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Friends remember students' personalities

University to celebrate memorial Mass for Law School student Timothy Aher, sophomore Connor McGrath

By KAREN LANGLEY
News Editor

Friends on Monday remembered Timothy R. Aher, the second-year Notre Dame Law School student who died Sunday in a London suburb.

The University released Aher's name Monday morning, a day after both Aher and sophomore Connor McGrath died in separate and unrelated incidents.

Aher, who was enrolled in the Law School's London Law Programme, died at his residence in the town of Ilford. He lived there with another Law

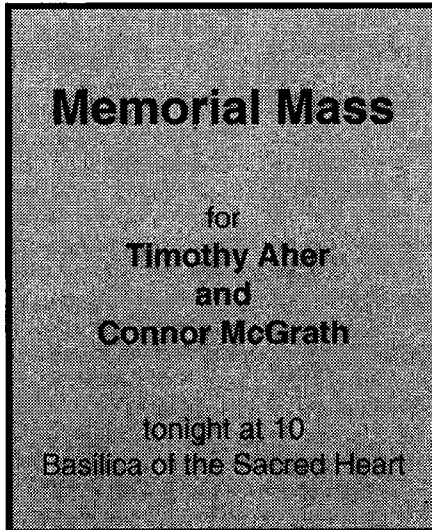
School student.

The University did not release information about the circumstances of Aher's death.

Aher, from Brookfield, Conn., had been in London since the beginning of the fall semester.

Second-year law students Artie Merschat and Adam Zayed, both close friends of Aher, said he had spoken about studying in London since the beginning of their first year at the Law School. The program is open to all law students who apply, and it

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By KAREN LANGLEY and
MARCELA BERRIOS
News Writers

Diabetes may have factored in Connor McGrath's death this weekend, police investigators said Monday.

An autopsy was scheduled for Monday afternoon, but The Observer was unable to contact other officials in the St. Joseph County coroner's office.

McGrath, a sophomore from Oklahoma City, died Sunday in Dillon Hall. He was 20 years old.

McGrath died in the residence hall, where he spent the night with friends. He was a resident

of Siegfried Hall this semester but had lived in Dillon during his freshman year and had attended the University of Central Oklahoma this past fall.

Friends discovered his body at approximately 1:40 p.m., University officials said Monday. A South Bend Fire Department ambulance responded at 1:53 p.m., a spokesperson from the fire department said.

Father Peter McCormick, the rector of Keough Hall and former assistant rector in Dillon, called McGrath a "very personable, very social young man."

"If you were to say one thing

see MCGRATH/page 4

Students debate faculty hiring policy

Senate holds town hall meeting; retention rate of Catholic professors on the decline

By CLAIRE REISING
News Writer

Three students debated conflicting opinions on the importance of hiring and retaining Catholic faculty at a town hall meeting convened by the Student Senate Monday.

Senior Brian Boyd and sophomore Kathleen Donahue argued in favor of increasing Catholic faculty, but senior Amy Meyers cautioned of the negative consequences of preferential hiring.

Student input has been lacking so far in the discussion about preferential hiring of Catholic faculty, said Carol Hendrickson, chair of the Student Senate Academic Affairs Committee.

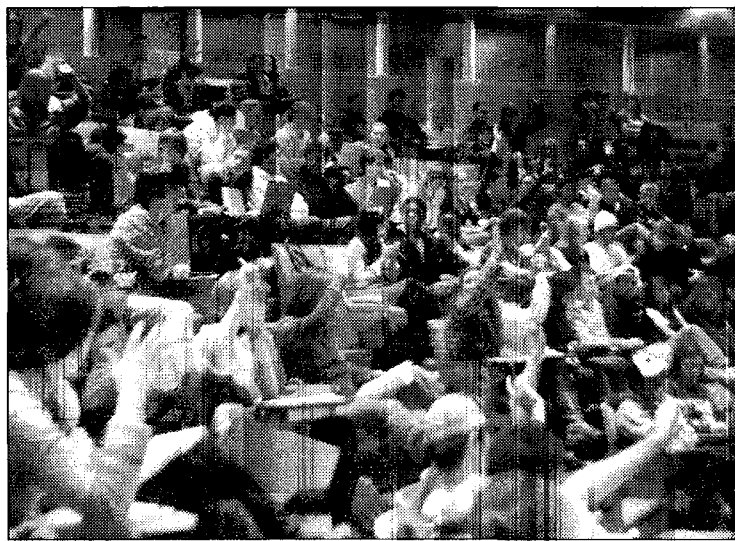
Boyd said about two-thirds of

retiring professors are Catholic. If current trends continue, he said, the University will lose its Catholic majority of faculty for the first time in its history.

He added that a lack of Catholic professors would quickly impact students' experiences and formation at Notre Dame. In addition to being effective teachers, Boyd said, professors should be "models of lived faith" and should present some disciplines, especially humanities, from a Catholic perspective.

"We have to have people who we genuinely look up to, not just as scholars, but as people who know how to integrate their academics with their faith life," Boyd said.

see FACULTY/page 4



ABIGAIL WILKINS/The Observer

Students ask questions at the Student Senate's town hall meeting examining the hiring of Catholic faculty Monday.

CCAC is finally underway

Group will hold its inaugural meeting

By JOSEPH McMAHON
Assistant News Editor

The Community Campus Advisory Coalition (CCAC), which was created more than five months ago as a forum for city and college representatives to discuss community relations, will meet for the first time Wednesday.

"While there's not an agenda at this moment, I'm anticipating that it's going to be more of a meet-and-greet for everyone that's involved so that we can establish our agenda for CCAC as a committee in the sense of what issues it is going to tackle," student body president Liz Brown said.

The coalition was originally formed in late September after South Bend Common Council members decided not to implement regulations requiring residents to pre-register large gatherings with the city.

The ordinance, which Council members said was in response to raucous student partying off campus, eventually passed with rules that could be enacted in the future — an option the Council could pursue if it chooses.

In the meantime, however, the ordinance also laid out a plan for the CCAC, designed to increase dialogue about problems between South Bend residents and students off campus.

see ORDINANCE/page 4

Emmy-winner Manheim speaks at College



MARTHA WALTER/The Observer

Actress and best-selling author Camryn Manheim speaks to students and faculty at Saint Mary's Monday.

By LIZ HARTER
Assistant News Editor

Emmy-winning actress and best-selling author Camryn Manheim urged an audience at Saint Mary's to stop living passively Monday night.

Her talk, entitled "Breaking the Rules: Don't Take 'No' for an Answer," brought together students, faculty and members of the South Bend community in the Little Theater on campus.

"You have to make [life] happen for you," said Manheim, who starred as Ellenor Frutt on the former ABC series "The Practice." "All my life, I had been waiting for my life to begin as though my life were way up in front of me, and I would eventually arrive at it."

Manheim said her life would have been much different had she not taken charge of it.

"There were things that I wanted that no one was ever going to hand to me," she said. "In fact, people actively tried to keep them from me."

Manheim has constantly faced pressure from the acting community because of her weight, she said. When she attended New York University for her master's of fine arts degree, she was told that she would have to lose weight or she would not be invited back for her final year at school.

"I took a form of diet pills — it was called Speed — and I lost about 80 pounds over the next year," Manheim said.

Even though she thought she should be helping others by joining service organizations like the Peace Corps, she said she could make a social contribution through the arts by being a role model for younger

see ACTRESS/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Of the things I've lost

There is an infamous bumper sticker that reads, "Of all the things I've lost, I miss my mind the most."

Well, in my case, that's not true. I miss my flash drive the most.

Laura Myers

Sports Wire Editor

Since I first came to Notre Dame this fall, I have lost many things. Some have been valuable, some trivial.

At first, I thought this was God's way of telling me to depend less on material possessions. If that were true, though, why would He cause me to lose my theology course reader? (Which, at \$86, set me back a few material possessions by itself — but that's the topic of a different column.)

What sin was I committing that caused me to lose my Downy Wrinkle Release Spray? I know I'm supposed to give to the poor, but an unintentional donation of my Social Security Card?

I soon discovered, via Blogspot quiz, that being a loser is just my personality. I didn't like how that sounded, though, so I elected not to put the result on MySpace. Instead, I moved on in the Blogspot circuit to discover that — of all the Starbucks drinks — I am a caramel Frappuccino.

My next guess was that losing things was my way of discovering how great other students really are. After losing my ID card (the first time), the girl who found it e-mailed me. When I lost my cell phone (the first time), the girl called my mom and responded to my roommate's text. When I lost my keys (only once, thankfully), I found them safely nestled in the corner of DeBartolo's lost and found shelf. I am eternally grateful to every person who has found something of mine and returned it to me.

Since then, I have become increasingly aware of others' possessions. I guess I have made it my personal mission to make sure that no other person has to spend an hour walking around Flanner and Grace Halls with a flashlight at 1 a.m. trying to find his or her cell phone. I hope that everyone reading this feels the same way, because, baby, it's cold outside.

So if you find an object that looks like something someone might need, please do what you can to help. If it's a cell phone, you can call and have a nice chat with some random parents. If it has a name on it, you can reach out and make a new Facebook friend. If nothing else, you can at least find the lost and found location of the building you're in and drop off the object for some lucky loser to find. Unless you find a 1GB Sandisk Cruiser flash drive; a fuzzy pink, brown, tan and white scarf; a pair of gray and white gym shorts; or my ID card. You can bring those to me.

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

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CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT NOTRE DAME 'INDUSTRY' SHOULD GO ON STRIKE?



Alex Riney

freshman Alumni

"The teaching industry at Notre Dame should go on strike."



Jonah Baustista

junior off campus

"Not the canned cheese industry."



Paul Leuck

sophomore O'Neill

"The recycling industry."



Laura Kirchner

junior Welsh Family

"Probably all of Notre Dame should go on strike."



Dorian Mirchandani

junior Keough

"The Question of the Day."



BRITT BURGESSON/The Observer

Among the residents of McGlinn Hall section 4A is a tropical fish named "Moaning Myrtle." Du Lac: A Guide to Student Life states that students may not keep pets — but non-carnivorous fish in aquariums of less than 30 gallons are allowed.

OFFBEAT

Cat flees fire, ends up 240 miles away

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — A cat that fled a house fire is back home in Albuquerque, N.M., after turning up some 240 miles away. The black and white cat named Miko disappeared in December, on the night of the fire.

About two weeks ago, Miko's owner got a call from an animal shelter in Pueblo, Colo., saying her cat was safe.

Officials at the shelter speculate that the cat, trying to keep warm, hopped a tractor-trailer and rode

to Colorado.

When they found her, her collar was missing. But shelter officials scanned the microchip in her neck and came up with her owner's name.

No sweets for New York City's jailed population

NEW YORK — Spending time behind bars in New York City might turn out to be good for your health.

The overhauled menu at the city's jails includes no sweets, no butter and only skim milk. The Department of Corrections wants healthy alternatives

to traditional jailhouse grub.

A breakfast might include fresh fruit, whole wheat bread and wheat flakes. A sample dinner: pepper steak, rice and steamed carrots.

"These people are in our custody, and they don't get to make their own choices," said Department of Correction Commissioner Martin Horn. "We have a moral obligation to make sound choices for them."

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Television writer Jeffrey Stepakoff will deliver a lecture entitled "The Rise of the Writer in Hollywood" today at 7 p.m. in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Free tickets are available by calling the DPAC Ticket Office.

As part of the fireside chat series "Telling HERstory," theology professor Catherine Hilkert will speak Wednesday at noon in the Coleman-Morse Center lounge.

The men's basketball team will play against No. 22 Pittsburgh Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

As part of the Ten Years Hence lecture series, professor Karen Hunt Ahmed from the department of finance at DePaul University will speak at 10:40 a.m. Friday in the Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business.

There will be Stations of the Cross Friday at 7:15 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Stations will be held each Friday during Lent.

The 50th Annual Collegiate Jazz Festival will begin Friday at 7 p.m. with a concert featuring at least four different bands. The festival will conclude Saturday with an afternoon concert at 1 p.m. and an evening concert at 7 p.m. All events will be in Washington Hall.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 18 LOW 12	HIGH 12 LOW 8	HIGH 20 LOW 12	HIGH 25 LOW 20	HIGH 40 LOW 23	HIGH 37 LOW 21

Atlanta 54 / 34 Boston 41 / 30 Chicago 17 / 4 Denver 53 / 26 Houston 70 / 40 Los Angeles 62 / 51 Minneapolis 9 / 6 New York 40 / 33 Philadelphia 43 / 31 Phoenix 73 / 50 Seattle 50 / 38 St. Louis 34 / 13 Tampa 70 / 54 Washington 43 / 35

Rentals removed from Huddle Mart

By KATE McCLELLAND
News Writer

The Huddle Mart returned the DVDs formerly available for rent to the student government over winter break, Huddle general manager Jim LaBella said, a move that has surprised students attempting to rent movies.

"I actually noticed about a week and half ago when my friends and I tried to rent a movie and we were told that they were no longer available," sophomore Matt Hire said.

Sophomore Gail Cech had a similar experience.

"I realized that the DVDs were gone a couple of weeks ago when the new stands of Valentine's Day candy were set up in their place," Cech said.

Student body president-elect Bob Reish took note of the missing DVDs and decided to make free DVD rentals through student government a part of his platform.

"I saw offering free DVDs as an awesome opportunity to do something great for the student body, as well as providing a way to get students to the second floor of LaFortune by renting them from the student government office," Reish said.

He said he hopes to have the free DVD rental system up and running at the beginning of next school year.

The student government, Reish said, owns the DVDs because 2004-05 student body president Adam Istvan wanted DVD rentals in the

Huddle. The DVDs became available in 2004.

LaBella said the DVDs were no longer a profitable venture for the Huddle.

"We ended up taking them out because interest has gone down since new cable television options became available in the dorms and students began using Netflix," he said.

The decline in rentals was steep — before other rental options became prevalent among students, the Huddle rented about 200 DVDs a week, but by the end of the fall semester rentals were down to only 10 to 20 per week.

"The DVDs weren't worthwhile compared to the space we were dedicating to them," LaBella said. "Since we have such limited space, every last bit of square footage is important."

Now that the space has been made available, the Huddle plans to institute some big changes.

"We are interested in replacing the DVD section with a selection of health foods," LaBella said. "I have been talking to a distributor, and we will begin experimenting with the sale of different products."

"We especially want to include gluten-free products, because the availability of gluten-free items has become a major concern for some students on campus. If the health foods don't work out, we will try something else."

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Profs discuss Baptists, Catholics

Christian 'Exchange' compares Catholicism and Protestantism

By KATIE PERALTA
News Writer

A Baptist and a Catholic came together Monday night to talk about the differences between their two faiths — and far from a dispute, their meeting resulted in an intellectual discussion that hoped to encourage further conversations between the denominations.

Lawrence Cunningham, a Catholic in the theology department, argued that the theological gap between Catholics and Evangelical Protestants has narrowed since the Second Vatican Council, from 1962-65.

Cunningham's comments came in a discussion with Mark Noll, a Baptist in the history department, as part of the Catholic-Protestant Exchange.

Noll agreed that the two faiths are not so different — because believers are similarly called to do the work of God.

"[And] all who trust in God are praying for salvation," Noll said, reminding the audience of the similar goal both Protestants and Catholics have.

Cunningham began the event by discussing the term "Protestant" and current misunderstandings about the denomination.

"Protestant is a very vague term," he said. "There are 22 different types of Baptists in this country alone."

Cunningham then said one of the main differences he sees between the two faiths is that Protestantism is highly "congregationalized," placing a great deal of importance on the local church community. This stands in contrast, he said, to the highly institutionalized Catholic Church, which places the most authority on the papacy in Rome.

Noll expanded on Cunningham's notion of the Catholic institution.

"In the Roman Catholic Church, the Church makes the Christians. For Protestants, Christians make the Church," Noll said.

Cunningham described Protestantism as more of "a priesthood of believers," whereas Catholicism is structured in a more hierarchical way.

But ever since the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s — which helped to educate non-Catholics about Catholicism — understandings have changed.

"Protestants were able to learn from Catholics about leadership," he said.

Nonetheless, Cunningham and Noll said they didn't think having different

Christian denominations is a bad thing.

Cunningham said he wouldn't recommend having one big "super-church." Denominationalism, he said, exists because people have individual needs and preferences when it comes to picking out a religion.

"In the Catholic Church, however, expression of faith is in the devotional," Cunningham said.

The event also explored other tensions between the faiths, including over role of Mary.

