

# THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 42 : ISSUE 103

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2008

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

## Construction cause of SMC gas leak

Authorities respond to line breach near Le Mans Hall; report it is harmless and contained

By LIZ HARTER and  
MANDI STIRONE  
News Writers

Construction workers installing storm sewers on the south side of Le Mans Hall, east of the Moreau Center for the Arts, struck a low-pressure gas line, allowing a small amount of gas to seep from the ground onto Saint Mary's campus at approximately 6:30 p.m. Monday.

Timm Ringer, the College's maintenance working supervisor, said there is no danger to students, but said he did not know how long it would take to turn the gas off.

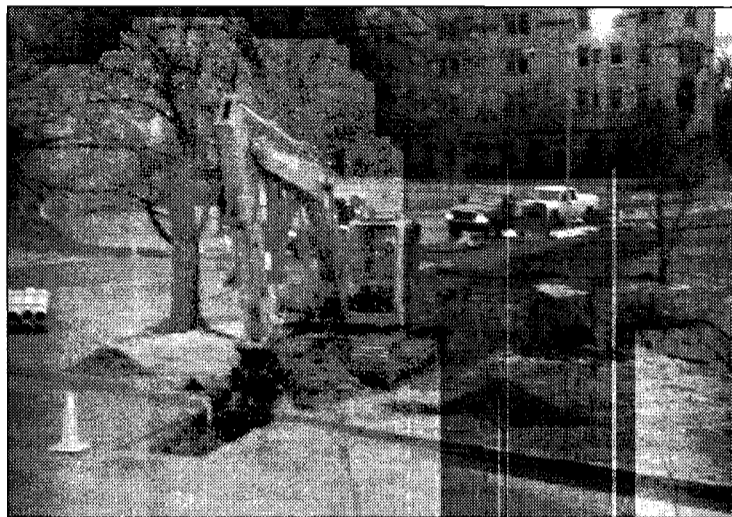
"We brought in the

Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO), we're waiting from the word from them to be able to shut this down to see what it's going to affect on the buildings," Ringer said.

Bill Hambling, director of the facilities department, said in a statement to The Observer that NIPSCO was on campus within 10 minutes of the gas leak.

"NIPSCO quickly capped the line and determined there was no need for an evacuation of either building," Hambling said in the statement, released by Gwen O'Brien, director of media rela-

see LEAK/page 4



MANDI STIRONE/The Observer

Construction workers tend to a gas leak near Le Mans Hall Monday. NIPSCO authorities reported the leak was harmless.

## College chooses new RAs

44 students selected to oversee dorm life

By LIZ HARTER  
Saint Mary's Editor

Shortly before spring break, the Saint Mary's Office of Residence Life informed 44 students that they would be hired as resident assistants (RAs) for the 2008-2009 academic year. The group includes 31 students who are new to the position.

Life as a Saint Mary's RA intertwines dorm living, the full-time workload of a college student and the significant responsibilities of creating unique living situations for students who decide to take on the job.

Sophomore Melissa Croft said she was very excited after being informed that she will be the RA of 5 South in McCandless Hall, but is also "very nervous, but the good kind of nervous."

She said she has wanted to be an RA since she found out what the position entailed when her older sister, Elaine, attended the University of Chicago.

"I think it is a really unique opportunity to be a part of the campus community and to get to know several groups of people including the entire residence life staff, my particular hall's staff and of course the women in my individual section," Croft said.

Croft said she is looking for-

see RESIDENCE/page 4

## St. Patrick's Day kicks off March Madness

Student Activities holds first-ever basketball shootout; championship party awarded to winners



DAN JACOBS/The Observer

Students compete in the St. Patrick's Day shootout for a private NCAA Championship party with 25 of their friends.

By ELIZABETH KUHN  
News Writer

Student Activities held its first-ever basketball shootout competition in celebration of St. Patrick's Day and the beginning of March Madness Monday on the Fieldhouse Mall. Students lined up to shoot free throws and 3-pointers in hopes of winning a private NCAA Championship party in the LaFortune Ballroom for themselves and 25 friends.

"We just wanted to offer the students a way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, as well as the men's and women's basketball teams, who have done so well this year," said Erin Sekerek, the

Student Programs Coordinator at the Student Activities Office. "We thought this would be a perfect way, especially since the women's selection show is tonight."

The shootout, which was organized by the Student Activities Programming team, began at 4 p.m., with participants attempting five shots from the free-throw line and three shots from the 3-point line.

The real challenge began at 8 p.m. with an intense game of knockout for all students who had qualified by making 10 out of the possible 14 points. The winner of this game would then take home the grand prize of the pri-

see BRACKETS/page 4

## ND installs new alert system

Second trial proves more successful; OIT improves e-mail delivery

By MADELINE BUCKLEY  
News Writer

More than 20,000 text messages, voice-mails, and e-mails were successfully sent to students, faculty, and staff Friday afternoon as part of the University's effort to set up a system of communication for an emergency.

The ND alert test was a response to problems that occurred in the previous test of the system, which took place in November, Chief Information Officer Gordon Wishon said.

"We specifically ran this test to see if the refine-

ments we made had been effective," Wishon said. "We don't have all the results in yet, but the preliminary results look very good."

After the first system test, OIT noted a delayed delivery of a number of the emergency e-mails, and students and faculty reported "garbled voice messages," Wishon said. In the past months, OIT looked closely at these failures, and made the necessary changes.

To improve the delayed e-mails, OIT has worked with the system administrators and "made some changes in the way campus e-mail is delivered," Wishon said.

Before the campus-wide test, the department conducted some internal tests, all which indicated that the changes were effective.

As for the voice-mails, OIT discovered the source of the problems, and Wishon said there have been no reports of garbled messages. Of all the methods of communication, Wishon said text messaging worked best.

"Over 96 percent of all texts were delivered successfully," Wishon said. "Our text messaging system keeps exceeding our expectations."

see ALERT/page 4

## Alumnae discusses leadership roles

By NIKKI TAYLOR  
News Writer

Saint Mary's alumnae and Board of Trustees member Paula Dawning spoke about her life and qualities she thinks are important for women in leadership roles at the Saint Mary's Leadership Luncheon Monday.

A South Bend native, Dawning took the audience through her life and the important lessons she took away from her varied experiences. She said she can see the formation of leadership qualities throughout her life.

For example, Dawning was the fifth of thirteen children.

"Being one of thirteen kids, you

learn how to speak up for yourself, or you'll get lost in the crowd," Dawning said. "You learn how to fend for yourself."

Dawning was very thankful for her Saint Mary's education and the opportunities it gave her, including the chance to spend her sophomore year in Angers, France. While in France, Dawning had her first real experience with being different, as she was one of the only African-Americans in the city.

"I learned how to go in and be different, and be unique. That served me well in corporate America," Dawning said.

After graduation Dawning

see LUNCHEON/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

# The year's best holiday

As I sit here and think about the cold, the snow, and the mountain of homework that is piling up on my desk, I find myself not being able to wipe a giant smile off of my face. Why? It's because my favorite holiday occurs this week. Easter? Nope. Better. The best holiday of the entire year is the first and second rounds of the Men's NCAA Tournament a four day basketball extravaganza that is unlike any other sporting event anywhere.

**Andy Zicarelli**

*Sports Wire Editor*

I know I am not alone. America is coming down with a case of March Madness along with me, whether it is for good or for bad. Online business magazine Slate.com estimates that \$3.8 billion are lost in worker productivity during the NCAA tournament and that \$750 million are wagered every year on the tournament. That isn't even counting the millions of classes skipped by high school and college students to catch the games.

But there is a reason for it. More than any other sporting event, the NCAA tournament allows for fan participation by filling out a bracket (and likely wagering a few dollars in a pool). It is the only event where you get to pick the winner of such a vast amount of games, sliding each team as much or as little as you decide. Don't like a team? Pick them to lose in the first round and then root vehemently against them. Or, go ahead and do as I did and put the Fighting Irish in the Final Four. You are ultimately in charge of your bracket, and the power is intoxicating.

And because everyone has a bracket, each of the 63 games has a meaning. You, personally, have picked a winner for all of the games that are on at any given moment. Since you have probably laid down some cash, or are just playing for bragging rights with your friends (or both), you cheer hard for your team to win in every single game, no matter how much you cared about the team one week ago, before the tournament started. Go ahead, watch and see how many people will be glued to the UNLV-Kent State game on Thursday afternoon.

The only things we love more than our brackets are upsets. It is an American institution, something we have seen over and over again in our lives. We love to see the scrappy underdog challenge and beat the talented favorite who might not be giving them their due. It is the reason why America fell in love with George Mason, a No. 11 seed who slayed basketball giants North Carolina and Connecticut on its way to the Final Four in 2006. And even though these underdogs are not as talented, and have almost no realistic chance to win the tournament, it is a once a year treat to see them play with the intensity and passion that they do.

So go ahead, skip class, ditch work and become a couch potato for the weekend. Use this column as an excuse note if you need to. The best holiday of the year starts Thursday at 12:20 p.m. and I, for one, am not going to miss a minute.

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

Contact Andy Zicarelli at [azicare@nd.edu](mailto:azicare@nd.edu)

**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 WAS THE BEST CONCERT YOU'VE EVER BEEN TO OR WANTED TO ATTEND?**



**Cate McGillivray**

*freshman Pasquerilla West*

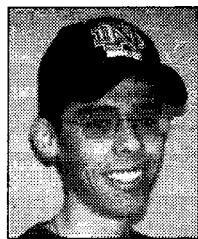
*"Spice Girls, because Scary Spice's microphone doubled as a whip."*



**Chantelle Bryant**

*sophomore Pasquerilla East*

*"I would go see Usher because he's sexy."*



**Geoffrey Mooney**

*junior Alumni*

*"I would go to a U2 concert. They're my favorite band."*



**Michelle Pratt**

*junior Pasquerilla East*

*"OAR was cool. They performed really well and it was a cool venue."*



**Paul Zakas**

*sophomore Keenan*

*"Best concert I've been to was Staind because I like to rock out hardcore."*



**Savannah Breen**

*freshman Breen-Phillips*

*"If I could go to any concert I'd go to the first Woodstock. It was a defining point in the history of music."*



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

**Students, some dressed in Irish garb and riding tandem bicycles, parade on DeBartolo quad on their way to LaFortune in celebration of St. Patrick's Day Monday.**

**OFFBEAT**

**Man sues strip club over lap dance eye injury**

NEW YORK — A businessman claims in a lawsuit that he was injured when a stripper giving him a lap dance swiveled and smacked him in the face with the heel of her shoe.

Stephen Chang, a securities trader, said in court papers filed Friday that he was at the Hot Lap Dance Club near Madison Square Garden and was getting a paid lap dance when the accident occurred early Nov. 2, 2007.

According to the lawsuit, as the dancer swung around, the heel of her shoe hit him in the

eye, causing him "serious injuries."

A man who identified himself as the manager of the Hot Lap Dance Club said he was unaware of the accident or the state Supreme Court lawsuit.

**Arsonist caught after stealing police car's gas**

LAMBERTVILLE, Mich. — A Monroe County sheriff's detective on a stakeout to catch an arsonist arrested the suspect as he tried to steal gas from the officer's cruiser. Officers were placed around homes currently under construction after police had gotten two arson complaints within the

past week.

Several officers, including Detective Thomas Redmond, watched the 17-year-old walk away from his Lambertville home early Sunday carrying a bucket before he approached Redmond's unmarked vehicle.

Police say the teen unscrewed the gas cap and started siphoning the fuel before Redmond got out of the car and chased him.

Authorities say the teen later admitted to the two arsons as well as three other arsons in 2006.

*Information compiled by the Associated Press.*

**IN BRIEF**

The next debate in the Student/Faculty Debate Series: "Global Warming: How Should We Respond?" will take place today at 7 p.m. in the Dooley Room of the LaFortune Student Center.

Notre Dame baseball will play Xavier today at 5:05 p.m. in Frank Eck Stadium.

Campus Ministry will host a campus-wide Stations of the Cross today at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. A procession to the Basilica will depart from the Grotto at 7 p.m.

The American Cancer Society Club of Notre Dame will host the Relay for Life Kickoff today from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the LaFortune Student Ballroom.

Marilyn Krysl, the 2008 Sullivan Prize Winner, will read from her prize winning collection of short stories called "Dinner with Osama" Wednesday, March 19 at 7:30 pm in the Gold Room of the North Dining Hall.

The Notre Dame Peace Fellowship will hold a discussion called "What Can We Do to Call For Peace?" Wednesday, March 19 at 7 p.m. in the Dooley Room of the LaFortune Student Center.

The film "Persepolis," which tells the story of a young girl living in Iran during the Islamic Revolution, will be shown at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

*To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to [obsnews@nd.edu](mailto:obsnews@nd.edu)*

	TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>LOCAL WEATHER</b>						
	HIGH 60 LOW 47	HIGH 46 LOW 35	HIGH 38 LOW 23	HIGH 38 LOW 25	HIGH 42 LOW 29	HIGH 46 LOW 23

# ND aids Nat'l Park Service

Three undergraduates conduct research related to cutting costs

Special to The Observer

The University-National Park Energy Partnership Program (UNPEPP) has funded a joint project between the Notre Dame Energy Center and the National Park Service at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore to provide energy related consulting services to the park during this coming summer.

During the course of the project, three undergraduate students from the University will work with park officials, conducting onsite research that will result in specific recommendations for capital improvement at the Indiana Dunes facilities.

According to Joan F.

Brennecke, Keating-Crawford Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and director of the Notre Dame Energy Center, the students' work will focus on energy conservation and savings.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for the students to put their training into practice in a real-world setting that encompasses project management

skills, teamwork and leadership opportunities," she said. "It also promotes discussion on a realistic and responsible use of resources."

As part of the project, students will be required to track and quantify the cost savings — and projected payback in terms of resources, such as energy use reduction and lower greenhouse gas emissions — relating to their recommendations.

*"This is a wonderful opportunity for the students to put their training into practice in a real-world setting that encompasses project management skills, teamwork and leadership opportunities."*

**Joan Brennecke**  
chemical engineering professor

Participants in the 10-week project are Tom Furlong, a junior studying aerospace and mechanical engineering; Brian Klein, a senior political science major; and Jackie Miranda Mullen, a sophomore pursuing degrees in German and history.

Among the projects the students are scheduled to complete during the summer program are energy audits of one-third of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore buildings, designs for a geothermal heat pump system for the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education,

designs for a grass roof system for Building 110 at the park headquarters, and the creation of educational materials for park guests that describe the proposed improvements and energy savings.

UNPEPP is a nationwide program that links universities with national parks to address energy issues within the parks. Through these partnerships, parks gain assistance with energy related issues, while students obtain problem-solving experience in the energy field. Since its inception in 1997, UNPEPP has funded numerous partnerships between universities and national parks. Funding typically ranges from \$15,000 to \$20,000 per project and is used to support students, and faculty and equipment purchases.

The Notre Dame Energy Center works to develop new technologies to meet the global energy challenge. Housed in the College of Engineering, the center focuses on five areas of expertise: energy efficiency, safe nuclear waste storage, clean coal utilization, carbon dioxide separation, and storage and renewable resources. The center, which was established in 2005, is also committed to playing key roles in energy education and literacy, the development of energy policy and the exploration of the ethical implications associated with energy.

# NYC investigates crane safety after accident

Associated Press

NEW YORK — They are part of New York's skyline: hundreds of spindly construction cranes like the one that toppled over the weekend, pulverizing parts of a city block below and killing seven people. As the machines work furiously amid a supercharged building boom, experts say it's always a risk.

Operating cranes in a city of 8.2 million people where apartments and offices are stacked so closely and on top of one another is especially tricky.

"Because of the tightness of a construction site in New York City, there's always the problem of having less space, and also there's the problem that if anything does go wrong, there are a lot of people at risk," said Gene Corley, a structural engineer.

The city will launch a safety sweep of the cranes in use around the city, Buildings Commissioner Patricia Lancaster said Monday, although officials have no reason to believe the accident was "indicative of a larger problem."

Six construction workers and a woman in town for St. Patrick's Day were killed Saturday when the crane broke away from an apartment tower under construction and toppled like a tree

onto buildings as far as a block away. The last three bodies were found Monday.

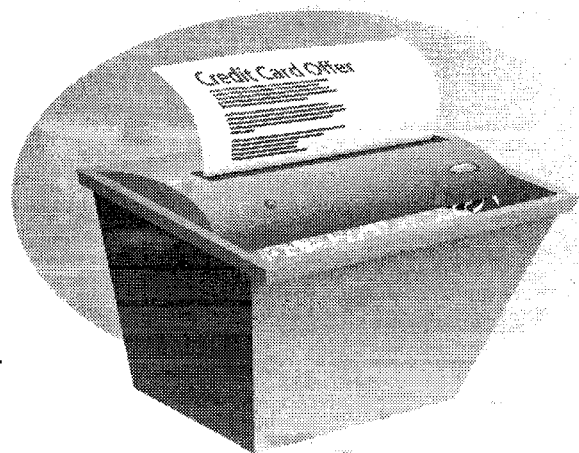
The crane was being lengthened with a new section — a process known as "jumping" — when it tumbled to the street. A 6-ton steel collar used to secure the crane to the building came loose, the buildings department said.

When the collar fell, it clanged into another collar on the ninth floor that acted as a major anchor, and without that support the counterweights at the top of the crane's tower pitched it over, the buildings department said.

Pieces of the crane hurled themselves forward as they crashed to the ground, coming to a rest a full block away. By the time it was over, a brownstone was pulverized, at least seven other buildings were damaged, and 24 people were injured.

The scale of the damage gives some sense of a construction crane's heft and span.

