honor has a dual purpose, aiming both to promote academic integrity and to provide procedures for penalizing students for dishonesty.

Glatt addressed the issue from a student's point of view, raising the thorny question of whether circumstances matter when it comes to cheating.

"Here at Notre Dame, one of the main concerns is ... how much you should worry about [reporting another student's cheating], if everyone is morally and intellectually responsible for themselves," she said.

Ramsey described academic dishonesty from a faculty member's perspective, but emphasized the need for both students and professors to ensure that clear goals and expectations are established at the beginning of each course.

"I think sometimes faculty suppose that if we need to explain what's wrong with cheating, there's already

something wrong," he said.

While taking a hard line against academic dishonesty, referring to it as "an ugly form of fraud," Ramsey said a goal of the educational process at Notre Dame is to foster an ethic in which a student would not consider cheating a means to get ahead.

"We're here to make you into a certain kind of person," he said. "[The motivation to attend Notre Dame] is not to get into medical school, and it's not to get into law school, and it's not to get that really good job. It's to become the kind of person who belongs [there]."

Ramsey also addressed Glatt's point about the choice between upholding the Honor Code and remaining loyal to a friend or classmate, arguing that the ethical conflict is illusory.

"The choice is not a choice

between loyalty and disloyalty," he said, asserting that a decision to remain silent when a friend cheats can be considered disloyalty to Notre Dame, one's classmates and oneself.

Faculty Honor Code Officer and philosophy professor Thomas Flint, who was not among the panelists Wednesday, explained some of the specifics of the Honor Code. Flint said, as at many universities, Notre Dame's is a "modified honor

code," which allows students and faculty to administer it jointly.

"Personally, I think we were wise to adopt a modified honor code," he said. "Cheating hurts other students, but it also does enormous damage to the teacher-student relationship."

Flint also commented on the University's new system for responding to Honor Code infractions, which was

redesigned to give professors more control over matters of discipline in certain cases. The change has resulted in a significant rise in reported infractions, he said, the causes of which remain unclear.

"There's no reason to think that dishonesty among Notre Dame students has increased 61 percent over one year, but I know of no data that shows that it hasn't either," Flint said. "We're in an area where all one can do is speculate."

Wednesday's panelists touched on students' increasing use of the Internet as a vehicle for plagiarism, but Flint said the Internet can be a double-edged sword.

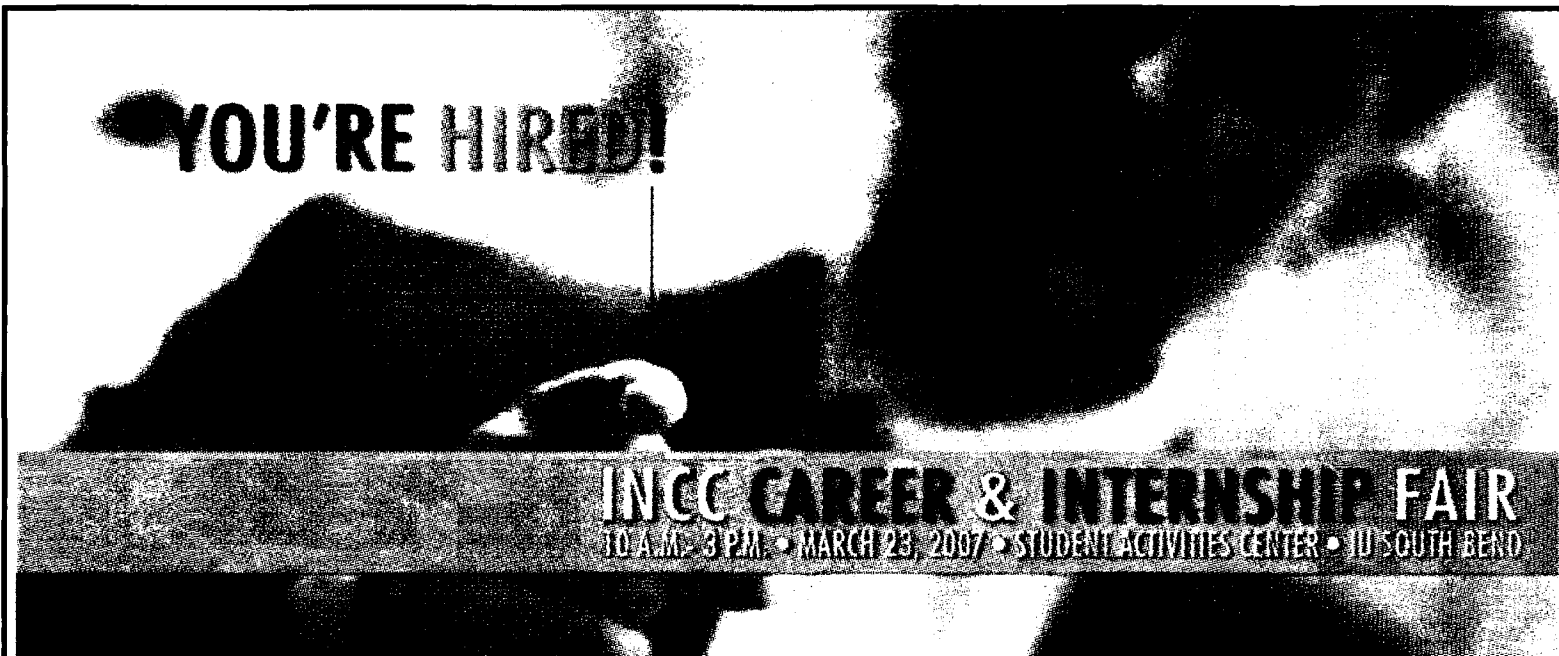
"Professors have largely caught up to the students in terms of computer literacy, and most are quite adept at using Google, Turnitin.com or other resources to uncover cases of Internet-based cheating," Flint said.

The Theology on Tap series is sponsored by Campus Ministry. The next event, the semester's last, will take place April 18.

Contact Steve Kerins at skerins@nd.edu

"I think sometimes faculty suppose that if we need to explain what's wrong with cheating, there's already something wrong."

Bill Ramsey
philosophy professor



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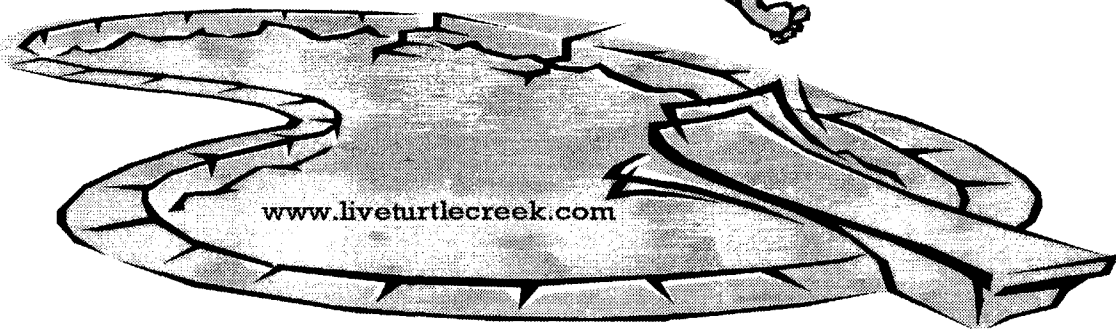
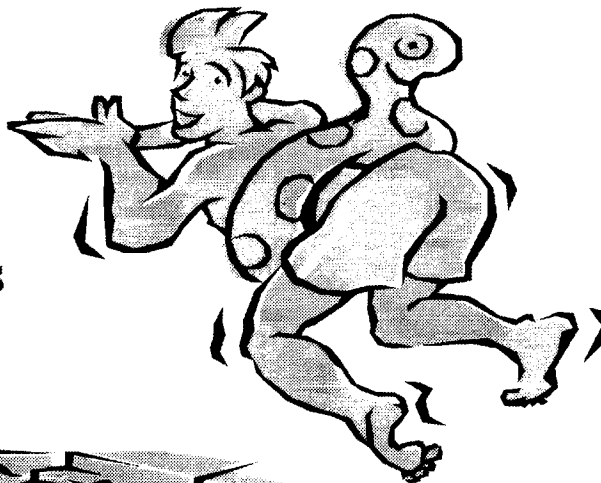
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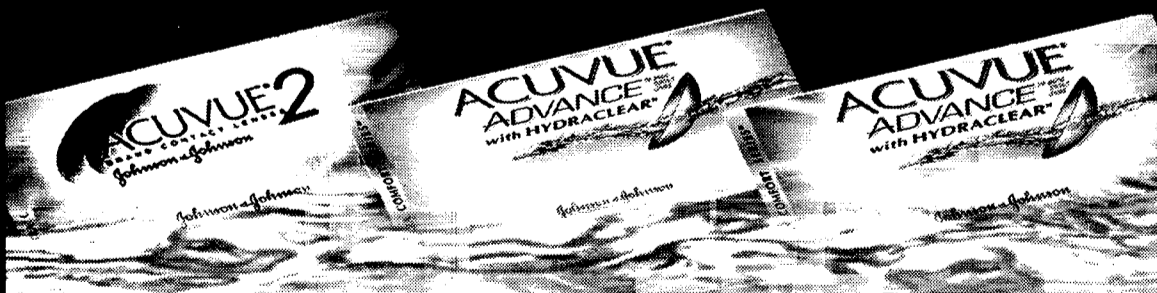
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VATICAN CITY

Legendary Don King visits Pope Benedict



Don King waves American, Vatican and Italian flags while attending Pope Benedict's weekly general open-air audience Wednesday.

Associated Press

Don King got a front row seat at Pope Benedict XVI's general audience Wednesday. The usually flamboyant boxing promoter, wearing a blue suit with his preferred high hair style primly flattened for the papal event, gave the pope a green-and-gold boxing belt and a handwritten letter asking for prayers for people ranging from President Bush to the world's sick and aged.

"I was thrilled to be there. It was a deep spiritual experience," King told The Associated Press after the two-hour open-air audience in St. Peter's Square.

In Rome to discuss possible boxing matches in Italy, King had expressed his wish to meet with the pope.

Don King Productions spokesman Alan Hopper said the Vatican visit was arranged through a boxer King represents — Italian super welterweight champion Luca Messi, whose brother Alessandro is a Catholic priest.

King was seated in the front row of a special section on the steps of St. Peter's Basilica. He was able to hand the pope the gift and the letter as Benedict drove slowly by in an open jeep at the end of the audience.

King, who spent four years in prison for manslaughter, had hoped for a personal meeting with Benedict. Very few nonchurch people, however, receive private time with the pope during his Wednesday audiences.

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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Thursday, March 22, 2007

THE OBSERVER

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

P.O. Box 779, Notre Dame, IN 46556
024 South Dining Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556

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Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Maddie Hanna.

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

The Observer (USPS 599 2-4090) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$100 for one academic year; \$55 for one semester.

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

POSTMASTER
Send address corrections to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779

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Cultural confrontations

Kids say the darnedest things. Working at a camp with high-schoolers last summer, I gained a new perspective on a younger generation. "Younger" by only a few years, sure — but contrary to popular belief, college really does expand your mind and help you mature.



James Dechant

Foregone Conclusion

In observing the dynamics of an age I myself so recently outgrew, my insights were not entirely positive. For instance, the campers would toss around racial stereotypes that could be playful or border on brutal insensitivity. To them, things like big Mexicans or golf-playing African-Americans were anomalies to be pointed out.

Before you stop reading, my misanthropic reader, know that I too was once in your position. Sure, thought I, this whole race issue is important. But we're light-years beyond that now, aren't we? Racism may exist in some parts of the world, but here in our little community we are surely too egalitarian to waste time worrying about dead issues of the past. Racial conflicts have been resolved, the world has learned its lesson, and our new generation will usher in an era of humanitarian peace once we claim our place in society and brush aside the dying embers of our less-tolerant progenitors.

I held this mindset for my first two years on campus. If a column had nothing shocking to say about race or ethnicity in the first paragraph, I would probably skip over it. What more could be said? At my most close-minded, I even thought that if we all just left this supposed "issue" alone, it would eventually become moot and we would all come to a glorious understanding of

our harmonious multiculturalism.

Wrong. In the months since my experiences last summer, I am rethinking the way in which we learn about other cultures. Because there most definitely are still things that need to be said. I'm not taking an overly cynical stand on the matter — MLK and others have not toiled in vain, and we are leagues beyond the segregation of fifty years ago. But in our age, as America blinks the dust out of her eyes and realizes she is not alone (for example, we are just now confronting the Arab world for the first meaningful time), compassionate minds are needed. Minds that won't see generalities.

Back to the camp situation. The playful comments didn't bother me, but the arrogant presumptions of cultural awareness did. Campers assumed they knew all about a race or culture, when in some cases they were obviously encountering such a person for the first time. The source of their behavior lies in a careless ignorance, something many of us can identify with. We assume what we've "heard" about an ethnicity applies to individuals, when we actually have no personal experience to guide our behavior.

An ignorant mind, in terms of race, probably means you're trying to comprehend generalities, when you should be focusing on particulars. The problem many people experience when trying to break out of their bigotry stems from not being able to see past the entrenched praxis that urges us to see things in broad strokes. When accused of using stereotypes, one's compensatory and superficial reaction often clings to the same kind of textbook totalities, only with an aim of compassion. Example: Don't know anything about black people? Just watch Dave Chappelle and take notes. No personal interaction necessary.

We are all guilty of this culture co-opting. Cultures are valuable, incredibly dense and dynamic organisms.

Understanding one takes time, and we cannot honestly consider ourselves multicultural if we do not invest the time to learn. You cannot understand a race or a culture through the incomplete lens of fashion or television or holidays, thank God (think St. Patrick's Day). Those important elements help broaden your horizons, but they are secondary to the integral demand of understanding individuals. The real cure is to try to learn about a culture from a person, not to learn about a person from a culture.