Brett Perkins, director of student resources at Campus Ministry, described the event as a follow-up to the Protestant-Catholic prayer service that Campus Ministry held at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Jan. 23.

Senior Everett Chu, president of Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM), began the event with a prayer.

Timothy Matovina, the theology professor who moderated the discussion, closed the event with a prayer advocating understanding and unity between all faiths.

Campus Ministry and BCM co-sponsored the event.

Contact Katie Peralta at
kperalta@nd.edu

Looking for solid business and accounting experience to put on your resume?

The Observer is accepting applications for a 2008-09 Business Manager and Controller. Responsibilities include preparing a yearly budget and handling payroll for a 200-person staff.

Since the Controller will take over as the 2009-10 Business Manager, Controller applicants should be sophomores, or juniors staying for a fifth year.

Both positions are salaried, about six to 10 hours a week.

Please contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu or

Kyle West at kwest1@nd.edu if interested.

Ordinance

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Brown, who represented the student body during discussion of the ordinance last summer and fall, said the meeting would be a good opportunity for people on both sides to voice their concerns.

"The first and foremost goal is to establish a body for continued communication between the community and the area universities," Brown said. "From there, the secondary goals would be for us to have a candid discussion about the issues that are affecting us the most. I know those aren't very tangible goals, but at this point, my goals are just to bring everyone to the table to see where

we can go."

The first meeting of the CCAC, which will take place at 3 p.m. at the South Bend County-City Building, was planned two weeks ago.

"This was a long time coming, so I'm finally glad that it's coming to fruition," Brown said.

Although she was an integral part in lobbying for the group, Brown said her most important goal for the meeting was introducing incoming student body president Bob Reish to the Common Council.

"Reish is going to be coming to the meeting with me on Wednesday and he will be able to take over the job and continue with the relationships that we've established over the last seven or eight months," Brown said. "I'm happy that it's meeting, if

nothing else just so that I can give Bob some pointers before I leave office."

Reish said he was looking forward to the meeting, but would attend simply as an observer.

"Basically, I'm going to be there tomorrow in an observing role to help ease the transition between this year and next year," Reish said. "I'm just going to be taking more of a second role to see how this meeting can help for future meetings next year."

Council member Al "Buddy" Kirsits, one of the sponsors of the original ordinance, did not return phone calls Monday. Council president Tim Rouse said Monday that he did not wish to comment.

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McGrath

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about Connor, it would have to be that he loved people," said McCormick, who lived next door to McGrath during his freshman year.

He said most of Dillon's sophomore residents knew McGrath because he was easygoing and willing to strike up a conversation with anyone.

McCormick said that when he first met McGrath, during the student's freshman year, McGrath was like other freshmen going through a coming-of-age period.

"He was in the process of trying to find out what it means to be an adult in this world, amidst successes and failures," McCormick said.

That included learning to deal with his diabetes, McCormick said.

McGrath last visited McCormick in Keough at the beginning of the spring semester to "chat and catch up and see how things were going."

Several Dillon residents declined to comment Monday. McGrath's closest friends from Dillon had left for Chicago to mourn his death in privacy.

McGrath moved into Siegfried in January but spent many nights at Dillon, Siegfried Hall rector Father John Conley said. As a result, Conley said, he and many Siegfried residents didn't have many opportunities to get to know McGrath in the five weeks he spent in the hall.

But that didn't stop students in Siegfried from placing a basket of cards in the lobby, encouraging residents to write words of encouragement for McGrath's family.

"It's like I told the guys at Mass [Sunday]: 'He was a Siegfried guy. It doesn't matter if you lived in this dorm four days or four weeks

or four years. This was his home,'" Conley said.

University officials said Monday they believed McGrath was the first student to die on campus since Feb. 8, 1998, when Justin Brumbaugh, a senior from Bolingbrook, Ill., died after suffering from a heart disease.

McGrath intended to major in business at Notre Dame.

A memorial Mass for McGrath and Timothy Aher, a second-year law student who died in an unrelated incident Sunday, will be celebrated Tuesday at 10 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

University President Father John Jenkins will preside over the Mass. Father Mark Poorman, University vice president for student affairs, will deliver the homily, and McCormick will offer words of remembrance for McGrath.

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu and Karen Langley at klangle1@nd.edu

Faculty

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While Boyd deemed Catholic professors necessary for students' moral formation, Meyers said she fears preferential hiring could have "unintended consequences."

Meyers argued that University President Father John Jenkins' goal of maintaining Notre Dame's Catholic identity might conflict with his other goals of being an "excellent undergraduate university" and an "outstanding research institute."

"My fear is that this particular initiative will actually undermine our status both as a research institute and an undergraduate university," she said.

She said that hiring a Catholic-majority faculty may be difficult because only about six percent of faculty from the nation's leading universities are Catholic. In today's globalized world, she said, universities may draw professors from regions with traditionally low Catholic populations, such as Asia and the Middle East.

"By actively privileging people who are Catholic, you risk being labeled as unfriendly or unwelcome to people from these rich applicant pools," she said. "I think that label would be very un-Catholic, and it wouldn't show our values of inclusion and respect of diversity at Notre Dame."

Additionally, faculty who list themselves as Catholic may not practice their faith, she said.

Donahue, however, said that a Catholic-majority faculty would enhance — not inhibit — students'

academic experiences, educating "not only the minds, but the hearts of students." She asserted that the faculty is more important for the University's identity than the campus's religious symbols.

"Even if you tore down Touchdown Jesus tomorrow, our Catholic identity would still remain," she said. "Because this is an institute of higher education, we must look first and foremost to the classroom, and by extension, to the faculty."

The faculty can shape the University's Catholic character, Donahue said, by influencing the curriculum, giving academic lectures and advising students.

She cited the removal of the CORE program as an example of a loss of courses with a Catholic tradition.

"The secularization of religious universities in the past, whether they are Catholic, Baptist or Lutheran, has all begun with the faculty losing interest in the religious identity of their institution," Donahue said. "This is precisely the current case at Notre Dame."

Students showed mixed opinions about the issue, both through answers to Hendrickson's questions and responses to straw polls. Although most students supported the maintenance of Notre Dame's Catholic identity, they disagreed on whether the preferential hiring of Catholic faculty was necessary to achieve this goal.

Freshman Soeren Palumbo said Notre Dame's Catholic history and tradition are too strong for the composition of the faculty to have a large impact.

"I don't think a university like Notre Dame is ever going to lose

that Catholic character that is so engrained in the school," he said.

When Hendrickson asked how having Catholic faculty would impact both their academics and faith, the audience gave a variety of responses. Several science students said their professor's religion does not matter, and some students said they could not even identify their professors' religion. Others, however, emphasized the importance of integrating different components of one's life, such as faith and academics.

"I think we fall into a very grave error when we try to compartmentalize our lives and ourselves so much. Our academic life and our faith life have a lot to do with each other," senior Mary Elizabeth Walter said. "Your faith life should influence, in some way, the way you perceive your thought and your academics."

Donahue added that one's years at Notre Dame are important preparation for building a faith foundation for life after college.

Hendrickson said the Senate will summarize the meeting's result into a report and send it to the Faculty Senate and administrators. She added that the faculty are interested in students' opinions and that a polarized student opinion may have influence.

"The kind of questions we asked about the impact in the classroom really are something that [the administration] wouldn't be able to measure unless they asked us, versus the professors," Hendrickson said. "So I think those responses will be important."

Contact Claire Reising at creisin2@nd.edu

Aher

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usually includes between 20 and 30 students, they said.

Students and faculty in London said a rosary for Aher Monday night, and a memorial Mass will be celebrated there Thursday.

Aher, 25, was a music lover with eccentric interests and a warm personality, his friends said.

"He was a beautiful and rare and amazing person," Zayed said.

A memorial Mass was celebrated Monday afternoon in the Alumni Hall chapel. Father John Coughlin, a law professor,

presided. Approximately 100 people, mostly students and faculty from the Law School, attended the Mass.

"People from all walks and cliques in the Law School were there today," Merschat said. "He brought the Law School together."

Aher had planned to work for Legal Aid, assisting low-income residents, after receiving his degree, Merschat said. Aher spent the summer after his first year working for the Legal Aid clinic in Waterbury, Conn.

During the winter break of his first year, Merschat said, Aher worked in Brooklyn helping AIDS patients remain in their apartments.

"He was never interested in the corporate stuff," Merschat said.

Aher received his Bachelor's degree in linguistics from the University of Chicago, where he concen-

trated in Russian, Zayed and Merschat said.

Aher had a broad appreciation of music, film and literature from various cultures, Merschat said.

"Tim was pretty much into anything that was obscure," he said. "He was hyper-intellectual."

One time when Aher was in Chicago, he was preparing to play in a show with a death metal band, Merschat said, when the other band members told Aher he "wasn't metal enough."

So, he went to the closest Wal-Mart and bought a black felt patch with a red, five-pointed star and attached it to a black, hooded sweat-shirt.

"He wore that every day the first year of law school," Merschat said. "He referred to it as his hipster subjugation of death metal culture."

Aher enjoyed studying at Lula's Café on Edison Road, his friends said, adding that he was one of only a

few vegetarians in the Law School.

"We were looking forward to seeing Tim next year and spending '3L' with him," Zayed said. "He was well-liked among everyone."

A group of law students will drive to Connecticut to attend the funeral service to be held Saturday, Merschat said.

A memorial Mass for Aher and McGrath will take place Tuesday at 10 p.m. at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

Father Coughlin, of the Law School, will offer words of remembrance for Aher.

Contact Karen Langley at klangle1@nd.edu

Actress

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girls.

After completing graduate school, Manheim used her knowledge of sign language to pay the bills working as an interpreter when she struggled to find parts.

"There wasn't just a place for me," Manheim said. "I was tired of being invisible. I was tired of being passed over. I was tired of being told to change who I was to be successful."

Manheim caught the eye of casting directors when she wrote, directed and starred in a one-woman play called "Wake up: I'm Fat!" That role led her to the office of David E. Kelley, the creator of shows like "Ally McBeal," "Chicago Hope," "Boston Public," and, most important for Manheim, "The Practice."

"I was told they were looking for a streetwise and sassy woman for the role of Ellenor Frutt," she said.

After meeting with Kelley, she got the script and the description of the character Ellenor had changed.

"It no longer said streetwise and sassy," she said. "It now said big, bossy woman walks in and takes over the room."

Manheim said that after getting the role of Ellenor she fought against the stereotypes of being a big woman

on television. She related a story of her first day on set where she was handed a coffee and a donut to introduce her character. "I freaked," she said.

She couldn't imagine being a role model for bigger women while the series promulgated the stereotype that a bigger woman wouldn't be able to go about her morning without eating a donut.

"I turned to [co-star] Dylan [McDermott] and said, suppose I am your right-hand woman, don't you think I'd be holding your files, your donut and your coffee," Manheim said. "So if you ever get a chance to look back at that episode of 'The Practice' you'll see me stuffing a donut into his mouth as we discuss a case walking up the steps. They're small battles but big rewards."

Manheim said she has learned during her life not to take 'no' for an answer.

"Somewhere it dawned on me that people were putting limitations on me, maybe because they were putting so many on themselves. I'm a fighter, a passionate and creative artist, a force of nature," she said. "When I decided I had something to say, I declared it, loud and clear and people took notice and the tables turned."

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

More militant bombings in Afghanistan

ANDAHAR, Afghanistan — A suicide car bomber killed 38 Afghans at a crowded market Monday, pushing the death toll from two days of militant bombings to about 140.

The marketplace blast, which targeted a Canadian army convoy, came a day after the country's deadliest insurgent attack since a U.S. invasion defeated the Taliban regime in late 2001. The toll from that bombing in a crowd watching a dog fight rose to more than 100.

The back-to-back blasts in the southern province of Kandahar could be a sign insurgents are now willing to risk high civilian casualties while attacking security forces. Though their attacks occasionally have killed dozens, militants in Afghanistan have generally sought to avoid targeting civilians, unlike insurgents in Iraq's war.

Paris police detain 35 in raids

LILJERS-LE-BEL, France — More than 1,000 police officers swooped in on housing projects outside of Paris Monday, detaining 35 people in pre-dawn raids meant to flush out those who took part in violent riots late last year, officials said.

The raids were denounced by critics as governmental theater to boost support before next month's municipal elections.

President Nicolas Sarkozy recently vowed to better police the neglected neighborhoods, populated largely by families of immigrant background, that previously exploded in nationwide riots in 2005.

NATIONAL NEWS

Texas oil refinery explosion injures 4

BIG SPRING, Texas — A thunderous explosion rocked an oil refinery Monday, injuring four workers and shaking buildings miles away.

One employee was hospitalized for burns, while the others were treated and released, said Blake Lewis, a spokesman for refinery owner Alon USA.

All workers were accounted for about an hour after the explosion, he said. The refinery employs about 170 people.

Fires caused by the blast were under control but still burning in the afternoon, Lewis said. The Dallas-based company was waiting for access to the site to investigate the cause of the explosion.

The blast sent black smoke billowing into the sky, and forced the closure of schools and an interstate.

Space shuttle Atlantis coming home

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Atlantis and its seven-man crew were homeward bound after leaving the international space station and checking the thermal casing of their ship Monday for the fiery ride back to Earth.

The space shuttle is due back Wednesday. Good weather is expected at Cape Canaveral, but if that changes, NASA will guide Atlantis to the backup touchdown site in California to give the military time enough time to shoot down a damaged spy satellite without endangering the shuttle.

With pilot Alan Poindexter at the controls, Atlantis undocked from the space station after nine days of linked flight. The shuttle circled the orbiting complex with its newest science lab, allowing both crews to take pictures, before vanishing into the blackness of space.

LOCAL NEWS

Planned Parenthood methods criticized

MISHAWAKA, Ind. — A free giveaway of emergency contraception doses at Planned Parenthood health centers in Indiana cities with large college populations has angered an anti-abortion group, whose leader calls it "irresponsible."

The giveaways are timed to remind young adults of the importance of responsible sexual behavior as spring break nears for many colleges and universities, said Steve Carr, a spokesman for Planned Parenthood of Indiana.

He stressed that emergency contraception should not be relied on as a main source of birth control, just for emergency situations to prevent an unintended pregnancy.

BELGIUM

U.S., EU powers recognize Kosovo

Russia, China contest newly declared independence; Serbia rules out military response

Associated Press

BRUSSELS — The U.S. and the European Union's biggest powers quickly recognized Kosovo as an independent nation Monday, widening a split with Russia, China and some EU members strongly opposed to letting the territory break away from Serbia.

The rift was on view for a second day at the U.N. Security Council, which was holding an emergency session to discuss the declaration of independence issued Sunday by Kosovo's ethnic Albanian majority.

Ethnic Serbs rallying in northern Kosovo angrily denounced the United States and urged Russia to help Serbia hold on to the territory that Serbs consider the birthplace of their civilization. Protesters also marched in Serbia's capital, and that nation recalled its ambassador to the U.S. to protest American recognition for an independent Kosovo.

Despite clamoring of Serbs to retake Kosovo, Serbia's government has ruled out a military response.

But the dispute is likely to worsen already strained relations between the West and Russia, which is a traditional ally of Serbia and seeks to restore its influence in former Soviet bloc states. The Kremlin could become less likely to help in international efforts important to the U.S. and its allies, such as pressuring Iran to rein in its nuclear program.

Still, for Washington the declaration of independence by Kosovo vindicated years of dogged effort to help a land achieve its dream of self-determination after years of ethnic conflict and repression by Serbia.

Speaking in Tanzania, President Bush declared: "The Kosovars are now independent" — and



Kosovars in Pristina, Kosovo celebrate international recognition as an independent nation by major European Union powers and the U.S. Monday.

Washington formally recognized Kosovo as an independent country soon afterward. Germany, Britain and France also gave their heavyweight backing, saying they planned to issue formal recognitions.

But Russia's key ally, and emerging global power China remained adamantly opposed to Kosovo's independence, warning of the danger of inspiring separatist movements around the world, including in their own sprawling territories.

As veto-wielding Security Council members, Russia and China both have the power to block any attempt by Kosovo to gain a seat on the international body.

Serbia vowed to fight to

the end against any U.N. recognition.

"The so-called Kosovo state will never be a member of the United Nations. Serbia will use all diplomatic means at its disposal to block Kosovo's recognition," said Serbian Foreign Minister Vuk Jeremic.

The Kremlin was already working diplomatic levers to help Serbia achieve that aim.

Alexander Botsan-Kharchenko, Russia's special envoy to the Balkans, was quoted by the Interfax news agency as saying Moscow expected U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to abide by a Security Council resolution that recognized Kosovo as part of Serbia.