This particular model, known as a tower crane, had a 200-foot mast, comprising 13 sections that each weighed 11,000 pounds. The cab and deck at the top of the mast weighed about 50,000 pounds, the boom weighed about 20,000 pounds, and the counterweights added up to about 80,000 pounds, city officials said.



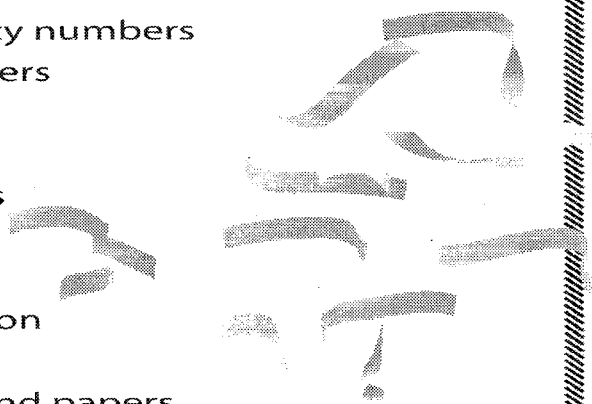
Is it secure?

**Shred to be sure!**

Look for the shredding bin in your ND Residence Hall

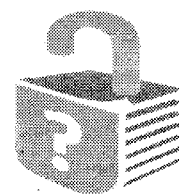
### Documents you should shred include:

- ✓ Documents with Social Security numbers
- ✓ Credit card statements and offers
- ✓ Bank statements and offers
- ✓ Checks or copies of checks
- ✓ Credit and debit card numbers
- ✓ Driver's license numbers
- ✓ NetID and other passwords
- ✓ Passport and/or visa information
- ✓ Medical information
- ✓ Grades, old tests, class notes and papers
- ✓ Other personal and confidential information



When in doubt, shred it!

secure



# Residence

continued from page 1

ward to leading students in what is traditionally a freshman hallway, and hopes that she can bring them together through section events that she is already planning.

"I don't even know if this is feasible but I would really like to have a Mario Kart tournament as a section event," she said. "I want to have events that allow the girls to better get to know each other and the campus community."

Croft said she would try to strike a balance between sticking to the rules and letting her residents have fun.

"I don't want to be known as the stickler for the rules who girls are scared to approach or be around, but I also don't want to be the 'joke' RA who lets you get away with anything, and the girls will try to manipulate," she said. "I hope to find a balance."

Current junior and RA Deanna Molosky said RAs are put in the dorms to create a strong sense of unity within

their sections, among other sections and between the different halls.

She decided to reapply for the position because she feels that it has helped her grow as a student and as a person.

"I want to continue to help the [Saint Mary's] community in a way that best fits my talents," Molosky said. "The staff provides a great support system that helps me not only as a resident advisor, but also as a student."

She hopes to create a neighborly atmosphere in her section of Regina Hall next year and continue the events that she and the staff in that hall have created throughout the past year.

"I would love to continue the all hall events that Regina Hall hosted this year such as Royal Indulgence and Don't Be Dopey as well as organize programs that help to make the women of Saint Mary's more interdependent with the people on-campus and in the South Bend community," Molosky said. "Community was an important theme this year on staff and I definitely want to continue that theme throughout

the upcoming year as well."

To ensure the safety of students, there are certain criteria that RAs must meet to be considered for the position.

Candidates must not have any outstanding debts to the College or be on disciplinary probation, the Residence Life Web site said. Applicants must also be at least rising sophomores and have at least a 2.5 grade point average.

"When hiring RAs, we are looking for women who are passionate about making a positive impact at Saint Mary's in this leadership role," Kathleen O'Leary, assistant director of the Office of Residence Life said. "We are looking for students who will be able to balance their academic workload with the demands of the RA position and have fun doing it."

RAs' residential placement depends entirely upon where Residence Life feels the candidates' strengths would best fit the needs of the residents.

Croft said she knows that being an RA is a full time job, but thinks she will be able to handle having to set aside large amounts of time to be on call and meeting with other RAs. They must also be available to work the front desk in case a shift needs to be covered at the last minute.

"I think it will help keep me on my toes," she said.

Contact Liz Harter at [eharte01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:eharte01@saintmarys.edu)

# Brackets

continued from page 1

vate, catered party on April 7.

Students also received free food and St. Patrick's Day paraphernalia that Student Activities was passing out, from green necklaces to buttons that said "Worlds Cutest Leprechaun."

Despite the cold and cloudy weather that turned into snow and sleet around 5 p.m., Sekerek said they had a good turnout.

"We were packed the first half hour, and people have been trickling in since then," Sekerek said.

The contestants ranged in skill and commitment, with some picking up a basketball for their first time ever and

others sinking shots with no problem at all.

Junior Liz Pike and a friend tried their best to gain the coveted 10 points despite their lack of experience.

"It's cold to be out here, but definitely worth it," she said.

Other players took the game much more seriously, showing off skills they had perfected in hours of practice. Celebrating after dropping his tenth point, Sophomore Bryan Hayes looked toward the future.

"I just want to show scouts out there that I'm for real," he said.

SAO interns Camille Gabriel and Kyle Chamberlain, who have worked on the project since its initial proposal, agreed: "It's entertaining, to say the least."

Contact Elizabeth Kuhn at [ekuhn1@nd.edu](mailto:ekuhn1@nd.edu)

*"I just want to show scouts out there that I'm for real."*

**Brian Hayes**  
sophomore

# Leak

continued from page 1

tions for Saint Mary's.

Ringer said none of the buildings on campus should be negatively affected by the leak because the dorms use steam heat.

"There's no gas whatsoever in LeMans [Hall], except for the gas dryers,"

Ringer said. "[In the student center, the] dining hall kitchen equipment will be affected, we're aware of that."

Many students first noticed the gas leak as they walked from dinner to their dorms.

"I first smelt it around 7 p.m. before signs went up on the doors," junior Krista Durski said. "It smells like dead fish, but I live near the river and it always smells like that when it rains so I didn't think anything of it. I didn't even know about the leak until the signs were posted."

Ringer also said Opus Hall, the senior on-campus apartments, may be affected, though he is not sure in what way.

He said maintenance men are watching Moreau Hall and O'Laughlin Auditorium because of the proximity to the gas leak.

"We have secured the air handler so that the gases can't get in [to that building]," Ringer said.

Ringer said when NIPSCO says it is safe, maintenance men will turn off the gas main to repair the break. Maintenance and security will take extra precautions before doing so.

"Before we turn the gas [back] on we'll do walkthroughs of all the buildings and make sure that each and every device is working," Ringer said.

Hambling said in the statement that the pilot light for the dryers in LeMans and the kiln in Moreau, both directly affected by the leak, will be turned

back on this morning. "At no time were residents of LeMans in any danger," he said in the statement.

Despite reassurances saying the air was not dangerous, signs were posted on the entrances to all of the residence halls asking students to refrain from smoking due to the gas leak. The handmade signs made no explanation of where the gas leak occurred or what caused it.

Contact Liz Harter at [eharte01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:eharte01@saintmarys.edu) and Mandi Stirone at [astiro01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:astiro01@saintmarys.edu)

*"Before we turn the gas [back] on we'll do walkthroughs of all the buildings and make sure that each and every device is working."*

**Timm Ringer**  
maintenance supervisor

# Alert

continued from page 1

The feedback from the students and faculty has been positive as well.

"I have been around campus and have heard from students that they received the messages and that they are thankful that the university is sending these messages," Wishon said.

While the test was successful, OIT will continue to look for ways to build upon and improve the ND alert system, Wishon said.

"We continue to explore other means to get emergency notices out to the community," he said. "Student safety is our number one concern."

Currently, the University is developing a public address system in addition to the ND alerts. By December 2008, every building on campus will have a device installed which will allow the

University to transmit a message on a loudspeaker to the inhabitants of the building in the event of an emergency, said Amy Coughlin, Director of Project Management.

"It is a public address system that utilizes the campus network to communicate an intended message," she said.

Presently, technicians are installing the devices in the residence halls, dining halls, and classrooms of South Quad before moving to other buildings on campus, Coughlin said. "The public address system will provide the University flexibility in communicating an urgent message to the campus community, whether related to weather or another hazard," she said.

The University will be able to choose to send a message to a specific building or area, or alert the whole campus.

Every building will also have speakers on the exterior of the structure to alert students outside, and there will be speakers directed at athletic fields, the Warren Golf Course, and Stepan Center, she said. After the completion of the system,

the University will schedule periodic testing, Coughlin said. The project is the joint effort of Business Operations, Risk Management and Safety, and OIT.

Contact Madeline Buckley at [mbuckley@nd.edu](mailto:mbuckley@nd.edu)

*"I have been around campus and have heard from students that they are thankful that the University is sending these messages."*

**Gordon Wishon**  
chief information officer

## THIS WEEK IN IRISH SPORTS

# BASEBALL

## TUESDAY, MARCH 18TH @ 5PM

### VS. XAVIER





WWW.EVERYONESIRISH.COM

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Suicide bomber leaves at least 43 dead

BAGHDAD — A female suicide bomber struck Shiite worshippers in the holy city of Karbala on Monday, an official and a witness said, killing at least 43 people and leaving pools of blood on the street leading to one of Iraq's most revered mosques.

The blast was the deadliest in a series of attacks that left at least 72 Iraqis dead, including six youths killed when mortar rounds slammed into a soccer field in eastern Baghdad.

Two U.S. soldiers also were killed Monday in a roadside bombing north of Baghdad, bringing the American death toll closer to 4,000 as the U.S.-led war enters its sixth year. At least 3,990 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

### Ireland encourages alcohol constraint

DUBLIN, Ireland — Irish politicians and police urged the nation Monday to have fun during St. Patrick's Day festivities — but not too much fun.

Prime Minister Bertie Ahern called on celebrants to drink moderately "and not to get behind the wheel after doing it."

"There's no reason (why) people can't enjoy themselves and be part of the celebrations without going over the top," Ahern said in Washington, where he was presenting President Bush with a ceremonial bowl of shamrocks.

Police vowed to crack down harder than in previous years on rowdiness and drunken driving, which typically follow the parades in Dublin

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Construction worker found in rubble

NEW YORK — The last of seven bodies was pulled from the rubble Monday at the site of a crane collapse that obliterated a town house and severely damaged other buildings.

Six construction workers and a woman in town for St. Patrick's Day were killed Saturday when the crane broke away from an apartment tower under construction and toppled like a tree onto buildings as far as a block away. The last three bodies were found Monday.

A preliminary city investigation found that the crane toppled after a steel collar used to tie it to the side of the building fell as workers attempted to install it.

The crane, which rose 19 stories, came crashing down on a Manhattan neighborhood a few blocks from the United Nations on the city's east side.

### McCartney reaches divorce settlement

LONDON — Money may not buy her love, but Paul McCartney's ex sure has a lot more of it now.

One of Britain's bitterest divorces reached a settlement Monday when Heather Mills was awarded \$48.6 million — an enormous sum, but a fraction of what she sought and a sliver of the former Beatle's \$800 million fortune.

Mills declared herself "very, very, very pleased" with a payout that amounted to about \$34,000 for each day of her four-year marriage. But some legal experts were surprised the former model, who has been widely portrayed in the British media as a gold-digger, did not get more.

## LOCAL NEWS

### Man charged with bleach attack

HIGHLAND, Ind. — A woman remained hospitalized and her husband was behind bars on attempted murder charges after police say he poured bleach into her mouth while she was sleeping.

Ronald Kownacki, 37, was in the Lake County Jail on \$100,000 bond Monday on preliminary charges of attempted murder, aggravated battery, battery and neglect of a dependent.

The Lake County prosecutor's office said formal charges had not been filed in the case.

When police arrived at the apartment the Kownackis share with their two children on March 11 they found Jennifer Kownacki unconscious in a hallway, but she regained consciousness during an ambulance ride to Community Hospital.

She told officers she woke up to her husband pouring bleach over her face and into her mouth, and that he beat her as she resisted.

# Paterson sworn in following scandal

*New York's first black governor succeeds Eliot Spitzer, eager to move past predecessor's collapse*

Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — David Paterson was sworn in as governor Monday before a crowd of lawmakers who chanted his name and cheered his message of unity in a state eager to move past his predecessor's sordid and speedy political collapse.

Paterson became the state's first black chief executive and nation's second legally blind governor almost exactly a week after allegations first surfaced that Gov. Eliot Spitzer was "Client 9" of a high-priced call girl service.

"We move forward. Today is Monday. There is work to be done," Paterson said. "There was an oath to be taken. There's trust that needs to be restored. There are issues that need to be addressed."

Spitzer, according to ex-aides, was at his Columbia County farmhouse 48 miles south at the time of Paterson's swearing-in.

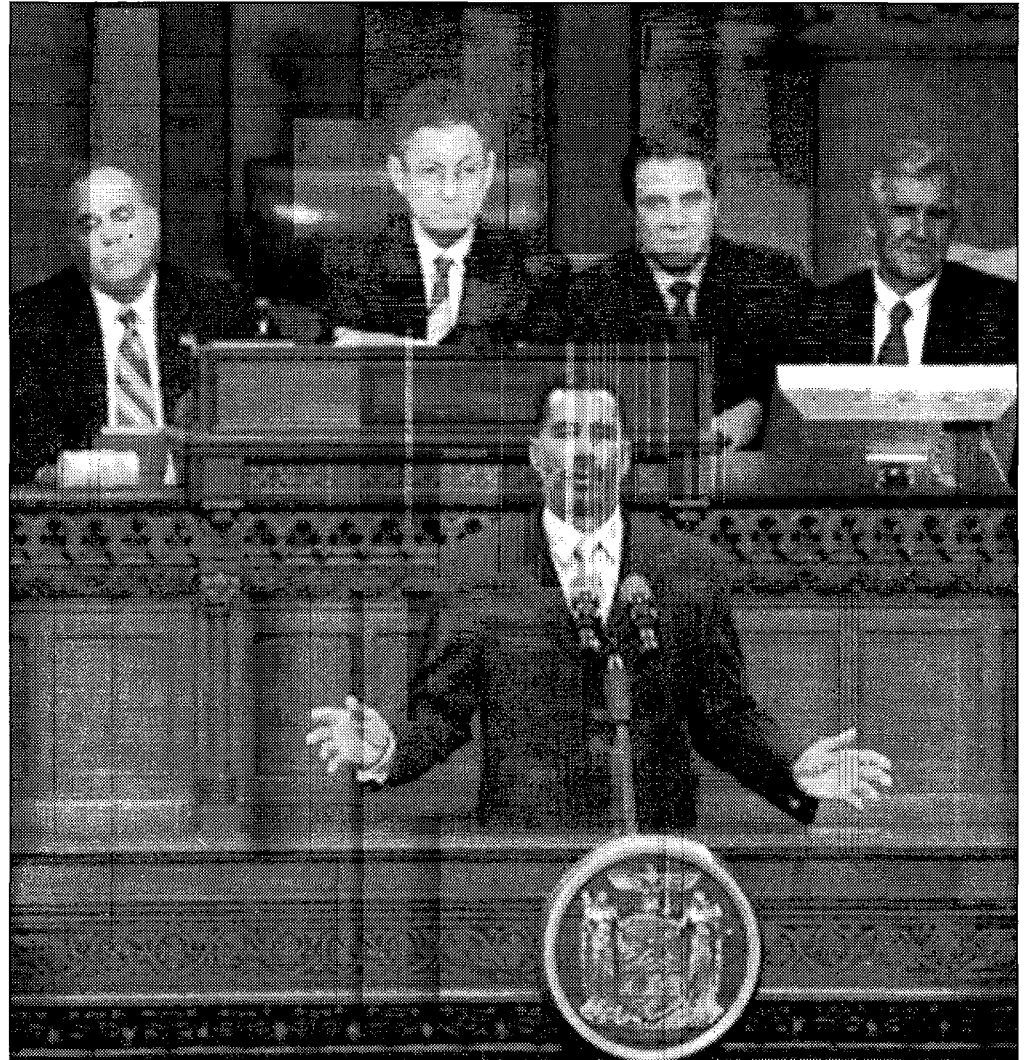
Where Spitzer's 14-month tenure was marked by partisan sniping, Paterson, a fellow Democrat, reached across the aisle in his remarks from the ornate Assembly chamber. The crowd gave the new governor a two-minute standing ovation and chanted "David! David! David!"

"What we are going to do from now on is what we always should have done all along," the former state senator said. "We're going to work together."

Legislators gave Paterson hearty applause when he called for cooperation, and laughs when he made playful jabs at Republican leaders.

He said Senate Republican leader Joseph Bruno, probably Spitzer's most bitter rival, had invited him to dinner at his ranch: "I'll go. I'm going to take my taster with me."

He teased Assembly Minority Leader James Tedisco, whom Spitzer famously and profanely said he would steamroll, that he would teach him how to play



New York Gov. David Paterson speaks to a joint session of the legislature after being sworn in at the Capitol in Albany Monday.

basketball. Tedisco, an upstate Republican, was a basketball star at Union College.

Paterson, 53, rose from the lieutenant governor's office after Spitzer resigned last week amid allegations that he hired a call girl from a high-priced escort service. It was a dramatic fall for Spitzer, who was elected with an overwhelming share of the vote and who had vowed to root out corruption at the Capitol.

"This transition today is a historic message to the world: That we live by the same values that we profess, and we are a government of laws, not individuals," Paterson said.

Paterson took the oath of

office from Chief Judge Judith Kaye, who ascended to the pinnacle of the state's highest court in 1993 after former Chief Judge Sol Wachtler was caught threatening and harassing an ex-lover.