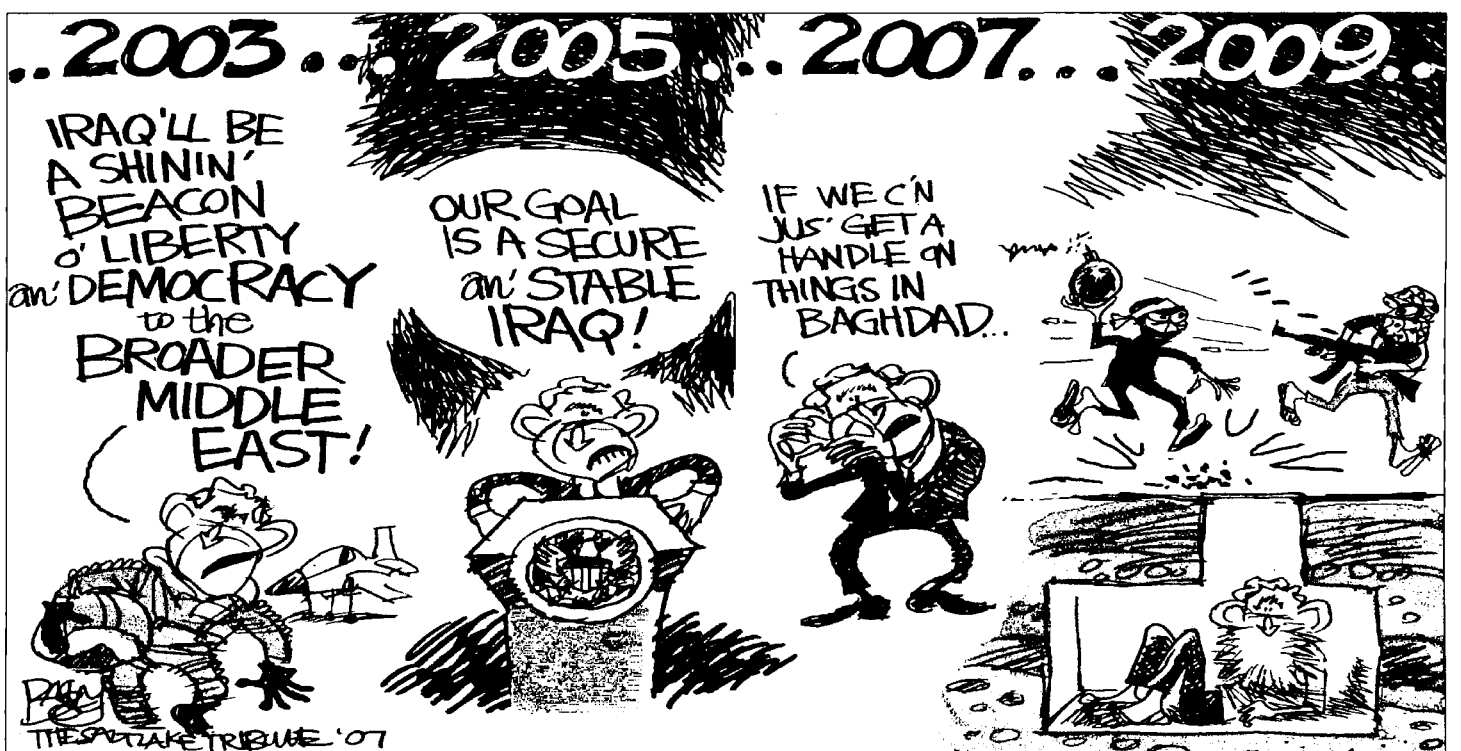
Don't view individuals as tools to help you gather knowledge, but when the opportunity arises; do try to meet diverse people and get to know them. Don't approach them assuming the article on Wikipedia about their culture will help you understand their actions; instead, learn about their background by inter-acting with them. I delineate the prefix to stress that understanding is a two-way street: it requires dialogue, not monologue. To work against the cultural ignorance that breeds hate, meet people. And please avoid stereotypes and generalizations, even ones said casually or "in good fun." I know at least a few of the campers matured in this manner after actually talking to new people.

Primarily, try to open your mind and don't assume the struggle to end bigotry and stereotyping has ended. Many people still use stereotypes, learning about "the wholly other" from television rather than from a person. Try to change that — because after all, there is hope. You've got to admit, it's getting better ... a little better all the time.

James Dechant is a junior studying abroad in Rome this semester. Questions, complaints and rude remarks can be sent to jdechant@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Only Irish Coffee provides in a single glass all four essential food groups: alcohol, caffeine, sugar, fat."

Alex Levine
Irish author, actor, musician

The privilege of pressure

"Pressure is a privilege." Billie Jean King, a pioneer in women's tennis, reportedly responded with this quotation when asked how it felt to be playing in her first U.S. Open. And it's true. If you've got sweaty palms over an exam, a sporting event, a presentation, a concert or a project for which you're responsible, just remember, you've gotten this far and people believe in you. Faced with the kind of pressure that interrupts my sleep, churns my stomach, becomes a constant distraction, my first desire is usually just to disappear, or at least take a really long nap until it's all over and hope that someone else will pick up the slack for me. It takes a lot of extra effort and will to face that pressure and think of it as — of all things! — a privilege.

My 10-year-old son just competed this past weekend in a regional swim meet that brought swimmers with low enough times to Columbus, Ohio from Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky and West Virginia. He paced, he squirmed, he complained that we were late to meet his coach and teammates (we were half an hour early), he paced some more. From our seats up in the stands, we could see him on deck waiting for his events to start, still pacing and squirming. My first instinct was to try to protect him, to believe that it was all too much for him. Then

Kate Barrett

FaithPoint

it occurred to me that he had come to the meet because he was fast enough to get there. He had worked hard enough; he had developed his God-given athletic ability. The pressure he felt was a privilege.

You don't have to be THE best. Chances are, unless you're Albert Einstein or Leo Tolstoy or Michael Phelps, somebody else out there is better than you at whatever it is you do. You ought to try, however, to be YOUR best. Remember the parable of the talents from CHAPTER 25 of Matthew's gospel? A master, going on a journey, gave considerable sums of money to three of his servants — five, two and one talents, each talent the equivalent of many years of wages — "to each according to his ability." While the first two each doubled the amount the master gave them, the third simply buried his master's money in the ground and waited for him to return. The master didn't mind, Jesus tells us, that the servant with two talents made less than the one who started with five. Only the servant who did nothing at all, who took no initiative, angered the master. Do we take the risk, accept the challenge to make the most of the gifts God has given us, though the pressure may make us sweat, or pace or squirm?

You don't have to be doing the most important thing in the world to feel some well-deserved pressure. Maybe you're not discovering the cure for cancer or ending the

war in Iraq or figuring out how no child will be left behind. OK, look at where you are and do something else that will help build up the Kingdom of God and better our world. Martin Luther King, Jr. once famously said, "If life makes you a street sweeper, be the best street sweeper you can be."

Believe it or not, we're coming to the end of Lent. Palm Sunday is a mere ten days away. Imagine the pressure Jesus must have felt, facing hostility, anger, brutality, undeserved accusations, mockery and ultimately certain death. Even as he cried out to God to "let this cup pass from me," he recognized that his gift, his privilege, was to follow the will of his Father completely: "Yet not what I want but what you want." Perhaps we too can find in Jesus' experience, as we walk with him in these final days of Lent, the grace to follow the will of God in our own lives. And if exploring your own faith makes you squirm a little bit, if it makes you uncomfortable, remember that God has given you gifts you may not even know about yet. What a privilege. Make the most of it!

This week's FaithPoint is written by Kate Barrett, director of resources and special projects in the Office of Campus Ministry. She can be reached at kbarrett@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Spring break 2007 — South Florida, uncensored

When one thinks of sweatshops, countries such as China and India probably come to mind. Most people think sweatshops in the United States do not exist; most people feel employee abuse and slavery are long gone. Up until a few months ago, I also shared these common

Kristofer Trujillo

Guest Column

American misconceptions. This past spring break, I went on the Migrant Experiences Seminar in Immokalee, Fla., which was offered through the Center for Social Concerns. It was through this seminar that I was exposed to the harsh realities migrant workers face.

Notre Dame, an institution that promotes Catholic social teaching, has previously taken initiative against large corporations that exploit employees. Many may remember the Taco Bell boycotts that took place on campus several years ago. These boycotts were a large success due to nationwide student involvement and activism. While this was a monumental step toward

a fair wage for farm workers, it only marks the beginning. We as a Catholic community must continue to be advocates for social justice in every aspect of life.

The battle for migrant worker rights is still ongoing. While in Immokalee, I saw a community exploited in every possible way. For instance, most migrant workers must rent trailers which are often roach- and rat-infested — many do not even have electricity or running water. According to an article published in Gulfshore Life Magazine, the cost for one of these trailers is roughly \$500 per week. When I asked several people in the community about the cost of housing, they reaffirmed the overcharging. Due to the ridiculous pricing, people are forced to combine incomes to pay the rent; many 2-bedroom trailers have 10-16 occupants. This description is not solely based on interviews. For one of the nights I was in Immokalee, I stayed in one of these trailers. It was difficult seeing human beings forced to live in such a state while I attend a school with an endowment of over \$4 billion.

Despite the Taco Bell boycott victory, stagnant wages and worker abuse are still prevalent in the fields. At wages of 40-45 cents per 32-lb. bucket of tomatoes picked — wages that have remained the same since 1979 — migrant workers earn significantly less than those at the poverty line. The very best workers only earn \$50 for a full day's work. Taco Bell is only one purchaser of tomatoes. Pressure has been placed on other fast-food giants so that they too will increase the pay of farm workers and enforce a code of conduct throughout their supply chain. McDonalds, the face of the industry and a main purchaser of tomatoes in Immokalee, has refused to follow Taco Bell's footsteps. The migrant workers have united and are once again seeking allies. Notre Dame students have proven to be a very powerful force in the past; it is now time to continue where we left off.

It is important to note that there is a difference between charity and social justice. I do not wish for people to simply throw money at the problem and hope it fixes itself; that is not activism or social justice.

These people are not looking for handouts; they want people to work with them to change a system of exploitation. We need to become conscientious consumers so as not to promote situations of exploitation like those that I witnessed first-hand while on spring break.

For those that want to take action, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers — a group of migrant workers that banded together several years ago in an effort to end unfair treatment — is organizing a rally at McDonalds' corporate headquarters in Oak Brook, Ill., April 13 and a parade in downtown Chicago April 14. This is being done in an effort to send a clear message to McDonalds and other fast-food corporations that exploitation is wrong.

Kristofer Trujillo is a freshman Finance and Political Science Major living in Keough Hall. He can be reached at ktrujill@nd.edu.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Energy conservation tip

In the spirit of energy conservation, which may be the most important way to avert human-caused global climate change, I suggest we turn off the skyward facing spotlights that adorn the top of the main building and run all night. However impressed with ourselves we might like to feel on the frequent 2 a.m. journeys from the library to our residence hall, perhaps we can display our grandiosity by being an example of conservation in an America that needs a greener future.

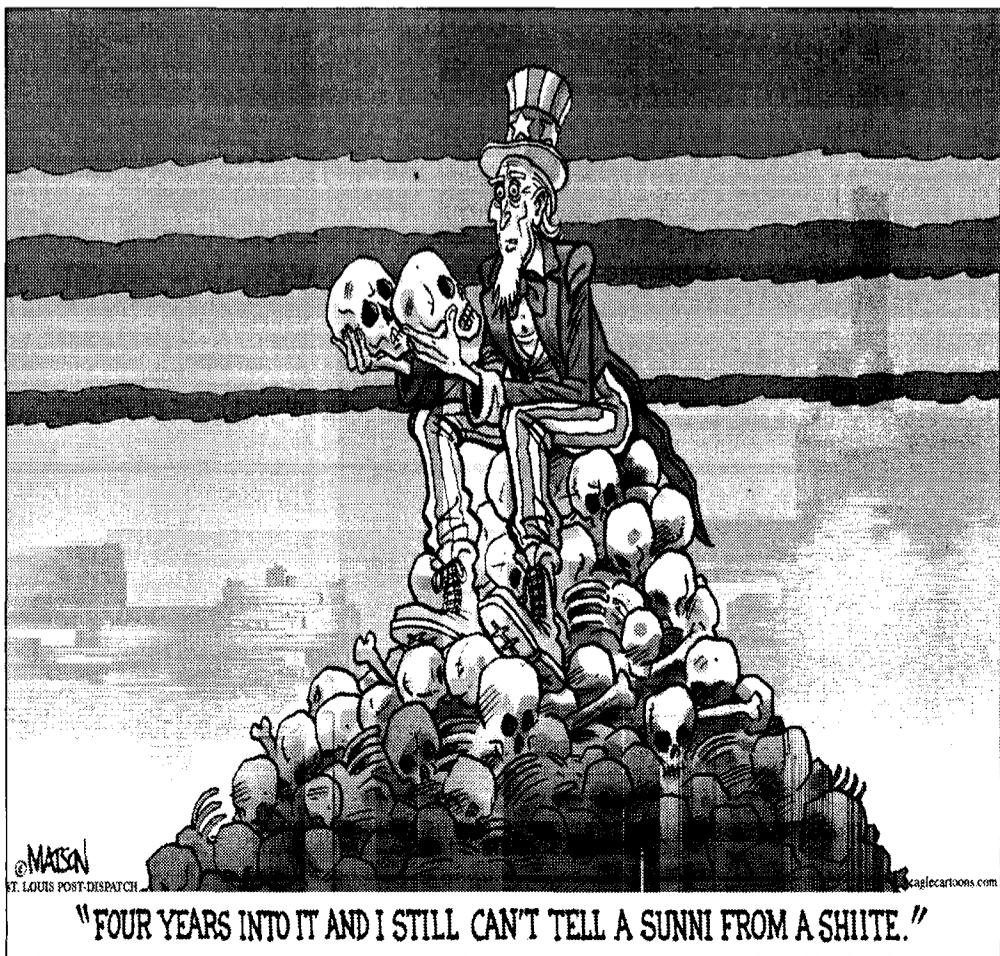
Dan Lano
junior
Sorin College
March 21

When science looks at sex

As a part of the Progressive Student Alliance's Week of Action, Dr. Timothy Murphy will be speaking about the biology and ethics of homosexuality tonight at 8 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium at the Kroc Institute for Peace Studies. Our views of human sexuality are often influenced solely by religion or the norms of our culture. Opinions rarely are informed by scientific, objective views. The discussion often is based on faith, but not reason. While I do not believe that science alone can answer all of society's questions, I am sure that it is a necessary part of the answer. Just as society asks clergy and theologians about homosexuality, society should also turn to scientists to provide their answers. I hope that Dr. Murphy's lecture will provide some answers to ethical questions about human sexuality research and offer a different perspective to the discussion.

Mike McCann
junior
Keough Hall
March 21

EDITORIAL CARTOON



"FOUR YEARS INTO IT AND I STILL CAN'T TELL A SUNNI FROM A SHIITE."

MOVIE REVIEWS

Greatest security 'Breach' investigated in new film

By ERIN MCGINN and
BRIAN DOXTADER
Scene Critics

Seven months before the 9/11 attacks, the United States had already encountered another threat to national security.

It was discovered that FBI agent Robert Hanssen — only a few months removed from mandatory retirement — had worked as a spy for the Soviet Union for a period of at least 15 years. The secrets that he revealed, including the sensitive protocol regarding the location of government superiors during an attack, caused immeasurable damage to national security and has been described as one of the worst intelligence disasters in American history.

Billy Ray's "Breach" tackles the internal investigation by the FBI to nail Hanssen as the perpetrator. Hanssen (Chris Cooper) is portrayed as a God-fearing loyal Catholic and, to the casual observer, it's hard to believe that he would be capable of betraying his country.

Eric O'Neill (Ryan Phillippe) is the fledgling FBI agent assigned to be Hanssen's assistant in an FBI attempt to garner inside information to solidify the belief Hanssen is a double agent. O'Neill then faces the difficult task of not only collecting information for his superior officers but also gaining the trust of Hanssen without arousing his suspicions. Since this is the assignment that could gain him full agent status, it is also the first time that he lives the life of an agent, which takes a toll

on both him and his wife Juliana (Caroline Dhavernas).

It is interesting to get this perspective into an agent's personal life and how his job affects his family. Dhavernas gives an excellent performance as O'Neill's wife, who struggles to come to terms with his rising new position in the Bureau.

"Breach" is a tense, taut and interesting film, which is a refreshing approach to this type of material. It runs under two hours, though it's conceivable that a film of this type could be bloated out to three hours. Instead, director and co-screenwriter Billy

Ray wisely decides to cut to the heart of the story, giving the film a lean, focused style that prevents it from flagging or feeling pretentious.

That "Breach" is essentially a true story makes it even more compelling, and its insights into what could drive a man to betray his country are effective. There is a wonderful scene toward the end of the picture in which Hanssen tells another FBI agent that the "why" doesn't matter — this sums up the meaning of the film. Ray is not interested in cheap psychology, but rather in simply telling a story.

Cooper is unabashedly the dominating presence in the film, perhaps granting Hanssen more depth and dimension than the real-life spy deserves. Alternately charismatic and terrifying (in almost equal measure), viewers get a sense of the disturbed and calculating mind behind Cooper's dark eyes.