Ban opened Monday's Security Council session by citing the many peaceful celebrations that accompanied Kosovo's declaration but also noting scattered violence.

He said the United Nations had achieved "peace consolidation and the establishment of functional self-government" in Kosovo, including five successful elections. "Kosovo has made considerable progress through the years," he said.

Serbian President Boris Tadic, who attended the U.N. meeting, urged the council to oppose Kosovo's move. "This act annuls international law, tramples upon justice and enthrones injustice," he said.

Illinois gun legislation not yet in effect

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Illinois lawmakers moved swiftly after last year's massacre at Virginia Tech to make it harder for anyone with a history of mental illness to buy guns, fortifying what were already some of the nation's toughest weapons laws.

But the new measure does not take effect until June. And whether it would have prevented last week's bloodbath at Northern Illinois University is far from clear.

Steven Kazmierczak, the 27-year-old grad student who bought an arsenal of guns in recent months and used them to kill five people and commit suicide, had been on medica-

tion and was said to have spent time in a psychiatric center as a teen in the late 1990s.

But state Sen. Dan Kotowski, a sponsor of the law that will require more detailed reporting to state officials about those who have received mental health treatment, said the sketchy information about Kazmierczak's medical history makes it impossible to know if he would have fallen under the law.

"This law is more comprehensive than most," the Democrat said Monday. "But everything needs to be evaluated and reviewed to address the problem so that something like this never happens again. This is the promise we have to make."

The measure, when it takes effect, will require health professionals to inform state authorities about patients who display violent, suicidal or threatening behavior. Right now, such information is reported to state officials only on people who have been institutionalized, not on those who receive only outpatient treatment.

Illinois adopted the law last June, and the governor signed it in August.

Virginia lawmakers, meanwhile, still are considering a package of bills to reform that state's mental health system in the wake of the Virginia Tech tragedy, including one that would make it easier to have people involuntarily committed.

Recovery starts in 'Bama

Homeowners, crews clear away wreckage after winter tornado

Associated Press

PRATTVILLE, Ala. — Homeowners, utility crews and others worked Monday to clear away wreckage and restore services after the latest round of winter tornadoes to smash through the South.

Alabama Gov. Bob Riley toured part of Prattville and said he was impressed by the community's response to the twister that struck the town.

"One of the great things about living in Alabama — and I say this after every major emergency we have — it truly is amazing to see what's happening out there with all the families in this state," Riley said.

At least 50 people were injured, and about 200 homes and 40 businesses were damaged in the Prattville area, according to the National Weather Service. No deaths were reported. Two people who were critically injured were upgraded to serious on Monday, said Todd Stacy, a spokesman for the governor.

At least 11,000 homes and businesses in Prattville lacked power after the storm.

The tornado was part of a system that swept across the Southeast on Sunday, damaging homes elsewhere in Alabama and in parts of Georgia and the Florida Panhandle.

The violent weather continued into early Monday, when a tornado ripped apart a house in Hookerton, N.C., slightly injuring three people.

"It sounded like a train came through my window," said Shannon Edwards, 19, who was trapped under debris for about an hour at her family's home. "My whole bed just flipped up. I didn't know where I was going to end up. I didn't know what was going on."

Scattered damage to buildings and trees was reported



Jamey Durham cleans up the remains of his daughter's room Monday after a tornado hit Prattville, Ala.

elsewhere in North Carolina.

The tornado that struck Prattville tore up a path about a quarter-mile wide and had winds of 140 to 150 mph, said meteorologist Jim Stefkovich at the National Weather Service's Birmingham office.

"God was watching over our city last night," Mayor Jim Byard said, adding that if the storm had hit in the middle of the night as happened in northern Alabama earlier this month, it could have been fatal.

The death toll from those storms, part of a tornado outbreak that ripped across several Southern states Feb. 5 and 6, rose by one to 57 on Monday after a Tennessee man died of his injuries, emergency management officials said.

Repair crews also were at work Monday in western and central Georgia, where the storms destroyed or damaged

more than 50 homes Sunday, according to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency. Ten people were injured, two of them critically, the agency said.

While tornadoes were battering the Southeast on Sunday, parts of the Upper Midwest had to deal with ice and snow.

Dozens of schools in central and eastern Iowa were closed or had delayed openings Monday and travel was not recommended on some highways because Sunday's storm dumped as much as 6 inches of snow, accompanied by wind gusting to 50 mph.

According to the weather service, a total of 18.5 inches of snow has fallen so far this month at the Des Moines International Airport, compared with the average 5 inches. So far this season, Iowa has gotten 48 inches compared with the normal 26 inches.

JFK murder articles, documents revealed

Items include transcript, leather gun holster

Associated Press

DALLAS — Long-hidden items and documents related to the 1963 assassination of President John F. Kennedy were revealed for the first time Monday, after spending nearly two decades locked inside a courthouse safe.

Dallas County District Attorney Craig Watkins presented the articles at a Presidents' Day news conference while standing next to brown and white file boxes stacked in a pyramid.

The items include a purported transcript between Kennedy assassin Lee Harvey Oswald and Oswald's killer, nightclub owner Jack Ruby; a leather gun holster that held the weapon Ruby used to shoot Oswald; brass knuckles found on Ruby when he was arrested; and a movie contract signed by then-Dallas District Attorney Henry Wade.

Watkins said investigators told him about the contents of the blue, two-door safe shortly after he took office in 2007.

"And every DA up until the new administration decided that they wanted to keep it secret," he said. But he decided "this information was too important to keep secret."

One of the most intriguing items was the typed transcript of an alleged conversation between Oswald and Ruby. The transcript — which hasn't been examined by experts and has already been called farfetched by some — includes talk of killing the president at the behest of the Mafia.

"Now we don't know if this is an actual conversation or not," Watkins said. "But what we do know is that as a result of this find, it will open up the debate as to whether there was a conspiracy to assassinate the president."

Ruby killed Oswald on Nov. 24, 1963, two days after Oswald was

arrested in the assassination of President Kennedy. Ruby was convicted and sentenced to death the following year. Ruby won an appeal of his conviction but died of cancer before he was retried.

The two-page transcript resembles one published by the Warren Commission, which investigated Kennedy's assassination and determined Oswald was the lone gunman.

In the report, the FBI concluded that transcript of an alleged conversation between Oswald and Ruby was fake, and that it had been "re-created" for authorities by a now-deceased Dallas attorney who claimed he recognized Oswald in a newspaper photo as the man he saw talking to Ruby.

The transcript unveiled Monday is dated Oct. 4, 1963, and allegedly happened at the Carousel Club, a Dallas nightclub. It begins with a discussion of how the "boys in Chicago" want to "get rid of" U.S. Attorney General Robert Kennedy, JFK's brother.

"There is a way to get rid of him without killing him," Oswald says.

"How's that?" Ruby responds. "I can shoot his brother," Oswald says.

After a discussion of the logistics of shooting the president, Ruby says the money for the operation's coming from the Mafia.

"Are you with the Mafia?" Oswald asked.

"You're asking too many questions," Ruby responds.

Later, Ruby gives a lengthy warning that Oswald must not get caught or say anything, noting that "if you do talk, then the boys will make me follow you, wherever you go, and kill you."

The Dallas Morning News first reported the transcript and other details of the find in an exclusive story published Sunday.

PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, AND ECONOMICS

The PPE minor invites applications from undergraduates with special interests in the inter areas of political philosophy, political theory, and economic analysis. Every year about 16 motivated and talented students are admitted to PPE. Check it out to see if it is for you. Most students go on to careers and top graduate programs in law, public policy, philosophy, political science, and economics.

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones 12,348.21 -28.77

Up: 751 Same: 67 Down: 2,590 Composite Volume: 3,654,373,246

AMEX	2,244.50	-18.60
NASDAQ	2,321.80	-10.74
NYSE	8,970.76	+2.35
S&P 500	1,349.99	+1.13
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	13,711.10	+75.70
FTSE 100 (London)	5,946.60	+159.00

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
S&P DEP RECIEPTS (SPY)	-0.02	-0.03	135.14
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	+1.59	+0.42	26.83
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	-0.34	-0.15	43.82
LEVEL 3 COMM INC (LVLT)	-6.42	-0.17	2.48

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	-1.00	-0.038	3.780
13-WEEK BILL	-4.05	-0.090	2.130
30-YEAR BOND	-1.25	-0.058	4.595
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.22	-0.006	2.764

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.04	95.50
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-4.70	906.10
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.90	94.30

Exchange Rates

YEN	108.1800
EURO	0.6820
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0070
BRITISH POUND	0.5129

IN BRIEF

Spokesman says cattle treated humanely

DENVER — Despite a secretly taped video showing workers at a Southern California slaughterhouse abusing sick or crippled animals, nearly all cattle bound for American dinner tables are treated humanely, a cattle industry spokesman said Monday.

The undercover video taken at the Westland/Hallmark Meat Co. of Chino, Calif., by the Humane Society of the United States shows workers shocking, kicking and shoving debilitated cattle with forklifts, and has led to the largest recall of beef in U.S. history.

Bo Reagan, vice president of research for the Colorado-based National Cattleman's Beef Association, said the videotaped incident was not indicative of how most slaughterhouses operate.

"The welfare of our animals — that's the heart and soul of our operations," Reagan said.

U.S. Department of Agriculture guidelines mandate that an inspector must review sick or injured animals, called "downer" cattle, before they can be slaughtered, and that the 1958 Humane Slaughter Act sets strict rules for the humane treatment of animals.

Campbell's Soup to cut sodium levels

MOUNT LAUREL, N.J. — The Campbell Soup Co.'s kid-oriented soups, which feature characters such as Dora the Explorer and Batman on the cans, are getting their second sodium reduction in three years, the company announced Monday.

This time, the 12 soups for kids will have 480 milligrams per serving, which means the company can legally label them as healthy foods for the first time.

"Your kids can enjoy Dora the Explorer even more," said Douglas R. Conant, Campbell's president and chief executive, said in an interview. "They'll be down to heart-healthy levels."

For Camden-based Campbell's, high sodium levels have been a big health concern for decades for products that are otherwise generally healthy.

Two years ago, the company began using sea salt — where it comes from is kept secret — to reduce sodium in a number of its products. The sea salt is being used in a growing number of soups, as well as SpaghettiO's pasta. The company has also reduced sodium in V8 vegetable juice.

UNITED KINGDOM

Mortgage lender goes public

Government under scrutiny for mismanagement as company nationalized

Associated Press

LONDON — Prime Minister Gordon Brown's government faced accusations of mismanagement Monday as it began nationalizing stricken mortgage lender Northern Rock PLC — the first time in 20 years that a private company has been taken into public ownership.

The government repeatedly insisted a private sale was its preferred option. But after five months of intense speculation about the future of Britain's most public casualty of the global credit crunch, Brown said that nationalization was the best choice until market conditions improve.

"We will, and always have, put the interests of taxpayers first," he said.

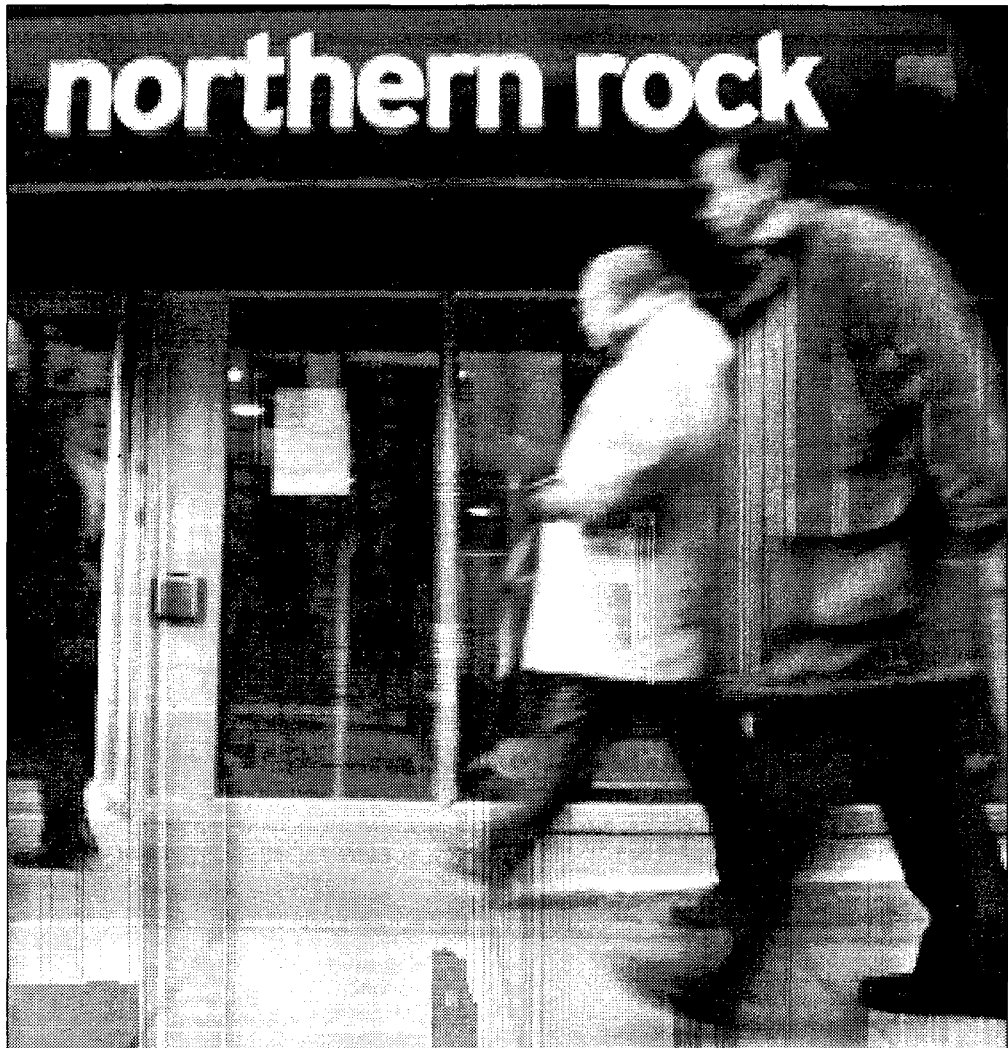
The opposition Conservative Party said Britain's reputation as a major financial services center had been dealt a serious blow.

"The nationalization of Northern Rock is a disaster for the British taxpayer, a disaster for this government and a disaster for our country," said Conservative Party leader David Cameron.

The government's troubles were compounded by the threat of a drawn-out legal battle with unhappy shareholders and the potential of hundreds, or thousands, of workers losing their jobs.

Brown's reputation as a guardian of financial stability in Britain has been dented, eroding some of the plaudits he received for presiding over an unprecedented stretch of economic growth as treasury chief before becoming prime minister.

On the defensive Monday, Brown and his successor in the treasury office, Alistair Darling, disputed that Britain's international repu-



Mortgage lender Northern Rock was taken into public ownership by the British government Monday.

tation has been tarnished.

"What we don't accept is that London or Britain has been uniquely affected by world events," Brown said, referring to the credit troubles that swept global markets in the late summer and led Northern Rock to seek emergency funding from the Bank of England, triggering Britain's first bank run in 150 years.

London would remain the world's "pre-eminent financial center," Darling added.

The government had rejected two private propos-

als from Richard Branson's Virgin Group and an in-house bid from the bank's management team because they involved too many risks for taxpayers and a very significant government subsidy.

Brown said Northern Rock will be run "at arm's length from the government under professional management, until adverse market conditions change and then the bank can be returned to the private sector."

However, critics said that the temporary nationalization proposed by the govern-

ment could last years as Northern Rock's new management seeks to pay back around 55 billion pounds (\$107 billion) via loans from the Bank of England and deposit guarantees.

Ron Sandler, who brought back Lloyd's of London from the edge of bankruptcy in the late 1990s and has been appointed by the government to run Northern Rock, declined to comment on job losses, amid suggestions from analysts that as many as half the company's 6,250 positions could be cut.

Air Force asks for budget increase

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials are warning that unless their budget is increased dramatically, and soon, the military's high-flying branch won't dominate the skies as it has for decades.

After more than seven years of war in Afghanistan and Iraq, the Air Force's aging jet fighters, bombers, cargo aircraft and gunships are at the breaking point, they say, and expensive, ultramodern replacements are needed fast.

"What we've done is put the requirement on the table that says, 'If we're going to do the missions you're going to ask us to do, it will require this kind of investment,'" Maj. Gen. Paul Selva, the Air Force's director of strategic planning, said in an interview with The Associated Press.