Paterson, who becomes New York's 55th governor, has said he will get right to work. The Legislature faces an April 1 deadline to pass an estimated \$124 billion budget, and Paterson also said that health care, education, jobs and problems facing "the single mother with two jobs" need immediate attention.

Paterson spoke for 26 minutes — about half of it engaged in the banter and humor that helped define

him as a lawmaker and lieutenant governor — without notes or teleprompter.

He joked about his limited vision — he can see things close to him out of one eye.

At Spitzer's last State of the State address, he said, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver stopped him from accidentally breaking a glass with his gavel, then told him, "I will not allow you to turn the State of the State into a Jewish wedding."

Before reluctantly accepting Spitzer's offer to run with him as lieutenant governor, Paterson was a Democratic state senator for more than two decades, representing parts of Harlem and Manhattan's Upper West Side.

## CHINA

# China vows to hold onto Tibet amid unrest

Associated Press

BEIJING — China vowed Monday to defend its sovereignty in Tibet as Chinese troops set up checkpoints and mobilized to quell an uprising. A deadline for protesters in the Tibetan capital to turn themselves in passed without any apparent surrenders or arrests.

In the central government's first comment on the anti-China protests in Tibet, Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao blamed the violence in Lhasa on supporters of the Dalai Lama, the revered spiritual leader who fled in 1959 after a failed uprising against Chinese rule.

"The Chinese government will unswervingly protect its national sovereignty and territorial integrity," ministry

spokesman Liu Jianchao said at a hastily called news conference. "The violent acts have demonstrated the true nature of the Dalai clique."

Some residents reported Monday that Lhasa had quieted down and many people were returning to work. Chinese military police reportedly set up many checkpoints to control movement.

"All across the city today there are checkpoints where you can only enter if you have a permit," said Marion Berjeret, an intern for a French fashion design company who has lived in Lhasa for four months.

She said foreigners have been moved to the outskirts of the city, where the situation was less tense.

Police were doing "door-to-door searches and just going in and ripping

apart and looking for insurgents" as of Sunday, said Susan Wetmore, a Canadian who arrived by plane Monday in Chengdu in neighboring Sichuan province.

She said there were at least 10 checkpoints between the heart of the city and the airport about 55 miles away.

In Beijing, Liu accused the Dalai Lama's supporters of being behind sometimes violent demonstrations at Chinese embassies and consulates in the U.S., Europe and Asia.

German police detained 25 Tibetans on Monday after demonstrators tried to force their way into the Chinese consulate in Munich and spray-painted "Save Tibet" and "Stop Killing" on the building.

## Kosovo

## UN, NATO troops clash with Serbs

*Repossession of courthouse causes protests; 63 wounded in attacks*

Associated Press

KOSOVSKA MITROVICA, Kosovo — Serb demonstrators attacked international peacekeepers with rocks, grenades and Molotov cocktails Monday, setting off the worst violence in Kosovo since it declared independence from Serbia last month.

The Serbs traded gunfire with U.N. and NATO forces in hours of clashes that wounded at least 63 U.N. and NATO forces and 70 protesters outside a U.N. courthouse.

The clashes began when the U.N. stormed the courthouse in the divided northern town of Kosovska Mitrovica just before dawn to pull out protesters who had occupied it for three days to protest Kosovo's independence.

Hundreds of Serbs swarmed the area, blocking three red-and-white U.N. police vans as they moved through the angry crowd and ordering the officers to open the doors.

About half of the 53 arrested Serbs went free. The rest were taken out in armored vehicles and were released by the U.N. after questioning.

Danish military police said they came under fire from protesters and shot back as they evacuated wounded officers. Machine-gun bursts could be heard until midday, although it was not clear who was firing. At least one U.N. vehicle and one NATO truck were set ablaze.

The U.N. said later it was

pulling out of the Serb-dominated northern half of the town because of the shooting.

NATO helicopters hovered above the city and NATO troops remained, but the U.N. withdrawal could fuel a widespread Kosovo Serb desire to split from largely ethnic Albanian Kosovo and rejoin Serbia.

Predominantly ethnic Albanian Kosovo has been under U.N. control since 1999, when NATO launched an air war to stop Slobodan Milosevic's crackdown on ethnic Albanian separatists.

Serbia, which considers the territory its historic and religious heartland, says Kosovo's declaration of independence was illegal under international law.

The Serb minority dominates about 15 percent of the territory in northern Kosovo, including about a third of Kosovska Mitrovica, Kosovo's second-largest city.

"We will protect you just like we protect the Serbs in Serbia," Slobodan Samardzic, Serbia's government minister for Kosovo, told the protesters.

He urged them to continue protesting with the goal of keeping Kosovo in Serbia. Monday's clashes came exactly one month after that Western-backed declaration.

"We will reach the goal only if we are patient, smart and organized and if we believe in what we want to accomplish," Samardzic said in the clearest indication yet that Serbia's government is orchestrating the protests.

Contributors to the NATO force said 27 Polish officers, 15 Ukrainians and about 20 French soldiers were wounded, with eight French troops taken to hospital. One of the French soldiers suffered head wounds from the explosion of a Molotov cocktail, though none had serious injuries. Authorities did not say how the other peacekeepers were wounded.

Hospital officials said most of the civilians suffered injuries from stun grenades, tear gas and explosive devices. One struck in the eye by a bullet was in critical condition.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon condemned the violence and pledged that the U.N. will continue "to take measures required to implement its mandate," to administer Kosovo, spokeswoman Michele Montas said.

## Luncheon

continued from page 1

worked as an admissions counselor at the University of Notre Dame, and then moved to work for 22 years at AT&T in sales, where she became the first African-American to manage a national account with Volkswagen.

Her job at AT&T required her to move all around the country. Dawning said one must be open to change to get ahead in corporate America.

"Change is the only thing that is certain," Dawning said. "You need to embrace it and move quickly."

Dawning made a major career move when she left AT&T, and corporate America all together to become the superintendent of the Benton Harbor Area School District. She switched careers to do something more service oriented, she said.

"I left corporate America because I felt that I had been given so much and I wanted to give back, and education is service," Dawning said.

As superintendent, Dawning said that she continued to learn leadership lessons. One such lesson was that no one is right all the time.

"After you graduate you leave behind the teen years where you think you know everything, and realize that you still have a lot to learn," Dawning said.

Dawning told of a time when as the superintendent she was asked by a concerned parent to review the lyrics to a song that one of the high school marching bands was going to play in an

upcoming parade. Dawning looked at the lyrics on the Internet and did not approve. She told the band to play a different song. The story proceeded to be picked up by over one hundred different news venues, including CNN and Sports Illustrated, and was spoofed on "Saturday Night Live".

She ended up telling the parents that if they got up a petition the band could play the song in the parade, which they did. That did not stop Dawning from getting a barrage of e-mails and requests for interviews.

"If you say nothing it dies a natural death," Dawning said about her handling of the media.

She learned an important lesson from this experience. "You have to learn how to recover because you don't always get it right," Dawning said.

Dawning also offered advice to students about how they can be more successful leaders. She stressed that a good leader lets other people know that they are valued. She also spoke of the importance of good communication, and critical thinking skills.

Balance and being able to pace yourself are also trademarks of a good leader, Dawning said. It is also important, she said, to get involved in the community around you.

"It gives you a greater sense of purpose," Dawning said.

Dawning summed up her talk by reminding the audience to be conscious of our legacies.

She asked, "When you take your last breath and look back on your life, what do you think about it?"

Contact Nikki Taylor at [ntaylo01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:ntaylo01@saintmarys.edu)

## NOW HIRING: CAMPUS TOUR GUIDES

Are You: In need of cash? Looking for a relaxed and friendly on-campus work environment? Excellent at walking backwards and talking loudly at the same time?

The Notre Dame Visitors' Center is now hiring student tour guides and desk workers for this summer and the coming academic year. We offer flexible hours and competitive pay plus tips. Please email Andrew Hayes at [eckvisit@nd.edu](mailto:eckvisit@nd.edu) by Friday, March 21st for more information. Don't pass on this opportunity earn cash at the best workplace on campus!

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Submit resumé by 11:59pm on March 23, via Go IRISH website

Pre-Night/Presentation: March 27 (7:00 -8:30pm) in DeBartolo Hall  
On-Campus Interviews: March 28 (8:30-4:00pm) in Flanner Hall

Please recycle  
The Observer.

**MARKET RECAP**

**Stocks**  
**Dow Jones** **11,951.09** -194.65

Up: 567 Same: 72 Down: 2,794 Composite Volume: 1,055,942,658

AMEX	2,285.61	53.49
NASDAQ	2,212.49	-51.12
NYSE	8,635.92	-191.24
S&P 500	1,288.14	-27.34
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	12,241.60	0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	5,631.70	-60.70

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
S&P DEP RECIEPTS (SPY)	-1.55	-2.04	129.61
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	-1.84	-0.79	42.25
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	-2.83	-0.70	24.00
BEAR STEARNS COS (BSC)	-47.37	-27.00	30.00

**Treasuries**

10-YEAR NOTE	-3.20	-0.113	3.421
13-WEEK BILL	-13.85	-0.180	1.120
30-YEAR BOND	-2.38	-0.106	4.348
5-YEAR NOTE	-6.74	-0.169	2.340

**Commodities**

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.12	110.21
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+5.70	999.50
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-0.73	80.08

**Exchange Rates**

YEN	97.8400
EURO	0.6378
CANADIAN DOLLAR	0.9892
BRITISH POUND	0.4951

**IN BRIEF**

**Paulson praised for economic tactics**

WASHINGTON — Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, the consummate Wall Street baron who amassed a fortune at investment giant Goldman Sachs, is applying his insider knowledge to help manage a credit-market meltdown.

Known as "Hank the Hammer" when he led Goldman Sachs, Paulson is winning praise for using hard-nosed bargaining tactics to strike deals seen as critical to coping with the worst crisis to face financial markets since the savings and loan crisis of the early 1990s.

Paulson heads the President's Working Group on Capital Markets, which briefed President Bush at the White House on Monday. He said the president was "quite pleased" with the results of the marathon negotiations over the weekend that resulted in a deal for the sale of troubled investment house Bear Stearns Cos. to JPMorgan Chase & Co.

**Industrial production hits record low**

WASHINGTON — Industrial output fell in February by the biggest amount in four months, providing yet another gloomy assessment of the economy's health.

The Federal Reserve said Monday that output at the nation's factories, mines and utilities dropped by 0.5 percent in February, the biggest decline since a 0.6 percent fall last October.

It was a far weaker reading than the slight increase of 0.1 percent that many analysts had been expecting. It served to underscore the severity of the current economic slowdown.

Daniel Meckstroth, chief economist for the Manufacturers Alliance/MAPI, said he believed that the manufacturing sector fell into a recession in October and the overall economy followed in December.

"The economic shock of a housing collapse, credit crunch, including financial sector turmoil, and sky-high oil prices have squeezed consumers' budgets to the point where there is no growth left," he said.

**Market undergoes seesaw trading**

Wall Street recovers as investors grab bargain stocks following buyout of Bear Stearns

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street ended a temperamental session widely mixed Monday after investors grappled with JPMorgan Chase & Co.'s government-backed buyout of the stricken investment bank Bear Stearns Cos.

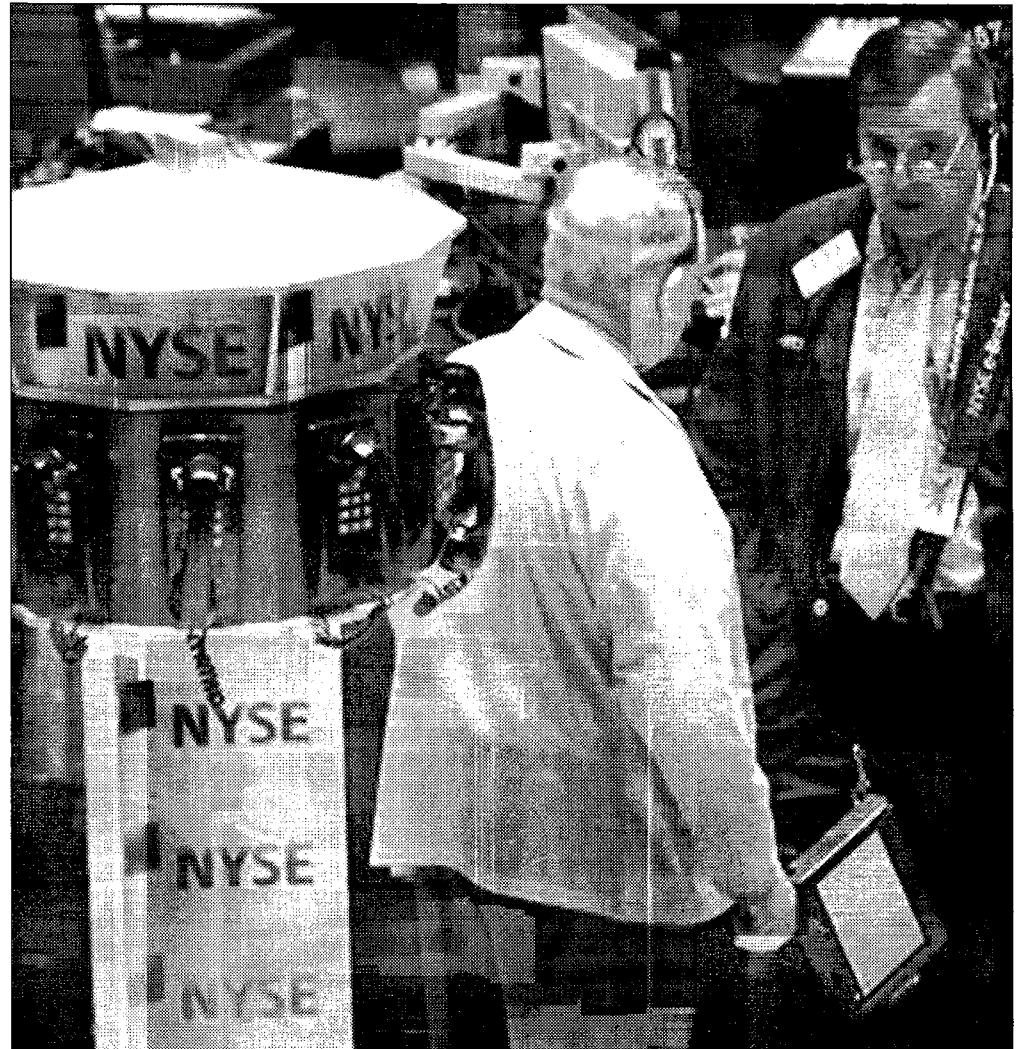
The Dow Jones industrials recovered from an initial drop of nearly 200 points to finish up about 21 points. The broader Standard & Poor's 500 and Nasdaq composite indexes ended lower as investors bailed out of investment banks and small-cap stocks and fled instead to large companies apt to be reliable during a weak economy.

"You move to the defensive names in times of market uncertainty — safer, consumer names," said Ryan Detrick, senior technical strategist at Schaeffer's Investment Research.

The buyout of Bear Stearns was certainly more appealing than the alternative: letting the investment bank collapse and causing huge losses for anyone linked to it. And some unprecedented moves by the Federal Reserve gave investors a bit of solace on what many predicted would be a day of precipitous losses in the stock market.

Besides supporting the buyout, the Fed lowered the rate it charges to loan directly to banks by a quarter-point on Sunday night — two days before its scheduled meeting Tuesday. The central bank also set up a lending option for firms, including many non-bank financial services firms, to secure short-term loans for a broad range of collateral.

The Fed appears to be pledging to do everything in its power to keep the credit



Wall Street clawed back from sharp losses Monday as investors snapped up bargain stocks following JPMorgan Chase & Co.'s buyout of Bear Stearns Cos.

crisis from decimating the financial industry and the economy. Policy makers at the central bank are expected to reduce the target fed funds rate — the rate banks charge each other for overnight loans — by at least a half-point on Tuesday, and perhaps even a full point.

But the market remained extremely volatile. The sale of Bear Stearns — at a minuscule \$2.21 a share as of Monday's close, or a total of \$260.5 million — stirred fear among investors worldwide about other

banks' exposure to the troubled credit markets.

"The market has absolutely no idea what's going on," said Dan Alpert, managing director of Westwood Capital. "Some people have accused them of whistling past the graveyard — I don't think they even know where the graveyard is."

He added that short-covering — the unwinding of bets that stocks will fall — ahead of Tuesday's Fed meeting contributed to the market's atypical movements.

The Dow rose 21.16, or 0.18 percent, to 11,972.25, after falling nearly 200 and rising more than 100. The blue chip index was supported partially by JPMorgan, by far the biggest gainer among the 30 component stocks. JPMorgan rose \$3.77, or 10.3 percent, to \$40.31.

The Dow got a lift as investors aimed for large-cap stocks such as AT&T Inc., up 76 cents at \$35.79, Verizon, up 79 cents at \$34.61, and pharmaceutical maker Johnson & Johnson, up \$1.39 at \$64.04.

**Conseco Inc. hires Morgan Stanley**

Associated Press

CARMEL, Ind. — Troubled insurer Conseco Inc. rebuffed a bid by investment fund Steel Partners II to gain two seats on its board and said Monday it has hired investment banker Morgan Stanley to consider strategic alternatives.

The Carmel-based health and life insurer also reported a preliminary fourth-quarter loss of \$72.2 million, or 39 cents per share, after paying preferred dividends, but said the results could be revised.

Steel Partners last week asked Conseco to nominate its two principals, the activist shareholder Warren Lichtenstein and his partner Jack Howard, to the Conseco board, saying the company's stock price did not reflect its true value.

In a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Steel Partners said it owned 14.9 million shares of

Conseco, an 8 percent stake.