Phillippe is quietly making a case for himself as a great actor. Coming off of his outstanding performance in "Flags of Our

Breach



Director: Billy Ray
Writers: Adam Mazer and William Rotko
Starring: Chris Cooper, Ryan Phillippe, Laura Linney and Gary Cole



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Federal agent Kate Burroughs (Laura Linney) confers with Eric O'Neill (Ryan Phillippe) about their investigation of Agent Hanssen in Billy Ray's "Breach."

Fathers," he holds his own against Cooper and delivers an effective, sensitive performance that draws audiences into his increasing fears and paranoia. Also look for notable performances by Gary Cole (better known as the boss from "Office Space") in a surprisingly well-crafted dramatic turn as an FBI agent, as well as Laura Linney as the agent in charge of the investigation.

"Breach" is only Ray's second film as director — the first was the similarly-themed "Shattered Glass," which was about real-life reporter Stephen Glass, who fabricated articles for several publications. Ray, who wrote and directed "Shattered Glass" and directed "Breach,"

seems to be carving out a nice little niche for himself. Like Phillippe, he is quietly building a reputation as a talent worthy of greater exposure.

Although the real Hanssen is locked away in Colorado's "supermax" penitentiary (where the Unabomber is also serving his sentence), his actions still have ramifications in today's world.

"Breach" isn't a perfect film, and its simple approach means that its scope and breadth is relatively modest, but it's still pertinent and enjoyable — and a chilling reminder of the evil that men can do.

Contact Erin McGinn at emcginn@nd.edu and Brian Doxtader at bdoxtade@nd.edu

By MARTY SCHROEDER
Assistant Scene Editor

"Breach" is a film that wants to be as taut as the older Cold War thrillers and tries to teach viewers lessons about contemporary global affairs. Unfortunately, it ultimately fails to achieve either goal.

Everything about this film — except for perhaps Chris Cooper's performance — is mediocre. The writing was nominally good — it wasn't horrible, but it didn't impress — and the camera, except for a few shots, was as static as a shoe dragged over thick carpet.

Even though the film clocked in at only 110 minutes, it felt much longer due to the poor pacing and poor attempts at transitioning from calm to tense moments.

"Breach" tells the story of FBI agent Robert Hanssen, who sold government secrets to the Soviet Union for many years and was responsible for the largest security breach in the history of the United States. Cooper, one of the only bright spots in the film, plays Hanssen with gusto and relishes the role of the model American whom the audience knows is a traitor but whom the other characters think is, aside from being a little off kilter, a fine patriot. Cooper is one of the most versatile actors in Hollywood and this film, despite its poor technical aspects, allows him to showcase his skills.

Director Billy Ray has written a few films in the past and directed one —

2003's "Shattered Glass," starring the wooden Hayden Christensen. Although that film was well received by critics, the same success didn't transfer over to "Breach." Ray's pacing is stilted and, aside from a few genuinely tense moments, the movie has no heart. Ray can't decide whether he wants to feel sorry for Hanssen or condemn him.

Ryan Phillippe and the rest of the cast play their roles well enough. They seem locked in the conspiracy of the film that leaves no room for character development. Cooper's Hanssen takes over the movie but does it in such a way that is excessive and borders on camp.

The talent of the actors aside, the script does little for them. It tries to weave its way through a web of lies but ends up only

being caught in its own attempts to be brilliant and subtle.

Screenwriters Adam Mazer and William Rotko have little experience in film — aside from being associate producers for "Super Troopers." They have little business writing a screenplay about one of the most important points in American intelligence history. The producers should have found someone with a little more experience, as "Breach" does not involve cops pulling over teenagers for smoking too much ganja. Whoever was the primary writer for "West Wing" would have been a

Everything about this film — except for perhaps Chris Cooper's performance — is mediocre.



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Ryan Phillippe, left, and Chris Cooper turn in the strongest performances in the film as federal agents both trying to outsmart and outmaneuver the other.

better choice.

"Breach" is a movie that wants to be so much more than it actually is. Clever quips and metaphors can't be used for this film because there is nothing good — or bad — about it. It revels in mediocrity.

The end of the film is unsurprising, not because of its outcome but because of the genuine unexcitement. The twists and turns that are supposed to keep viewers in the edge of their seat end in a

powerful looking shot that is deflated of all gravitas because no one cares about the characters.

For a decent film that requires no attention to enjoy, see "Breach." However, "United 93" and "Independence Day" are better for films for examining serious and entertaining threats to America, respectively.

At least the latter know what they are. "Breach," unfortunately, just never figures it out.

Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroel@nd.edu

SCENE & HEARD

Paranoia leads to thought-provoking situations

Protection challenges privacy in a world rocked by terrorism

I spent spring break in Europe with my roommates James and Adam. It was, in many ways, an eye-opening experience. One night, we decided to attend a showing of "Les Miserables" at the Queen's Theater in London.

After spending the day exploring the city, we arrived at the theater for the evening's performance.

After the show, we went off to the bar to get something to eat and drink. We sat there for maybe 20 minutes, after which they dimmed the lights and an announcement via speaker asked everyone to return to their seats.

We noticed that there didn't appear to be very many people in our section, but didn't think much of it until we got to our seats. There, to our surprise, a security guard was holding a brown messenger bag.

"That's my bag," said Adam. "This is yours?" asked the security guard. "Ticket please." Adam complied, and the guard shook his head angrily. "You oughtn't have left it unattended, you know — keep all your belongings with you at all times."

The guard turned, and that's when we noticed that our section of the theater only appeared empty because the theater workers had held the occupants back while Adam's bag was investigated. After the guard gave the "OK," the patrons began to saunter back in, clearly annoyed with the inconvenience.

A distinguished-looking couple — a middle-aged English woman and a comparably aged black man — sat next to us.

"Was that your bag?" asked the man, with more than a hint of disdain. "You oughtn't have left it alone."

"I know," Adam said. "I didn't think anything of it."

"Don't you know it might've been a bomb?"

"Why would someone put a bomb here?" I asked. The man gave me his best "stupid Americans" look.

"What do you mean 'why'?" he said. "I mean, it doesn't make any sense..." I started.

"Of course it doesn't make any sense," he snapped. "Terrorists bringing bombs

on the tube and blowing up half the city doesn't make any sense either, does it?" He had clearly misinterpreted my question — when I said "here" I was referring to the 20-pound nosebleed cheap seats in the second balcony where we were sitting, not the theater as a general statement.

"It may not make sense to you and it certainly doesn't make sense to me, but that's the way it is," the man continued breathlessly. "People blowing each other up in the tubes. And for what? Some kind of political or religious statement? Senseless."

I leaned back and decided not to remind him that we were about to watch a show that featured students violently barricading the streets as a political statement.

By the next day, I had largely forgotten the previous night's little fiasco, except as a humorous — and no doubt embarrassing to Adam — anecdote. That evening we rode on a crowded tube toward Piccadilly Circus when we noticed an unattended suitcase. It was brown and tattered, with the name "OBAMA" etched on the top and some writing in a language I didn't recognize on the side. The three of us regarded the seemingly abandoned case and I felt the hairs on the back of my neck slowly rise.

"What do you think?" whispered Adam.

"I don't know," I said. "Don't touch it." We looked around for a potential owner, but the closest occupants were an elderly woman and a British couple cradling a child. I started to back away from the case, slowly edging myself toward the other end of the tube — not that it would have really mattered had the case really contained a bomb.

"It's all right," I said to Adam. "Don't say anything."

"Let's get off at the next stop," recommended James. Adam and I nodded in agreement, nervously waiting out the tube's bumpy approach to its next destination.

Finally, James decided it wasn't worth waiting and loudly inquired if the case belonged to anyone. A man, sitting across the tube, claimed ownership, saying simply, "It's mine."

We all breathed out and remained on the tube until our final destination, but I only came for me a full sense of relief only came when I stepped off the tube at Piccadilly Circus.

Afterward, we were all embarrassed. What a silly, paranoid, senseless turn of



Photo courtesy of garymonroe.blogspot.com

London is still trying to find ways to deal with the aftermath of the bombings that took place nearly two years ago and to prevent such events from occurring again.

events. Of course there was no threat; no more than the night before, when Adam's bag became the subject of consternation in the Queen's Theater. Still, the pall of the event lingered and I couldn't help thinking that our fears were not entirely unfounded — especially in light of our seat-partner's willful paranoia concerning the tube the night prior.

Such senseless violence rocked London back in July of 2005 (the incident to which the man was referring), when four suicide bombers killed 52 commuters and injured 700 more. With that context in mind, it's easier to see why there was such a fiasco at the theater.

It is a strange and deeply disturbing feeling to step onto an everyday mode of transportation with lingering doubts about safety — even two years removed from the original tragedy.

London's solution is obvious — there are closed-circuit cameras everywhere, monitoring for criminal behavior. Yet there is something vaguely sinister, vaguely "1984"-ish about such an

approach. You can't walk around London without the suspicions that your every move is being watched, and I question whether the added security is worth what feels like a gross invasion of privacy. Standing on that tube, I understood that it made no difference whether or not the London police saw the events unfold — if there really were a bomb, the footage from the camera (had it survived) would merely have made its way to the elegiac reports of the senseless tragedy on CNN and the BBC.

I offer no presumptions — I would not be so presumptuous as to try to neatly offer an answer to a problem that the world's greatest minds have spent years trying to solve. I only know that for a brief instant, I saw the world through different eyes — eyes that were always alert, eyes that were always guarded, eyes that belonged to those who constantly live in fear and suspicion — and I did not like what I saw.

Senseless.

Contact Brian Duxtader at bdoxtade@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of *The Observer*.

It is a strange and deeply disturbing feeling to step onto an everyday mode of transportation with lingering doubts about safety — even two years removed from the original tragedy.

SPOTLIGHT ON LEGENDS

IRISH IDOL

THURSDAY MARCH 22 9:00 PM

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SHOW STARTS 9:00 @ LEGENDS

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JOHN FEISTER
JON GAUS
MALLORY O'BRIEN
LESLIE PENKO
SCOTT ROBINSON
CAROLYN ROSE SULLIVAN
TIARA TORRES
DAVE TUASON
PAM WILLIAMS

LAST YEARS WINNER: Mallory O' Brien. She's competing again this year.

NBA

Duncan, Spurs dominate struggling Pacers

Mavericks outplay LeBron and the Cavs; Williams leads streaking Heat over Hawks; Hart and Clippers edge Bucks late

Associated Press

Tim Duncan showed his teammates how they need to play to regain the form they had during the Spurs' recent 13-game winning streak.

Duncan scored 27 points, 19 in the first half, to lead San Antonio to a 90-72 victory over the slumping Indiana Pacers on Wednesday night.

"I thought Timmy was very focused tonight," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "He was very aggressive with the ball. He wasn't looking for other people and worrying about getting other people involved. He just was demonstrative offensively."

The Spurs, who have clinched a playoff spot, snapped a two-game losing streak that came after they had won a season-high 13 in a row.

Francisco Elson had a season-high 14 points, and Tony Parker and Matt Bonner added 10 apiece.

Ike Diogu scored 14 points for the Pacers, who fell apart after point guard Jamaal Tinsley was ejected. Mike Dunleavy scored 11, and Jermaine O'Neal and Troy Murphy each added 10.

The Pacers snapped an 11-game losing streak with a home victory over Atlanta on Saturday, but have since lost two in a row as they struggle for a spot in the playoffs.

O'Neal was expected to miss the game with a sore left knee he injured in the Pacers' loss to the Houston Rockets on Tuesday, but started anyway. O'Neal already had missed three games after an MRI earlier this month revealed a sprain in the knee.

"I don't think Jermaine's 100 percent," Popovich said. "You had to factor that in. He's trying to play through it. We caught a break there."

At least once on Wednesday, O'Neal looked as if his knee was bothering him. He said the injury is keeping him from being an effective.

"I played on one leg today," O'Neal said. "My explosion is pretty much zapped."

The Pacers outshot the Spurs in the first quarter and built a five-point lead heading into the second following a 9-2 run to close the quarter.

But then the Pacers ran into trouble, as O'Neal picked up his

third foul with 7:55 left in the second and sat the rest of the half. Tinsley picked up his second foul 34 seconds later and it only got worse from there.

Jeff Foster stole the ball from Parker and passed to Tinsley, who went up against Duncan and got whistled for an offensive foul. Tinsley angrily grabbed the ball and rocketed it in a high arc from one end of the court to the other, where it landed in the first row. He was ejected with 3:59 left in the half and had six points.

Mavericks 98, Cavaliers 90

Dirk Nowitzki and LeBron James struggled. Fortunately for Nowitzki, the rest of the Dallas Mavericks outplayed James' teammates.

Nowitzki scored 23 points and Jason Terry added 21 to help the Mavericks beat the Cleveland Cavaliers for the second time this month Wednesday night.

"That's why we are a great team, because other guys stepped up when we needed them," said Nowitzki, who added nine rebounds and six assists.

The Mavericks, who have the NBA's best record at 56-11, have won four straight and are 3-0 on a six-game road trip that's included victories over Detroit and New York.

The Mavs controlled the game for all but the first quarter, making the Cavaliers look inept and one-dimensional offensively on their own court.

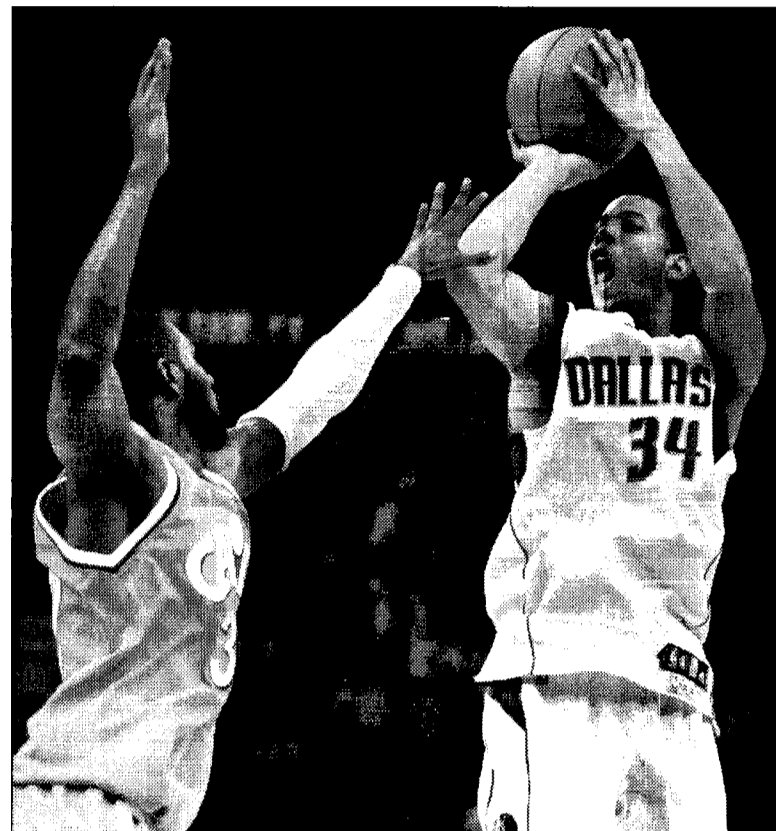
James had a tough night shooting and got roughed up as well. He finished with 31 points but was 12-for-28 shooting as he single-handedly tried to put his team back in it.

"Our defense won the game," Nowitzki said. "LeBron is a great player and will always get his numbers, but we were making him take some tough shots."

As if James' night wasn't hard enough, he banged his head on the floor after getting spun around by Josh Howard while going for a loose ball. He was slow to get up but stayed in the game.

James also took an elbow from Nowitzki with 1:39 left and fell to the floor.