"Failing that, we take what is

already a geriatric Air Force," Selva said, "and we drive it for another 20 years into an area of uncertainty."

An extra \$20 billion each year over the next five — beginning with an Air Force budget of about \$137 billion in 2009 instead of the \$117 billion proposed by the Bush administration — would solve that problem, according to Selva and other senior Air Force officers.

Yet the prospects for huge infusions of cash seem dim. Congress is expected to boost the 2009 budget, but not to the level urged by the Air Force. In the years that follow, a possible recession, a rising federal deficit and a distaste for higher taxes all portend a decline in defense spending regardless of which party wins the White House in November.

"The Air Force is going to be confronting a major procurement crisis because it can't buy all the things that

it absolutely needs," said Dov Zakheim, a former Pentagon comptroller. "It's going to force us to rethink, yet again, what is the strategy we want? What can we give up?"

The Air Force's distress is partly self-inflicted, says Steve Kosiak of the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments in Washington. The F-22 Raptor and F-35 Lightning, the new jet fighters that will supplant the F-15 Eagle and F-16 Falcon, have drastically higher price tags than their predecessors and require a bigger chunk of the defense budget.

"One of the reasons their equipment has aged so much is because they continue to move ahead with the development and presumed acquisition of new weapon systems that cost two to three times as much as the systems they are replacing," Kosiak said. "It's like replacing a Toyota with a Mercedes."

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 8

Tuesday, February 19, 2008

THE OBSERVER

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

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

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Questioning quotas

The hiring of Catholic faculty here at Notre Dame has become quite a touchy subject, tied as it is to the larger issue of the University's ongoing self-definition. Father Jenkins, some students, and groups of alumni like "Project Sycamore" have called for hiring standards where self-identified Catholic faculty would comprise at least half of new hires. Some call for higher numbers.

I believe most of these groups do in fact have honest intentions: They want to preserve the unique character of Notre Dame, a place defined by its Catholic ethos. Many students find this an environment where they can for once express their faith freely, and the school should proudly continue its unique tradition. Father Jenkins want to maintain that heritage not at the exclusion of non-Catholics, but to the benefit of all.

The thinking of Sycamore, Jenkins and other concerned individuals has a fault, however, in its approach to what they see as a "problem" — the decline in Catholic faculty members in recent decades. I commend efforts to maintain religious identity, but stressing a 50 percent quota of Catholic professors ensures nothing. We should shy away from judging our progress by artificial and largely meaningless statistics and instead focus on real (and yes, less quantifiable) measures.

Regulatory quotas send the wrong message to professors and students. An absolute majority limit basically tells potential faculty, "If we drop below this, you (distinguished professor) may not be hired here in favor of somebody who checked a box on his application." Forgive me for making it so glib, but that is the tone many students get from the quota.

Many teachers believe departments should hire based solely on academic achievement. Supporters of the hiring

measures (and advocates for stricter ones) argue in turn that this attitude sacrifices the spiritual side of student life in pursuit of some kind of gratifying recognition by peer institutions and society at large.

Both sides make valid points. One of Notre Dame's strengths is its focus on the complete student life, from faith to service to schoolwork, and we should not sacrifice that just to be among the nation's elite institutions. We should avoid the numbers game with regard to academics, yet we hesitate to compromise academic quality or standards for the sake of religious affiliation by quota. Go too far in either direction and we run into hard questions about the nature of our mission.

Although the school's mission statement does call for "a predominant number of Catholic intellectuals," it also carefully stipulates that the school "asks of all its scholars and students...not a particular creedal affiliation, but a respect for the objectives of Notre Dame and a willingness to enter into the conversation that gives it life and character." Even the source document for all this concern places a greater emphasis on an open attitude to the University's atmosphere of inquiry than on artificial percentages.

Advocates of the quota often reach their opinions by over-emphasizing the role faculty play in students' faith lives. Here we must be cautious: There should be no dualism between faith and vocation. I allow that teachers can have a huge impact outside the classroom, and I gladly acknowledge the significant role faculty can play in students' spiritual inquiries. Nevertheless, such impact should not be a necessary condition of their presence here.

I hate to break it to you, administration, but the core of faith at Notre Dame does not come from the faculty, and never has. They play an important role, but the heart comes from the student body itself, from the dorms, from the rectors and other religious on campus, from the works of faith organizations like Campus Ministry. I reiterate that the classroom ought not turn into a compartmentalized and secularized environment, but we need to look elsewhere to find the

essence of Notre Dame's Catholic identity.

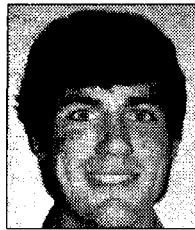
This clamoring for quotas also reinforces the University's tendency, nurtured by the "over-protective parent" attitude of alumni, to infantilize the student body. We are not children who need to be constantly monitored and guided every step of the way. Would it not be better for us, as adults, to stumble and question our faith here on campus, where support structures are plentiful, rather than do so for the first time out in the "real world," where such support is hard to find? This is not an argument for hiring non-Catholic faculty, just a reminder of the mission statement's spirit and an enjoyment to look beyond the classroom for the totality of faith life.

The administration should not emphasize artificial percentages, but instead cultivate the school's Catholic spirit by more productive, less rigid means. For example, focus faculty-recruiting efforts on graduates from other Catholic institutions, stress the University's religious character in hiring interviews, bolster the already-strong theology department, and encourage Catholic thinkers and intellectuals to give lectures here. The University should seek more organic means of caring for its religious identity, while at the same time understanding that things like the "Catholicity" of Notre Dame cannot be measured. We must look more holistically at both the sources of our faith life and the means of maintaining it.

Nevertheless, we should applaud recent efforts by student government and the administration to involve students in this discussion. Forums and informal talks are good signs that Father Jenkins and others understand the concerns of the community, will treat students as mature intellectuals, and are willing to involve them in a very pertinent discussion: the nature of Notre Dame's mission.

James Dechant is a senior English and theology major. Questions, comments, and rude remarks can be sent to him at jdechant@nd.edu

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



James Dechant

Foregone Conclusion

EDITORIAL CARTOON

CONSERVATIVE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR IDEOLOGICAL PURITY



"COMRADE MCCAIN, WE DON'T THINK YOU SHARE OUR VALUES."

OBSERVER POLL

What is your favorite local pizzeria at Notre Dame?

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Rocco's

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"In theory, there is no difference between theory and practice. But in practice, there is."

Yogi Berra
Baseball player

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Support Catholic bishops' decision

Dear Editors, regarding the decision of the Catholic bishops to remove their pastoral conference away from the Notre Dame campus to avoid association with "The Vagina Monologues," you recently wrote "Notre Dame can be Catholic and still host 'The Vagina Monologues' ('Relocation a bad idea,' Feb. 15)." That begs the question of what it means to be a Catholic university, and leaves aside the question of whether hosting the event is in Notre Dame's best interest. Holding this production on campus is detrimental on at least three levels.

First, your editorial referred to the "complex dynamic" and "creative tension" between Catholic morality and academic freedom. You are correct that there should be give and take between the two. However, they cannot co-exist amorphously. In the real world, decisions have to be made and lines have to be drawn somewhere. University President Father John Jenkins attempted to do so in a way that would accommodate both sides by not banning the "Monologues," but placing it in a classroom setting conducive to an academic discussion rather than a circus atmosphere. However, that was akin to trying to place the genie back in the bottle, because it failed to address the need for a standard and core principles that apply both now and in the future.

Second, Jenkins' solution seems to have unfortunately overlooked the broader issue of the far-reaching impact of hosting "The Vagina Monologues" at Notre Dame. "The Vagina Monologues" is not simply a textual program that can be a basis for discussion; it is like a street theater with a social or political agenda that is aimed at the general public. One of its stated goals is to have its messages woven into the fabric of public consciousness. Through acceptance at Notre Dame, it succeeds in doing exactly that. As the primary symbol of Catholic achievement, culture and academic success in the

United States, Notre Dame has a vast moral constituency around the world which it necessarily affects. By hosting "The Vagina Monologues," Notre Dame, perhaps unwittingly, is helping Eve Ensler advance her secularist, materialist, anti-religious agenda globally.

Finally, and most importantly, accommodation without clear standards conflicts with Notre Dame's most fundamental mission: the search for truth. "The Vagina Monologues" abjures the truth. An exercise in Orwellian doublespeak, it puts forth reductionism as expansive for women, espousing a singular focus on one's pubic area as if it were the center of one's mind and soul. Duplicity reigns throughout.

For example, how is the stated goal of decreasing violence toward women advanced by celebrating the alcohol-fed seduction and rape of a female minor by an older woman? Is that not an unfair use of power to control and dominate a susceptible person for one's own pleasure? Most "Catholic" colleges have followed Jenkins' lead in questioning the value of the play in examining current women's issues, eventually concluding in favor of serious dialogue.

I am sad to say that on this issue, Notre Dame now finds itself increasingly isolated with a small number of mostly Jesuit universities. The Catholic Bishops, often criticized for failing to lead their flock on social moral issues, were correct to distance themselves from this morally deprived event. Jenkins would be wise to do the same.

John Moore
Wilbraham, Mass.
Feb. 18

End juvenile cheer

I apologize for being a wet blanket, but Notre Dame students need to hold themselves to a higher standard when it comes to cheering for the Irish. The "suck it" segment of the drum cadence is simply unbecoming of a Domer. It has destroyed both a great tradition and a great cheer. It is awful, crude and, frankly, just plain juvenile.

I suggest that the students take it upon themselves to find a substitute word or words to fill the gap left by this rude and disgusting element. The word "destroy" comes to mind,

but I am sure we can do better than that. Heck, even "pray for" works better in my opinion.

I am sure the talented Notre Dame students and cheerleading squads could lead a simple and yet effective campaign to make this negative element a thing of the past. Let's raise the bar back to where it belongs. Who's with me?

Michael Lenahan
graduate student
off campus
Feb. 18

Engage in the Church's thinking

Ms. Holmstrom ("Monologues' encourage mistreatment of women," Feb. 11) raises an interesting point: she claims that discussing "The Vagina Monologues" as an issue of academic freedom is to "woefully miss the mark." In this, I believe Holmstrom to be correct.

I would, however come to a vastly different conclusion regarding the fate of the "Monologues." "The Vagina Monologues" seeks to reclaim the sense of what it means to be a woman, to stop women from being ashamed of their sexuality and to raise awareness regarding violence perpetrated against women.

These goals are perfectly in keeping with the Catholic Church's teaching on sex and sexuality. The Church does not speak of sex as evil or morally wrong provided it is exercised in the right way. Rather, the Church teaches that "sexuality is a source of joy and pleasure" (Catechism, 2362).

Do the "Monologues" present an inappropriate use of sexuality? The answer may well be yes. The play presents acts that are not well ordered to good relationships with God and others. The general ethos of the "Monologues" is, however, edifying to those who attend the play, provided they understand something about the feminist movement and approach the play with a critical eye.

Further, and this point is clear, the "Monologues" raise important questions: How do we reclaim our sexuality? What is the correct way to express that sexuality? When sexual violence has been perpetrated against a woman (or a man), how do we heal?

Our esteemed President Emeritus Father Hesburgh once said that "the University is where the Church does its thinking." While our theology department is grounded in this philosophy, I would argue that it is not simply academic theologians who are to do the thinking of the Church.

Rather, we are all called to engage in this discussion. The presence of "The Vagina Monologues" on campus is not a question of academic freedom. It is, however, necessarily tied to our Catholic character. As the premier Catholic university in this country, it is our duty to perform these monologues.

Where else, if not at Notre Dame can we have this discussion? Where else can the Church do this thinking? I urge Dean Roche, Father Jenkins and you, the students, to join me in this dialogue: to approach the "Monologues" with a critical eye and to engage in the thinking of the Church.

Meli Barber
senior
McGlenn Hall
Feb. 12

'Monologues' antithetical to women's liberation

I will admit that prior to a few days before writing this, I had not actually read any of "The Vagina Monologues." Instead, I relied what others told me to shape my understanding of the issue. Last Tuesday, I finally read part of the script — never, in my entire life, have I felt as degraded as I did that night.

The word "liberation" needs to be reclaimed. There is nothing liberating about being reduced from a woman with a soul and body — with the ability to reason and create, the ability to nurture and love — to a body, much less a singular body part. To have all the expansive qualities of a woman and to choose to subject them to the sensation of a single body part is not liberation, but a soul-killing and anti-feminine form of slavery.

Further, not only is it soul-killing to the person who identifies her liberation in that way, but it does not challenge young men to treat women in accord with authentic femininity. If women are willing to be identified with their vagina, to in fact celebrate their womanhood in light of their sexual organ, men get every impression that they too should celebrate in that facet of womanhood alone — which frees them from having to love the whole woman.

Face it: A body part is much easier to

love than a person. If men learn to love only a piece of a woman, then it is not hard to deal her spiritual, emotional and even physical violence.

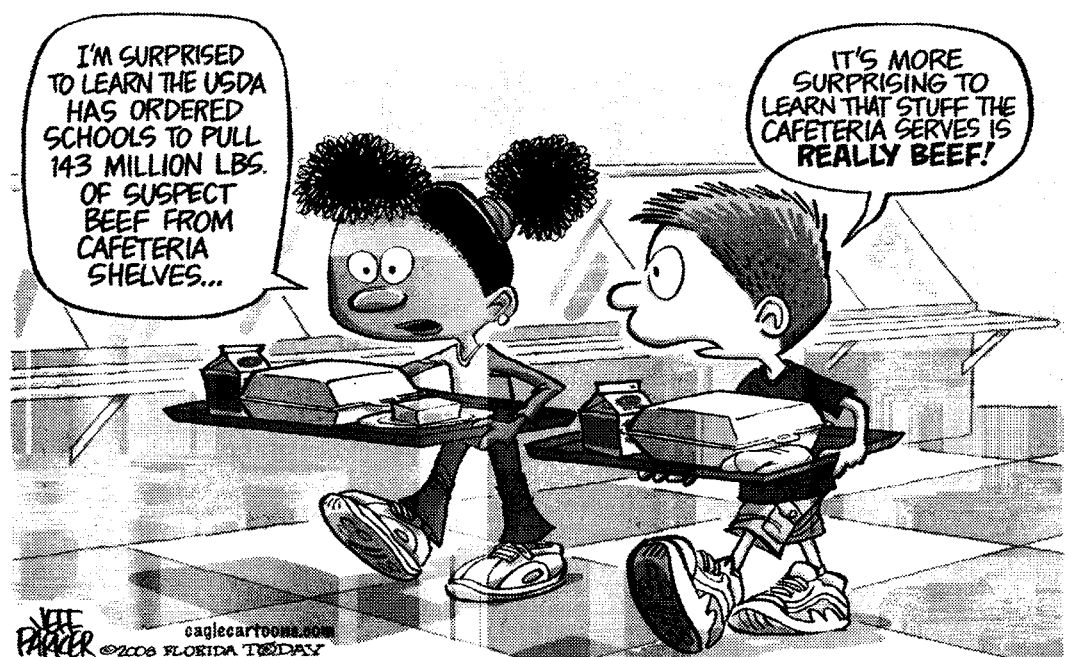
What I propose is that we stop the violence against women and liberate them by promoting authentic femininity — a femininity that properly integrates body, mind and soul; a femininity that is personal; a femininity that was much cherished by the late Pope John Paul II.

Concurrently, we must promote an authentic masculinity. Sexuality is not the act alone, but the very reality of being male or female. A number of groups on campus promote this authentic treatment of sexuality: ND Right to Life has a dinner study group on theology of the body, and the Edith Stein Conference addresses femininity every year (this year coinciding with "The Vagina Monologues").

We need a dialogue approached in the proper light: a medium that demonstrates correct views and espouses the Truth. Any play that portrays sexuality and femininity in such an enslaved state is not worth any woman or man's time — or soul.

Kim Stoddard
junior
McGlenn Hall
Feb. 18

EDITORIAL CARTOON



HOLLYWOOD WRITER STEPAKOFF TO SPEAK AT DPAC



By CASSIE BELEK
Assistant Scene Editor

Film and television writer Jeffrey Stepakoff always knew he wanted to write, but he didn't always know Hollywood was in his future.

On the phone on Monday, Stepakoff says he studied theater in school, but when producer John Wells ("ER," "The West Wing") visited his graduate school, Carnegie Mellon University, he told Stepakoff that Hollywood was looking for writers like him.

Although Stepakoff says going to Hollywood was considered a "wacky and eccentric thing to do," he made the move that so many other aspiring film and television writers had done before and after him.