In its statement Monday saying it was declining the partnership's request for board seats, Conseco referred to Steel Partners' intention to hire an investment bank to look at ways to increase the value of Conseco stock.

"We share with Steel Partners, as well as our other shareholders, a common interest in taking actions that will increase the value of the company for shareholders," the company said in a statement attributed to Conseco CEO Jim Prieur.

"In that regard, we have been working with a major investment bank for several months regarding strategic alternatives and plans to maximize shareholder value for Conseco. We believe, and hope Steel Partners would concur, that we already are exploring courses of action suggested by them," said Prieur, who took over as CEO 18 months ago.

Steel Partners had no immediate

comment on Conseco's rebuff. A request for comment was left with a spokesman for the partnership.

Conseco spokesman Tony Zehnder said the company had no comment on its strategic options beyond its written statement, but one expert said the insurer probably was shopping itself around.

"That's the most likely scenario," said Tod Perry, a corporate finance and governance expert at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business.

Alternatively, Conseco also might try to find a so-called "white knight" equity investor that would allow the company's current management to remain in place.

Separately, Conseco reported its fourth quarter financial results and said again that it plans to restate results for fiscal years 2005, 2006 and the first three quarters of 2007. As a result, its net income may swing by \$15 million in any given period.

## Yreka still has independence hopes

Northern California city sought separation from state 67 years ago

Associated Press

YREKA, Calif. — In extreme Northern California, far from the bright lights of Hollywood and the foggy charms of San Francisco, is a place unknown to most people: a handful of counties that once sought to make themselves into a separate state called Jefferson.

The idea lasted only a few days in 1941 before it was quashed by the attack on Pearl Harbor. But for a few who remember its history, the movement embodies the mindset of this sparsely populated country that still longs for more autonomy.

"We've always fostered an independent streak up here," said Pete LaFortune, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce in Yreka (pronounced why-REEK-ah), about 270 miles north of San Francisco.

More than six decades later, many residents of the mountainous region along the California-Oregon border continue to complain that their concerns are overlooked and undervalued by decision makers in more populated areas.

The State of Jefferson began as part publicity stunt, part political gesture. Even today, the movement is made up of tourist-friendly whimsy intertwined with more serious themes of discontent.

In the Palace Barber Shop on Yreka's main drag hangs an animal skull decorated with the XX brand adopted by the Jeffersonians of 1941 to signify their disgust with being "double-crossed" by authorities.

"A lot of the laws and different things that affect us are voted on by people who've never been here and don't know anything about us," said John Lisle, a barber at the shop, which stands on a site that is said to have offered haircuts since Yreka was a Gold Rush town.

Another barber, Richard Pease, agreed: "When we vote on something, it doesn't make much difference at all because one precinct down there outnumbers the whole county here. You vote, but you feel like your vote is going down the tube."

Siskiyou County, home to Yreka, has about 46,000 residents spread over 6,400 square miles. Although registered Republicans have only a modest edge over registered Democrats, residents are often at odds with more liberal parts of the state.

The 1941 secessionists were angry about the region's poor roads, which became useless in winter.

"Our Roads are Not Passable, Hardly Jackassable," went the rallying cry.

These days, it's not hard to get to Yreka. Interstate 5, which runs the length of California, is a long, smooth route through fir-covered hills and Mount Shasta, a popular recreation spot.

But there is plenty of resentment simmering over long-standing government limits on logging and fishing, and a proposal to rip out a series of hydroelectric dams on the Klamath River to help struggling salmon runs.

Bill Overman, chairman of the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors, is among those concerned that removing the dams will hurt property values

for people living along the reservoirs. Like previous leaders, he chafes at the feeling that outside forces are calling the shots.

"We would like to be able to take care of our resources and be able to manage them properly, and we can do that if we're just allowed to," Overman said.

The idea of forming a separate state out of the counties in far Northern California and southern Oregon has come up several times in the past.

"It's really a very, very old historical tradition in America that people sort of removed from the center of power resent the center of power," said Jay Mullen, professor of history at Southern Oregon University.

The 1941 movement got started when Gilbert Gable, mayor of Port Orford, Ore., announced that a number of Oregon counties should join

with California neighbors to form a new state. His idea was to draw attention to the region's rotten roads.

The idea caught fire, especially in Siskiyou County, and Yreka became the nascent state's temporary capital.

Jefferson's attempt to secede got national attention. San Francisco Chronicle reporter Stanton Delaplane won the Pulitzer Prize in 1942 for his articles about the rebellious movement.

But with the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor, the movement was shelved.

Today, the brief chapter is memorialized on a Web site, jeffersonstate.com, and a barn south of Yreka painted with the name "State of Jefferson." It's also recalled in the name of Jefferson Public Radio, based in Ashland, Ore. License plate holders reading "resident of the State of Jefferson" are a popular item.

## Officials survey tornado damage

Twister knocks Atlanta's hotel rooms out of use

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Workers struggled to their offices Monday through debris and snarled traffic days after a tornado struck downtown, but no long-term effects on the city's lucrative convention and tourism industry were anticipated.

The twister knocked hundreds of hotel rooms out of commission and significantly damaged the city's largest convention venue, the Georgia World Congress Center, said Spurgeon Richardson, president and CEO of the Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau.

"We are open for business," Richardson told reporters.

A volleyball tournament next weekend was still on and expected to bring 38,000 people to Atlanta, though it will

likely be scattered around venues throughout the metro area instead of concentrated at the World Congress Center as planned, officials said.

The Omni Hotel lost the use of nearly 500 rooms when the tornado struck Friday night but is still hosting a 600-person U.S. Department of Energy conference this week, said hotel marketing director Mike Sullivan.

At least 27 people were injured but no deaths were reported in the city. Two people were killed in northwest Georgia when a separate storm moved through Saturday.

Statewide, storm damage was estimated at \$250 million. Gov. Sonny Perdue said he would ask the federal government to expedite a declaration of Atlanta as a disaster area.

### Attention Seniors!

#### Notre Dame's Office of Undergraduate Admissions anticipates hiring Admissions Counselors this spring!

As part of the Undergraduate Admissions staff, the counselor is expected to make an important contribution to the recruitment and selection of the first-year class by managing relations with the prospective applicants, their parents, high school personnel and alumni in an assigned geographic area.

Responsibilities include extensive planning, travel and communication within the geographic area, assessment and evaluation of applications and conducting group/individual information sessions. Additional responsibilities will be assigned by the Assistant Provost for Enrollment.

Among our candidates, we will specifically seek an **African American Recruitment Coordinator**.

Candidates should possess a bachelor's degree and strong familiarity with all aspects of student life at Notre Dame.

Essential qualities include strong communication and organizational skills, enthusiasm, diplomacy and the willingness to work long hours, including many evenings and Saturday mornings.

**Please Note: Interviews will be scheduled after April 1.**

**Preferred start date is July 1, 2008.**

**Please forward your resume to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions  
220 Main Building**

**Attention: Alisa M. Fisher, Senior Associate Director**



## IRAN

## President vulnerable for re-election

*Conservative discontent may hurt Amadinejad's electoral prospects*

Associated Press

TEHRAN — President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad may be vulnerable when he stands for re-election next year, after Iranian parliamentary elections showed discontent among fellow conservatives.

The president does have a major advantage: support from Iran's supreme leader. A key question will be whether Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's backing lasts until presidential elections expected in the summer of 2009.

Conservatives maintained their hold on the parliament in Friday's election, but their camp is split over Ahmadinejad. His conservative opponents won a solid bloc that will likely clash with the president over the next year.

Reformists also managed to preserve their presence even though most of their candidates were barred from the race.

"If the government continues the policies that have been controversial, the majority of the parliament will be against it," said Amir Ali Amiri, spokesman of the Inclusive Coalition of Principlists, an election slate

of conservatives who have broken with the hard-line president.

Amiri said the coalition might put forward a candidate for the presidency, but said "we must wait" until the political situation becomes clearer, according to the semi-official ISNA news agency.

Two men are seen as top possibilities to challenge Ahmadinejad: Tehran Mayor Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf and former nuclear negotiator Ali Larijani, who won a parliament seat in the election.

The strength of Ahmadinejad's conservative opponents likely won't mean changes in Iran's tough line toward the United States.

They support pushing ahead with Iran's nuclear program despite U.N. sanctions. But they also oppose Ahmadinejad inflammatory rhetoric, which they say has provoked the West. Some seek greater pragmatism in dealing with the outside world.

The economy has been Ahmadinejad's weakest point. Jumps in inflation have at least doubled prices for some foods over the past year, and unemployment is believed by some economists

to be around 15 percent. And the public has been angered by gas rationing and heating oil shortages during the unusually cold winter.

Ahadinejad's critics say his economic policies have been haphazard and only made the situation worse.

Amiri said his camp would seek to elect Larijani as parliament speaker — a post now held by an Ahmadinejad ally — and oppose the current deputy speaker, who is widely seen as the brain behind the president's rise to power.

Still, Khamenei has become more overt in his backing for Ahmadinejad, despite grumblings in the conservative camp. The supreme leader, as head of Iran's clerical leadership, has final word in all state matters.

Khamenei tries to stay above factional disputes in public, but took the unusual step before the election of expressing strong support for the president, calling on voters to choose candidates allied to the government.

One reason may be the nuclear issue. Khamenei has praised Ahmadinejad's handling of the matter, and the clerical powers may see him as best able to stand up to the West.

## FRANCE

## Funeral remembers last WWI veteran

Associated Press

PARIS — France unfurled its military majesty Monday in honor of its last World War I veteran, who died last week at 110, and all the other Frenchmen who fought in the conflict.

Flags fell to half-staff and the president unveiled a plaque at the gold-domed edifice where Napoleon is buried to honor Lazare Ponticelli and the 8.4 million other Frenchmen who served in a war that tore Europe apart.

The day of national commemoration was ordered by President Nicolas Sarkozy, who wants younger generations to remember the sacrifices of "les poilus" — an affectionate nickname meaning hairy or tough that France uses for its WWI veterans.

"Never again will anyone tell their grandchildren or great-grandchildren about the terrible life of the trenches," Sarkozy said. "No more, will anyone hear the old 'poilu' tell his grandchildren or great-grandchildren: 'Never make war again.'"

"We will never forget them." The solemn day began with a Roman Catholic funeral Mass attended by Sarkozy, government ministers, soldiers and teary-eyed members of Ponticelli's family at the Saint-Louis Cathedral, part of the Invalides complex that honors France's military and houses

Napoleon's tomb.

"You didn't talk much but when you did, we felt your wisdom, that you doubted nothing and were determined," Ponticelli's grandson, Patrick Large, said during the Mass.

Flags representing all military divisions that fought in World War I were later ceremoniously unfurled.

Ponticelli was a French citizen for most of the past century and an unusual soldier who fought first for France, then for Italy, where he was born.

Representatives of the Italian Alpine brigade for which he fought, along with its French counterpart, attended the Mass.

The 1914-1918 conflict, known at the time as the Great War or the "war to end all wars," killed millions. Only a handful of veterans from the war are still living, scattered from Australia to the United States and Europe. Germany's last WWI veteran died on New Year's Day.

Monuments to battles and war dead cover swathes of France where trenches divided the landscape during the war, which left 1.4 million French fighters dead.

Ponticelli was born Dec. 7, 1897, in Bettola, northern Italy.

To escape a tough childhood, he trooped off at age 9 to join his brothers in France, eventually becoming a French citizen.



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# THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 10

Tuesday, March 18, 2008

## THE OBSERVER

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

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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.

### POST OFFICE INFORMATION

The Observer (USPS 599-24000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$100 for one academic year; \$55 for one semester.

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

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

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## Obama and the end of time

Ever since I got this column, I've wanted to write about Barack Obama. At first, I wanted to praise him for being so positive and staying above the harsh rhetoric common to ambitious politicians. As a conservative (well, mainly), I wanted to express my gratitude for the fact that he, from what I could tell, didn't hate me. It was so nice to see such a prominent Democrat refrain from constantly accusing Republicans of hating poor people/old people/little people/Mexicans/blacks/Muslims/gays/women/children/polar bears/etc. I found his warmth and charm a pleasant contrast to his main rival, who I bet would like to bite my face off and eat my brain. Even his name's cool. So duped was I that I nurtured the hope that his ultra-liberal voting record was just a means to get the nomination, and that once elected he'd govern as a moderate.

By the time I'd submitted articles I considered higher-priority, though, the "Look — this guy's not a shrill partisan jerk!" story was old news. Even important conservatives had written glowingly about Illinois' junior senator, or at least as glowing as they could about a liberal, and not just because they enjoyed seeing someone giving the Clintons problems.

My next Obama idea was more about his supporters. Friends who follow politics carefully began telling me about the more ridiculous aspects of Obama mania — people actually fainting at his rallies, describing their "coming to Obama" conversions, making creepily propagandist YouTube videos, etc. By then, I'd realized his campaign was just a bunch of hot air, and that his movement was mainly a pop-culture phenomenon, a shallow fad. I found it especially amusing that most of his support, aside from black voters, was

coming from the highly-educated — the last group you'd expect to fall for smooth empty oratory (unless you're cynical about contemporary higher education, like me). I thought of Santino's question to Michael, whether he'd gone to college to get stupid.

Once again, though, I was the last to the kill. Poking fun at the over-the-top-ness of Obama hype had become a common theme, as had criticism of his message as vacuous. So I'd decided to forget about him, and was thinking of writing an advice piece for seniors about how to enter the white-collar world (item: if the office go-to girl comes to your cubicle seeking a donation for an AIDS charity, don't ask whether she'd contracted it). Then I saw the latest issue of Rolling Stone.

At first I thought it was a parody. It's gotta be, right? Then I realized it wasn't, and I was reminded of a book by the great Russian Orthodox mystic/theologian, Vladimir Soloviev. In it, the leaders of the Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant faiths go to meet a mysterious, popular world leader, who's promised to usher in a new order of peace and universal brotherhood and all that good stuff. All his words are spirit and light, and there's even hushed speculation in some quarters about whether he could be Our Lord come back to earth, or maybe a man who'd prepare for His return, like a second St. John the Baptist. I think it was the Protestant who, in their meeting with the great man, realized with horror that he was none other than the Antichrist.

Before you think I'm totally nuts, wait. I don't believe Barack's the Antichrist. Even if biotech developments — human cloning's inevitability, recent creation of embryonic human-animal hybrids, etc. — make me believe time's near its end, there's still much that must happen before the man of sin appears. Besides, there's a goofiness about Obama and his cult that won't be found with the Antichrist. But there's a point — and I think we've reached it with Obama — where gross-

ly unmerited adulation and adoration stops being funny, and starts being sinister. And there's a point too where a man can no longer deny responsibility for the cult-like following he's gained. Even though I'm deeply cynical, rarely surprised at man's capacity for self-love and little shocked by any suggestion that most people end up dummed, I still think normal people would be at least a bit bothered by the veneration Obama's received. Remember Monty Python's Brian? I'm conceited myself, and I was sickened by my own surprise graduation party. But Obama seems perfectly comfortable being treated like a god. And I believe it takes a special, especially evil, man to accept such worship.

With the ongoing On-Eagle's-Wings-ification of the Church, many Catholics consider the idea of the Antichrist an embarrassing anachronism. That's one reason he'll manage to gain power. Those who do still look for his entry into history are likely to expect a bloodthirsty savage riding a chariot of human skulls. That's another reason he'll fool so many, for he'll be more Lennon than Lenin.

Don't get me wrong — there's plenty about Obama's politics I consider profoundly evil. For instance, his opposition to laws protecting babies born in botched abortions (amazing how the little stinkers resist being chopped up). Indeed, the odiousness of his positions is one reason he keeps his speeches away from pesky specifics and policy. But it's his ability to inspire religious fanaticism toward himself, and his delight in it, which I find most disturbing, even chilling. And it's these features of his candidacy that I think will be of most lasting significance.

Greg Yatarola is a 1999 alumnus. His address is gregpy@hotmail.com. He wishes Notre Dame would drop the charade and just give the Laetare to Ted Kennedy.

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



Greg Yatarola

Dome and  
Domer

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## Thank you.

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### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It is our choices ... that show what  
we truly are, far more than  
our abilities."

J.K. Rowling  
English novelist

## An eye for an eye ...

There are certain videos posted on YouTube that have become Internet cult classics. An interview of a kid at a carnival, "Zombie kid like turtles" has four million views. The adorable British brothers in "Charlie bit my finger — again!" have been watched twelve million times on YouTube. A clip of a toddler boy with an endearing and comical laugh, simply titled "Hahaha," boasts 48 million views.

**Andrea Laidman**

*High Sounding Words*

These videos offer thirty seconds or a minute of humor, but give viewers little else. And while sites like YouTube have begun to play a role in the political process — evident with the abundance of videos and channels dedicated to covering the 2008 presidential primaries — videos that offer wisdom alone are largely ignored by the internet community.

"Victim to Panel: No to Death Penalty, No to Revenge," is one such clip. With only 1,700 views, it doesn't even begin to compete on YouTube's "most viewed" page, but the testimony offered in the video is perhaps the most insightful and comprehensive statement about the death penalty that I've encountered over several years on working on the issue.

Aundre Herron is a former prosecutor in California whose eldest brother was murdered in 1994. In this YouTube clip, filmed during hearings on the death penalty currently occurring in California and posted by the group California

Crime Victims for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, Herron describes her initial reaction to her brother's death as one of vengeful vigilantism. She says she wanted to pick up a gun and roam the streets in pursuit of her brother's killer.

But given time to reflect and heal, Herron explained to the panel, she reached an insightful position on the death penalty that does not forget the real rage and desperation felt by victims.