"I'm definitely not feeling 100



Mavericks guard Devin Harris shoots over Cleveland's Larry Hughes in the third quarter of Dallas' 98-80 win Wednesday.

percent," James said. "I took two dangerous hits today."

Heat 91, Hawks 83

Miami has endured so much adversity this season that the Heat's dwindling lead hardly concerned Jason Williams.

"It seems like someone has been out for us all year long," Williams said. "So we just have to keep doing what we have to do to win."

Williams had 21 points and eight assists, and the Heat beat the Atlanta Hawks Wednesday night for their 10th victory in 11 games.

Josh Smith scored 27 points for Atlanta, which had its five-game home winning streak snapped.

Williams had eight of Miami's last 12 points, including a 19-footer he banked in against Josh Childress that pushed the lead to 85-80 with 1:03 remaining.

"They were pressing and trapping," Williams said. "but when they decided not to double-team me, I just had to be aggressive and take the shot."

Clippers 104, Bucks 103

Jason Hart made the go-ahead basket with 3 seconds left to give the Los Angeles Clippers a victory over the Milwaukee Bucks on Wednesday night.

Hart's shot from the baseline bounced twice on the side of the rim before falling in.

Corey Maggette scored 22 points and Elton Brand had 21 points and eight rebounds for Los Angeles, which moved into the No. 8 spot in the Western Conference.

Milwaukee, which trailed by 22 points late in the third quarter, got 27 points and five rebounds from Michael Redd. It was his fifth straight game with at least 25 points.

A jumper by Hart gave Los Angeles its biggest lead, 88-66 with 2:24 left in the third quarter.

But Milwaukee used a 12-0 run to get back in the game, capped by a free throw by Charlie Bell to trim the deficit to 99-98 with 2:26 left.

After a free throw by Brand, Bell drilled a 3-pointer that gave Milwaukee a 101-100 lead, its first since 9-8.



Spurs forward Robert Horry defends against Pacers guard Jamal Tinsley in San Antonio's 90-72 rout Wednesday.

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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Lysander: Where4 was I 2 this keen mockery born? Helena

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There was once a barber. Some say that he lived in Seville. Wherever he lived, all of the men in this town either shaved themselves or were shaved by the barber. And the barber only shaved the men who did not shave themselves.

Did the barber shave himself?

John Smoltz may quite possibly be the second coming

It takes a big man to cry, but it takes a bigger man to laugh at that man.

NFL

Goodell to address off-field problems

Associated Press

NEW YORK — NFL commissioner Roger Goodell could announce new initiatives Tuesday that will allow him to impose harsher and quicker discipline for players who get into trouble off the field.

League spokesman Greg Aiello said Wednesday during a conference call that Goodell could use his first full league meeting, to be held next week in Phoenix, to address the arrests and other off-field episodes that plagued the league in the last year.

They include the arrests of nine members of the Cincinnati Bengals; 10 encounters with the police by Tennessee's Adam "Pacman" Jones; the four-month jail sentence imposed this week on Chicago's Tank Johnson on weapons charges; and other run-ins with the law by NFL players.

The policy would allow Goodell, who has been meeting with players, owners and team officials, to impose harsher discipline earlier than in the past, when the NFL has waited for legal steps to be finished before imposing fines and/or suspensions.

"What's important to him in developing this policy is that it is supported by a wide faction of people in our league, meaning the owners, the players' association, the players and the clubs," Aiello said. "He's been very encouraged by the strong stance that the players have

taken in terms of looking for a more effective policy."

Most of the conference call was devoted to recommendations for changes in playing rules made by the competition committee.

The biggest change would be moving the kickoff in overtime from the 30-yard-line, the spot in regulation, to the 35.

Atlanta general manager Rich McKay, the committee's co-chairman, said the committee believed the kickoff spot was the major reason that that 62 percent of teams winning the coin toss won overtime games last season, not necessarily on the first possession, but because of the field position they got. McKay said it stemmed from the change in 1998 that moved the kickoff back to the 30 and added the "K-ball," a kicking ball harder to kick deep.

Until then, winners and losers of the toss had won just about equally.

"This is something we resisted," McKay said. "But there was an advantage gained by the coin toss. We think we can cure those stats and make the coin toss less of a factor."

The rule would have to be approved by three-quarters of the teams, as would a variety of other proposed rules changes.

One would make instant replay, which is due to expire after two more seasons, a permanent part of the league's rules.

NCAA BASKETBALL

Volunteers will hope to contain Oden, OSU

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Tennessee's Bruce Pearl is far too good of a talker to frame his team's upcoming game against Ohio State in worn-out coachspeak.

So when he essentially says "it's not Greg Oden, it's the rest of the Buckeyes" that he's focused on containing Thursday night, at least give him the benefit of the doubt and listen to his explanation.

Start with the background.

The Volunteers faced Ohio State in Oden's 10th game of the season, back in January, when Oden was adjusting to the college game and still wearing a brace on the surgically repaired right wrist that delayed the start of his college career.

Those things were supposed to be holding him down. Instead, he had his first monster game: 24 points, 15 rebounds, perfect from the foul line (6-for-6), four assists, three blocks and a steal in 36 minutes.

Yet the Buckeyes, playing at home, still needed what was then a career-high in points from freshman point guard Mike Conley and a 3-pointer from Ron Lewis with 11.2 seconds left to beat the Volunteers 68-66.

Ohio State (32-3) hasn't lost since, a run of 19 in a row it

takes into a semifinal against Tennessee (24-10) in the NCAA tournament's South Regional.

Pearl spent this week studying his team's near-miss in Columbus and most of the other 18 games in the Buckeyes' run. After concluding there's no stopping Oden — "He's unlike anybody I've ever gone up against," Pearl said — he set his sights on everyone else wearing red and white.

And the part that scares him the most?

"They've not broken out yet," Pearl said. "They've not had that breakout game that we all know they're capable of."

Buckeyes coach Thad Matta was flattered by the notion his top-seeded team has gotten within four wins of a national championship by merely grinding out games.

However, he agrees that his team can do whatever it takes to win, as opposed to being a juggernaut that goes out and does things its way, daring others to stop it.

"The thing I love about this team is we've shown that we can play a lot of different ways," Matta said, listing a few examples — not including the overtime win against Xavier in the second round that kept Ohio State in the tournament.



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NCAA BASKETBALL

Howland, Dixon will square off in Sweet 16

Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — The almost daily phone calls haven't stopped this week even though Ben Howland and Jamie Dixon will be on opposite sides of the court Thursday night.

It's hard to break a routine built through decades of friendship. The only change in the coaches' relationship is what they discuss.

Talking about strategy, and their teams' strengths and weaknesses has to take a back seat at least until after Thursday night's third-round game between Howland's UCLA Bruins and Dixon's Pittsburgh Panthers in the San Jose Regional.

"I think it's inevitable it was going to happen," Dixon said Wednesday. "It hasn't changed [our relationship] at all. We've talked a couple of times, not too much about the game, just about families and different things

besides that."

Whether the relationship has an impact on which team advances to Saturday's regional final remains to be seen.

"I think it's pretty unique and pretty interesting," Bruins point guard Darren Collison said. "But again, to me it won't be about the coaches. It will be about the players on the court. That's what will dictate who wins the game. The coaches will just do their job and that's just to coach and tell us what plays to run."

That's one area that will provide at least a little bit of a wrinkle since the Panthers (29-7) still use many of the same plays they ran before Howland left for UCLA (28-5) following the 2002-03 season.

But with scouting and the use of video what they are in the modern game, Howland thinks it will be just like playing any other team.

STUDENTS FLY CHEAPER

Sample fares From South Bend to:		Sample fares From Chicago to:	
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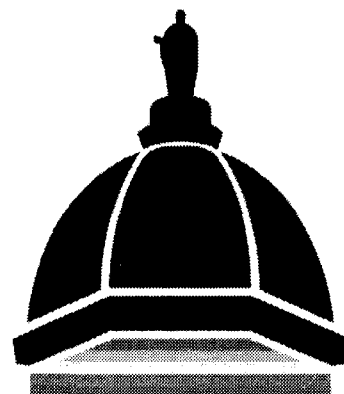
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Please bring copies of your resume and cover letter to the informational session. Candidates will then be selected for on-site interviews in Chicago during the last two weeks of April.

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AROUND THE NATION

Thursday, March 22, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 19

NBA Standings

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

team	record	conf.	last 10
Toronto	37-31	25-15	5-5
New Jersey	31-37	21-17	3-7
New York	30-37	19-22	5-5
Philadelphia	26-42	15-23	6-4
Boston	20-48	12-27	4-6

Eastern Conference, Central Division

team	record	conf.	last 10
Detroit	43-23	27-12	7-3
Cleveland	41-27	23-17	8-2
Chicago	39-30	28-13	7-3
Indiana	30-37	21-17	1-9
Milwaukee	25-41	12-28	6-4

Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

team	record	conf.	last 10
Washington	36-29	23-16	5-5
Miami	37-30	21-17	9-1
Orlando	31-38	18-23	3-7
Atlanta	27-42	14-27	5-5
Charlotte	26-43	17-22	4-6

Western Conference, Northwest Division

team	record	conf.	last 10
Utah	44-23	26-12	6-4
Denver	34-31	17-22	7-3
Minnesota	28-38	16-25	2-8
Portland	27-40	16-24	3-7
Seattle	26-40	13-24	4-6

Western Conference, Pacific Division

team	record	conf.	last 10
Phoenix	51-16	26-11	7-3
L.A. Lakers	35-32	21-16	3-7
Golden State	32-37	19-21	6-4
L.A. Clippers	31-36	16-23	3-7
Sacramento	29-38	14-23	4-6

Western Conference, Southwest Division

team	record	conf.	last 10
Dallas	56-11	33-8	8-2
San Antonio	47-20	28-11	8-2
Houston	43-25	21-19	7-3
New Orleans	31-37	17-23	3-7
Memphis	17-51	9-30	2-8

NCAA Men's Lacrosse Inside Lacrosse Top 20

team	points	prev.
1 Cornell	273	1
2 Virginia	252	2
3 John's Hopkins	250	3
4 Navy	237	4
5 Albany	222	6
6 Duke	219	5
7 Georgetown	195	8
8 Princeton	184	9
9 Maryland	173	10
10 Loyola (Md.)	134	12
11 North Carolina	131	11
12 Syracuse	128	7
13 Army	125	13
14 Fairfield	85	NR
15 Towson	65	15
16 Delaware	60	17
17 Bucknell	53	14
18 Brown	40	NR
19 NOTRE DAME	33	16
20 Stony Brook	26	20

around the dial

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

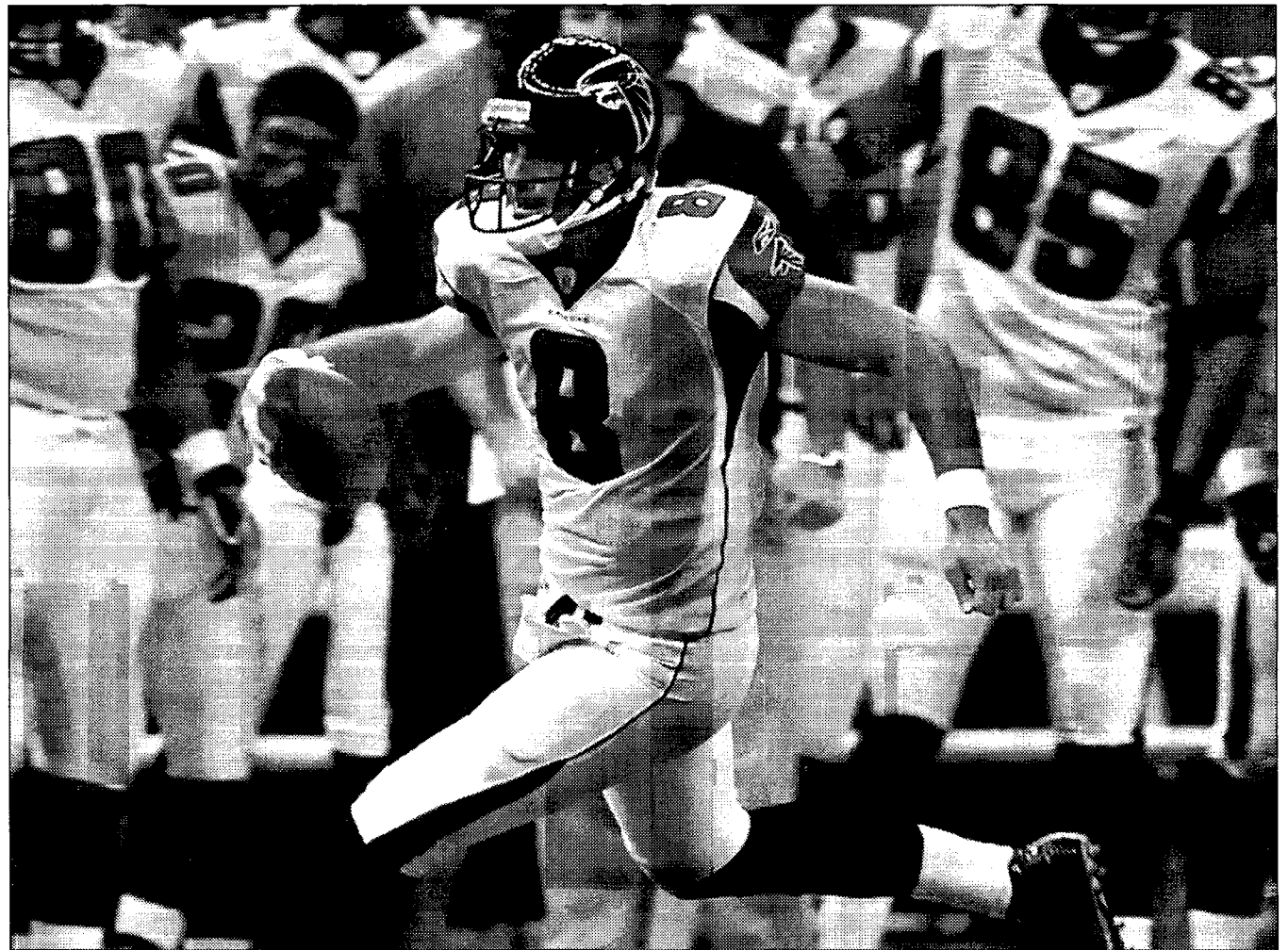
Kansas vs. Southern Illinois
7:10 p.m., CBS

Memphis vs. Texas A&M
7:27 p.m., CBS

UCLA vs. Pittsburgh
9:40 p.m., CBS

Ohio State vs. Tennessee
9:57 p.m., CBS

NFL



Texans quarterback Matt Schaub scrambles for a first down against the Saints in a loss last December. The Texans are close to acquiring the backup quarterback, which leaves starter David Carr's future uncertain.

Schaub may be in Texans' future

Associated Press

Houston — The Houston Texans are close to acquiring Matt Schaub from the Atlanta Falcons.

A trade for the highly regarded backup quarterback was expected to be announced Thursday, according to a person with knowledge of the deal who requested anonymity because the deal hadn't been completed.

The person did not disclose the details of the trade. The Houston Chronicle and the NFL Network said the Falcons will get second-round picks in 2007 and 2008 and that the teams will

swap first-round picks this year, with Atlanta moving from 10th to eighth.

A call by The Associated Press to Texans general manager Rick Smith wasn't immediately returned Wednesday. Rich McKay, Atlanta's general manager, had no comment.

"Matt's a restricted free agent," McKay, chairman of the NFL's competition committee, said during a conference call with national reporters in preparation for next week's league meetings. "He's clearly entitled to visit every team. We've talked to a number of teams that have interest in Matt. That's all I'm going

to say."