Stepakoff will be at the Browning Cinema tonight at 7 to give his lecture "The Rise of the Writer in Hollywood." Stepakoff's appearance is a continuation of the FTT Talks series, which most recently brought NBC development executive Katie O'Connell to campus in November. Stepakoff says his talk will be "a history of writers, that is writers in Hollywood, specifically during the last 20 to 25 years, told from a personal perspective."

The man who went on to write for shows such as "The Wonder Years" and "Dawson's Creek" started his career in Hollywood during the last writers' strike.

"In 1988, I kind of stumbled toward Hollywood and realized there was a way to use my skill set," he says.

However, the strike prevented Stepakoff from working right away.

Although he was offered a job as a scab writer for CBS's "Charles in Charge," produced by Universal Television, he turned it down. When the strike ended, he was offered another job by Universal to write for "Simon & Simon."

Stepakoff says his theater background helped him because he had experience working with directors as both a writer and producer.

"Theater, I believe, is a really good training ground for screenwriters," he says.

Stepakoff was a writer and co-executive producer for "Dawson's Creek" on the WB. Although the show was immensely popular with young people, he says he wasn't always aware of the influence of the show.

"It was very exciting," he says. "You know, when you're working on a TV show, you're so busy writing the show and producing the show that you don't have a full awareness of the cultural impact of the show. Occasionally you'll think about it."

Ultimately, Stepakoff says, the success of a series comes down to finding a good story.

"Whether you're working on a popular show or a struggling show, you always start at the same place, which is crafting good story," he says.

Stepakoff has written for 14 different television series and says he has enjoyed working for each of them.

"There's something special about all of them," he says.

Stepakoff doesn't have a preference for film or television either. He says he loves "all media that allows writers to be writers," whether that be film or television writing, fiction writing or writing for the Internet.

However, Stepakoff does make a strong case for television.

"Television writing in particular is arguably the most satisfying medium for a writer to work in because he or she ultimately gets total control," he says.

During this past writers' strike, Stepakoff says he wrote a novel — a love story in which he drew from his experience working on "Dawson's Creek." Other writers he knew created new content for the Internet.

"The legacy of the 1988 strike was that the studios learned how to make entertainment without writers," he says.

The film and television writer has three pieces of advice for students who aspire to write in film, television or theater. "Number one," he says, "master the craft, which really isn't difficult." He says to take courses in writing to get to that point.

"Number two," he says, "which is probably more important than number one, write constantly." His third piece of advice is to "put yourself out there" in order to meet people to help with the job search.

And just because you start in one field doesn't mean you can't switch to film and television. Stepakoff worked in advertising after undergrad, but knew that what he really wanted to do was write creatively.

"I just set out to write cool stuff," he says.

Contact Cassie Belek at cbelek@nd.edu

"The Rise of the Writer in Hollywood"
Tonight at 7
Browning Cinema
FREE but ticketed event

Stepakoff says his theater background helped him because he had experience working with directors as both a writer and producer.



Dawson's Creek



The Wonder Years





JARRED WAFER | Observer Graphic

By JAMES COSTA
Assistant Scene Editor

A succinctly emotive portrait of heartbreak and euphoria, Glen Hansard's record "Once," soundtrack to the film of the same title, is at once enthralling and saddening. It falls into the listener's ear with a pulsing admonition to hold close to those you care for or risk watching them fade into the gray and dreary landscape of the ineffaceable beyond.

With titles such as "Falling Slowly," "Lies," "Leave," "Fallen From the Sky," and "When Your Mind's Made Up," the album feels like a long look backwards. It allows the listener to conjure feelings experienced in fractured moments following the rupture of something beautiful.

One of the truly arresting tracks on the record is "Leave," a glimpse straight into the gut of Hansard's despair — a woman telling him that he's no longer the man she loves. Starting off slow, just above a whisper, Hansard sings, "Hope you feel better now that it's out / What took you so long? / The truth has a habit of falling out of your mouth / Well now that it's come / You've said what you came to / Let go of my hand / If you don't mind, leave." He then repeats the lyrics with increasing intensity until his voice hits the point of a tormented holler. It's an honest and abandoned moment, resonating more truly than most any other music made these days.

Before his starring turn in the film, you

might remember Hansard from his gig as front man of the band The Frames. His partner on five tracks is the less famous, but supremely talented Czech pianist and songwriter Markéta Irglová. The soundtrack is a perfect reminder that while the two star in the very well received film, they are musicians first and actors second. Their vocal skills, both delicate and on occasion pounding, communicate an emotion that is intimate and lingering.

The opening track of the record "Falling Slowly" is perhaps the most powerful collaboration between Hansard and Irglová. Featured in the film's trailer, the song is quite simplistic on first listen. However, upon closer examination it grips the listener with the rare and moving sensation that heartbreak and sadness, and their dreadful ability to control one's mind, are never more than a whisper of rejection away. Hansard and Irglová sing together, "Words fall through me / And always fool me / And I can't react / And games that never amount / To more than they're meant / Will play themselves out." In straightforward lyrics delivered in a straightforward manner, Hansard and Irglová have concocted a tune that will likely be played for years to come by those feeling the rush of sadness in the heart, or those who just like listening to really good sad songs.

It's tough not to compare Hansard and Irglová to the rather iconic duet pair of Damien Rice and Lisa Hannigan. Singing similar songs in a nearly identical genre, Hansard and Irglová differ from the Rice/Hannigan duo in that they seem more weathered and affected by their songs. Indeed, they sing as if only to each other, with the intimate exchanges magically recorded onto CD so that the listening public can glimpse a couple's most personal moments.

If the movie's anything like the songs that propel it, it's surely a hell of a flick.

Contact James Costa at
jcosta1@nd.edu

Once

Glen Hansard

Label: Columbia

Recommended Tracks: "Falling Slowly," "Lies," "Leave" and "Fallen From the Sky"

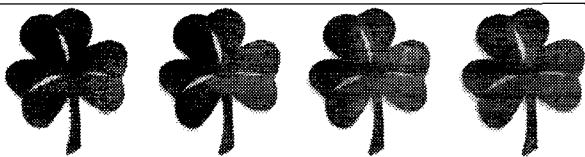


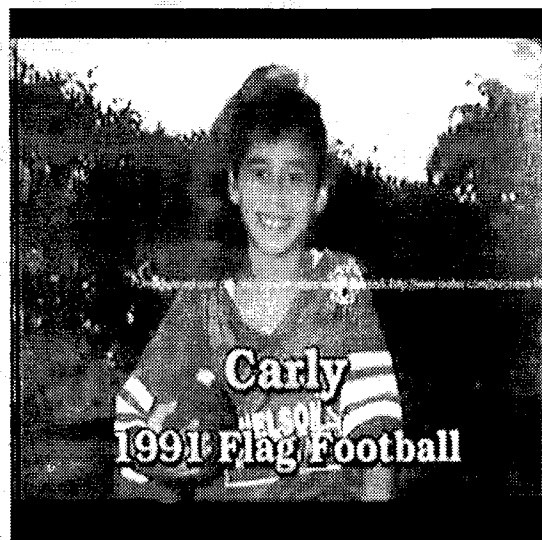
Photo courtesy of cameronlawrence.com

Glen Hansard, right, and Markéta Irglová starred together in the hit Irish film "Once." Their song, "Falling Slowly," has been nominated for an Academy Award.

SCENE'S TOP VIDEO PICKS

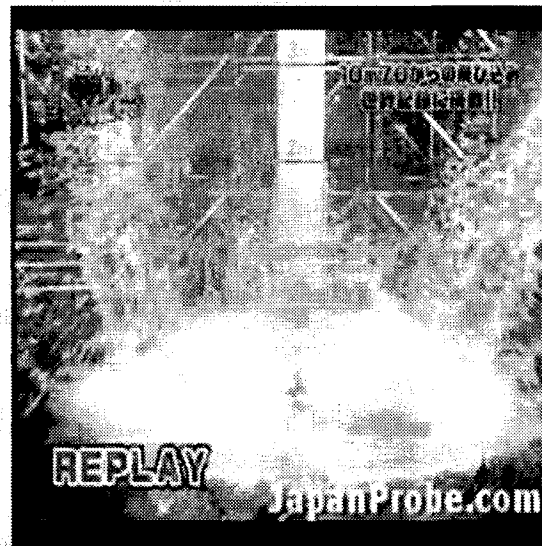


She's Got Moves



"Wondergirl Carly" breaks some ankles in an all-boys flag football league.

World Record Belly Flop



Darren "Professor Splash" Taylor belly dives from 35' into 12" of water. Ouch.

Don't Call Me Dude



A policeman gets aggressive with a few Baltimore skateboarders. Calm down officer.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Louisville outlasts Syracuse at Freedom Hall

Georgetown keeps pace in Big East race with win over Providence; Xavier holds off Rhode Island's upset bid

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Terrence Williams scored all 12 of his points in the second half and No. 18 Louisville held off Syracuse 61-50 on Monday night.

Andre McGee added 12 points and Louisville (21-6, 11-3 Big East) limited the Orange (17-10, 7-7) to 29 percent shooting to keep pace with No. 12 Georgetown atop the Big East.

Louisville won its season-high sixth straight showing it can survive without senior center David Padgett, who was played just 17 minutes with foul trouble.

Arinze Onuaku led Syracuse with 16 points and Paul Harris added 13, but the Orange found few openings in Louisville's tough 2-3 defense. Syracuse entered the game tied with Georgetown in field goal percentage, making 49 percent of its shots from the field. The Orange managed barely half that against Louisville.

The Cardinals appeared to break open a close game when Williams finished a spectacular dunk over Donte Greene that gave Louisville a 50-40 lead with 8:20 to go.

Syracuse managed to get within one possession, cutting it to 52-50 on a putback by Onuaku with 2:20 remaining. Williams, however, hit a jumper from the corner and Earl Clark

swiped the ball on Syracuse's next possession.

The Cardinals missed a shot, but Williams ran it down, eventually leading to McGee's fourth 3-pointer that pushed the lead to 57-50 with 53 seconds to go as Louisville ended the game on a 9-0 run.

Louisville dominated the glass, outrebounding Syracuse 53-35. That total included 19 offensive rebounds that led to 19 second-chance points, preventing the Orange from upsetting a ranked-opponent for the second straight game.

Syracuse attacked Louisville's zone relentlessly in the first half, getting the Cardinals in serious foul trouble. Padgett played just over four minutes in the half after picking up two fouls, and Derrick Caracter wasted little time collecting three.

Still, the Orange couldn't take advantage, thanks to horrendous shooting and an inability to keep Louisville off the offensive glass. Syracuse shot just 24 percent from the floor in the first half and allowed the Cardinals eight second-chance points as the teams limped into the locker room tied at 26.

Xavier 81, Rhode Island 77

Josh Duncan scored 23 points, B.J. Raymond added 14 and No. 10 Xavier overcame a furious second-half run to hold on for an 81-77 win over Rhode

Island on Monday night.

The win was Xavier's eighth straight and the 14th in its last 15 games, helping the Musketeers maintain their grip on first place in the Atlantic 10 conference. It was the Musketeers' fifth straight win on the road.

Rhode Island opened the second-half on a 26-14 run after trailing by 10 at halftime. The Musketeers (22-4, 10-1 A-10) fell behind by 3 at one point in the second half, before taking the lead for good on a long-range jumper by Stanley Burrell with 5:47 left to play. A 3-pointer by Will Daniels with four seconds left put Rhode Island within 3, but Drew Lavender hit one of two free throws with 1.7 seconds on the clock to put the game out of reach.

Duncan had a perfect shooting night, hitting 8 of 8 field goals and all three 3-pointers he attempted.

Parfait Bitee scored 25 points and Will Daniels added 23 for Rhode Island (20-6, 6-5). The loss snapped the Rams' 11-game home winning streak. The Rams fell to 6-5 in the conference and 20-6 overall.

Xavier used a 19-9 run late in the first half to take a 44-34 lead into halftime after being up by as many as 14 at the 3:42 mark.

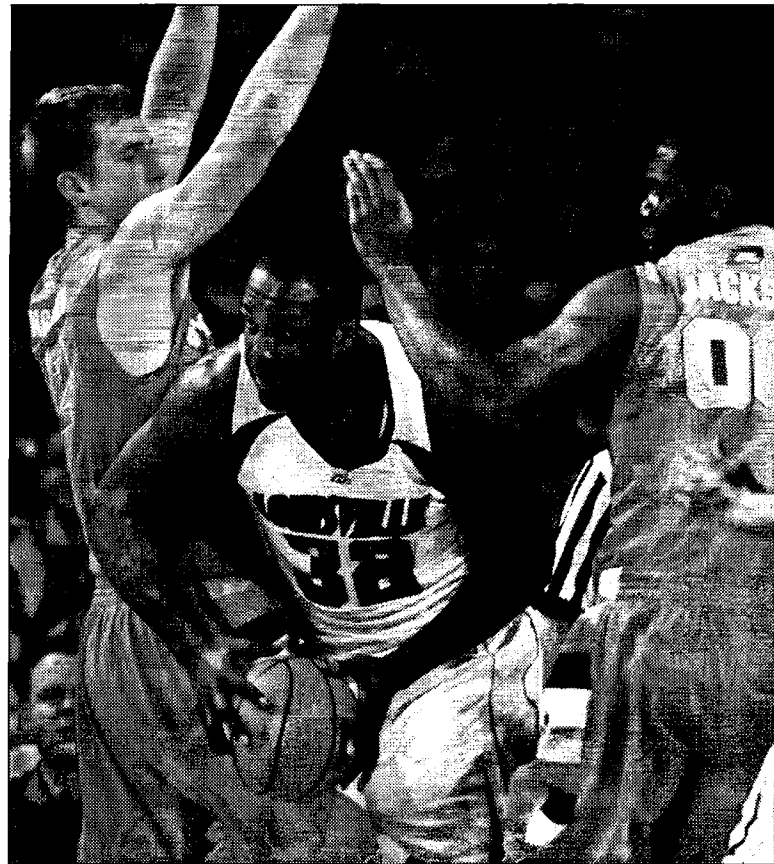
Rhode Island last defeated a ranked opponent on Dec. 2, 1998, when the Rams beat then-No. 25 Utah 70-63. Rhode Island defeated Xavier the last time the teams played, a 79-71 win in the semifinals of last season's A-10 conference championship.

Georgetown 65 Providence 58

Georgetown was trailing Providence by six points in the second half and the Hoyas were facing a third loss in four games. Coach John Thompson III turned to his seniors and they turned things around in a hurry.

"I felt we came out flat in the second half and that we needed a boost of energy and that came from Patrick and Tyler," Thompson said after the 12th-ranked Hoyas rallied for a victory over Providence on Monday. "There was no sense of panic since we've been there before. We started getting stops and started making plays."

Patrick Ewing Jr. and Tyler Crawford joined fellow seniors Roy Hibbert, who had 18 points inside, and Jonathan Wallace, who added 14 from the outside, on the court as Georgetown went on a 17-2 run to take control.



Louisville forward Derrick Caracter splits Syracuse defenders in the Cardinals' 61-50 win over the Orange Monday.

The Hoyas (21-4, 11-3 Big East) struggled against Providence's 2-3 zone for the opening half and first 5 minutes of the second half.

Then came the 3-point barrage led by Wallace as Georgetown hit five from behind the arc in a 17-2 run that gave the Hoyas a 52-43 lead.

Wallace, who missed three of his first four 3-point attempts, hit three 3s in the run, including two from almost the exact same spot on the court just to the left of the head of the key. The net barely moved on both baskets.

"We are aware of the situation and knew what we had to do," Wallace said. "Those two 3s I hit came off screens set by teammates who knew where they had to be for the play to get me open. That was a collective effort for what we needed to do."

Weyinmi Efejuku had 25 points for the Friars (13-13, 4-10), who have lost four straight — the last three to ranked teams — and eight of nine. Providence came into the game tied for 13th in the Big East and only the top 12 teams advance to next month's conference tournament.

"We battled and played very, very good defense but they make you work so hard," Providence coach Tim Welsh said. "They had 65 shots to our

47 and you just can't give them that many more opportunities. When we got the lead we were rebounding. You can't run if you're not rebounding the ball."

Providence came in allowing opponents to shoot 45 percent from the field, the 15th-worst figure in the 16-team conference. But the zone did its job for most of the game except for the run when Crawford and Jeremiah Rivers hit the two 3s in addition to Wallace's three long jumpers.