"I understand that this sense of revenge is a very legitimate emotion, but it is not a legitimate basis for public policy. I think we denigrate our own noble ideals when we use revenge and we use the public fist for the purpose of killing our fellow human beings."

Bud Welch, who spoke at Notre Dame in early November 2007, lost his daughter in the Oklahoma City bombing of 1995. Like Herron, Welch initially reacted with anger, only later to arrive at his stance against the death penalty. Speaking in the Montgomery Theatre of LaFortune on Nov. 7, Welch said to a group of Notre Dame students:

"The very idea that this revenge of killing another person is going to somehow help you to heal ... it's impossible. I was trying to go through the healing process while I was living with this revenge, and you can't do it."

Another speaker who visited Notre Dame this fall, Dr. Michael Radelet of the University of Colorado-Boulder, argues against the death penalty and for the families of murder victims in another way.

He is involved in fighting for a reallocation of funds from maintaining Colorado's capital punishment system to paying for re-investigations of cold cases.

Rather than seek the so-called highest form of revenge for only a few families, this movement asks that resources be used to work toward answers for all families impacted by the tragedy of murder.

Herron, too, points to the financial irresponsibility of the death penalty in California, where 114 million dollars are spent each year to uphold the death penalty system:

"It is a stunning irony, I think, that even as the governor [of California] is about to announce a deficit of fourteen billion dollars, we can still find funds to kill those who kill-all the while proclaiming that killing is wrong. We can pay prison guards more than teachers, and exalt state-sanctioned killing to a place of greater importance than healthcare and housing, than paying workers a living wage, than protecting our children, our seniors, the disabled and the disadvantaged."

According to Aundre Herron, a woman who has worked both as a prosecutor and a defender, who has "comforted surviving family members and counseled convicted murderers alike," and who has suffered through the murder of her own brother, "The death penalty is not about justice, it is about revenge."

As a Catholic community, we at Notre

Dame must act in the interest of the victims of violent crime, and join in a growing national discussion on shifting public funds from capital punishment to straightforward initiatives that care for the victims of violent crime and their survivors (including helping them to pay for funeral expenses or obtaining grief counseling). We must work toward developing possibilities of giving justice to communities impacted by murder without allowing emotion to become an accepted basis for the law.

During this season of Lent, and especially during Holy Week, we can consider the death penalty in another light, as we recall the execution of Jesus. As members of the Christian faith we follow a man who forgave his killers even as he neared his last breath; we have a responsibility to examine the modern death penalty and challenge the conventional wisdom regarding justice and revenge that are often used to support it.

*Andrea Laidman is a senior political science and peace studies major, and the Director of Notre Dame Against State Killing (ND ASK), a campaign for a moratorium in Indiana. Her column's title recalls advice given to John Adams by his wife, Abigail: "We have too many high sounding words, and too few actions that correspond with them." She can be contacted at [alaidman@nd.edu](mailto:alaidman@nd.edu)*

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

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Sheen deserving

When I received the e-mail regarding who I wanted to be the speaker at the 2008 Commencement, one name came to mind: Martin Sheen. I was excited to hear that he is being awarded the Laetare Medal. Thus, I have to respectfully disagree with Jay Rowley ("Sheen doesn't deserve Laetare Medal," March 17), who argues that Sheen is not a "genius".

First, the man is a fine actor. Have you ever seen *The West Wing*? The show won an Emmy for Best Drama four straight years. That has to count for something. In it, Sheen plays President Josiah "Jed" Bartlett, the best fictional president ever (James "Get off my plane!" Marshall in *Air Force One* comes in a close second). Bartlett got a B.A. in American Studies from none other than the University of Notre Dame. After getting a Ph.D. from the London School of Economics, he won a Nobel Prize, taught at Dartmouth, served as Governor of New Hampshire and then saved the free world as President of the United States.

He speaks fluent Latin, memorized the Bible and makes the Press Corps sing the Notre Dame Victory March. Obama/Hilary/McCain have nothing on this man. Our University owes a great deal to this fictional President and the fine actor who plays him.

Finally, Martin Sheen has given us two other fine actors of our day: Charlie Sheen and Emilio Estevez. Anyone who has seen *The Three Musketeers* or *The Mighty Ducks* knows how crucial each of these sons was to the movie. Thus, Martin Sheen deserves the Laetare Medal for his great acting and the great acting sons he fathered.

Tae Kang  
 senior  
 Keenan Hall  
 March 17

### EDITORIAL CARTOON



# These New Puritans piece together Beat Pyramid

By RYAN RAFFIN  
Assistant Scene Editor

Beat Pyramid, the debut album from England's These New Puritans starts off predictably, given its name, with a big stomping drum-sample. 20 seconds later, the jangly guitar line cuts in, and it seems like the British Isles have produced another hip post-punk band, probably one hyped into oblivion. Listen intently to this first song, the unusually titled "Numerology AKA Numbers", and you can hear more than just Bloc Party version 2.0. In fact, These New Puritans are far from the normal crop of Gang of Four rip-offs, they are an entirely different breed. The group is nearly as avant-garde and experimental as post-punk can get.

The group relies heavily on drum samples, loops and other forms of electronic programming to form the backbone of their esoteric sound. Beats are central here, but not in the mainstream hip-hop sense of making the most watered down, accessible sound possible. No, These New Puritans are more focussed on using percussive effects and loops as a weapon, using them to beat you into submission. Everything else is secondary — vocals, guitar, bass and keyboard all serving to back up and complement the percussion. On "Infinity Ytinifni", there is no guitar or bass at all, just keyboard and huge, echoing drums, with singer Jack Barnett's half-sung vocals floating over the song. The nearest sounding con-

temporary to the band is the similarly beat-intensive Battles. There aren't many post-punk outfits that sound like this or for that case, in all of music.

The band has pop chops as well, and they reveal them on the surprisingly catchy single "Elvis". One line claims "what will happen next, we have no clues," succinctly summing up what it's like to listen to this album. Here, an ominous bassline leads into a verse with the paranoid exclamation that "we're being watched by experts". This then flows into a smoothly melodic chorus, with cryptic lyrics about God and waiting for something. It's a wild song, where in less than three minutes, the group proves that eccentricity and accessibility are not mutually exclusive.

"MKK3" is a quiet, brooding track that updates Joy Division's melancholy for today's short attention span culture in less than two minutes. "Navigate-Colours" continues the Joy Division fixation before dissolving into looped vocals and beats that fade in and out. In fact, nearly all of the songs on Beat Pyramid offer something of interest, with its seeming tug of war battle between conventional and offbeat sound. You might not think that the idea of mixing late '70s post-punk with modern day electronic programming could sustain a full length album, but These New Puritans pull it off surprisingly well. Perhaps that can be attributed to brevity, by not allowing anything to repeat for a long enough time to get boring. The twelve songs on the record, not counting the four sub-30 second interludes, play for a mere 35 minutes. For the non-mathematically inclined, that works out to around three minutes per song. Songs zip by, making their point and ending. It's a direct method of song writing that serves the group well.

These New Puritans have put forward an impressive effort with their debut album, challenging the listener and pushing post-punk in new directions. Not content to merely rip off their forebears, they borrow from other genres, melding everything together into one unique sound. There are moments where the bands that influence them shine through, but these are only for brief seconds. Each song is distinct, but overall the album has a cohesive sound, easily identifiable as the work of one group. If you're looking for something a little different than your normal fare, this would be a great place to start.

Contact Ryan Raffin at [r Raffin@nd.edu](mailto:r Raffin@nd.edu)

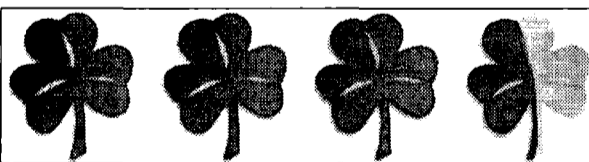
*The group relies heavily on drum samples, loops and other forms of electronic programming to form the backbone of their esoteric sound.*

## Beat Pyramid

These New Puritans

Label: Domino

Recommended Tracks: "Numerology AKA Numbers," "Elvis" and "MKK3"



**NEW**

# SUPER SMASH BROTHERS

## GAME PACKS SOME SERIOUS PUNCH

It all started on April 26, 1999. The greatest game of all time was released in America for the Nintendo 64. Or so we thought.

Super Smash Bros. revolutionized the way multiplayer games would be made and played. Sure, Goldeneye came out first, but if you had a computer, multiplayer first person shooters were old hat. But no one had seen the likes of SSB before.

**Mychal Stanley**

*Scene & Heard*

In this game, we could live out all our Nintendo fantasies. We could beat the crap out of that annoying plumber Mario, or that yellow rat Pikachu. One could control the pink ball of terror that is Kirby the way he was meant to be used: to dominate all comers. Life was good.

Just two years later, on Nintendo's new console, Super Smash Bros. Melee was released on December 3rd, 2001. I admit, I bought a Gamecube just so I could play SSBM. Melee took what was perfect, and made it more perfect. (I know there are a lot of Melee haters around here who still continue to play original Smash Bros. You guys are sick and wrong.) More characters, more moves, more stages, better graphics, Melee had it all. Or so I thought.

For nearly seven years, we lived and died in the world of Melee. We memorized every pixel of every stage, every move of every character, and argued passionately for our favorites. We did this for nearly seven years, until just last week.

On March 9th, 2008, the greatest day in the history of mankind, the pinnacle of human achievement was bestowed upon the waiting faithful. Like manna from the heavens, Super Smash Bros. Brawl descended upon the ready masses. And it was good.

A cast of 35 characters including the likes of Sonic the Hedgehog and Solid Snake return to brawl on new stages with new moves. Being a lifelong Sega fan, I know how much of a disconnect it is to be playing as Sonic on a Nintendo console, but at least I can use the spiky blue blur to destroy Mario all I want.

Nintendo has simplified the controls a little bit, allowing new players to jump in easily. But there still remains a depth of control that allows veteran players to show off their skills (and lack of social lives) whenever necessary. There is also the addition of Final Smashes, which are random items that give players the ability to perform a single powerful move.

There are 41 stages, some old, some new, and some redesigned from previous games. Unlike the

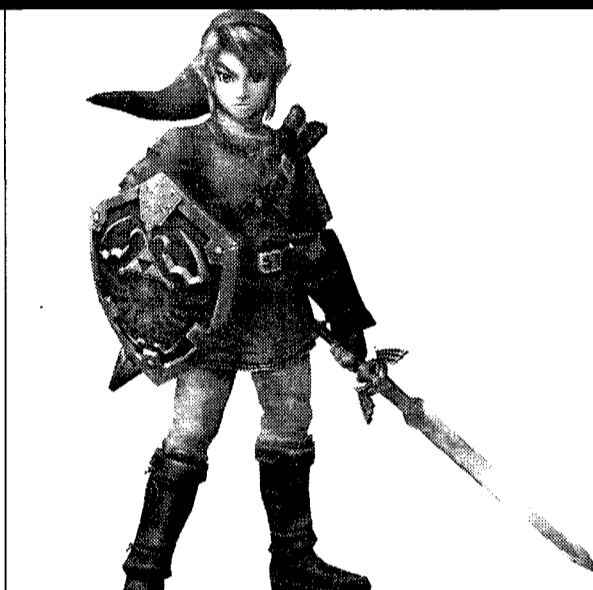


Photo courtesy of forumla.de

**Super Smash Brothers fans can now wield the power of Link on the Nintendo Wii.**

previous two games, almost all of them are dynamic. Obstacles can be destroyed, and things change as night turns into day, or winter turns to spring. It's amazing the amount of detail they have loaded into the stages, and I don't see myself getting tired of any of the levels soon.

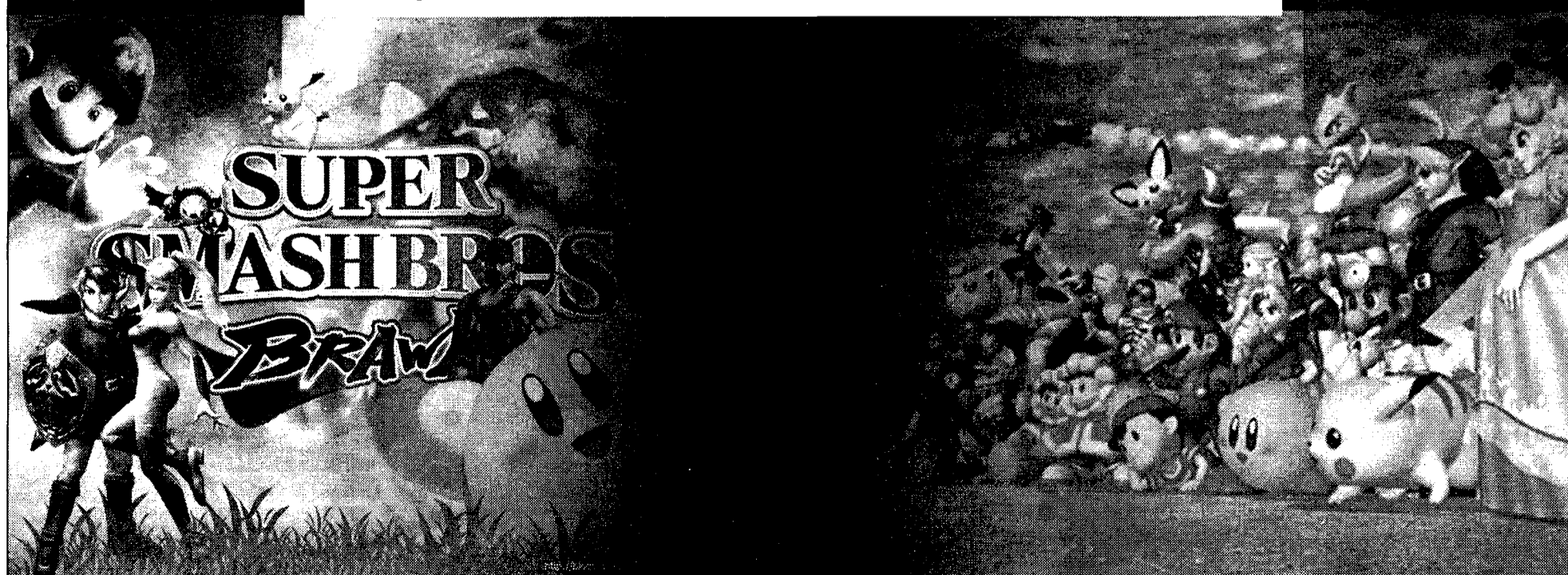
Besides that, they've added a richer single player game. While Melee attempted to have a single player adventure, it was weak and shallow. Brawl's single player game has much more depth and fun, but still pales in comparison to the times when you can play with three of your friends. After all, this was meant to be a multiplayer game.

While I don't have Wii myself, I can walk down the hall and into any room and find people playing the game. Much like I did with Melee, I can definitely see myself buying a Wii just for this game. And I bet I'm not the only one.

While admittedly fantastic multiplayer games like Halo, Rock Band, and Call of Duty 4 have stolen our hearts the past couple of years, we must remember to gather to praise and give thanks for the latest installment in the greatest multiplayer franchise that has ever existed. Let's brawl.

*The views expressed in Scene & Heard are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of The Observer.*

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## NHL

## Sharks' team-record 11-game winning streak ends

Oilers top team in shoot-out; San Jose has earned 23 points in 12 games despite disappointing start to season

Associated Press

SAN JOSE — Just a month ago, Jeremy Roenick wasn't totally sure his struggling San Jose Sharks would make the NHL playoffs, even with all their talent, experience and depth.

After the longest winning streak in franchise history, Roenick's only remaining question is whether the Sharks can ride this wave all the way into June.

San Jose's club-record 11-game roll ended Sunday night, but the 2-1 shootout loss to Edmonton still produced the Sharks' 23rd point in 12 games. Led by a rejuvenated captain, a new defenseman and a tireless goalie, San Jose has replied to the doubters who saw the preseason Stanley Cup favorites' first 60 games as a disappointment — particularly the five before their winning run.

"We had that five-game losing streak, and when you're in a playoff race and you get scared of actually missing the playoffs, it gets your attention," said Roenick, recalling a miserable trip from New Jersey to Philadelphia right before the streak began. "Everything started going right at that time, and it just built on itself. It's an energy, and everybody thrives off it. We feel really confident right now."

With 93 points, the Sharks (42-21-3-6) have leaped three points ahead of Anaheim and four in front of Dallas in the tight Pacific Division after mostly trailing for 4 months. Only Detroit, the overall NHL leader seven points ahead of San Jose, has a better record.

"With a little bit of luck, we might be able to reel Detroit in," coach Ron Wilson said. "But you want to just keep on plugging and win the games in hand."

San Jose also has two games in hand on both of its division rivals, putting the Sharks in control of their hopes to avoid a rough first-round playoff matchup. The Pacific winner will get the No. 2 seed in the Western Conference postseason, while the second- and third-place teams are almost certain to play each other in the first round.

Just in case the players for-



Sharks center Joe Thornton, right, grabs the puck from in front of Oilers right wing Zack Stortini, center, and Shark Jonathan Cheechoo, left, in the second period of an NHL game in San Jose, CA., on Sunday. The Sharks lost 2-1 in a shootout.

get, Wilson's typically detail-oriented staff has posted a spreadsheet outside the locker room with every playoff contender's point total and remaining schedule.

"Absolutely, every single day," defenseman Craig Rivet said when asked if he checks the standings. "Guys are very aware of what's happening. We're in a dogfight to try and get second place. Guys know the repercussions if we don't. We want to be the team that has the home-ice advantage."