Houston television station KRIV reported on its Web site that Schaub and agent Joby Branion arrived at Houston's George Bush Intercontinental Airport on Wednesday.

"We have an agreement in place," Branion told KRIV. "I dealt with Rick Smith on Ahman Green a couple of weeks ago. That gave us a great deal of comfort heading into these discussions believing we could get something done and we did. It wasn't easy but I think both sides are comfortable with where we are."

Schaub, who has per-

formed well in preseason games, has started two games in his three-year career and is 84-of-161 for 1,033 yards with six touchdowns and six interceptions.

The acquisition of Schaub would make the possibility David Carr will remain with the team seem unlikely. Unhappy with Carr's performance, Houston tried to sign both Jeff Garcia and Patrick Ramsey before the two signed with other teams.

The Texans hoped that Carr, the first pick in the 2002 draft, would have a breakout year under the tutelage of first-year coach Gary Kubiak.

IN BRIEF

Artest faces four counts of misdemeanors after arrest

SACRAMENTO — Sacramento Kings forward Ron Artest faces four misdemeanor charges stemming from a dispute with his wife at home earlier this month.

The charges were filed late Tuesday. Placer County Deputy District Attorney Dan Quick said Artest will be arraigned Thursday on charges of battery and corporal injury to a spouse, false imprisonment and dissuading a witness from reporting a crime. Each carries a maximum sentence of one year in prison.

The former Indiana Pacer was arrested March 5 at his estate in Loomis, 25 miles northeast of Sacramento, and was released from custody after posting a \$50,000 bond.

A Placer county sheriff's report said Artest grabbed a woman and pushed her down, then slapped her face during an argument.

Illinois won't discipline AD after incident

CHAMPAIGN — The University of Illinois will not discipline athletic director Ron Guenther for yelling at men's basketball coach Bruce Weber and Illini players during the team's NCAA Tournament loss Friday.

Guenther yelled substitution advice to Weber — who was just a few feet away — and also yelled "Warren — you idiot" after a play by Illini forward Warren Carter, according to a report on CBS Sportsline.com. Guenther also pounded the table throughout Illinois' 54-52 loss to Virginia Tech in Columbus, Ohio.

Richard Herman, chancellor at the Urbana-Champaign campus, said Wednesday that Guenther — in his 15th year as AD at Illinois — would not be disciplined. He said Guenther had apologized to Weber and Carter.

The outbursts happened because Guenther is a fan, Herman said.

Eagles head coach Andy Reid returns from leave

PHILADELPHIA — Philadelphia Eagles coach Andy Reid will return from a leave of absence Friday, five weeks after leaving the team because of his two oldest sons' legal troubles.

Reid is scheduled to return to his duties full time Friday, in time for the NFL owners' meetings in Arizona next week. The team scheduled a news conference Friday morning.

Reid took a leave of absence Feb. 12, after his two oldest sons became embroiled in legal troubles stemming from separate traffic incidents Jan. 30.

Britt Reid, 21, faces a felony charge of carrying a firearm without a license and misdemeanor drug charges stemming from a road rage incident in which he allegedly pointed a gun at another motorist.

Garrett Reid, 23, faces charges he injured a woman in a traffic accident while under the influence of heroin.

NCAA BASKETBALL

Salukis hope to upset Jayhawks

Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Rodrick Stewart waited patiently for the perfect shot, slipping through a crowd and moving behind a screen before letting it fly.

The meatball-sized wad of paper flew over a cameraman and hit Kansas teammate Mario Chalmers in the chest while he answered questions in the locker room. The Jayhawks' leading scorer in the NCAA tournament didn't even dangle a participle, coolly finishing his conversation to his laughing teammates' delight.

The top-seeded Jayhawks seemed remarkably stress-free on a cool Wednesday in California, one day before meeting Southern Illinois in the West Regional semifinals.

Sure, expectations are still huge for everybody in this proud program. But after embarrassing first-round exits in the past two tournaments, Kansas feels fortunate simply to be planning for a second weekend and beyond.

And even facing the fourth-seeded Salukis' intense defense couldn't bow their shoulders.

"After last year, we waited a long time to get this chance," said coach Bill Self, who has led three schools to nine straight NCAA tournament appearances, including four at Kansas. "In a weird way, and not in a good way, I think the



Kansas forward Julian Wright dunks in the second half of the Jayhawks' 88-76 victory over Kentucky Sunday in Chicago.

failures last year prepared us for this year. We don't really see the (No. 1) seed as pressure any more. Everybody is here for a reason."

While the Jayhawks (32-4) got to San Jose with an up-tempo offense that bested Florida, Southern California and most of the Big 12 Conference, Southern Illinois (29-6) is built to neutralize the nation's best offensive talent — and Kansas has more than its share.

Brandon Rush and his

Kansas teammates have watched tape of the trapping, aggressive style with which the Salukis yielded just 56.1 points per game — the third-fewest among 336 Division I teams this season. Kansas can't recall facing a better defensive team, yet nobody in Jayhawk blue seemed distressed.

"The way they trap, the way they get through a screen, they're like piranhas," said Rush, who scored 19 points in the Jayhawks' second-round win over Kentucky.

Motivated Florida ready for Bulldogs

Billy Donovan leads the defending champs against 5-seed Butler

Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — He's been "Officer Bill," a history professor, a tour guide, a father figure and even a friend.

He's been way more than just a coach.

Billy Donovan has been a master motivator for top-seeded Florida, inspiring players with championship rings, famous dads and NBA futures to play hard, stay focused, follow his "live in the moment" catch-phrase and possibly become the first team in 15 years to successfully defend its title.

He's kept the Gators hungry and humble while dealing with off-the-chart expectations, outside influences and the constant pressure of trying to make history.

"Sometimes when you hear the word motivation, people think it's a rah-rah speech every day," Donovan said. "I think there's different ways to motivate people and to inspire people. I would say that I spend every single day trying to do that."

Florida (31-5), which plays fifth-

seeded Butler (29-6) on Friday in the Midwest Regional in St. Louis, has won 14 consecutive postseason games and cut down five sets of nets in the past 11 months.

Aside from having five talented, unselfish and experienced starters, a big key has been Donovan's motivational tactics.

He's invited big-name sports celebrities to speak to the Gators — a list that includes NBA legend Jerry West, New England Patriots coach Bill Belichick and St. Louis Cardinals manager Tony La Russa.

He's shown clips from movies and sporting events in hopes of providing inspiration. He's told stories about all-time greats like Muhammad Ali, Michael Jordan, Pete Sampras and Tiger Woods.

He even brought in renowned sociology professor Harry Edwards, widely considered the leading expert on issues of race and sports.

"(Edwards) talked about pushing the ball back up the hill," forward Corey Brewer said. "You can't push it up the same way, and you've all got to go up together. It's time to get together and go back up the hill."

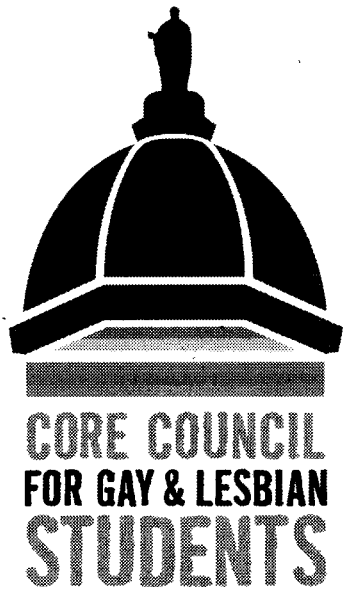
Belichick made an encore appearance two weeks ago after Florida won a third consecutive conference tournament.

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NCAA BASKETBALL

Memphis, Aggies will play in Texas shootout

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Some Texas A&M students wore paper bags over their heads during Acie Law's freshman season, embarrassed to be rooting for a team that didn't win a conference game.

Now, Aggies fans are decked out in maroon shirts, eager to be part of what Law and his teammates are doing.

For Memphis (32-3), the No. 2 seed in the NCAA South Regional, that means once again playing in front of a partisan crowd despite have a better seed.

"I would have never imagined playing in San Antonio with the Sweet 16 with the opportunity to go to the Elite Eight after what I experienced by freshman year," Law said Wednesday. "Coach came in and he changed all our mindsets. He told us we were going to win, and not take as long as people thought."

That's exactly what the Aggies have done under Billy Gillispie, going from that 0-16

record in the Big 12 to the NCAA round of 16 and a school-record 27 victories only three seasons later.

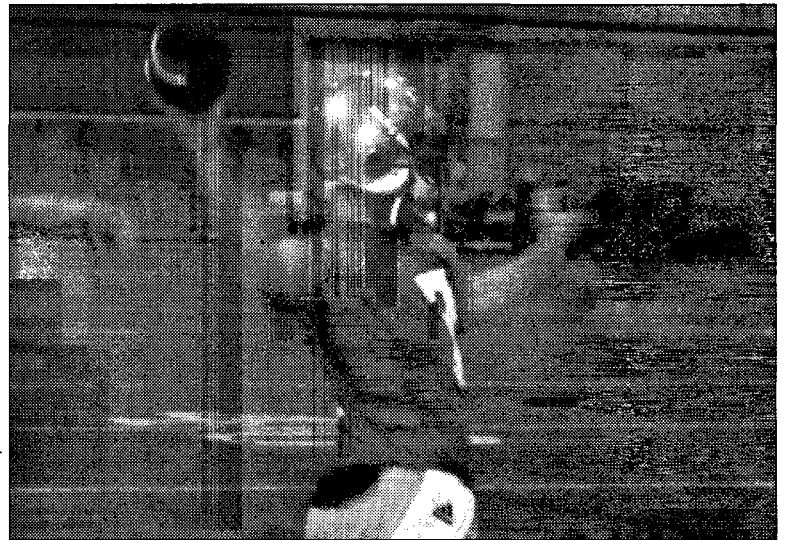
And Texas A&M won't be far from home Thursday night for its first regional semifinal game since 1980. The game will be in the Alamodome, only about a 2 1/2-hour drive from campus.

When the Aggies finished their open practice, the players greeted and shook hands with fans, many who chanted Law's name.

A crowd of more than 30,000 is expected Thursday, mostly in A&M colors. If the Aggies (27-6) win, there might not be another color visible for the regional final this weekend — much like when Texas won a regional final in the same building four years ago.

"It may be able to help you get over a couple of tough spots in the games, but it won't be the ultimate determining factor," Gillispie said. "We learned that last weekend, and everybody is coming here for a reason. Everyone is coming here to win."

JIMMY'S FIRST DAY



JAY FITZPATRICK/The Observer

Irish freshman Jimmy Clausen throws during spring practice in the Loftus Center Wednesday.

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NCAA BASKETBALL

Air Force beats DePaul, heads to NIT semifinals

Tigers advance past Orange for ninth win in a row at Littlejohn

Associated Press

AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Jacob Burtschi scored 13 points, including the winning basket with 7.7 seconds left to send Air Force to the NIT semifinals with a 52-51 win over DePaul on Wednesday night.

Draelon Burns, who scored 18 points and had five 3-pointers, rimmed out a 3-pointer from the right corner at the buzzer after Burtschi missed a free throw following his layup, and the usually subdued crowd at Clune Arena stormed the court, their Falcons headed to the NIT Final Four and "New York, New York" playing over the loud speakers.

The Falcons (26-8), top seeded in the West, play South Region top seed Clemson in the semifinals on Tuesday night at Madison Square Garden in New York. Mississippi State will face West Virginia in the other semifinal.

Matt McCraw also scored 13 points for the Falcons, who nearly saw their 33-game

home winning streak against nonconference opponents snapped.

Clemson 74, Syracuse 70

K.C. Rivers had a career-high 29 points and the Tigers bounced the Orange at Littlejohn Coliseum.

It was the Tigers (24-10) ninth straight NIT victory at home. But this one did not come easily.

Syracuse (24-11) cut Clemson's 17-point lead to 69-68 on Demetris Nichols' tip-in with 19.8 seconds left. However, Rivers, the team's best free-throw shooter, hit a pair of foul shots to extend the lead.

Josh Wright's open 3-pointer with about 10 seconds left bounced off the rim and into the arms of Tiger guard Vern Hamilton.

Hamilton followed with two foul shots to clinch the victory — and Clemson's first trip to Madison Square Garden since 1999.

Then, the Tigers were second to champ Cal. This time, they can keep a curious streak alive for the Palmetto State as they try and become the third straight South Carolina team — the Gamecocks won the past two NITs — to hold the trophy.

New Mexico seeks Alford

Lobos get permission to talk to Hawkeyes' coach about vacancy

Associated Press

IOWA CITY, Iowa — The University of New Mexico has been given permission to interview Iowa basketball coach Steve Alford about the Lobos' head coaching vacancy, Iowa athletic director Gary Barta said Wednesday.

Alford, who was Indiana's high school Mr. Basketball at New Castle in 1983 and led Indiana University to the 1987 NCAA championship, has been mentioned as a New Mexico candidate since coach Ritchie McKay was fired after five seasons. Barta confirmed that New Mexico athletic director Paul Krebs asked for permission

to contact Alford about the job.

"It will be Coach Alford's decision as to whether he chooses to visit with them," Barta said in a statement Wednesday.

Alford, who was out of town Wednesday, didn't immediately respond to interview requests.

Greg Remington, New Mexico's associate athletic director for media relations, wouldn't elaborate on the Lobos' coaching search Wednesday night.

"We do not at this time have a news conference

scheduled," he said.

Barta, when asked whether he has heard any updates Wednesday night, said: "Hopefully, we'll know more by tomorrow."

"It will be Coach Alford's decision as to whether he chooses to visit with them."

Gary Barta
Iowa athletic director

Alford has a 152-106 record in eight seasons at Iowa, and is under contract through 2011.

He led the Hawkeyes to three N C A A

appearances, and Big Ten tournament crowns in 2001 and 2006. This season, the Hawkeyes finished 17-14 and were not invited to the NCAA or NIT tournaments.

MLB - SPRING TRAINING

Sosa, Rangers fall to slugger's former squad

Associated Press

When Sammy Sosa stepped to the plate, he looked out to see Cubs starter Jason Marquis wearing the slugger's old No. 21.

This was definitely not an average spring day for Sosa in his return with the Texas Rangers after a year away from the game.

Sosa got a mixed greeting Wednesday from a large crowd of 11,674 at HoHoKam Park, where he spent so many spring afternoons during his 13 seasons with the Cubs.

"You know, regardless, no matter where I play, my heart is always going to be in Chicago," Sosa said.

"I don't think anyone's going to take my name away from Chicago. ... My name is always going to be mentioned in Chicago."

Sosa went 1-for-3 in his return to Mesa, Ariz., and the Cubs beat the Rangers 11-7 on Daryle Ward's grand slam in the bottom of the ninth inning off Jesse Ingram.

Starting in right field, Sosa grounded into a forceout, legged out an infield single and hit a hopper that took a wild bounce before Cubs shortstop Ronny Cedeno reached up and made a nice play before throwing him out. Sosa's still batting .410 this spring.

How did the fans in right field treat him? He used to be their darling, an entertainer when he played the position in Chicago.

"Great," he said.

Did they yell at him?

"In my favor, yes," he said.

"He deserves good things from the fans. He did a lot of good things in Chicago," Cubs pitcher Carlos Zambrano said.

Sosa hit 545 of his 588 homers with the Cubs. How big a deal are the 12 homers that would land him at the 600 landmark? He actually wants more.

"I'm not going to get in shape for 12 home runs. I'm going to go out there and play. It's going to happen," said Sosa, who also wears No. 21 with the Rangers. "I'm thinking I'm not satisfied. More than that."