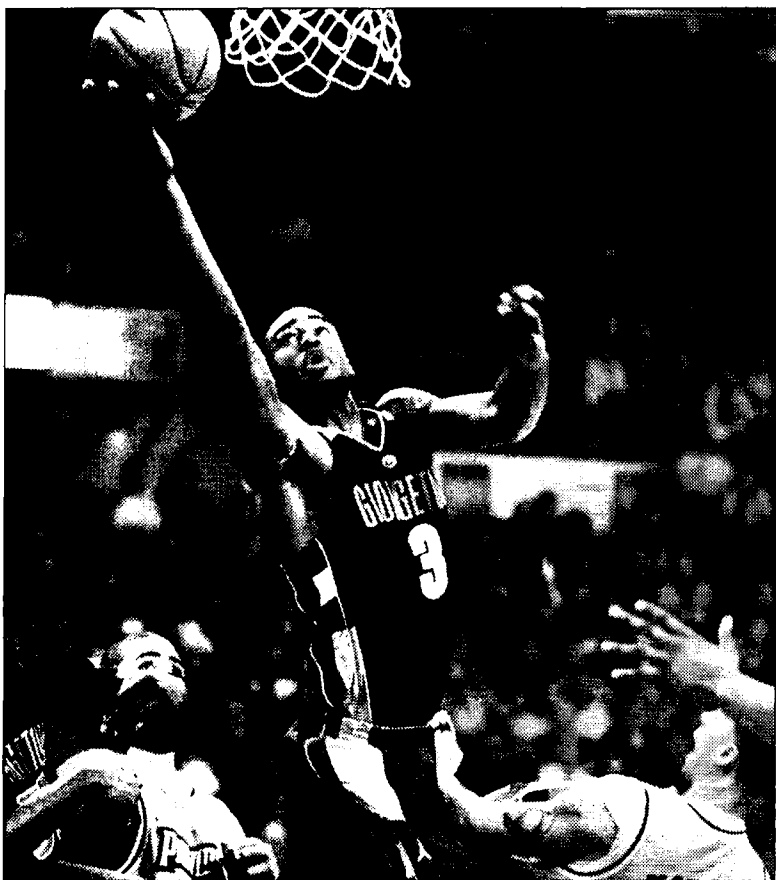
The Friars led 41-35 before the big run started but they went almost 8 minutes with one field goal. Brian McKenzie's 3-pointer ended Georgetown's run and made it 52-46 with 8:04 left.

Providence was within 54-49 on a 3 by Efejuku but the Hoyas scored six straight points, the last two on a fastbreak dunk after a steal by Ewing with 4:50 to go.

"We stress offensive rebounding a lot in practice," Ewing said of the Hoyas' 23 offensive rebounds. "The shots weren't falling but when we get second shots like that it doesn't matter."

Hibbert had eight rebounds for the Hoyas, who finished with a 43-26 advantage on the boards.

Wallace finished 4-for-8 from 3-point range and the Hoyas were 8-for-21 after starting 3-for-14.



Georgetown guard DaJuan Summers goes up for a layup in the Hoyas' 65-58 win over Providence Monday.

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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PERSONAL

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AROUND THE NATION

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Tuesday, February 19, 2008

page 1

ESPN/USA Today Top 25 Men's Basketball Poll

rank	team	record	points
1	Memphis (31)	25-0	775
2	Tennessee	23-2	724
3	North Carolina	24-2	685
4	Duke	22-2	668
5	Kansas	24-2	664
6	UCLA	22-3	647
7	Texas	21-4	562
8	Butler	24-2	539
9	Stanford	21-4	486
10	Wisconsin	21-4	452
11	Georgetown	20-4	447
12	Xavier	21-4	446
13	Connecticut	20-5	390
14	Indiana	21-4	369
15	Purdue	21-5	293
16	Vanderbilt	22-4	285
17	Michigan State	20-5	268
18	Drake	23-2	243
19	Washington State	20-5	235
20	Saint Mary's	22-3	204
21	NOTRE DAME	19-5	186
22	Texas A&M	20-5	142
23	Louisville	20-6	132
24	Marquette	18-6	108
25	Kansas State	18-6	57

AP Top 25 Women's Basketball Poll

rank	team	record	points
1	Connecticut (38)	24-1	1230
2	North Carolina(2)	24-2	1167
3	Tennessee(1)	23-2	1106
4	Maryland	27-2	1089
5	Rutgers(8)	20-4	1071
6	LSU(1)	22-3	1028
7	Stanford	24-3	1003
8	California	23-3	886
9	Baylor	22-3	846
10	Old Dominion	22-3	730
11	Oklahoma	18-5	726
12	Duke	19-7	661
13	West Virginia	20-4	657
14	NOTRE DAME	20-5	640
15	Kansas State	18-6	565
16	Oklahoma State	20-4	441
17	George Washington	20-5	417
18	Utah	21-3	401
19	UTEP	21-2	244
20	Ohio State	18-6	243
21	Texas A&M	18-7	235
22	Syracuse	19-5	176
23	Pittsburgh	18-7	146
24	Georgia	19-7	107
25	Vanderbilt	19-7	92

Women's Basketball Big East Conference Standings

rank	team	conf.	overall
1	Connecticut	11-1	24-1
2	Rutgers	10-1	20-4
3	West Virginia	9-2	20-4
4	NOTRE DAME	8-3	20-5
5	Pittsburgh	8-4	18-7
6	Syracuse	7-4	19-5
7	Louisville	7-5	18-7
8	DePaul	6-5	17-7
9	Marquette	6-6	14-11
10	Villanova	5-7	15-10

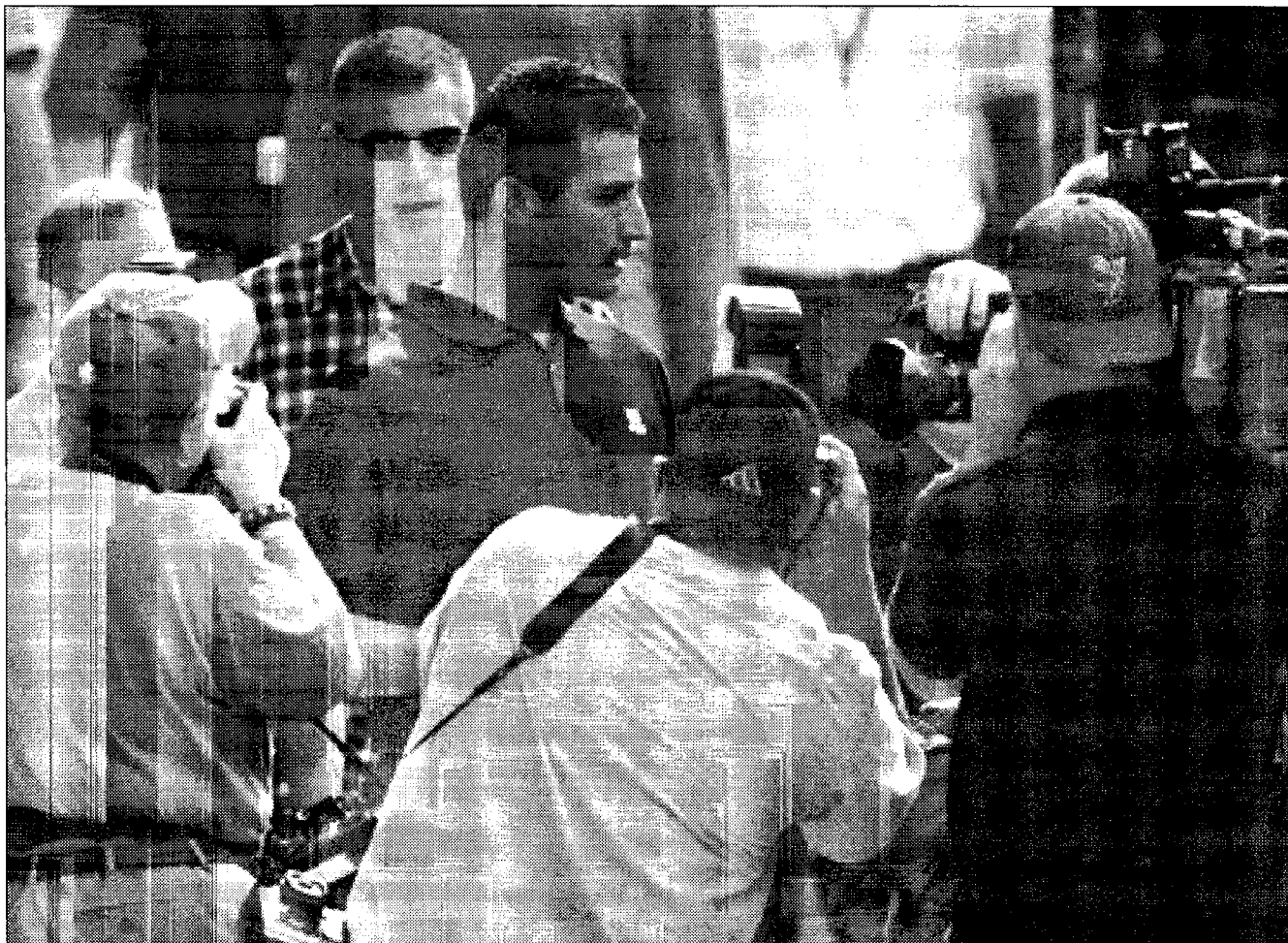
around the dial

NCAA BASKETBALL

Purdue at Indiana
7 p.m., ESPN

Georgia at Kentucky
9 p.m., ESPN

MLB



Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte is met by reporters in Tampa Monday as he reports to the first day of spring training. Pettitte apologized repeatedly for using HGH in 2002 and 2004 to speed up his recovery from an elbow injury.

Pettitte apologizes publicly for HGH use

Associated Press

TAMPA — Andy Pettitte repeated his apologies over and over again, saying he had embarrassed himself and set a terrible example.

Whether he upset Roger Clemens is anyone's guess. They haven't spoken in more than a month.

"Obviously it's put a strain, I think, on our friendship," Pettitte said Monday.

On the day he reported to spring training with the New York Yankees, Pettitte spent nearly an hour explaining why he used human growth hormone and his role in cor-

roborating HGH allegations against Clemens.

"I felt like I need to come out, be forward with this," Pettitte said. "Whatever circumstances or repercussions come with it, I'll take and I'll take like a man and I'll try to do my job."

Other baseball players have ducked tough questions about allegations of drug use, using evasions and nonspecific replies. Pettitte admitted his mistakes and several times patiently asked reporters "did I answer your question?"

Wearing a polo shirt and jeans, and flanked by manager Joe Girardi and

general manager Brian Cashman, Pettitte had a hint of the shadow on his face that he's shown on the mound during so many postseason games. He seemed nervous at the start as he read from notes.

"I want to apologize to the New York Yankees' and to the Houston Astros' organizations and to their fans and to all my teammates and to all of baseball fans for the embarrassment I have caused them," he said. "I also want to tell anyone that is an Andy Pettitte fan I am sorry, especially any kids that might look up to me."

He relaxed after a few

minutes and went into far greater detail than most accused athletes have about their transgressions.

Off to his right, sitting in a row, were Yankee teammates Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera and Jorge Posada. When it was over, Jeter and Pettitte wrapped their arms around in each other in a hug.

"I know that once I have this press conference and talk to everybody about this and share everything with you, I think the truth will set you free," Pettitte said. "I think I'm going to be able to sleep a lot better at night once all this gets by."

IN BRIEF

Schilling hopes rehab will fix hurt shoulder

FORT MYERS, Fla. — Curt Schilling finally faced reporters on Monday — and an uncertain future. If the shoulder rehabilitation he reluctantly agreed to fails, he knows his brilliant career could be over.

The one-time Red Sox ace also denied that he was hurt when he signed an \$8 million contract last November.

Speaking publicly for the first time about his preference for surgery, Boston's 41-year-old right-hander said he had to follow the team's insistence on rehab because he is under contract.

"I don't have any choice. If their course of action doesn't work I don't pitch this year, and I may never pitch again," Schilling said. "I have to mentally get behind it and do everything I can do to make it work."

Rodriguez, Angels failing to reach agreement

TEMPE, Ariz. — Los Angeles Angels closer Francisco Rodriguez is going to arbitration and could be heading out the door at the end of the season.

The 26-year-old Rodriguez, who has a major-league leading 132 saves over the past three years, is unhappy that he doesn't have a long-term contract and said he may leave as a free agent after this season.

"If they would have wanted me here, they would have done something a long time ago," Rodriguez said Sunday. "There is still a long time before the season starts. We still have a month and a half. By then, when the season starts, I'll have my decision made."

He then softened his statement, saying, "It's just something I can't control. My priority right now is to go through the year and see what's going to happen at the end of the year. We'll see."

Crosby looks good in practice, but return still uncertain

PITTSBURGH — Sidney Crosby enjoyed his best and most demanding practice since injuring his right ankle, skating at full speed Monday and spinning off several of the gee-whiz passes that only a elite few NHL playmakers can make.

Crosby was without the yellow no-contact jersey he first wore when he resumed practicing with the Pittsburgh Penguins last week. There was no sign that linemate Ryan Malone and Colby Armstrong were slowing down to accommodate their still-healing teammate.

For now, though, it was only a tease.

While Crosby looked to be in game shape, last season's NHL scoring champion and MVP cautioned that he isn't ready to return from his high ankle sprain — an he isn't certain when he will be.

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NBA

PG Kidd shipped to Mavs

New Jersey acquires two draft picks, five players in blockbuster

Associated Press

DALLAS — Jason Kidd is headed to the Dallas Mavericks after all, although in a trade that's slightly different than originally arranged.

The new deal — as reported by various media outlets Sunday night, all citing anonymous sources — has Kidd and forward Malik Allen going to Dallas for point guard Devin Harris, center DeSagana Diop and swingman Maurice Ager, plus a few new pieces: retired forward Keith Van Horn and Trenton Hassell.

New Jersey also will get two first-round draft picks and \$3 million.

Van Horn and Hassell replace Jerry Stackhouse and Devean George. Stackhouse's presence in the deal was muddled by plans to get him back to Dallas — within the rules, although in a way the league frowned upon — and George used his veto power to block his involvement.

The reconfigured proposal is expected to be offered for league approval Monday. If all goes as planned, Kidd could make his return to the team that drafted him when the Mavericks play in New Orleans on Wednesday night.

"There's a lot of talk that the deal is done," Kidd said after Sunday's All-Star game in New Orleans, where word of the trade broke. "I've heard that before. Until I get a call from Rod [Thorn] or Mark [Cuban], then it will be official."

A spokesman for the New Jersey Nets declined comment at the game.

If all goes as planned, Kidd will be back in the Western Conference by the time the All-Star break ends.

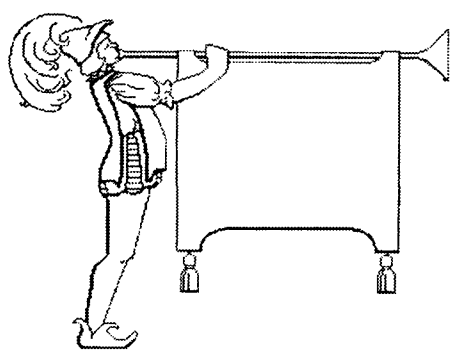
Kidd spent the first 2-plus seasons of his career in Dallas. The Mavs drafted him third overall in 1994 and he was the NBA's co-rookie of the year in '94-95. He was traded to Phoenix in December 1996, then went from the Suns to New Jersey prior to the 2001-02 season. He helped the Nets reach the NBA finals his first two seasons, but they haven't made a long playoff run since.

The Mavericks have been among the NBA's top teams the last few years, but have fallen short of a title. They're trading Harris' promising future in hopes that Kidd, who turns 35 next month, has enough tenacity and leadership to push them over the top.

Dallas has been eyeing Kidd for a while. Team owner Mark Cuban may have sped up the process after seeing other top Western Conference teams make pivotal additions.

This deal seemed done earlier last week until George whacked it. Stackhouse's talk of being bought out and re-signing with the Mavs also didn't sit well with league officials.

The big winner in this is Van Horn, who has been out of the league the last 1 1/2 seasons.



Announcing the Year 2008 Annual Awards of the Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship

Thanks to a generous gift from the Albert Ravarino family, the Italian Studies Program is pleased to announce the year 2008 annual competition for travel in support of summer research and foreign study in Italy. Grants will be made in amounts not to exceed \$3,000, and will not normally cover all expenses. Notre Dame graduate and undergraduate students who are planning to pursue research or a formal program of summer study in Italy are invited to apply. Students must have completed at least one year of Italian language. The course work will normally be in Italian; will involve the study of Italian language, literature, and culture; and must be applicable to a student's degree program at the University of Notre Dame.