The Sharks seemingly have had every advantage ever since defenseman Brian Campbell arrived from the Buffalo Sabres two games into the winning streak. Campbell, a two-time All-Star and a cornerstone of Buffalo's back-to-back conference finalists, has been

even better than San Jose expected. He immediately assumed a lead role on the Sharks' power play, logging heavy minutes and scoring 11 points in 10 games.

Maybe Joe Thornton is rubbing off on him: Campbell is living at his childhood buddy's Silicon Valley home until he finds a place.

"It's easier to play on this team with as much talent as we have," Campbell said. "Everybody on the ice is capable of scoring. I feel pretty fortunate to be in a lineup like that."

While Campbell was the Sharks' biggest addition, Patrick Marleau seems like a new player as well. After struggling mightily through the first 60 games, Marleau has been outstanding since the trade deadline passed.

He has six goals and three assists in the 10 games since he learned he would stay in teal, including the Sharks' only goal against Edmonton. Marleau insists the trade deadline made no difference to him, even when his departure from his only NHL team seemed to be part of every rumor emanating from Canada.

"He can say that he wasn't worried all he wants," Roenick said. "The fact of the matter is that we all get worried at that time, not just Patty. After it did pass by, I think he did settle down and put those worries out of his mind. This is a game for the free of mind, and if you get cluttered, you're going to look out of place. I think he feels much better for it. Everybody has been waiting

for Patty to get going, and he told us he was going to get going, and he has."

Evgeni Nabokov is likely to get just his third night off all year when the Sharks play at league-worst Los Angeles on Tuesday night, but San Jose has won eight straight road games — after winning 10 straight earlier in the season. The NHL's best road team (25-8-3) is the first club in NHL history with two road winning streaks that long in the same season.

"We've been doing it on the road all season," said Jonathan Cheechoo, the Sharks' second-leading goal scorer with 22 after a slow start. "If we can just start doing it at home consistently, we're going to be a tough matchup for anybody in the playoffs."

## 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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If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, visit http://osa.nd.edu/departments/rape.shtml

# AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, March 18, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

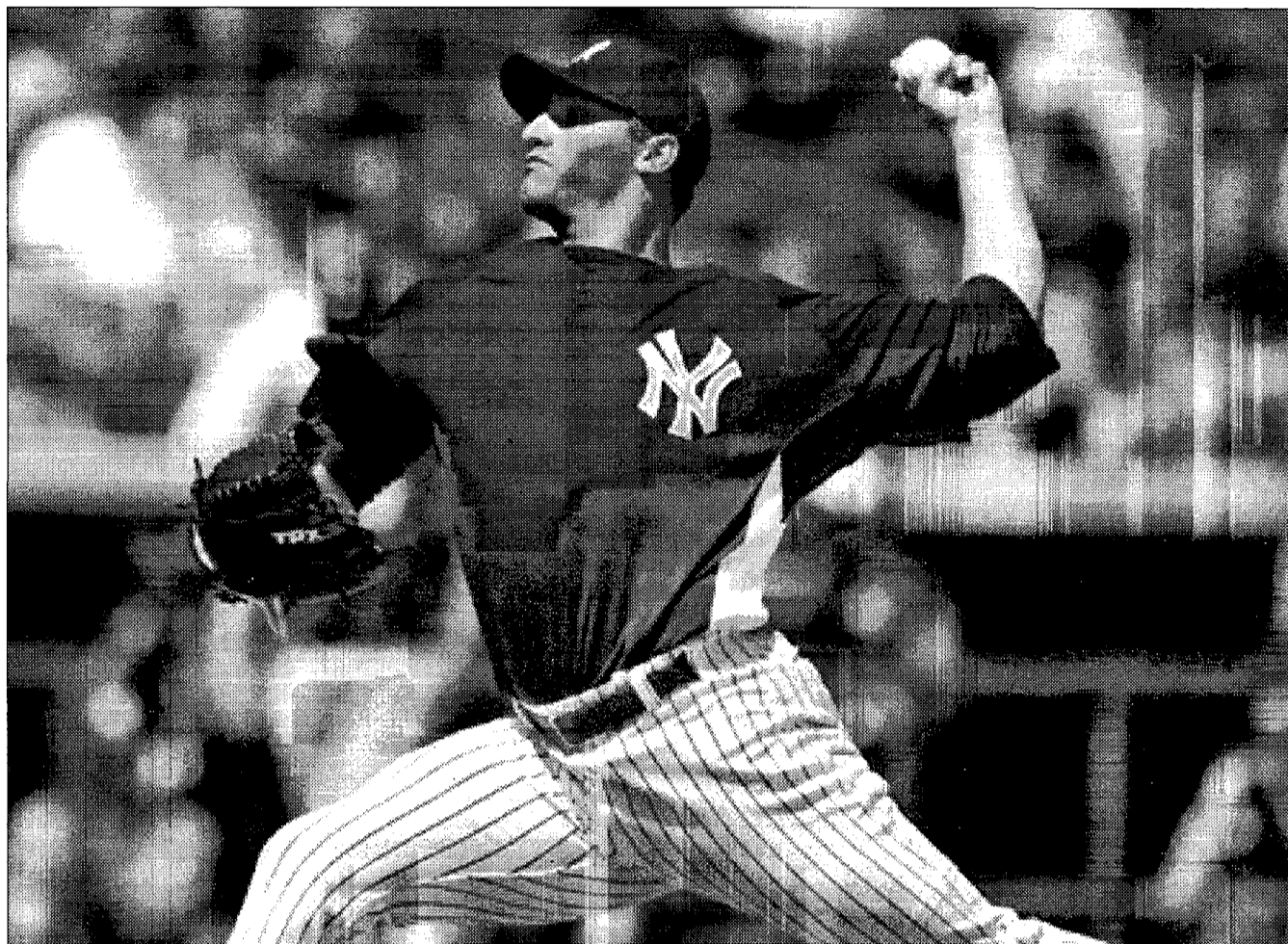
## AP Top 25 Women's Basketball Final Poll

rank	team	record	points
1	Connecticut (49)	32-1	1,249
2	North Carolina(1)	30-2	1,188
3	Tennessee	30-2	1,158
4	Stanford	30-3	1,091
5	Maryland	30-3	1,027
6	LSU	27-5	1,014
7	Rutgers	24-6	952
8	Texas A&M	26-7	858
9	Duke	23-9	817
10	California	26-6	788
11	Old Dominion	29-4	711
12	Baylor	24-6	705
13	Oklahoma St.	25-7	552
14	Oklahoma	21-8	435
15	NOTRE DAME	23-7	477
16	Kansas St.	21-9	436
17	West Virginia	24-7	434
18	Utah	27-4	426
19	Louisville	24-9	371
20	George Washington	25-6	352
21	Vanderbilt	23-8	263
22	Marist	31-2	222
23	UTEP	27-3	218
24	Virginia	23-9	113
25	Ohio State	22-8	86

## AP Top 25 Men's Basketball Final Poll

rank	team	record	points
1	North Carolina (53)	32-2	1,779
2	Memphis (13)	33-1	1,710
3	UCLA (5)	31-3	1,674
4	Kansas (1)	31-3	1,596
5	Tennessee	29-4	1,449
6	Wisconsin	29-4	1,412
7	Texas	28-6	1,390
8	Georgetown	27-5	1,271
9	Duke	27-5	1,223
10	Stanford	26-7	1,122
11	Butler	29-3	1,004
12	Xavier	27-6	957
13	Louisville	24-8	894
14	Drake	28-4	794
15	NOTRE DAME	24-7	672
16	Connecticut	24-8	670
17	Pittsburgh	26-9	586
18	Michigan State	25-8	523
19	Vanderbilt	24-7	493
20	Purdue	26-7	418
21	Washington State	24-8	377
22	Clemson	24-9	364
23	Davidson	26-6	253
24	Gonzaga	25-7	232
25	Marquette	24-9	174

## MLB



New York Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte delivers a pitch Monday during the Yankees' 8-4 win over the Boston Red Sox. The Yankees will play a spring training game today against the Virginia Tech Hokies.

## Yankees to play game at Virginia Tech

Associated Press

BLACKSBURG, Va. — Like most major leaguers, the New York Yankees don't get too excited about Grapefruit League games, especially when a bus trip is involved.

Tuesday's spring training road trip will be different.

Derek Jeter, Alex Rodriguez and the Yankees will board a bus at their Tampa, Fla., training complex to catch a flight to Virginia, then bus to Blacksburg for an exhibition game they all want to play. The Bronx Bombers vs. the Virginia

Tech Hokies.

"All the players are looking forward to it," Jeter said Monday. "The players that can't go want to. I'm sure it will be emotional, especially for the student body."

It was 11 months ago this college town became the focus of a horrified nation after a gunman killed 32 people on campus, and then himself.

People around the world rallied behind Virginia Tech and the community, and the Yankees were among the organizations that offered overwhelming support, donating \$1 million to the Hokie Spirit Memorial

Fund and asking if they could come play a game.

They'll do it Tuesday afternoon in a stadium packed with 3,000 students who won a lottery for tickets, 1,000 faculty and staff, and victims of last April 16th.

Virginia Tech coach Peter Hughes still gets choked up when he thinks about that day, and the one coming.

"Everywhere in life we've got guys that talk and guys that do things," the second-year Hokies coach said. "And when the Yankees call and say, 'Hey, we want to help out. We've got to do something. Here's our idea: we

want to come play and here's a million dollars.' How proactive is that? It blows you away, their generosity."

The Yankees have their own history with massive tragedy, playing in the same city where the attacks on the World Trade Towers claimed thousands of lives on Sept. 11, 2001.

"I really had a new appreciation for life after that," Jeter said. "I think it brings attention to how precious life is. You realize it's going to be a special trip and you can't take anything for granted. This really puts things in perspective."

## around the dial

### NCAA BASKETBALL

Mt. Saint Mary's vs. Coppin State  
7:30 p.m., ESPN

### NBA BASKETBALL

Nets at Bulls  
8:30 p.m., CSN

Celtics at Rockets  
9:30 p.m., TNT

## IN BRIEF

### Harmon to coach US men's tennis team in Beijing

First Andy Roddick, now Patrick McEnroe.

The United States' men's tennis team at the Beijing Olympics will be missing the top player and the captain from the squad that ended the country's 12-year championship drought in the Davis Cup.

McEnroe told the U.S. Tennis Association he did not want to return as Olympic tennis coach, a job he held at the 2004 Athens Games. Instead, Rodney Harmon will lead the American men in Beijing, pending U.S. Olympic Committee approval.

"I just felt like, I've been there, I was lucky enough to have the experience," McEnroe said Monday in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "I've been the captain for eight years. It seemed like a good opportunity for someone else to have that experience."

### Study questions results of growth hormone use

NEW YORK — Athletes who take human growth hormone may not be getting the boost they expected.

While growth hormone adds some muscle, it doesn't appear to improve strength or exercise capacity, according to a review of studies that tested the hormone in mostly athletic young men.

"It doesn't look like it helps and there's a hint of evidence it may worsen athletic performance," said Dr. Hau Liu, of Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in San Jose, Calif., who was lead author of the review.

Growth hormone, or HGH, is among the performance enhancers baseball stars Roger Clemens and Andy Pettitte were accused of taking in the blockbuster Mitchell Report. Clemens denies using the hormone, while Pettitte admits using it.

### Indiana forms committee to search for new head coach

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — While Indiana prepares for its first-round game in the NCAA tournament, the school said Monday that a former trustee will lead a 10-member committee to search for a replacement for disgraced coach Kelvin Sampson.

The head job became vacant last month when Sampson resigned amid allegations of NCAA violations. Dan Dakich, an assistant under Sampson and a former Indiana player and assistant under Bob Knight, took over as interim coach for the rest of the season.

Harry Gonso, a former Indiana quarterback and attorney, will lead the search committee, which includes athletic director Rick Greenspan and former Hoosier player Wayne Radford.

No timetable for the selection was announced, and Gonso said committee members would not comment publicly on progress until a decision is made.

## PGA

## Woods looks to maintain perfect 2008 in Florida Swing

Associated Press

DORAL — The outcome has never been more inevitable. Tiger Woods has never looked so invincible.

The world's No. 1 golfer faced a 25-foot birdie putt on the final hole at Bay Hill, and the moment he settled over the ball and the crowd grew quiet, it no longer mattered that Woods had not made a putt this long all week.

This one was for the win.

For most players, making such a clutch putt would be a career highlight. For Woods, it's more like a summer rerun.

"You know what he's going to do, right?" Arnold Palmer whispered to those around him right before Woods rapped his putt down the slope and watched it turn sharply to the right and tumble into the cup for a one-shot victory.

For Woods, it is the ultimate thrill.

"It's knowing that you have an opportunity to end the tournament, and it's in your hands," he said. "Whether you do it or not remains to be seen. It's like having the ball with a few seconds to go. Do you want it or not want it? I would much rather have it in my hands."

Lately, it has been nothing but net.

The Florida Swing long has been known as the road to the Masters, which is three weeks away. Woods already has his game at warp speed, and he's

lapping the field. His victory Sunday in the Arnold Palmer Invitational was his fifth in a row on the PGA Tour and his sixth straight worldwide, a streak that spans six months and is the longest overall of his incomparable career. When he won seven straight tour events in 2006-2007, second only to Byron Nelson's 11 in 1945, Woods lost three times overseas.

Now, even the purists must wonder if Woods can go an entire season without losing.

"It's unbelievable, isn't it?" Steve Stricker said Monday. "You think that one of these times, he's not going to get it done. But he continues to do it. And now you expect it. You just learn with him that nothing is unexpected."

Woods' latest victim was Bart Bryant, who did everything right and never felt so helpless.

Bryant twice made birdie to tie Woods for the lead, shot a 67 in stifling heat and waited in the scoring trailer to see if Woods could beat him. There was no television in the trailer, and Bryant didn't need one.

He heard a roar that rattled the trailer, and Bryant forced a smile and slowly shook his head.

"That's why he's Tiger Woods," he said.

Stricker felt that way outside Chicago the second week in September, when this winning streak started. He had a one-shot lead in the final round



Tiger Woods, left, and Arnold Palmer talk during the trophy presentation at the Bay Hill Club in Orlando, Fla., Sunday. Woods won the Arnold Palmer Invitational golf tournament over the weekend.

when he got to the 12th hole, looked down toward the green and saw Woods make a 50-foot birdie putt to catch him. Woods went on to a two-shot victory.

He can sympathize with Bryant.

"That's all you can do sometimes is shake your head and laugh," Stricker said. "That's what it's getting to be — laughable."

Golf is more global than it was a half-century ago, so Woods' win-

ning streak is complicated. This is the third time he has won at least five in a row, and he also won on the European Tour last month, shooting a 31 on the back nine to rally from a four-shot deficit.

And he won the Target World Challenge in December, although that doesn't count because it was a charity event that Woods hosts for 16 top players from the world ranking. For what it's worth, Woods won by seven shots.

Woods is so dominant that he

has won seven of his last eight times on the PGA Tour, the exception being a runner-up finish to Phil Mickelson at the Deutsche Bank Championship on Labor Day. He's an incredible 16 for 25 since the 2006 British Open.

"What he's doing now, you can't even fathom it," Bryant said. "You just can't explain it. It's just incredible. Just what he did today is more evidence of this weird zone he's in. And he's been in it his whole life."

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**NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

# Tennessee earns top seed in the women's NCAA tourney

Connecticut, Maryland and North Carolina fill out top four spots; rival Lady Vols and Huskies could meet in finals

Associated Press

Tennessee. Connecticut. Maryland. North Carolina.

Those No. 1 seeds — all familiar powerhouses to college basketball fans and all previous winners — anchored the NCAA women's tournament bracket, with the Lady Vols opening defense of their championship in the Oklahoma City Regional.

Connecticut and Tennessee didn't meet this season for the first time in 13 years. That could change April 8 in Tampa with the national championship on the line.

"It's Tennessee and Connecticut. I think there's always a lot of hype," said Tennessee coach Pat Summitt, whose team led by All-American Candace Parker opens up Sunday against Oral Roberts. "My mind is not on anything else but getting our team better."

Before the two could meet, Connecticut must get through new rival Rutgers. The Huskies are the top seed in Greensboro, and the Scarlet Knights are No. 2. Rutgers handed Connecticut its only loss this season.

"With so many teams to choose from it's kind of ironic," Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma said. "I guess Rutgers is the No. 8 seed in the country? I find that hard to believe, but I guess they are. If I were them, I'd be questioning a little bit what's going on."

Rutgers coach C. Vivian Stringer stared at the television in disbelief when the announcement was made that the Scarlet Knights would have to face Connecticut to advance to the Final Four.

"I didn't think there was any way on God's earth that this would happen," Stringer said. "I am just stunned and shocked. This is a mindblower. I just assumed that they would ask us to go through North Carolina, they have a very similar style to our play and we didn't see them this year. If I were a betting woman I would have lost all my money today."

The No. 1 seeded Huskies (32-1) will open against No.



Tennessee coach Pat Summitt, right, celebrates with her team, from left to right, Cait McMahan, Shannon Bobbit, Alexis Hornbuckle, and Angie Buckland on Monday in Knoxville, TN. The Lady Vols will play Oral Roberts in round one.

16 Cornell on Sunday in Bridgeport, Conn.

UConn, ranked atop the AP poll for 12 of the final 13 weeks, is hoping to get to the Final Four for the first time since 2004. The Huskies lost to LSU in the final last season. Connecticut's four seniors have added motivation: If they don't make it to Tampa, they would become the first Huskies' class in 20 to have never made it to the Final Four. The Huskies are led by freshman Maya Moore, who became the first Big East freshman to win Player of the Year.