White Sox 10, Giants 9

At Tucson, Ariz., Bobby Jenks' ERA ballooned to 10.50 for his five spring games after he allowed three runs and three hits in two innings. White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen said he is concerned about his closer.

"I worry about Bobby. If you are not ready one week and a half before the season starts, you have problems," Guillen said. "If you are not ready to this point, and you are not in condition to start the season right now, you have to dig in and start pushing yourself to get better."

Red Sox 7, Pirates 3

At Bradenton, Fla., Daisuke Matsuzaka allowed one run and one hit in 5 2-3 innings. The Red Sox right-hander struck out seven and got a standing ovation when he left the game.

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TRACK AND FIELD

ND finally heads outside

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame travels to Tucson, Ariz., today to compete in the Jim Click Multi-Events/Shootout. The meet, which lasts until Saturday, is Notre Dame's first outdoor competition of the season.

After an indoor season that culminated in two All-America performances in the NCAA Championships, the Irish are making the transition to outdoor competition. Training and competing outside allows the team to practice skills it hasn't worked on before and offers a break from the monotony of the Loftus Center.

"The men and women in the 4-by-100-meter [relays] will do baton exchanges which basically we did not do at all at the beginning of the indoor season," Irish coach Joe Piane said. "And frankly, just getting outdoors is a joy."

The outdoor track is 400 meters long, twice as long as the standard indoor track. The length of the track could decrease the times posted by the runners.

"In theory, it should be faster because the turns are so spacious," Piane said. "Indoors it's a little tight, but outdoors the radius is much larger."

Some events during the indoor season change once the team moves outside, and some events don't exist during the indoor season. The discus and javelin throws and the 400 hurdles are exclusively outdoor events. Also, the 60-meter hurdles becomes the 100 hurdles for women and 110 hurdles for men.

"You take a discus thrower or a



Irish junior John Cavanaugh, right, hands the baton to junior Jake Watson at the Alex Wilson Invitational March 2.

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

javelin thrower, they're waiting all season just to get outdoors," Piane said. "So they've been training from September on just to get to the outdoor season."

The Shootout, which is primarily an individual meet, will give coaches a chance to see how athletes who have not yet competed handle their first meet.

"I'm really anxious to see what [freshman] Balazs Molnar does in the 400 meter hurdles. He was one of the best intermediate hurdlers in Europe last year, so I'm really anxious to see what he can do during the outdoor season," Piane said. "I'm anxious to see what [freshman] Jaelyn Espinosa can do in the discus. She's throwing well already, but let's see how

well she can do."

Piane said he also excited to see how throwers, including junior Kyle Annen and senior Garet Koxlien, perform in their first competition of the season. Annen's best hammer throw of the 2006 outdoor season was 61.46 meters at the Big East Championships. Koxlien's season-best discus throw for the 2006 season came at the CalPoly Invitational, where he threw for 51.52 meters.

"I'm anxious to see how the people who don't have the opportunity to do those events start off the season," he said.

Contact Bill Brink at
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NHL

Fedoruk knocked cold as Rangers beat Flyers

NEW YORK — The New York Rangers used their fists and sticks to beat the Flyers 5-0 Wednesday night, with Philadelphia's Todd Fedoruk getting knocked out by Colton Orr's punch.

Orr flattened Fedoruk with a hard punch 21 seconds into the game in response to Philadelphia's rough play in the last meeting on Feb. 17. Fedoruk was removed from the ice on a stretcher and taken to St. Vincent's Hospital and kept overnight.

Orr didn't dress for that game, a move Rangers coach Tom Renney said he regretted. But Orr quickly made his presence known in the rematch.

He squared off with Fedoruk in the Philadelphia zone and decked the hard-hitting forward with a right hand to the left cheek. Fedoruk went down on his back, was strapped to a board, and had his head immobilized before being wheeled off.

"Todd is doing fine," Rangers neurologist Claude Macaluso said in a statement. "He is awake. He is having some problems with short-term memory, but other than that he is great. There are no neurological problems at all."

"We scanned him basically from the top of his head right

down to the bottom of his neck. There are no fractures, (his) brain looks fine. He is going to be fine."

Brendan Shanahan had two assists in his first game back from a concussion sustained against Philadelphia. Henrik Lundqvist shined again, making 17 saves for his second shutout in three games.

Sabres 5, Capitals 2

Daniel Briere and Derek Roy scored power-play goals, sparking the Sabres' sputtering special teams. Drew Stafford had two third-period goals and Clarke MacArthur also scored in helping Buffalo snap a season-worst three-game home losing streak.

"He is having problems with short-term memory, but other than that, he is great."

Claude Macaluso
Rangers team doctor

Dainius Zubrus had two assists in his first game against his former team; the Sabres acquired the forward in a deal with the Capitals last month.

Buffalo converted two of four power-play chances to end a seven-game drought — the team's longest since 2003-04.

The Eastern Conference-leading Sabres (47-19-7) joined Nashville in becoming the second NHL team to reach the 100-point mark this season.

Brian Pothier and Donald Brashear scored for the Capitals (26-35-13), 1-8-2 in their past 11 road games.

NHL

Sabres reestablish home ice dominance in win over Caps

Associated Press

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Heading toward the playoffs, Daniel Briere and the Buffalo Sabres want to address a few deficiencies: fix their sputtering power play and regain their edge at home.

Check and check.

Briere and Derek Roy scored power-play goals, helping the Sabres end a three-game home skid with an easy 5-2 win over the Washington Capitals on Wednesday.

"This is definitely what we wanted to clean up," Briere said. "Sometimes it's a good thing to hit the rough patch before you hit the playoffs. And

hopefully we're out of it now and we can look forward and come into the playoffs on a roll."

Drew Stafford had two third-period goals and Clarke MacArthur also scored, while Dainius Zubrus had two assists in his first game against his former team; the Sabres acquired the forward in a deal with the Capitals last month.

The Eastern Conference-leading Sabres (47-19-7) joined Nashville in becoming the second NHL team to reach the 100-point mark this season.

The two power-play goals ended a seven-game drought — Buffalo's longest since 2003-04. And the Sabres avoided losing four straight at home for the

first time since early last season.

"Small things mean a lot and I think we just want to be ramping up at the right time," said Ryan Miller, who made 24 saves. "Last 10 games for us is going to be a focal point and tonight was a good step forward."

It helps that the Sabres fine-tuned their game against the Capitals (26-35-13), who continue displaying the telltale inconsistencies of a young team. Besides dropping to 1-8-2 in their past 11 road games, the Capitals failed to build off two home wins in which they outscored their opponents by a combined 12-2, including a 7-1 win over Tampa Bay on Sunday.

"They just played well. We

didn't score," said Alex Ovechkin, the Capitals star held without a point for a third consecutive game.

Brian Pothier and Donald Brashear scored for Washington.

The Sabres, coming off a 2-0-2 four-game road swing, took control with a three-goal second period.

Roy's goal, which opened the scoring 40 seconds into the second, came courtesy of a fortunate bounce after Dmitri Kalinin's shot from inside the blue line sailed wide and high. The puck bounced to the right of the net, where Roy slid it in the open side with goalie Olaf Kolzig looking the other way.

Not exactly how Sabres coach Lindy Ruff drew it up, but he'll take it, considering it was his team's first goal in 26 power-play chances.

"We had some good power plays on the road trip and missed some great opportunities," Ruff said. "But you don't want to talk about missing great opportunities. You want to talk about scoring on the opportunities you get."

Briere's goal, which put the Sabres up 3-1, came on a gritty play, set up after Zubrus forced a turnover behind the Capitals net. With a step on Washington defender Jeff Schultz, Briere skated out in front and wrapped it in through Kolzig's legs.

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NOTRE DAME SOFTBALL



ND SOFTBALL

ND to play first home game

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame plays its first game of the year at Ivy Field tonight.

After going 9-12 against stiff competition over the past four weeks, the Irish take on IUPUI in a final tune-up before starting conference play this weekend.

The Jaguars got off to a very slow start this year, losing their first 11 contests. However, IUPUI worked out the kinks last weekend at the Rebel Games in Kissimmee, Fla., and went 5-1 in the tournament. The turnaround included a 10-0 rout against Army and a thrilling come-from-behind 6-5 win over Fairleigh Dickinson in extra innings.

Sophomore pitcher Breanna Howell, who will most likely start for the Jags tomorrow, picked up the win in both contests. Howell leads the team with a 4-3 record and an ERA of 4.03. The only other IUPUI pitcher to pick up a win on the season is senior Angelica Espinosa.

The Jaguars have made just one trip to Notre Dame in the program's history in 1999 — IUPUI came away with a 2-1 victory in nine innings.

This time around the Irish are a bit more accustomed to picking up wins late in close games. Notre Dame is 3-1 in one-run games, with all three of those wins coming in walk-off fashion.

The Irish bats have struggled recently scoring only four runs in the past five games including



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer
Irish junior Sarah Smith slides into home against Purdue April 26, 2006 at Ivy Field.

shutout losses to Pacific, No. 8 Texas and No. 2 Arizona State. The IUPUI pitching staff should help the Notre Dame hitters get back on track after facing powerhouses from some of the top programs in the country.

The Irish have been without their leading hitter, senior outfielder Stephanie Brown, during the five-game slump. Brown was injured during practice when a ground ball took a bad hop and caught her just below the nose. Prior to the injury, she was hitting .440 with 15 runs scored from the leadoff position.

Since Brown went down, Notre Dame has turned to its pitching staff to try to bail the team out. Sophomore hurler Brittany Bargar currently leads the team

with a 2.77 ERA, but her record has dropped to 6-7 with tough losses to the Sun Devils, Longhorns and No. 16 Louisiana-Lafayette all in the past week.

Bargar will look to get back to the .500 mark with a win over the Jaguars tonight.

Tonight's game is the first of five that Notre Dame will play this weekend at home. The Irish have doubleheaders scheduled against St. John's Saturday and Seton Hall Sunday. Saturday's matchup will mark the beginning of Big East play as Notre Dame attempts to defend its 2006 conference championship.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

Broncos

continued from page 28

that gets you fired up," Pollock said. "Hitting is contagious."

Lilley lit the fire under the Notre Dame bats with a single as the team entered the bottom of the fourth with the 5-3 lead. The eight-run inning included two-run singles from Lilley, Jeremy Barnes and Ryne Intlekofer as well as an unearned run apiece from Pollock and senior Danny Dressman.

Notre Dame coach Dave Schrage said Lilley serves an important leadership role.

"Brett is so consistent," he said. "He comes everyday to the ballpark with a great attitude and works hard — you win a lot of games with Brett Lilley. Every time he comes he's giving everything he's got."

The Irish extended their lead to 15-4 in the bottom of the sixth as freshman Austin Pearce drove in an RBI off his first career hit.

Western Michigan threatened in the top of the eighth but was unable to close in on the Irish lead. Freshman right-hander Steven Mazur gave up a two-run homer to Kyle Galbraith and a one-run single to Matt Abro before retiring from the mound.

Sophomore right-hander Brett Grafty took over in the middle of the inning. Bronco Kyle Gendron drove in one run off an error to close out the inning and bring Western Michigan within six. Those four runs would end the offensive game for the Broncos.

Cycling through two pitchers in one inning happened often during the offense-focused game. Sophomore left-hander Sam Elam started the game for the Irish. Grafty threw two innings from the mound and Andrew Scheid, Tony Langford and David Mills tallied an

inning apiece — Mazur only saw action in the first part of the eighth inning. Tim Mowry started from the mound for Western Michigan, pitching 2.2 innings before the Broncos brought in six pitchers from their bullpen.

Using many pitchers in the mid-week non-conference game allowed Notre Dame and Western Michigan to rest their arms, since both teams play in conference series this weekend.

The Irish responded to Western Michigan's drive in the eighth with two runs in the bottom of the inning. Schrage noted the team's ability to respond from behind the plate every time Western Michigan drew closer.

"I think our guys did a great job of answering back when Western Michigan had score," he said. "I was very happy with how we hit the ball long."

Even though the Broncos responded with strong offensive innings, Pollock said, the Irish were confident they would respond.

"We kept battling. We didn't put up runs in just one inning, so that always keeps you into the game more," he said. "And I think that carried over toward defense too — a game like [Western Michigan] kept everybody on their toes and ready for the next pitch."

Notre Dame sealed the win with a no-run ninth-inning. Schrage said the team hopes to stay strong from behind the plate and tune up defensively as it prepares for its weekend series against South Florida. The Irish will look for strong showings from Lilley and Pollock again as they face tougher competition from the mound.

"Right now [Pollock's] as hot as anybody and hopefully that will continue," Schrage said.

Contact Deirdre Krasula at dkrasula@nd.edu

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Irish jump out to early lead, cruise to 16-9 win over OSU

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

After several straight games of overcoming an early deficit, the Irish finally got the start they were looking for Wednesday, jumping out to a 9-1 halftime lead and beating Ohio State 16-9 at the Loftus Center.

A motivated Irish squad set the tempo from the beginning of the game, putting constant pressure on the Buckeyes both offensively and defensively. Moving effortlessly through the Ohio State defense, Notre Dame scored five quick goals in the first 12 minutes to take a commanding early lead.

Irish coach Tracy Coyne said she was impressed with the play in the first half.

"We really wanted to get out to a fast start, and showed a lot of intensity turning fast breaks and turnovers into goals," she said.

The Buckeyes finally got on the board with a Kristen Slahor goal midway through the first half, but the Irish countered with a 4-0 run to seize the 9-1 lead at the break.

Ohio State surged out of the half offensively, scoring four quick goals to cut the deficit to 9-5. That would be the closest the Buckeyes would come, however, as the Irish kept building their lead and countering Ohio State goals the rest of the game.

Notre Dame played one of its most complete games of

the year, with nine different players scoring points on the match. Sophomore Jane Stoeckert and senior Meghan Murphy led the way with four points each. Junior Caitlin McKinney and senior Lena Zentgraf also netted three goals apiece in the victory.

"It was a total team effort," Coyne said. "We do everything we can to improve every

game, so when the time comes we'll be a solid tournament team."

Slahor led the Buckeyes with three goals, and six different Ohio State players netted one goal on the game.

The Irish dominated possession offensively and defensively, out-shooting the Buckeyes 33-14.

The match — the first at

home for the Irish in almost a month — was moved from Moose Krause Stadium indoors to the Loftus Center earlier in the week due to weather concerns.

Next up for the Irish is a Big East matchup with Loyola in Baltimore. The Greyhounds have struggled this season and have a 1-5 record after losing to Princeton

Wednesday.

The match is the Big East opener for Loyola, while the Irish are 0-1 in Big East play after a loss to Syracuse Sunday.

The Irish improved to 6-2 on the season with the win, while Ohio State dropped to 3-2.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

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NCAAs

continued from page 28

Regional. Former Irish standout Alicja Kryczalo won the women's foil competition and then-sophomore Patrick Ghattas collected the men's sabre crown. Two weeks ago, two new Notre Dame fencers — freshman epeeist Kelley Hurley and sophomore foilist Adi Nott — captured titles in the regional competition at the Joyce Center.

"I know there's going to be a lot of different competitors," Nott said, comparing her expectations of this weekend's event to the Midwest Regional. "I want to fence better than I have [this year]."

Ghattas, now a senior and three-time All-American, will compete at the NCAAs after a third-place finish in the Regional March 10. Ghattas has finished second at Nationals two years in a row.

The competition begins today with round-robin competition on the men's side. Further men's rounds and direct elimination follow on Friday. The women start fencing on Saturday before finishing Sunday, when the NCAA awards one national championship for a team's combined men's and women's performances. Notre Dame finished fourth in 2006.