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

Students are invited to submit a letter which should include:

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

Application Deadline: Wednesday, February 27, 2008
Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship
 Program in Italian Studies
 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall
 University of Notre Dame

CLUB SPORTS

Equestrian captures crown at Purdue Invite

Skiing finishes second at MCSA Regionals; Bowling struggles at Hoosier Classic; Men's volleyball goes 3-2

Special to The Observer

Equestrian

Notre Dame/Saint Mary's registered its first IHSA high point performance this weekend at the Purdue Invitational, with a first-place total of 31 points.

Krista Jones, Heather LaDue and Jennifer Gilardi swept 1-2-3 in the intermediate flats as Jones qualified for regionals with her performance.

Kelly Daniels rode to a first-place standing in novice fences, with teammates Sarah Baker (third), Andrea Kochert (fourth), Jones (fifth) and Maryellen Przyblinski (sixth), in the event. Daniels also took second in novice flat, leading teammates Kochert (third), Baker, Courtney Klosterman and Laura Hale tied for fifth, and Maria Cardoso in sixth.

The other Irish rider to garner a first place was Gina Camarata in advanced walk-trot-canter. Laura Divel and Nicole Oberschmied finished fourth and sixth, respectively. In walk-trot, Katrina Stewart and Laura Tiche finished second and third, respectively, for the Irish.

LaDue led the club with a second place in intermediate fences as Gilardi and Brittany Gragg tied for fifth, securing valuable points for the club. Tiffany Olier competed in beginner walk-trot-canter to complete the Irish showing

Skiing

A pair of freshmen led the Irish at the MCSA Regionals at Marquette, Mich., this weekend.

Christopher Knoedler led the men's squad to a seventh-place finish among 19 teams, and Justine Nurnane's sixth-place finish led the women to a matching seventh-place showing. Kevin Dacey and captain Steve Feutz were the other top finishers for the men.

Sarah Rauenhorst completed her career in fine style with a top-25 finish, while Stephanie Vossler also placed high enough to secure the Irish standing. The snowboarding squad competed on a challenging giant slalom course. The men were paced by Oliver Short, Jeff Kroon and Tim O'Brian, and the women's top finisher was freshman Erin McNeill.

This was the final event of the season for the club.

Bowling

Notre Dame finished 52nd in the Hoosier Classic this weekend. The closely bunched team was led by captain Nick Manieri with a 148 average, while James Breen and Becky Caples were just a pin behind at 147. Allie Hensley rolled a 137 average and teammates CJ Kaltenbach and Lindsey Zimmerman also contributed to the scoring.

Lindenwood and Saginaw, the No. 1 and 2 teams in the country, tied for first in the strong field.

Men's volleyball

Notre Dame traveled to Allendale, Mich., this weekend for a tournament that included teams from all over Michigan and Ohio.

After dropping the first game 17-25 to Baldwin-Wallace, the Irish stormed back to grab the second and third games, closing out the match 25-22, 16-14.

In the second match of the day, the Irish took on Michigan-B and struggled for most of the game before pulling out a win 29-27, 25-21.

In a non-pool play match with no ramifications on the tournament, the Irish struggled to find their rhythm early against Purdue. Despite an early lead, the Irish couldn't stave off a game point at 24-23, and Purdue took over, winning the match 23-25, 19-25.

As the quarterfinals of the gold bracket began, the Irish had the No. 3 seed owing to their two victories in the morning matches. They took on sixth-seeded Michigan-A, and ran out to a big lead in game one with outstanding play from middle hitter Mike Nejedly and outside Ted Grossestreuer.

The Wolverines would not be denied in the second game, storming back to win 19-25. In the third game, right side Daniel Rinzler stepped up and cracked multiple kills down the line and sophomore setter Bryan Winther ran the offense to perfection, leading to an Irish victory in the match, 25-18, 19-25, 15-11.

Western Michigan was up next in the semifinals, matching two 3-1 teams. It became obvious quickly the Irish had all of the momentum after their third-game victory over Michigan, and they used that to their advantage in a big 25-19 win in game one on the backs of the two Jasons: junior middle Jason Gott and freshman outside Jason Healy. Both had timely blocks and huge kills in both the first game and the second game, as the Irish again pulled away, winning and moving on to the finals, 25-19, 25-20.

The finals pitted rival and host Grand Valley State against the young Irish squad.

The Irish jumped out to an early lead, but the Lakers clawed their way back in to tie it at 13.

In a back-and-forth match, the play of both middles, Gott and Nejedly, as well as libero Peter Balestracci, was crucial, and all three stepped up to the task. Balestracci dug ball after ball, frustrating the Laker hitters, and the two middles

boomed blocks.

After tying the game at 22, the Lakers went on a small run to eek out a first-game victory 25-23.

The second game was much of the same. The Irish again pulled out to an early lead only to see the Lakers chip away at it. In the middle of game two, the Irish defense had its only extended lapse of

the match and struggled to side out the strong Grand Valley jump servers, giving the Lakers a 22-16 lead.

This would not be the end of the Irish, however, as they stormed back to close the gap to 23-22. After trading side-outs, the Lakers finished the game with a big kill, sending the Irish home in defeat 25-23, 25-23.

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Invite

continued from page 20

par for the day, tied in 12th overall.

Junior Lisa Maunu birdied her final hole to shoot a team-low 74 in the second round. Along with her first-round 77, she finished at 7-over-par and ed for 16th overall.

Freshman Katie Conway contributed scores of 79 and 76, finishing at 11-over-par for the tournament.

After shooting an 84 in the first round, sophomore Annie Brophy cleaned up her game, shooting a 75 in the second round. Brophy finished the day 15-over-par.

Sophomore Kristin Wetzel rounded out the Irish squad, finishing 19-over-par on the day. After struggling in the first round with a team-worst 85, she bounced back with a 78.

The Invitational concludes today, with the third and final round starting at 8 a.m.

Contact Mike Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu

Rutgers

continued from page 20

The Scarlet Knights' (20-4, 10-1 Big East) offense, which McGraw said is "slower than you'd guess," is second-to-last in the conference and averages only 61.1 points per game. They make up for it with their defense, however — ranking No. 2 in the Big East in scoring defense with 51.1 points allowed per game.

Despite its low scoring totals, Rutgers has offensive firepower at the guard position. Sportswriters recently voted senior Matee Ajavon, who scores 12.5 points per game, a finalist for the Nancy Lieberman Award, given to the nation's top point guard. Sophomore Epiphany Prince leads the team in scoring with 14.2 points per game.

"I think Matee is just sensa-

tional. She's going to be a first-round draft pick," McGraw said. "And Epiphany Prince is having an incredible year. If she hadn't been in foul trouble that first half of the Tennessee game, that would have been a whole different game."

Rutgers will challenge Notre Dame (20-5, 8-3) in an area the Irish usually dominate — bench performance. In a 71-50 defeat of South Florida Saturday, the Scarlet Knights' reserves outscored the Bulls' bench 31-3. No opposing bench has outscored Notre Dame's bench

"We're going into this game as an underdog. We can just play hard and see what happens."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

this season, and McGraw said she expects the back-ups to be strong again tonight.

"Our bench has done a great job all year," she said. "And that's been our strength, so we're really counting on our bench to step up in this game."

The reserves proved crucial in Notre Dame's 79-67 win



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Sophomore point guard Melissa Lechlitter dribbles up the court during Notre Dame's 81-66 victory over Pittsburgh on Feb. 10.

over Syracuse Saturday. Sophomore guard Melissa Lechlitter came off the bench and hit two shots in succession in the final three minutes to help the Irish break a 64-64 tie and pull away for the win.

"Those two field goals she had [were] really, really big,

and I thought [freshman forward] Becca [Bruszewski] had a couple of big ones too, and [freshman guard] Brittany [Mallory] in the first half," McGraw said. "I think the bench is really doing their job."

McGraw sounded pleased both with her team's performance during its five-game win streak and with the opportunity to play another top-five team.

"We're playing with a lot of confidence, and we have absolutely nothing to lose," she said. "We're going into this game as an underdog. We can just play hard and see what happens."

Although she didn't discuss the issue at length with her team, McGraw said the players felt the same way.

"I think they're thinking the same thing," she said. "We're the underdog, they're a great team. I think we know how good they are, we certainly respect their talent, but we also feel like we've had a chance to play some other Final Four teams, so we're not going to be intimidated."

Note:

◆ McGraw said senior guard Tulyah Gaines is probable for tonight's game after injuring her left shoulder against Syracuse.

"We'll have to see how she gets through practice [Monday]," McGraw said.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

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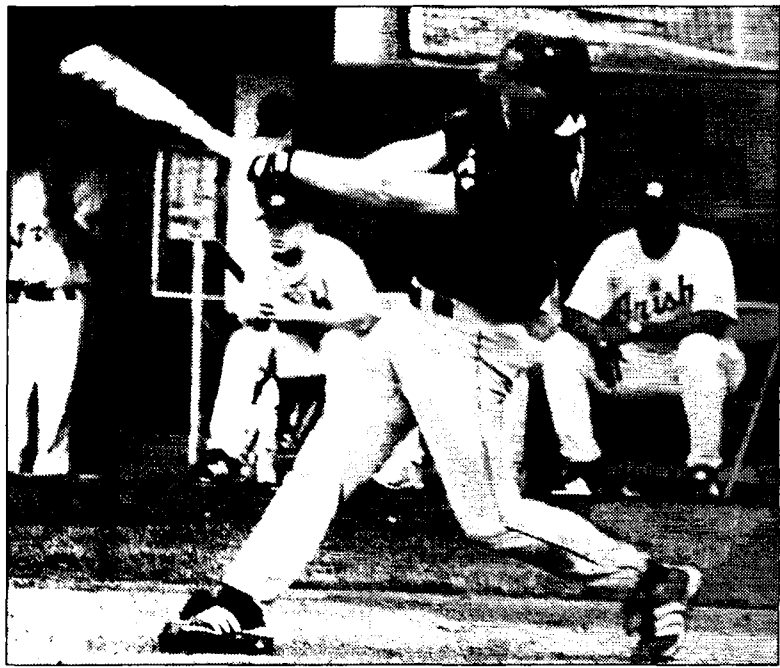


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Contact Chris at chinese@nd.edu



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Senior catcher Sean Gaston makes contact during Notre Dame's annual Blue-Gold game on Oct. 17, 2007.

Spring

continued from page 20

bring them back. Our work ethic this off-season has been excellent. There's a sense of purpose around here."

With the new season comes a group of fresh faces, and many of the Irish coaches are excited about the incoming freshman class. Several recruiting Web sites labeled the class one of the top-five in the nation.

Freshman Influence

"We got a little bit of everything in this group," Schrage said. "We needed to improve our team rather quickly and this class is going to help us do that. We got some power pitching with [Brian] Dupra, some speed with [Golden] Tate, and some power with [Matt] Scioscia."

Schrage said several freshmen could play early in the season. One of the names he mentioned was that of infielder Mick Doyle, who could spell some of the veterans because of his solid defensive technique and his ability to hit for contact.

Freshman catcher Cameron McConnell probably will contribute early because of the need to have a rotation of backstops. He looks to fill in for fifth-year senior Sean Gaston.

But with youth comes a price: The Irish count only seven seniors on the roster.

"We're very inexperienced," Schrage said. "Any time you have to pitch four freshmen, who knows what will happen. This group is very talented though, and has been featured in national showcases in high school. We're just excited to see how they do out there."

The group of seniors has taken it upon themselves to turn this youth and inexperience into something that can be harnessed as a positive on the field, Schrage said. In particular, Schrage credited his three captains — Gaston, outfielder Ross Brezovsky and catcher Chris Soriano — with providing strong leadership for the freshmen.

Pitching

While much of the roster is young, the Irish pitching staff is deep with returning starters. Junior David Phelps returns after a breakout season in which he became only the second Irish hurler to record 100 strikeouts (102) and post an ERA under 2.00

(1.88) in the same season.

Paired with Phelps is senior ace Wade Korpi, who brings a change of pace to the mound as a southpaw. Although Korpi struggled with his consistency last season, his fall workouts showed promise.

"We're a balanced team," Schrage said. "Last year we didn't have a lot of depth, but this year we do. It helps our team get better because there's always someone pushing you to perform your best. Our pitching is pretty deep. I'd say that's definitely our strength."

Notre Dame also returns junior closer Kyle Weiland. The junior made some mechanics adjustments to minimize throwing across his body. He features a fastball that ranges in the low-90s, but fools opposing batters with his biting breaking ball.



Schrage is pleased where Notre Dame stands heading into the season.

"We're a little under the radar now," Schrage said. "All of the coaches in the Big East picked us to finish fifth. I think that's just fine, because I know that we have the determination and pride to bring the trophy back to South Bend where it belongs."

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

Bogeys

continued from page 20

are just trying to get the rust out of their games. We have had a couple of high rounds that have hurt us, but I have overall been impressed with how they have performed so far."

When asked what his team needs to do to improve over the long run, Kubinski said Notre Dame needs more tournament experience.

"I think it is just a matter of getting a few rounds under our belts," Kubinski said. "With one or two tourna-

ments, I think we will be ready to compete at a high level after spring break, in Arizona [at the National Invitational Tournament March 23-25] and Georgia [Schenkel E-Z Go Invitational March 14-16]."

Sophomore Doug Fortner, who leads the Irish this season with a 72.77 stroke average, also shot a 73, with two eagles on the day. He is at 3-over for the tournament. The leader, Georgia State's Joel Sjöholm, is currently five-under par.

The Irish have faced some tough competition at the tournament, where 10 of the nation's top 50 teams are

competing. Notre Dame has held its own and is in a position to overtake Florida tomorrow, with some strong rounds from the entire team.

"We need to have all five guys in play, making sure they play solidly. It would be an accomplishment to finish above a top-10 team such as Florida in February in warm climate," Kubinski said.

The tournament finishes today. The Irish do not have another tournament for two weeks, when they travel to California to compete in the USC Collegiate Invitational.