North Carolina coach Sylvia Hatchell, however, was clearly frustrated by her team's draw. She had lobbied for the Tar Heels to be sent to Greensboro — about an hour west of the Chapel Hill cam-

pus — after they won the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament there last week.

Instead, her team might have to face second-seeded LSU in New Orleans for the right to go to the Final Four. If that happens, it would be the fourth time in six years North Carolina has had to face a lower seeded team playing close to home.

"I don't really have any thoughts," Hatchell said when asked about the draw.

"We're just ready to play. I'm going to wait until after the tournament's over to say anything."

The Tar Heels open play on Sunday against Bucknell.

LSU and senior Sylvia Fowles have made the last

four Final Fours. First-year coach Van Chancellor hopes to continue the streak and finally win a national championship for the Lady Tigers.

The only real surprise among the top seeds was Maryland getting the No. 1 in Spokane over Stanford, which was No. 2. Maryland lost in the semifinals of the ACC tournament to Duke.

"I tell you, we're ecstatic," said Terps coach Brenda Frese of the No. 1 seed. "We obviously feel like you play the entire season for this moment. The fact that our non-conference schedule really prepared us for now, to play in one of the toughest conferences, to go 30-3. I think it's a tribute to our team

and to our program, just how hard we worked throughout the course of the entire season."

Frese delivered twin boys in late February, but is back as the Terrapins seek their second national championship in three seasons.

Stanford, behind preseason All-American Candice Wiggins, has won 18 straight games and is trying to become the first Pac-10 team to make the Final Four in a decade.

"I think sometimes it's hard (because) people don't see us play," Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer said. "If the world was fair, it would turn the other way. We have a great team, great leaders. We're really excited about playing in the tournament."

While the Big East and Big 12 both have eight teams in the tournament, there are nine first-timers — Cleveland State, Cornell, East Tennessee State, Fresno State, Miami State (Ohio), Murray State, Texas-San Antonio, UTEP, and Wyoming.

"I want to congratulate our players," UTEP coach Keith Adams said. "Young ladies, you've made history today."

*"It's Tennessee and Connecticut, I think there is always a lot of hype. My mind is not on anything else but getting our team better."*

**Pat Summitt**  
Tennessee coach

*"With so many teams to choose from, it's kind of ironic. I guess Rutgers is the No. 8 seed in the country? I find that hard to believe, but I guess they are. If I were them, I'd be questioning a little bit what's going on."*

**Julie Schroeder-Biek**  
Belles coach

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## OLYMPICS

## EU, Australia oppose boycott of Beijing Games over Tibet

Associated Press

BRDO PRI KRANJU, Slovenia — Amid escalating violence in and around Tibet, the message from around the world was clear: "Let the games begin."

European nations and Olympic committees said Monday they opposed a boycott of the Beijing Games over China's handling of the unrest in Tibet. And most everyone else who spoke out, from Russia to the United States to Australia, echoed that approach.

"Under no circumstance will we support the boycott. We are 100 percent unanimous," Patrick Hickey, the head of the European Olympic Committees, told The Associated Press.

The EU sports ministers and Olympic committees said sports should not be linked to such a political issue and that previous Olympic boycotts had limited impact.

"Not one world leader has come out with the suggestion of a boycott and no less a person than the Dalai Lama" is against it, Hickey said. "A boycott is only a punishment of the athletes."

Slovene Sports Minister Milan Zver, who is chairing a meeting of top EU sports officials from the 27 member states and Olympic committees, said it was no different on the government side. "I am against a boycott of the Olympic Games in China," Zver said.

Christiane Hohmann, a spokeswoman for the EU's executive commission, said "such a boycott would not be the appropriate way" to voice concerns of human rights or rights of those in Tibet.

World 50-meter butterfly champion Roland Schoeman, however, supports calls for the IOC to take a stand.

The IOC "should stand up and say, 'The way these people are being treated is not acceptable,'" the South African swimmer said. "Either you put an end to this or else. The 'or else' could be extreme or it could be a set of conditions."

From its Colorado headquarters, the U.S. Olympic Committee reiterated its stance that an American boycott is out of the question.

"Put together a ranking of the worst ideas ever conceived and 'Olympic boycott' would be at the top of that list," USOC spokesman Darryl Seibel said. "Other than unnecessarily and unfairly punishing athletes, Olympic boycotts accomplish absolutely nothing."

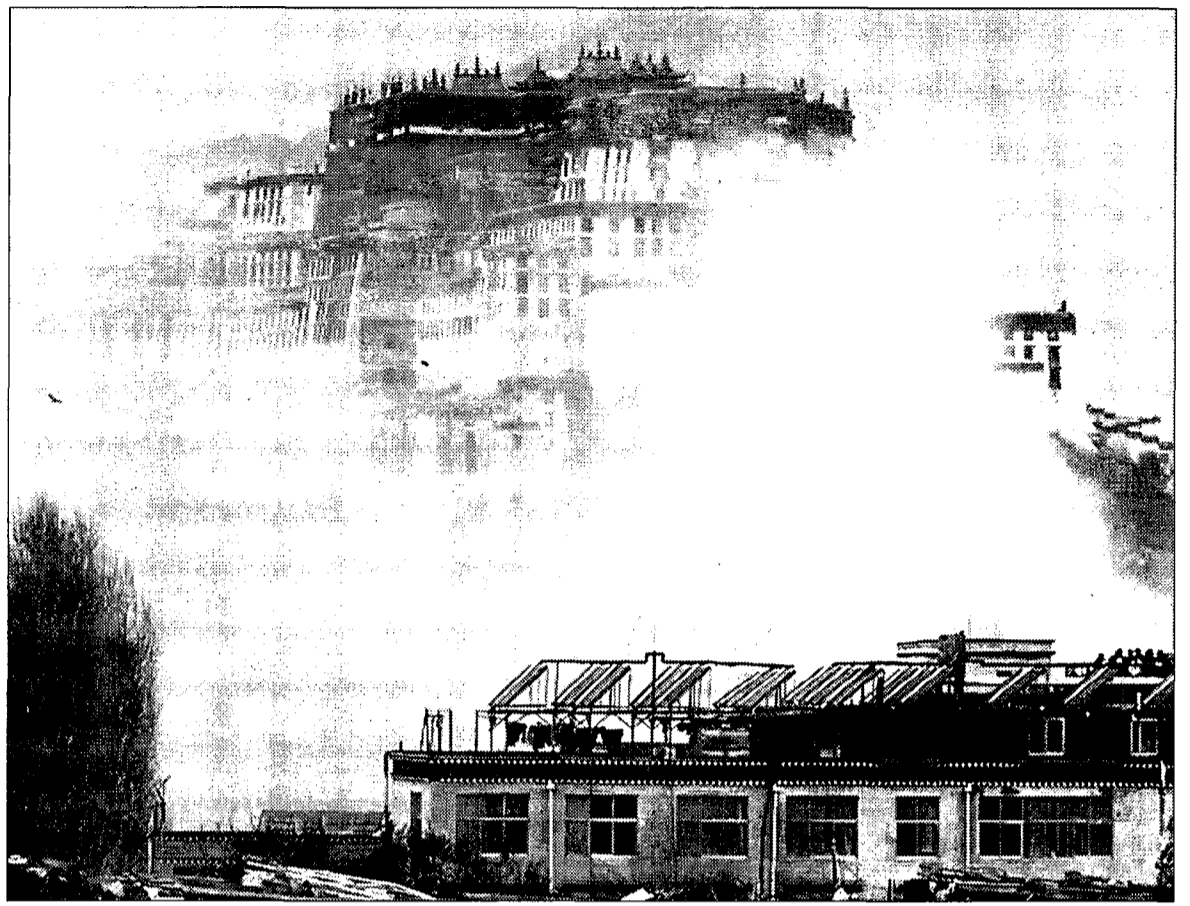
Russia warned against turning the Beijing Olympics into a political game.

"We would like to underscore that efforts to politicize the holding of the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in China are unacceptable," the government said.

Added Australian Foreign Minister Stephen Smith: "I very strongly believe that we should not in any way bring the Olympics or call the Olympics into question."

Erica Terpstra, the head of the Dutch Olympic Committee, said it is wrong to burden sports with such problems, and "it really has to be for the politicians."

"There was no call for a boycott whatsoever, even though there is great concern about what happens there," Terpstra added. "And I have an addition-



Smoke covers the center of Lhasa in the Tibetan Autonomous Region on Friday after a security crackdown following violent protests that drew negative publicity for China prior to the Beijing Olympics.

al concern: 'keep your hands off my athletes.'

That idea was echoed by Claudia Bokel, head of the athlete's commission of the European Olympic Committees.

"We are very concerned as athletes but we have been working on the qualification for the games for a long time. It is our existence," said Bokel, a fencing silver medalist for Germany. "We, as athletes, think we should have the time

to do our sport and not get involved as a tool for politics."

Australian Olympic Committee president John Coates contends that a boycott would only harm the athletes.

"It is not the role of the IOC to take the lead in addressing such issues as human rights or political matters, which are most appropriately addressed by governments or concerned organizations," Coates said.

On Monday, Tibet's governor promised leniency to anti-Chinese protesters who turned themselves in before the end of the day, as troops fanned out to quell sympathy protests that have spread to three neighboring provinces.

The fiercest protests against Chinese rule in almost two decades have embarrassed China's communist government and hurt its efforts to have a smooth run-up to the Aug. 8-24 Olympics.

Europe has never questioned

the right for the Chinese to stage the games. On Friday, a summit of EU leaders criticized China's response to demonstrations in Tibet but did not threaten a boycott on human rights grounds.

Togay Bayatli, president of the Turkish Olympic Committee, stressed it was up to business leaders and politicians to take the initiative.

"Our countries are doing business there," Bayatli said. "Everybody is going there."

Economic relations between the 27-nation EU and China are moving closer. Bilateral trade doubled between 2000-05 and reached \$370 billion in 2006. Europe is China's largest export market and China is Europe's prime source of imports.

Zver has argued that political pressure through sports doesn't work, saying the boycott of the 1980 Moscow Games was largely ineffectual at a political level. At the same time, it badly hurt the Olympic movement.

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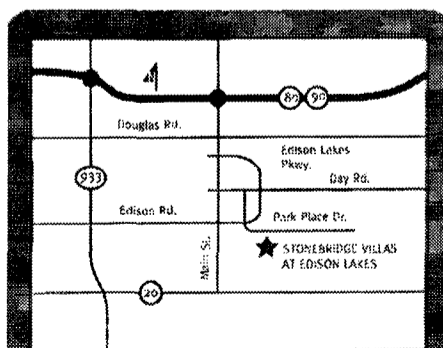
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NBA

# Howard leads Magic past Cavaliers with 23

Jefferson has double-double in Timberwolves win; Grizzlies snap four-game skid; Bibby drops 23 on Wizards

Associated Press

The Orlando Magic found their shooting touch beyond 23 feet.

Rashad Lewis made three of five 3-pointers in scoring 21 points, Dwight Howard had 23 points and 13 rebounds and the Orlando Magic beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 104-90 Monday night.

Orlando shot better from 3-point range (43.8 percent) than it did overall (39.5 percent). The Magic won despite getting outscored 22-3 on fastbreak points and 46-34 in the paint.

"The main focus is to get the ball inside to Dwight," Lewis said. "Obviously he demands so much attention and they can't guard him 1-on-1. They try to clog the paint and they leave us wide open out on the wing, so we take what they give us."

LeBron James had 30 points, nine rebounds and six assists for Cleveland. Delonte West had 16 points and Sasha Pavlovic added 14.

Cleveland must have known it wasn't their night when Jameer Nelson, who was 2-for-12 from the field, sank Orlando's 14th 3-pointer on its 32nd attempt. It rimmed out, then bounced off the backboard and in with 2:30 left.

"They made shots that they didn't make in the first half," James said. They are a team that shoots the ball very well. They

hit a lot of 3-pointers, and when they do that it is tough to come back. We just never recovered from that."

Hedo Turkoglu had 18 points and seven rebounds and Maurice Evans had 10 points for Orlando. Nelson had seven assists but only six points.

Cleveland led 45-40 at half-time, and by as many as 10 in the third quarter before Orlando made a run. Evans, Turkoglu and Lewis each hit consecutive 3-pointers and Nelson capped it with a 3-point play to give the Magic a 73-72 lead at the end of the third quarter.

"We had to change our coverage and they still hit a couple on us," Cleveland coach Mike Brown said.

James nearly kept Cleveland in the game by himself in the fourth, scoring seven of its first nine points. Four of them were on seemingly effortless dunks.

But the Cavaliers went more than four minutes without a bucket, missing three straight free throws (one from James and two from Zydrunas Ilgauskas).

Turkoglu sealed the win with a 3-pointer to put the Magic ahead 89-81 with 5:35 left.

**Timberwolves 99, Clippers 90**

Al Jefferson had his 48th double-double with 22 points and 14 rebounds, Ryan Gomes scored 19 points and the Minnesota Timberwolves beat the Los

Angeles Clippers Monday night.

Minnesota won for the fourth time in six games and moved past Seattle into fourth place in the Northwest Division. Jefferson trails only Orlando's Dwight Howard, who recorded his 60th double-double Monday, among NBA leaders in that category.

Corey Maggette had 34 points for Los Angeles, which concluded a five-game road trip by losing its fourth straight. Tim Thomas added 22 points.

Minnesota went on a 13-4 run early in the fourth quarter to take an 81-70 lead. Craig Smith had three quick points to open the period, Rashad McCants hit a 3-pointer and a long jumper before Kirk Snyder made two long-range jumpers.

McCants scored 16 points, Snyder 14 and Smith 11 for the Timberwolves. Marko Jaric had 10 assists.

A 3-pointer by Maggette pulled Los Angeles to 95-88 with 2:33 to play, but the Clippers could get no closer.

Maggette, who also scored 34 points Saturday in Washington, has scored at least 30 points seven times this year. This was the second time in six weeks, and fifth time in his career, that Maggette had back-to-back games with 30-plus points.

But he and Thomas got little help, especially with C Chris Kaman missing his fifth straight game with a lower back injury.

Cuttino Mobley scored just 10 points, shooting 3-for-15, and the Clippers' reserves were 5-for-17 from the field, getting outscored 31-10.

Minnesota finished the first half making six of seven shots — including a 3-pointer and layup from Gomes — to take a 47-44 lead at intermission. Gomes had 15 in the first half for Minnesota and Snyder 10. Thomas had 13 for the Clippers and Maggette 11.

**Grizzlies 98, Bobcats 80**

Mike Miller had 18 points and 13 rebounds, helping the Memphis Grizzlies snap a four-game losing streak with a victory over the Charlotte Bobcats on Monday night.

Juan Carlos Navarro led Memphis with 21 points, Hakim Warrick scored 19 and Darko Milicic added 11 points and 10 rebounds.

Derek Anderson had a season-high 17 points for the Bobcats, and Jared Dudley scored 14. The Charlotte starters scored only 36 points in the game

Bobcats leading scorer Jason Richardson had eight points — 13 below his average — and Gerald Wallace scored 10 — half of his average. The two were a combined 7-for-26 from the field, while Raymond Felton was 3-for-14, part of Charlotte shooting 41 percent.

The Grizzlies built the lead to double digits in the third period,

then extended it to 16 in the fourth when Miller hit a 3-point-er and followed it with a spinning layup with just under 7 minutes to play.

Memphis eventually pushed its advantage to 21 points down the stretch and sent the Bobcats to their fourth straight loss, and further hurting Charlotte's chances of reaching the eighth spot for the Eastern Conference playoffs.

Charlotte missed all five of their shots outside the arc in the second half, while Memphis controlled the middle with a 56-32 advantage in the paint and out-rebounded the Bobcats 49-42.

Charlotte led 47-42 at the break.

Memphis shot poorly to start the game, missing seven of its first eight shots. There were dunks blocked and layups missed by the Grizzlies, which contributed to Memphis hitting only about a third of its shots before finishing at 38 percent in the half — including shooting just 1-for-7 on 3s.

Also, the Grizzlies were 5-for-12 from the line in the half.

Initially, the Bobcats couldn't capitalize on Memphis' poor shooting, allowing the Grizzlies to cut into an early lead. However, Charlotte maintained the advantage through the half, building it to 14, while shooting better than 50 percent until the final 2 minutes of the half.

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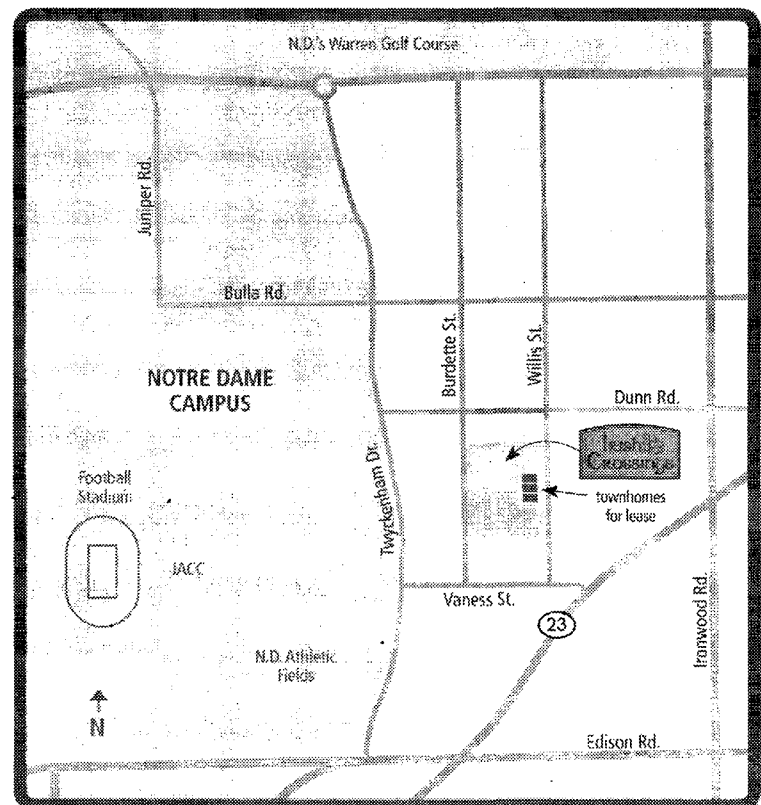
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now leasing.