Irish senior Valerie Providenza will look to become the first Notre Dame women's sabreist ever to

earn All-American status four straight seasons. She won the individual crown as a freshman before finishing fourth in 2005 and ninth in 2006.

Providenza will be joined in her weapon by sophomore Ashley Serrette, who is making a homecoming of sorts. The sophomore native of Orange, N.J., earned a bid in the NCAAs with a sixth-place finish at the regional competition. (Ohio State had three fencers in the top five, but NCAA rules limit teams to two entries in each weapon per gender.)

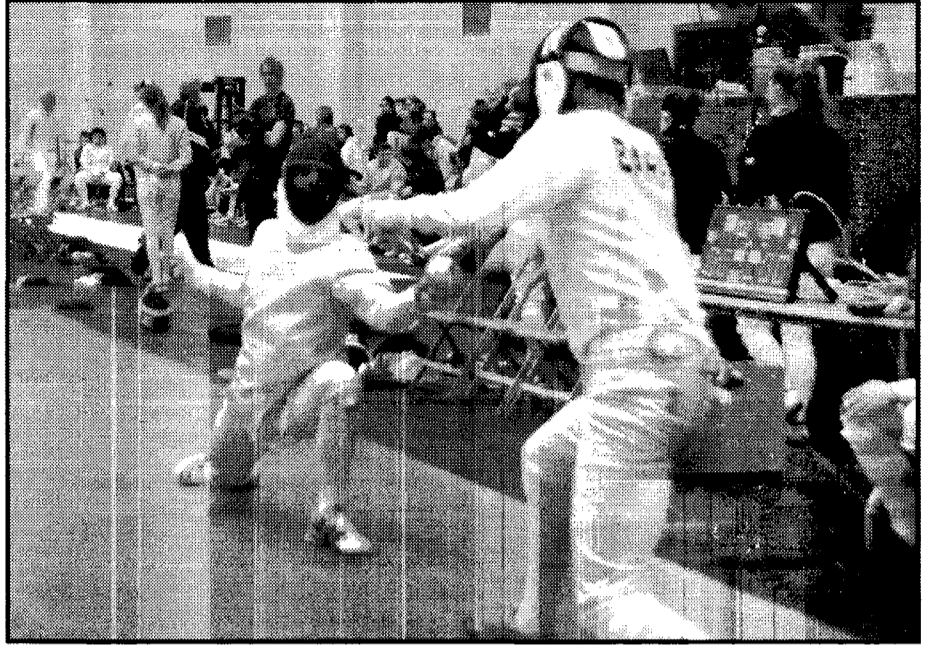
This weekend's competition will be the first NCAA Championship action for five of Notre Dame's 11 fencers. Serrette, Hurley, junior epeeist Greg Howard, sophomore foilist Emilie Prot and sophomore sabreist Bill Thanouser will be making their championship debuts.

Hurley, who has dropped only four bouts all season, represents Notre Dame's best chance at a victory from the first-timers.

Among the returning competitors, Nott finished sixth in the NCAAs as a freshman, while junior foilist Jakub Jedrkowiak placed seventh in 2005 and eighth in 2006. Last season, sophomore epeeist Karol Kostka and sophomore foilist Mark Kubik finished 18th and 21st, respectively.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

IRISH IN THE NCAA'S



WOMAN				MEN			
Kelly Hurley	FR	EPEE		Greg Howard	JR	EPEE	
Valerie Providenza	SR	SABRE		Karol Kostka	SO	EPEE	
Ashley Serrette	SO	SABRE		Patrick Ghattas	SR	SABRE	
Adi Nott	SO	FOIL		Bill Thanouser	SO	SABRE	
Emilie Prot	SO	FOIL		Jakub Jedrkowiak	JR	FOIL	
				Mark Kubik	SO	FOIL	

JARRED WAFER/Observer Graphic

Olivet

continued from page 28

won all six matches in straight sets.

Saint Mary's now boasts a 5-4 overall record, alongside its lone win in the MIAA in its first match. Olivet's setback now leaves it at 1-2 in the MIAA with an overall record of 4-3 on the season.

Prior to the match, senior Kelly McDavitt spoke about last week's play and its effect on the season.

"We all learned a lot from our match play experience," she said. "I think our team is ready for the season. We all have the potential to perform well on the courts. We have the mindset of being focused and working hard. Every ball with a purpose."

Starting the match from the No. 1 spot, McDavitt defeated Olivet senior Rachel Vilums 6-1, 6-0. From the No. 2 spot, freshman Camille Gebert overcame Comets sophomore Jaclyn Mummaw 6-2, 6-3.

In the third match of the day, Saint Mary's sophomore Mary Campbell beat Olivet junior Abbie Utberg in the first set 6-3, but then finished off the match with an overpowering 6-0 set. Belles freshman Lisa Rubino faced freshman Celeste Gruber from the fourth spot and won 6-1, 6-2 in a consistent performance.

Belles senior Tara O'Brien earned a victory for Saint Mary's in the fifth spot with her steady showing over Olivet senior Jaime Morrison. O'Brien conceded two games in the

first set, 6-2, but then blanked her opponent in the final set, putting the contest away.

In the final match of singles play, Saint Mary's junior Cassie Quaglia defeated Lindsey Struble, a fellow junior, 6-3, 6-3, finalizing the Belles' sweep over Olivet in singles play.

With the match already decided, Saint Mary's didn't let up. In the first match of doubles play, McDavitt and Gebert extended their doubles winning streak to six, defeating Olivet's pairing of senior Mallory Bailey and Vilums 8-5.

From the second spot in doubles play, the Belles continued winning, this time thanks to Campbell and Lisa Rubino, who earned an 8-5 victory over Olivet's Utberg and Mummaw.

In what was shaping out to be a clean sweep, the Belles slipped for the first and only time against the Comets doubles team of senior Corey Jager and Struble. O'Brien and Belles senior Grace Gordon weren't able to overcome an 8-4 performance from the Olivet duo.

Freshman standout Gebert spoke about the uneasiness prior to the match and team's potential.

"It was nice to get our first conference match out of the way. I think that everyone's nerves were racing, but we pulled through as a team," Gebert said. "There is something special about our team this year — I think that we have the potential to go very far. It will all depend on our heart."

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

Wisconsin

continued from page 28

day. It'll be [No. 4 seniors] Christian and Catrina Thompson, and after that we still don't know," Louderback said. "Katie Potts will step into the doubles ... but we don't know the combinations yet."

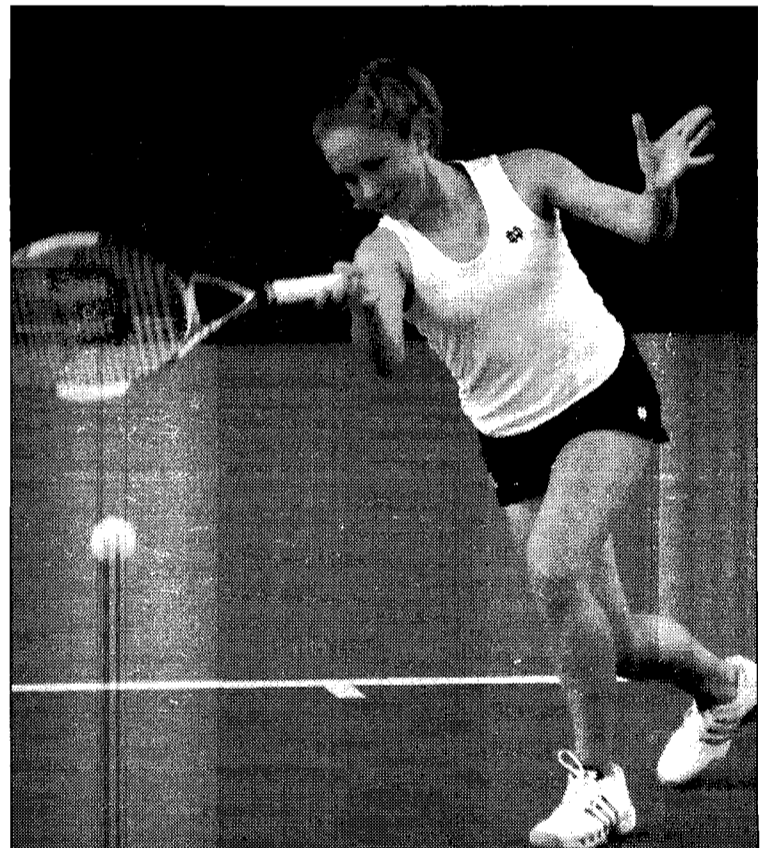
Louderback said Tefft, Potts and freshmen Cosmina Ciobanu and Kali Krisik would be in the doubles mix.

No. 19 Catrina Thompson will lead the Irish out of the No. 1 singles slot. She has a 13-3 dual-match record and has won her last four, including a 6-0, 6-3 win Saturday over No. 31 Blakeley Griffith of Tennessee.

Catrina Thompson will take the No. 2 slot and try to rebound after dropping all three of her matches last week.

The other nationally ranked singles player for Notre Dame is No. 62 Ciobanu, who has a perfect 16-0 dual match record out of the No. 5 slot. Ciobanu slid 31 spots from the last set of rankings, but Louderback said that is to be expected with the automated nature of the computer rankings.

"The problem is if you aren't playing No. 1 or No. 2,



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish freshman Cosmina Ciobanu takes a shot Feb. 16 against North Carolina at the Eck Tennis Pavillion.

you can drop fast because you don't get points for playing there," he said. "Now, they went to the computer two weeks earlier than normal, so the rankings, especially the team will be adjusting a lot each week. Florida

jumped ahead of us and we're tied with Stanford and I think the top four in the team rankings have really separated themselves."

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

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SUNDAY, MARCH 25 @ 1:05PM

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Beginning

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Quinn, two top receivers in Rhema McKnight and All-American Jeff Samardzija, three-year workhorse Darius Walker at running back and three offensive linemen, position battles for the top spot on the depth chart will shape the spring.

At signal-caller, the battle will feature three returning players — rising junior Evan Sharpley and rising sophomores Zach Frazer and Demetrius Jones. But the most intriguing storyline is the arrival of high school star Jimmy Clausen, one of three early-enrolling freshmen.

Weis said he hopes to cut the competition for the starting job down to two by the end of spring practice, with the top candidates vying for the job once summer camp starts in August. He said he would focus his attention “heavily — almost exclusively” on the quarterback battle as Corwin Brown installs the new 3-4 personnel defense.

“I’ve set this up where everyone will get their fair chance to show that they can run the team,” Weis said.

Frazer said his strengths are in leadership and size — he’s the biggest of the group at 6-foot-4 and 226 pounds.

“Each of us is very different, but I think my skills and my talents definitely bring something to the table,” Frazer said. “The competition’s going to get tough but I’m working towards trying to get one of those two spots.”

Jones said the competition is open both in terms of information and candidates.

“Coming into spring we all know the expectations on the field as well as off the field,” he said. “There’s not any hidden secrets about the responsibility we’re going to have to take on, there’s not any secrets period.”

But then there’s the question of to whom who the new quarterback will be throwing.

Weis said rising junior David Grimes, the No. 3 wideout last fall, would be the top receiver to start the spring. Grimes, a 6-foot, 174-pound speedster, underwent an undisclosed surgery after the Sugar Bowl in January.

“A couple days before spring break, when I said, ‘If I don’t see him go full-speed, he’s not going on spring break,’ he ran around great,” Weis said with a laugh. “So from what I saw right before spring break, I have very high expectations.”

Weis said he talked to Grimes about successful wideouts in the NFL whose heights were shorter than the prototypical receiver frame, including former New York Jet Wayne Chrebet and current New England Patriot Troy Brown.

“I’ve talked to him about a bunch of guys that I’ve coached in the past that have not been the biggest in stature that have been very, very, very productive and productive as in the lead roles,” Weis said.

But after Grimes, even more questions remain.

Behind Grimes are rising junior D.J. Hord, who is fully healthy after missing all of 2006 with a torn Achilles tendon, rising sophomore George West, who enrolled early a year ago, and classmates Richard Jackson and Robby Parris, the tallest receivers on the Irish roster at 6-

foot-3.

But all four are wet behind the ears. In fact, with Chase Anastasio deciding against applying for a fifth year, only two Irish wideouts, other than Grimes, have logged even a single catch in college. West caught two balls as a freshman, and Parris hauled in one. Hord returned seven kickoffs as a freshman but never saw the ball on offense.

In the backfield, early-enrollee Armando Allen will battle with rising sophomores James Aldridge and Munir Prince and multi-faceted fifth-year senior Travis Thomas.

Weis said Thomas, who played outside linebacker in 2006, likely would start at the beginning of the spring but could move back to defense. Thomas had 13 carries for 81 yards and two touchdowns on limited offensive action last season. Aldridge carried 37 times for 149 yards, while Prince had 34 yards on 15 attempts.

On the offensive line, Weis said rising sophomores Dan Wenger, Eric Olsen and Matt Carufel likely would battle for the two open spots at offensive guard, while rising sophomore Bartley Webb and rising juniors Mike Turkovich and Paul Duncan will fight for the open left tackle position.

On the other side of the ball, new defensive coordinator Corwin Brown will instill the 3-4 personnel — a scheme largely unfamiliar to the Irish.

“Defensively, although personnel comes into play, the changes are more schematic, and you’re going to put it in — in its due course — and you’re going to be very deliberate in how you put it in,” Weis said. “So everyone

POSITION SWITCHES TO START SPRING

NO.	PLAYER	OLD POSITION	NEW POSITION
52	JOE BROCKINGTON	OLB	ILB
26	TRAVIS THOMAS	OLB	RB
53	MORRIE RICHARDSON	DE	OLB
98	TREVOR LAWS	DT	DE
59	CHRIS STEWART	OG	NT
90	JOHN RYAN	DE	OLB

JARRED WAFER/Observer Graphic

knows what they are doing and you are building a system rather than just throwing a system at them.”

Despite the changes, Weis refuses to allow excuses to lower his team’s expectations for the upcoming season.

“All you do give a scapegoat and say, ‘You only have three guys coming back on offense, you only have a few more coming back on defense,’” Weis said. “I don’t think that’s what good teams do.”

To accommodate the switch to a 3-4 from a 4-3, some Irish personnel will be switching positions. Rising sophomore Chris Stewart will join the defensive line this season after spending his freshman campaign at left guard, but Weis left open the possibility that Stewart could return to the offense.

Weis said overall the switch in

defenses will benefit both the players he has now and any recruits looking to come to Notre Dame because the outside linebacker slots on the 3-4 accommodate players who are too small to be defensive lineman, but too slow to play linebacker in a 4-3 set.

“This gives you a lot more flexibility because now, both those guys, both the guys on the outside are capable of being either a defensive end or a linebacker on every play,” Weis said. “And this way the defense and the offense really never knows which one is which: Is this guy a linebacker in this play or is he a defensive end on this play? By natural view of that, it causes confusion.”