Contact Pete Reisenauer at preisena@nd.edu

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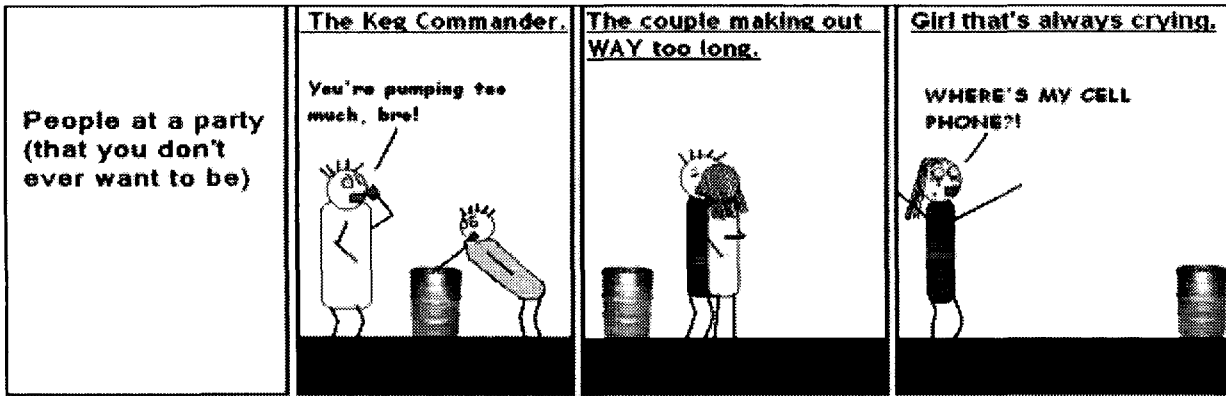
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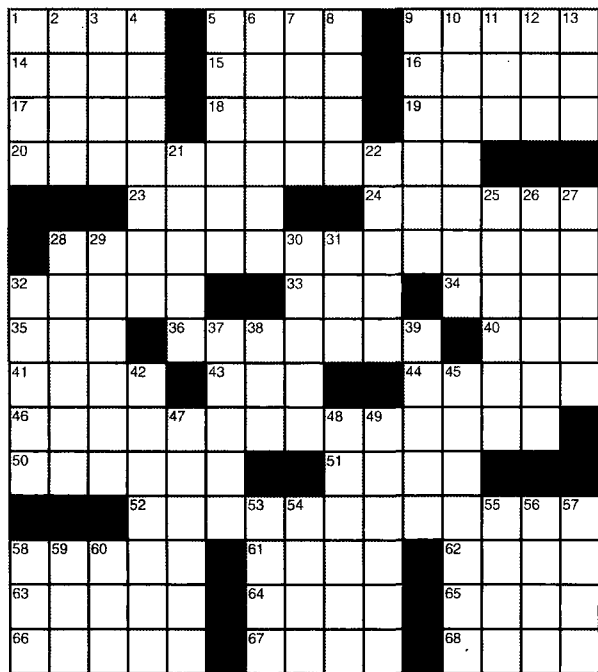
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- Across**
- 1 Desktop folder, e.g.
 - 5 John Candy's old comedy show
 - 9 William of _____, known for his "razor"
 - 14 Bay of Pigs locale
 - 15 Rock's Mötley _____
 - 16 He didn't give a damn
 - 17 Fedora feature
 - 18 Boot from office
 - 19 Angora and merino
 - 20 What you really saw?
 - 23 Sonora snack
 - 24 Pass by
 - 28 What you really saw?
 - 32 First secretary of homeland security
 - 33 _____ Lingus
 - 34 Quito's land: Abbr.
 - 35 Co. that owns Parlophone records
 - 36 Z's
 - 40 Tolkien humanoid
 - 41 Many want-ad offerings: Abbr.
 - 43 Play for a sap
 - 44 "I _____ amused!"
 - 46 What you really saw?
 - 50 "Super!"
 - 51 N.R.A. part: Abbr.
 - 52 What you thought you saw
 - 58 Tiny hairs
 - 61 "Scarface" star, 1932
 - 62 Economy-_____
 - 63 Don't exist
 - 64 Sidewalk stand drinks
 - 65 Raison d'_____
 - 66 Sheriff's symbol
 - 67 Abominable Snowman
 - 68 Circus barker
- Down**
- 1 Minuteman, e.g.: Abbr.
 - 2 Make perfect again
 - 3 End piece?
 - 4 "Hello" sticker
 - 5 Burn with an iron
 - 6 Defoe castaway
 - 7 Keister
 - 8 Challenge to Congress
 - 9 Big Brother's creator
 - 10 Bach work
 - 11 Corp. V.I.P.
 - 12 Turner Field locale: Abbr.
 - 13 See 25-Down
 - 21 Hall's singing partner
 - 22 Pooped
 - 25 With 13-Down, Pa. range
 - 26 Grow sick of
 - 27 Make into law
 - 28 Part of a nun's habit
 - 29 Blue-pencil wielder
 - 30 Judge of sex and violence in films

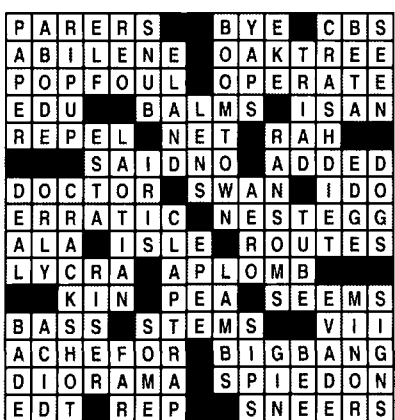


Puzzle by MALIA JACKSON AND NOAH SNYDER

- 31 Swarm member
- 32 Flinch, say
- 37 Peeved and showing it
- 38 Grp. helping those on shore leave
- 39 _____ hole in (corrodes)
- 42 Web recreation
- 45 Grade lowerers
- 47 Get wider
- 48 Refrigerator adornment
- 49 St. Francis's home
- 53 "If _____ be so bold..."
- 54 Pantyhose shade
- 55 Summon to court
- 56 Poet Pound
- 57 Fiddler's tune
- 58 It may have a medallion
- 59 Roth _____
- 60 Had charge of

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

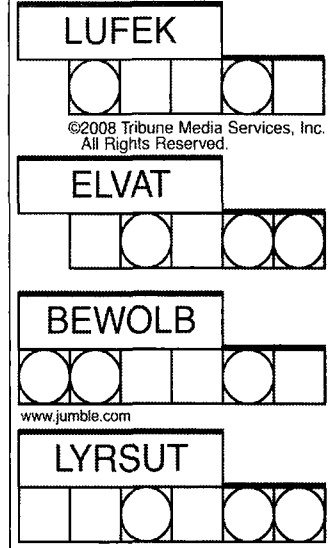


JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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



www.jumble.com

A: " _____ " _____ (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CRAWL FOAMY VORTEX MYRIAD
Answer: What the college student faced when he went to the dentist — AN "ORAL" EXAM

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



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

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, 27; Paris Hilton, 27; Bryan White, 34; Billie Joe Armstrong, 36

Happy Birthday: There should be lots of changes this year. Once you accept the inevitable, you will excel. Look for new beginnings and show your worth and you will find peace in your new direction. This is a year to move on. Your numbers are 12, 17, 28, 29, 37, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Emotional matters will surface if you aren't careful what you say at home. Take the day to pamper yourself and play with friends. Working on something that will benefit you professionally will help occupy your mind. 2 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The more receptive you are to what others say and do, the further ahead you will get. A project or hobby that interests you can be taken a step closer to where you see it going. A serious look at a relationship you are in or considering will lead to a decision. 4 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Attend a conference or trade show or engage in conversation with someone who has great ideas or similar interests. Don't let an older individual discourage you from pursuing your dreams. Follow your heart. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Change is in the works and, like it or not, you must carry on and follow through. Once you have put things behind you, you will benefit from the alterations made. You will learn something new about yourself and your habits. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A risk is evident so protect your interests if you want to come out unscathed. Don't be fooled by someone's boasting. Take a wait-and-see attitude about putting your own money or reputation on the line. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Set the standard and speak of your findings, ideas and intentions. It won't be long before someone joins your fight to make reforms or to get things done. You will have an open invitation that you should act upon quickly. 4 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let your emotions get the better of you. Stick to your beliefs without making a big deal out of what you want to do. As soon as you are too open or accommodating, others will take advantage of you. 2 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Follow your heart, your dreams and your desires and refuse to let any negative influences take hold. Now is not the time to give in. You have too much to lose and so much to gain. 5 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may be able to fool most people but someone will be on to what you are doing. Be careful not to stretch the truth or to take advantage of someone who is in a vulnerable position. Act fairly and honestly. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll be pulled in different directions. Your emotions will cause you to waffle; give in to someone who wants your undivided attention. Think about your relationships with others and which are worth keeping. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You must take action, set the stage and be the one to make the plans and follow through. You will get what you want and make a lasting impression with your friends, colleagues and loved ones. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): If you let your jealousy or temper take over, you will miss out on something good. Love is in the picture, so take a passionate approach and you will get altogether different results than if you are demanding. 5 stars

Birthday Baby: You are emotional yet steadfast and true to the people and the beliefs you care about. You are clever, ingenious and emotional. You are strong and loyal.

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

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

'Just stingy'

Rutgers another foe poised for deep run in NCAA Tournament

By **BILL BRINK**
Sports Writer

Notre Dame has already faced three potential Final Four teams this season in No. 4 Maryland, No. 1 Connecticut and No. 3 Tennessee.

Tonight, they face a fourth.

The No. 14 Irish, who left for Piscataway, N.J., after practice Monday, will play a No. 5 Rutgers team that beat previously undefeated Connecticut on Feb. 5 and might have knocked off then-No. 1 Tennessee on Feb. 11 if not for a controversial clock malfunction.

Despite the difficult games earlier in the season, coach Muffet McGraw said this will be Notre Dame's toughest yet.

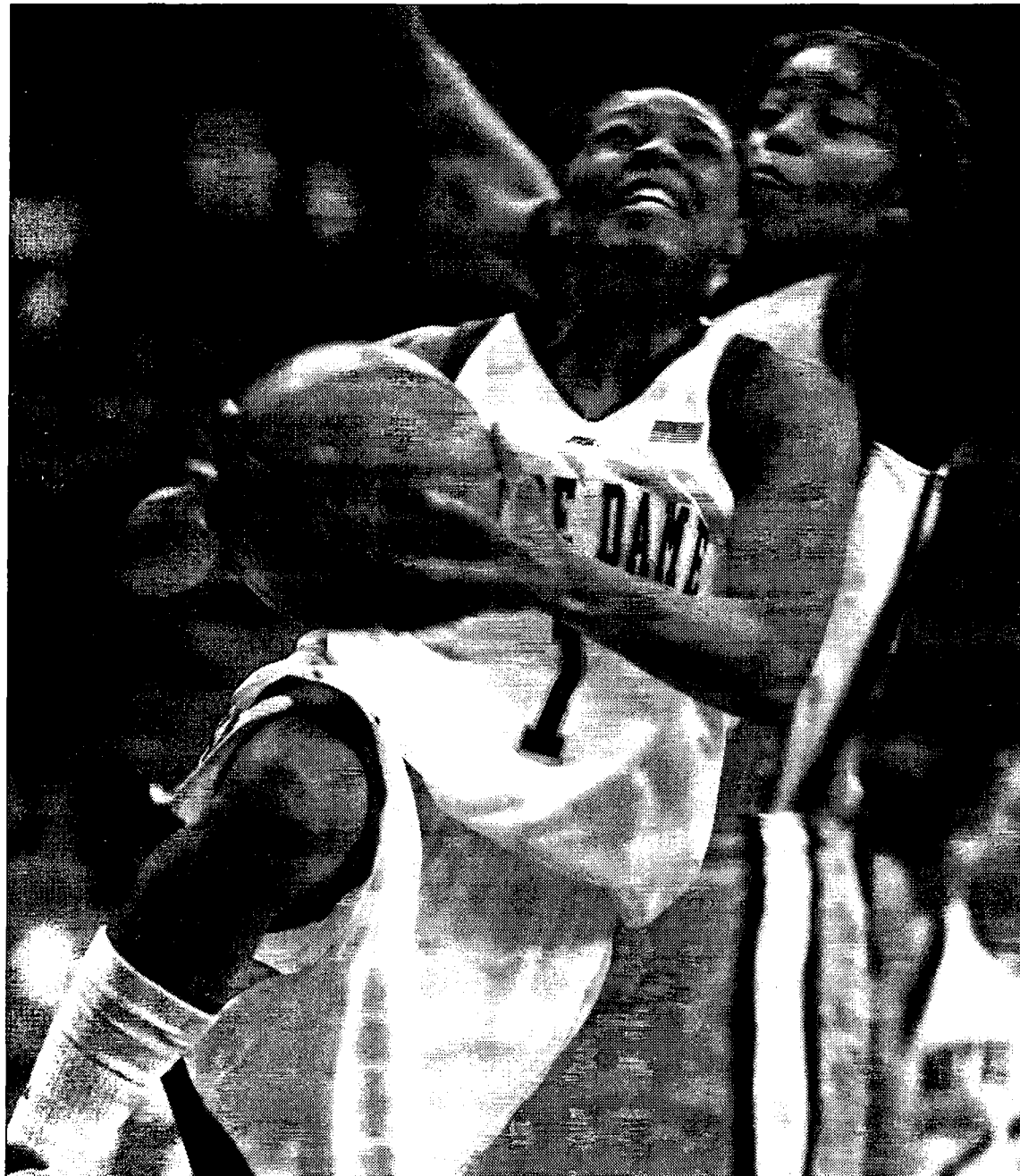
"One, it's on the road; and two, they're, I think, a better team than Tennessee," McGraw said.

McGraw said the key to success against the Scarlet Knights is simple.

"We have to shoot the ball well," she said. "They're just stingy, darn it, they really don't like to give up a lot of points."

"We've got to take care of the ball, we've got to get good shots, and we've gotta make them. We have to shoot the ball well because we're not going to get a lot of second-chance opportunities."

see RUTGERS/Page 17



Irish senior guard Tulyah Gaines drives past a Pittsburgh defender during Notre Dame's 81-66 victory on Feb. 10. The Irish travel to No. 5 Rutgers tonight.

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

MEN'S GOLF

Irish putts lipping out in Florida

By **PETE REISENAUER**
Sports Writer

Josh Sandman was five inches away from moving his team four spots up in the standings Monday at the John Hayt Collegiate Invitational in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

But the junior shot a 73 on the day with a few tantalizingly close bogeys.

Those bogeys, according to coach Jim Kubinski, would have given Sandman a 68 on the day and catapulted his team up in the standings from its current No. 15 position.

Sandman's 73 was "better than the average on the day," Kubinski said. The junior's close misses gave his coach hope for Tuesday's final-round action.

"We are within six shots of a half-dozen teams," Kubinski said.

Kubinski was impressed with how his team performed this weekend — its first tournament of the spring season — after having limited practice at home due to weather conditions. He noted that there was only one other northern team at the tournament this weekend — Indiana.

"Given where we are at this point in the season, I think we are doing a nice job," Kubinski said. "The guys are competing against all warm climate teams down here, and

see BOGEYS/Page 18

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish start slow, enter final round in seventh

Freshman Park is 12th overall, now leads team

By **MIKE BLASCO**
Sports Writer

Early struggles landed No. 20 Notre Dame in a tie for seventh in a field of 15 at the Central District Invitational in Parrish, Fla.

The Irish stumbled out of the gate, posting a team score of 315 in the first round Saturday, but responded

with a second-round 300 to finish with a combined score of 615, 39-over-par. Host No. 23 Michigan State leads with a comfortable 14-stroke lead, finishing with a 13-over-par



Park

589.

The field tightens up considerably behind the Spartans, with the second through sixth teams separated by only nine strokes.

No. 14 Kent State is in second, ending the day with a 27-over-par 603. No. 25 Texas A&M and No. 37 Ohio State are tied one stroke behind that; Ohio State's 296 was the lowest team round of the day. No. 31 Texas rounded out the top five with a 31-over-par 607.

First-round shortcomings followed by second-round improvements were the order of the day for Notre Dame, with each golfer either matching or improving her first-round scores.

Freshman So-Hyun Park, who leads the Irish with a 72.53 scoring average, shot 75-75 and finished at 6-over-

see INVITE/Page 17

BASEBALL

New faces bring optimism

Improving on 28-28 record remains focus

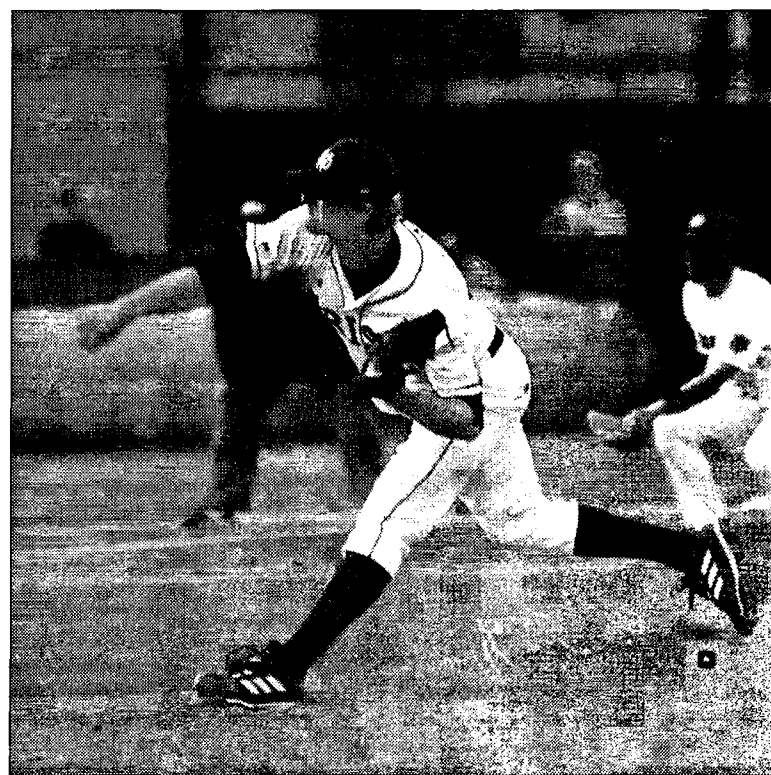
By **LORENZO REYES**
Sports Writer

In baseball, each spring represents a chance at redemption.

For Notre Dame, the upcoming season will be just that — an opportunity to reclaim its position as one of the Big East's elite squads. Coming off of a middling 28-28 season in his first year with the Irish, coach Dave Schrage said there is an emerging sentiment of renewal and resolve in the locker room.

"I think there's a lot of pride in the clubhouse," Schrage said. "There are some players here who have won Big East championships and they want to

see SPRING/Page 18



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish pitcher Brett Gaffy delivers during Notre Dame's 4-3 victory over Illinois-Chicago on May 1, 2007.