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu and Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu



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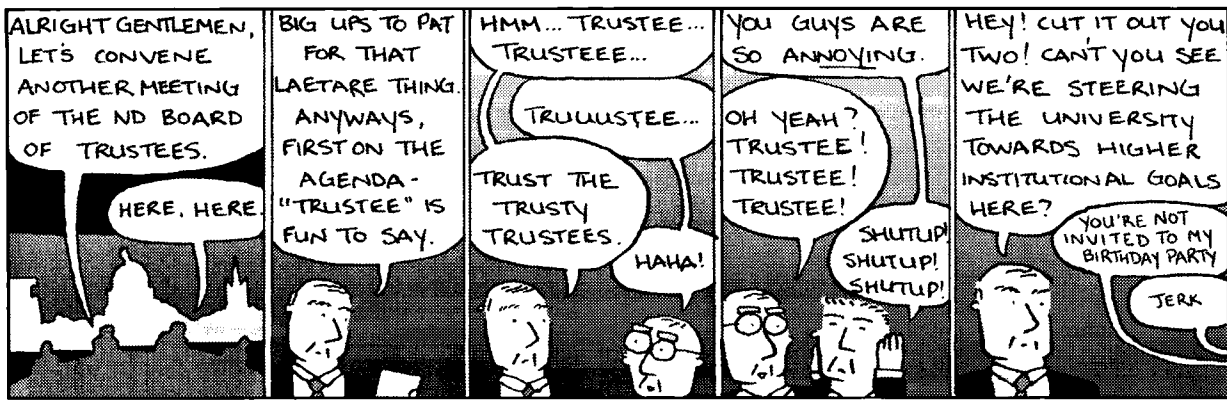
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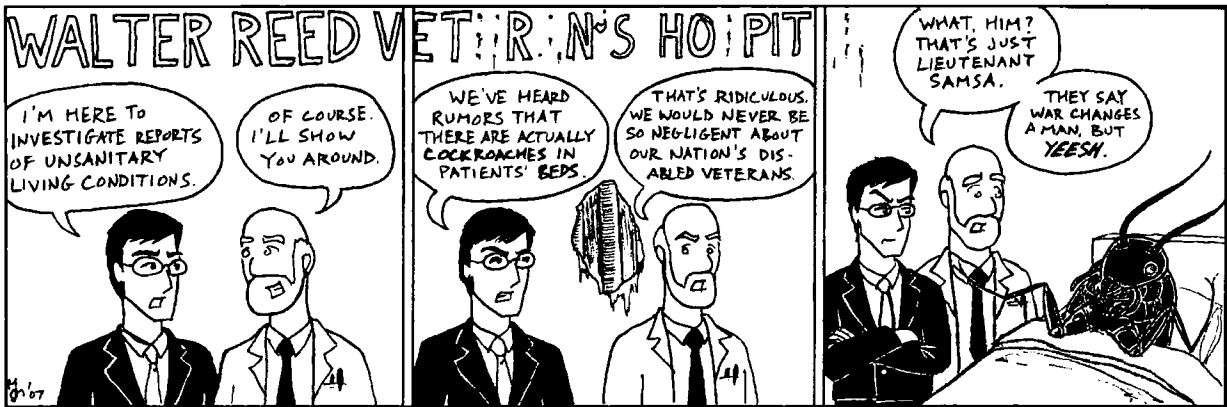
CROISSANTWORLD

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BLACK DOG

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KALEIDOSCOPE McDANIELS

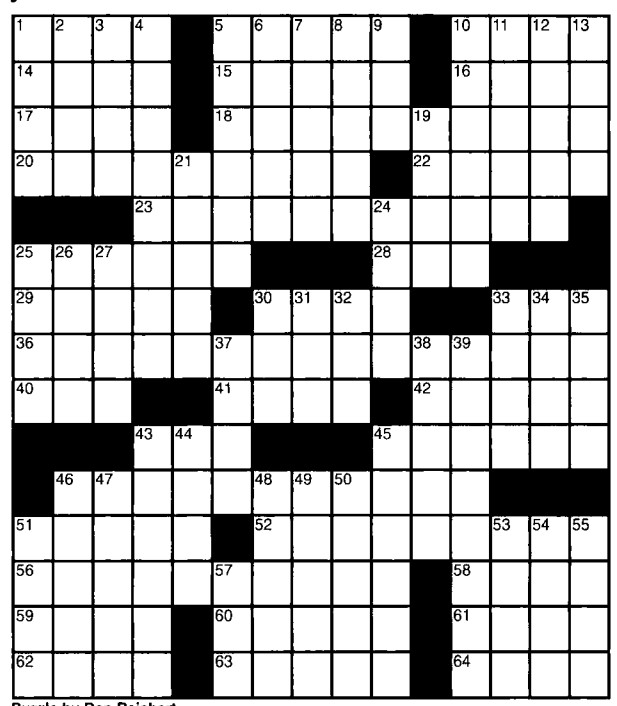
LIAM MORAN

The Observer apologizes for the absence of Kaleidoscope McDaniels.

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS: 1 Designer for Jackie, 5 When one might have a late lunch, 10 Damage assessment grp., 14 One-sixth of an inch, 15 Indian palace, 16 Long periods, 17 Yield, 18 Web listings for an old western?, 20 Remedy provider, 22 Ingredient in a lyonnaise dish, 23 Hockey gear for rams and ewes?, 25 Hot Wheels company, 28 Some are personal, 29 More remote, 30 Side in an annual all-star game, 33 ___ Building, onetime part of Rockefeller Center, 36 Cobblers' cause?, 40 Suffix with ballad, 41 Upbeat, 42 Beaut, 43 Exudation, maybe, 45 Bush White House dog, 46 Part ownership in a bar?, 51 Like some chemical bonds, 52 Expunged, 56 Comment on a woman from Copenhagen?, 58 "___ living", 59 Strip between stripes, 60 Loud rumble?, 61 Pilgrimage, 62 Added conditions, 63 Syrian leader, 64 Days of ___, DOWN: 1 Kind of column, 2 Teller of stories, 3 Unbleached: Fr., 4 Soprano, for one, 5 Dutch beer, 6 A lake or a Chevy, 7 "Movin' Out" Tony winner, 8 Ebbs, 9 Good cheer, 10 Deceptions, 11 "Sesame Street" regular, 12 Speedy sharks, 13 Part of 57-Down: Abbr., 19 Ton of bricks, e.g., 21 Sci-fi writer ___ S. Tepper, 24 The Green Hornet's valet, 25 Tiny critter, 26 Pain, 27 Stratum, 30 "___, me?", 31 The invaders in "The Invaders", 32 Farm enclosure, 33 Equine color, 34 R & B's Winans, 35 Pallid, 37 Rum drink, 38 Deal gently with, 39 Biology topic, 43 Looks, 44 Like most music in record stores nowadays, 45 Washed, 46 Actress Lindsay, 47 Seemingly forever, 48 Sea eagles, 49 Muddies, 50 Book after Daniel, 51 Spanish vacation site, 53 Not esto or eso, 54 PC operator, 55 Opinion, 57 Physicians' grp.



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JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE: Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. Includes a cartoon about a cactus plant and a word puzzle with circled letters.

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Matthew Broderick, 45; Rosie O'Donnell, 45; Gary Oldman, 49; Timothy Dalton, 61. Happy Birthday: It's time to take what you want and go after what you've lost. ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't let money matters cause you emotional worry. TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Love, romance and doing things that help others should all be built into your schedule today. GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You may have big ideas and want to make mega changes but instead, lay your plans out carefully. CANCER (June 21-July 22): You are thinking clearly but it's what you are thinking about that may be a little off course. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Have fun but keep in mind that someone around you is probably leaving you out of the wheeling and dealing. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You've got it happening today, especially if you network and put yourself in a position to make gains or learn something valuable. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A fabulous idea along with some good suggestions from interested parties will make your day. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't miss out on an opportunity to partner with someone or spend time with the one you love. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Make an effort to do something nice for someone you love. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make the changes at home that will raise your comfort level and help you feel more at ease with your overhead. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be careful not to let your emotions get the better of you. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You have vision regarding what will and what won't work. Birthday Baby: You are sensitive to the needs of others and discerning about who is or isn't legitimate.

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FENCING

ND travels to Jersey for NCAA meet

By **KEN FOWLER**
Sports Writer

Notre Dame may not be the favorite, but the Irish plan on rattling some sabres starting today as the four-day NCAA Fencing Championships kicks off at Drew University in Madison, N.J.

Columbia, Penn State and St. John's are the favorites, each qualifying the maximum 12 fencers for the event. But Ohio State and Notre Dame, two perennial powers who failed to qualify a full squad, have shown an ability to overcome a numbers disadvantage in the past.

Last season the Buckeyes qualified just nine fencers yet finished third with 155 points — only 10

behind champion Harvard. For the Irish, Notre Dame's 2005 championship marked the only time a squad ever captured the title without a full allotment of fencers.

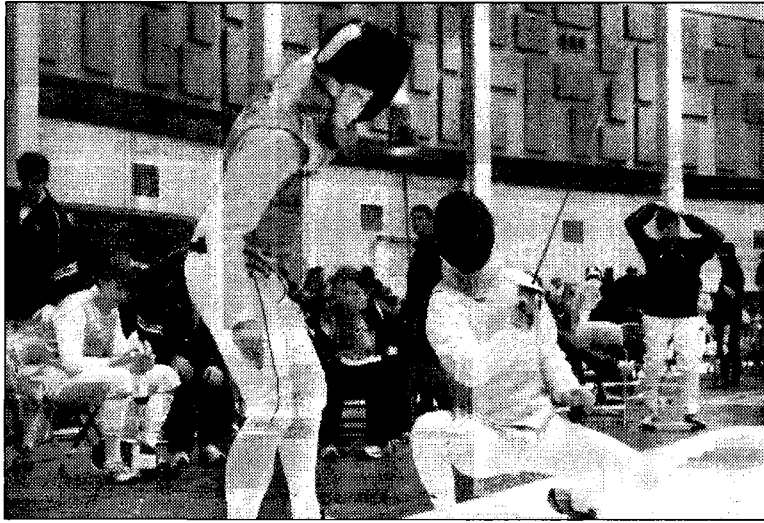
"I think we have a shot," Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said of his team's chances this weekend.

And he has empirical evidence on his side.

Like they did two seasons ago en route to a national championship, the Irish qualified 11 fencers for this year's NCAA Championships.

But the similarities don't stop there.

In 2005, Notre Dame captured two titles at the NCAA Midwest



Irish sophomore epee Alex Grigorenko, left, competes in the Midwest Conference Championships March 4 at the Joyce Center.

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

see NCAA5/page 25

SMC TENNIS

Belles win 8-1 to open MIAA year

By **LORENZO REYES**
Sports Writer

There was no doubt about this one.

Saint Mary's demolished conference opponent Olivet 8-1 Wednesday at Notre Dame's Eck Tennis Pavillion in the opening serve of the team's MIAA schedule.

The Belles looked comfortable in every aspect of the match, most notably in singles play, where they

see OLIVET/page 25

FOOTBALL

Spring beginnings

Weis says expectations still high as young squad starts practices

By **CHRIS HINE** and **KEN FOWLER**
Sports Writers

Tradition never graduates, but experience does.

A year after posting a banner that read, "9-3 is not good enough," Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis said Wednesday he picked a theme — "Tradition never graduates" — for spring practices that would eliminate any low expectations as the team replaces seven offensive and transitions to a new defensive scheme.

Weis' comments came at the team's news conference to usher

in the start of spring ball. Notre Dame held the first of its 15 spring practices Wednesday at the Loftus Center.

The Irish enter the spring needing to fill the top of the depth charts on an offensive unit that led Notre Dame to a 10-3 record and a Sugar Bowl appearance last season.

"Our identity on offense is going to be more personnel-related than it is schematically because we changed people," Weis said. "There's been a great influx of new people coming in, so now, for example, let's say your runner is a different type of runner than Darius [Walker]. Well, you know, that might change what you do offensively as far as the run game goes."

With the Irish losing four-year starting quarterback Brady

see BEGINNING/page 26

SPRING POSITION BATTLES

OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

Kevin Washington #42
6'1 240 Jr

Morrice Richardson #53
6'2 235 So

Anthony Vernaglia #54
6'3 233 Sr

John Ryan #90
6'5 244 So

RUNNING BACKS

Armando Allen #5
5'10 190 Fr

Munir Prince #25
5'10 184 So

Travis Thomas #26
6'0 218 Sr

James Aldridge #34
6'0 213 So

QUARTERBACKS

Demetrius Jones #3
6'4 210 So

Jimmy Clausen #7
6'3 207 Fr

Zach Frazer #12
6'3 226 So

Evan Sharpley #13
6'2 212 Jr

JARRED WAFER/Observer Graphic

BASEBALL

Irish crush Broncos at Eck

By **DEIRDRE KRASULA**
Sports Writer

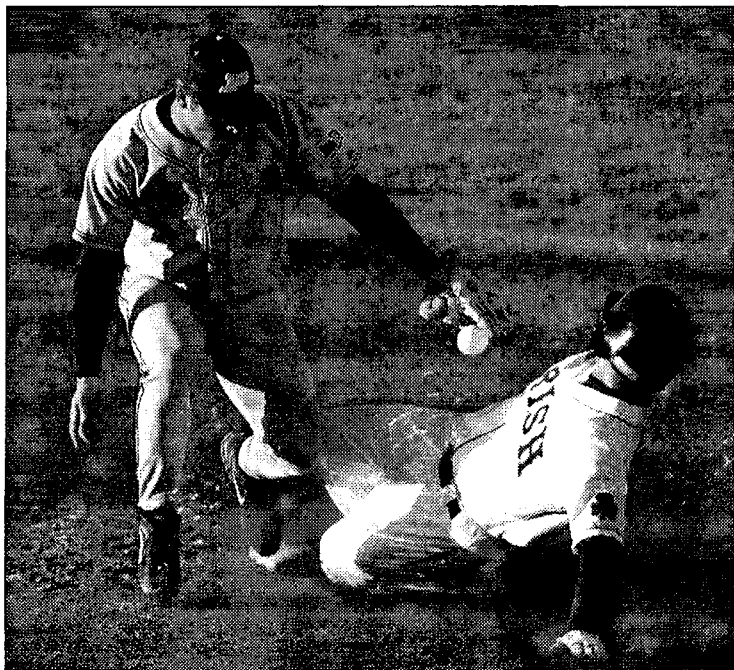
Notre Dame scored eight runs in the bottom of the fourth to jump ahead 13-3 and cruise to a 17-9 win over Western Michigan Wednesday at Eck Stadium.

The outburst was the third inning in which the Irish have driven in seven or more runs this season.

The win, with its season-high 17 runs, put Notre Dame just above .500 with an overall record of 10-9.

Freshman third baseman A.J. Pollock led the Irish offensively, going 5-for-6 from behind the plate. Notre Dame jumped out to an early 1-0 lead and never allowed the Broncos a chance to take the game.

"It was a great day to hit and everybody swung the bat well, so



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Irish sophomore Jeremy Barnes slides into second base against Purdue April 25, 2006 at Eck Stadium.

see BRONCOS/page 24

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

No. 3 squad to play Badgers in Madison

By **CHRIS HINE**
Sports Editor

Days after surviving its first road trip of the season without dropping a match, Notre Dame is on the road again to face Wisconsin today.

Last week, No. 3 Notre Dame (15-1) captured three matches away from home, including its first two outdoor matches against No. 15 Duke and No. 31 Tennessee.

The Irish will try to win their 12th straight against the unranked Badgers, who will likely be without their best player, No. 18 Caitlin Burke, who has been out nearly two months, Notre Dame coach Jay Louderback said.

"They've struggled this year," Louderback said. "If

their kids are back and healthy, it could be a good match. If their kids are out, they're struggling. They've had about eight days to rest and [Burke has] played doubles, but we just don't know who'll be in the lineup for them."

The Irish are suffering from injury problems of their own.

Louderback said junior Brook Buck will not play today due to an undisclosed injury. Her injury will affect the combinations Notre Dame sends out to play doubles. Buck, along with sophomore Kelcy Tefft, is currently ranked No. 15 in the ITA Tennis rankings with an 8-5 record.

"We were trying a couple different doubles teams yester-

see WISCONSIN/page 25