# NCAA

continued from page 24

57, in the Conference USA championship game. They had previously lost their last two games as well, one against UTEP, before winning three straight in the conference tournament.

Janielle Dodd leads the Mustangs in scoring with 15 points per game, followed closely by Delisha Willis with 12.3. Jillian Samuels shoots 38.2 percent from 3-point range for SMU. The Mustangs had an eight-game winning streak in the beginning of the season and a seven-game streak near the end.

The Irish have faced them twice, with each team winning once. The last game was in the 1983-84 season.

The location, about an hour and a half away from Notre Dame, will allow loyal fans to travel and see the game.

"I would love to be close to home," Irish guard Charel Allen said. "Our fans should be able to go to the game. Our fans are great at the home games and I feel they will make the trip to Purdue and that will be so helpful for us."

"I really don't know anything except they beat UTEP in the finals and came in third in their conference," McGraw said.

The team, McGraw said, was excited about the chance to play, 14 days after their last game.

"I think we are definitely anxious play," she said. "We had some referees come in the other day just to stay in that game shape."

Allen said the team had been running to keep in shape. "We're really looking forward to playing again," Allen said.

Allen expressed cautious confidence in her team's abilities to play deep into the tournament.

"We could go on a little six-game winning streak and you would never know we lost two straight games," she said.

If the Irish win, they will face the winner of No. 4 seed Oklahoma and No. 13 seed Illinois State, but Allen said the team isn't thinking about the second round.

"Right now we are just focused on SMU, so we will look ahead after we play them," she said.

Contact Bill Brink at [wbrink@nd.edu](mailto:wbrink@nd.edu)

*"Our fans should be able to go to the game."*

**Charel Allen**  
Irish guard

*"Right now we are just so focused on SMU, so we will look ahead after we play them."*

**Charel Allen**  
Irish guard

# WMU

continued from page 24

ment, Gumpf said the team still has work to do on defense. She credited the defensive problems to the fact that the team has only been able to practice outside at Notre Dame twice this season. The weather has kept the team inside where they have spent most of their practice time focusing on hitting. "We're doing the best we can to get in reps," Gumpf said. "But once we get on dirt every single day I think we'll get a lot better."

One strong spot when the Irish are on the field has been the pitching of junior

Brittney Bargar. Bargar has posted an 11-5 record so far this season along with a miniscule 0.89 ERA.

"She's getting smarter," Gumpf said of Bargar. "She has a very confident air about her."

Gumpf described the Broncos as "scrappy." She pointed to Western Michigan's speed and ability to hit the long ball as two aspects her team would have to shut down in order to be successful.

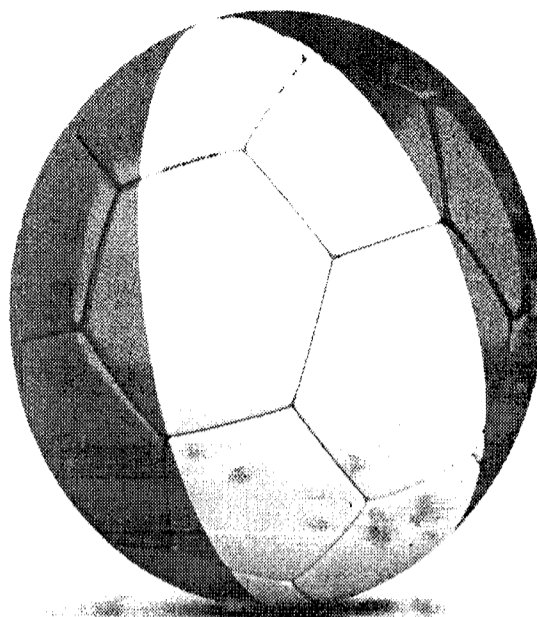
"Playing them at home isn't easy," Gumpf said. "Their strength this year is their offense and our pitchers will have to do a good job."

Contact Sam Werner at [swerner@nd.edu](mailto:swerner@nd.edu)

*"But once we get on dirt every single day I think we'll get a lot better."*

**Deanna Gumpf**  
Irish coach

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## The Riley Prize in

## Art History and Criticism

The Department of Art, Art History and Design is pleased to announce its annual competition for the Riley Prize in Art History and Criticism. Current Notre Dame undergraduate and graduate students are invited to submit essays on any topic in the history of art or art criticism for consideration in the competition. Essays must deal with the visual arts. They may have been written in conjunction with a course taken at the University, but need not have been.

Rules governing the competition are available in the Art Department Office, 306 Riley Hall.

Two copies of the submission must be delivered to the Art Department Office by 4:00 PM, Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> to be eligible.

*A student may only submit ONE entry.*

**Write sports.  
Contact Chris  
Hine  
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TENNIS

# Nadal, Blake claim victory

*Davenport, Ivanovic dominate women's Pacific Life Open play*

Associated Press

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. — Defending champion Rafael Nadal defeated Donald Young in their first meeting, and James Blake evened his record against familiar foe Carlos Moya in third-round matches Monday at the Pacific Life Open.

Nadal beat his 18-year-old American opponent 6-1, 6-3. Blake took a methodical 6-3, 6-4 victory over Moya.

Two-time women's title winner Lindsay Davenport bounced back from a second-set loss to defeat Chan Yung-Jan 6-4, 5-7, 6-2. Ana Ivanovic, ranked No. 2 and the top seed since Justine Henin is skipping the tournament, advanced with a 6-3, 6-0 win over Tathiana Garbin.

The 21-year-old Nadal, second in the rankings to Roger Federer, benefited from Young's inconsistency.

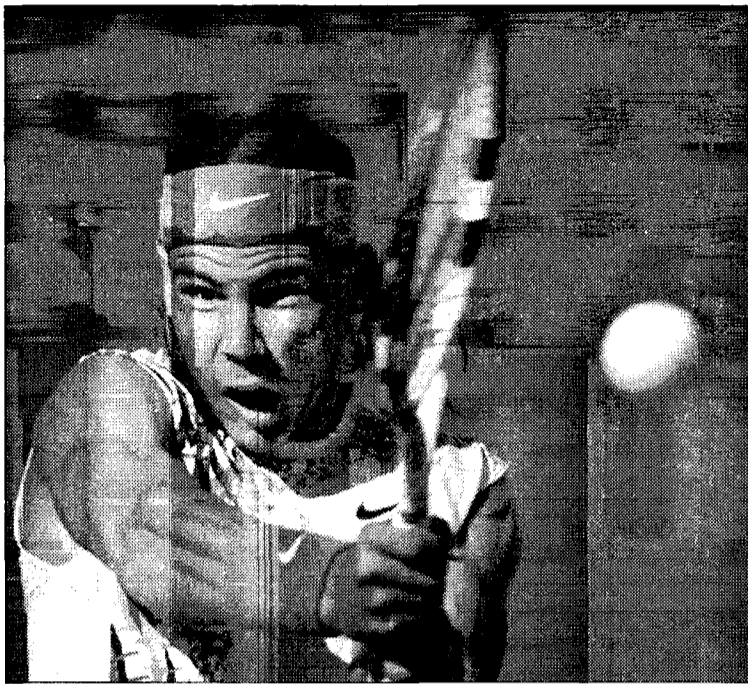
Although he was able to match Nadal stroke-for-stroke in some rallies and also hit several hard winners that brought roars from the crowd, Young's inexperience was evident at other times.

After hitting a routine forehand out to end a long rally in the second set, Young slammed his racket to the ground in frustration.

Soon after, he banged an overhead volley into the net, shaking his head at missing the easy shot.

Young won just seven of 17 points when he went to the net and Nadal was 6-of-7. Young made 38 unforced errors, 13 more than his Spanish opponent.

Although just some three years older than Young, three-time French Open



Rafael Nadal returns the ball during his 6-1, 6-3 win over Donald Young Monday.

champion Nadal obviously has a huge edge in experience.

"Well, I think he's young," Nadal said, describing how the match went. "I think he started very nervous. So I tried to score in the beginning, and he had some mistakes."

Young agreed. "Obviously I was really nervous," he said. "It's not the first time I played in front of a lot of people, but it's the first time I played No. 2 in the world."

Asked if his nerves had calmed down by the second set, Young said, "Yeah, losing 6-1, I think they go away. But overall, it was pretty decent."

Young had scored the biggest victory of his career two days earlier at Indian

Wells, beating No. 32 Feliciano Lopez in three sets.

The 28-year-old Blake, at No. 9 the highest-ranking U.S. player remaining in the tournament since No. 6 Andy Roddick was eliminated a day earlier, won for the sixth time in 12 career meetings against Moya, the former No. 1 now ranked 19th.

"We know each other's games really well," Blake said. "I've had a lot of tough matches with him. So I was really happy with getting through it in two sets, and either way, just getting the win was something I was proud of."

Moya, a 31-year-old from Spain, had been the oldest player left in the men's side of the tournament.

## McGraw

continued from page 24

there, so we're one in a row, we're undefeated this season, so that's the way we're going to approach it from now on," she said.

McGraw also said that her team's youth helps slightly because of its inexperience in Mackey since they have not lost in Mackey.

"I think that gives us a little more confidence going back. Plus most our players have only played there once, so freshmen and sophomores are undefeated at Mackey Arena," she said.

Irish guard Charel Allen, who lost at Purdue her sophomore year during the NCAA Tournament and during the regular season (65-54 on Dec. 7, 2005), said she feels more confident winning there than before.

"That's what I was just discussing with [senior guard] Tulyah [Gaines], I was like 'At least we won there so that feels good.' But it's a new season, so we'll see how it goes," she said.

Even though the Irish have not had a great deal of success at Mackey Arena, it still presents a clear advantage for the Irish.

They have a very winnable first two games (against No. 12 Southern Methodist and possibly No. 4 Oklahoma) before a likely showdown with Tennessee — the top-seed in the region.

And the location seems ideal. Instead of being shuttled off to Des Moines, Iowa, or Albuquerque, N.M. — two places not known as bastions of Notre Dame women's basketball fans — the Irish are

playing in state where South Benders can easily support their team in person.

When they first heard the bracket pairings on ESPN's selection show, Irish coach Muffet McGraw and her players unanimously said they were glad to be close to home because of the support their fans can give.

"Our fans are great at the home games and I feel they will make the trip to Purdue and that will be so helpful for us," Irish guard Charel Allen said.

Many Irish players are also from the Midwest, meaning that their families will be able to see them

play. Sophomore guard Ashley Barlow, and Indianapolis native, said she received three or four text messages only minutes after the pairing was announced.

"I've already gotten a couple phone calls from my family.... It's about a 45 minute drive so they will all be there — all of them," she said.

Irish forward Becca Bruszewski, who hails from Valparaiso, Ind., said she received five or six texts in the first 10 minutes after the Irish game was set.

Notre Dame got lucky this time. They limped into the NCAA Tournament with a couple bad losses, but still got precious home-state advantage — something that could prove to be a big factor in these opening rounds. And even with the bad karma they have in the Mackey Arena, the Irish look poised to keep dancing for at least a few more games.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at [jfitzpa5@nd.edu](mailto:jfitzpa5@nd.edu)

*"Well we won our last game there, so we're one in a row."*

**Muffet McGraw**  
Irish coach

*"But it's a new season, so we'll see how it goes."*

**Muffet McGraw**  
Irish coach



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**ND WOMEN'S GOLF**

# Freshman Conway leads team at tourney

*Squad fresh off first-place finish at Invitational*

By MICHAEL BLASCO  
Sports Writer

Hot off a first-place finish at last week's Rio Verde Invitational, No. 20 Notre Dame concluded the first day of competition at the Betsy Rawls Longhorn Invitational in fifth-place with a 29-over-par 317, 14 strokes off the leader, No. 22 New Mexico. Freshman Katie Conway lead the Irish in scoring on the day, finishing up with a 5-over par 77, tied for 11th overall.

A strong field of 17 competes this week at the par 72, 6,344-yard course at The University of Texas Golf Club in Austin, Tex. Close behind New Mexico, No. 5 Florida ended the first round with a 17-over 305. No. 32 Texas (308) and No. 6 Arkansas (311) fill the gap between the leaders and Notre Dame.

Coming off her second win of the season at the Rio Verde Invitational, Irish standout So-Hyun Park closely trails fellow freshman Conway, shooting a 6-over 78 on the day. She leads Notre Dame in scoring this season with a 72.81 average and was named Golf World Player of the Week in light of her recent victory.

Sophomore Annie Brophy, whose sixth-place effort last week marked her career-best finish, ended the day with an 8-over par 80. Junior captain Lisa Maunu finished with a 10-over par 82, and sophomore Kristin Wetzel shot a 13-over par 85 to round out the Irish squad.

The Betsy Rawls Invitational continues throughout the week, with the second round concluding today.

Contact Michael Blasco at [mblasco@nd.edu](mailto:mblasco@nd.edu)

**BASEBALL**

# Weather postpones game

By LORENZO REYES and FRAN TOLAN  
Sports Writers

Back when Notre Dame head coach Dave Schrage spoke at the seventh-annual Opening Night Dinner in February, he spoke of Monday's Opening Day game against Central Michigan as a day that would hopefully be filled with warmth, sun, green grass and most importantly for Irish fans — baseball.

Unfortunately for all those in attendance, there was only one of these things present at Frank Eck Stadium for the St. Patrick's Day opener — and even that was in short supply. Due to inclement and wintry weather, action was suspended in the middle of the sixth inning with the Chippewas up 3-2 and the bases loaded and two outs.

A make-up date of May 12 has been announced, but both squads are still awaiting word for the procedure of the restart of the game.

Several make-up scenarios are on the table. Either the action will be called as a 2-2 tie or the game could be postponed to be completed at the point of the last full inning (also a 2-2 tie) May 12.

The Irish bats seemed poised to break open the contest and give freshman starting pitcher Brian Dupra the early run support necessary to pull off a victory when senior Brett Lilley ripped a double past the Chippewa first baseman. Sophomore David Mills then followed with a sacrifice bunt that pushed Lilley to third base. A.J. Pollock then singled up the middle to score Lilley and put Notre Dame up 1-0.

Junior first baseman Evan Sharpley's fielder's choice moved Pollock into scoring position, allowing classmate Jeremy Barnes to bring home Pollock,

giving the Irish a two-run advantage.

Central Michigan would not go away quietly, and followed with a pair of runs of its own in the next inning, nullifying the lead. In a frustrating series of events for Notre Dame, it Central Michigan used infield singles to chip away at Notre Dame's lead. With two runners aboard, Chippewa senior Noah Lankford's one-out, two-run double knotted the game at two. Dupra promptly retired the next two batters, leaving Lankford stranded.

Dupra ran into some trouble, but managed to escape without any earned runs until the sixth frame, when he hit senior Jeff Helps with a pitch with the bags juiced bring one in. The ominous clouds began to break open, causing the umpires to suspend the game.

The Irish will return to the diamond tomorrow when they face Xavier at the Frank Eck Stadium at 5 p.m. Freshman Ryan Sharpley will take the mound against the Musketeers in search of his first win of the season.

Today the Irish were trying to build off of a successful weekend where they won 2 of 3 games.

Notre Dame was poised to sweep its three games in the Irish Baseball Classic in San Antonio this weekend before squandering a seven-run lead against Texas-Pan American Sunday. The Irish beat Buffalo 13-1 Friday and shut out Southern Illinois 4-0 Saturday before falling to Texas-Pan American 10-8. With a 2-1 record for the weekend, Notre Dame improved to 7-7 on the season.

Junior right-hander David Phelps surrendered just one run on four hits in seven innings of work to pick up his second win of the season against Buffalo.

The Irish offense gave Phelps plenty of breathing room, record-

ing 12 hits in the rout. Freshman third baseman Greg Sherry led the balanced Irish attack, going 3-for-3 with three runs scored. Sophomore designated hitter David Mills went 2-for-2 with two RBIs. Sophomore hurler Steven Mazur and freshman Cole Hudson each tossed a scoreless inning to close out the victory. Senior Wade Korpi, senior Tony Langford and junior Kyle Weiland kept the Salukis at bay as junior second baseman Jeremy Barnes led the Irish to a 4-0 over Southern Illinois. Barnes pounded out three hits, including a seventh inning solo home run to put the game out of reach. Korpi and Langford combined to load the bases in the seventh but Langford struck out the final two Salukis batters of the frame to preserve the lead for Notre Dame. Langford worked a perfect eighth inning and Weil and closed out the contest. Sophomore centerfielder A.J. Pollock went 2-for-4 with a run scored in the win.

The Broncos ended Irish hopes for a perfect weekend, scoring runs in the seventh inning to come from behind and notch the win. The Irish took a big lead after scoring six runs in the fifth inning. Ross Brezovsky led off the frame with a home run and the Irish continued to roll, knocking out seven hits before being retired. But Texas-Pan American clawed back, plating six runs of its own in the seventh to cut Notre Dame's edge to 7-6. The Broncos completed their comeback with three runs off of Mazur and Johnson in the eighth inning. Johnson took the loss for the Irish in his first decision of the season. Barnes went 2-for-4 with an RBI in the losing effort.

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at [lreyes@nd.edu](mailto:lreyes@nd.edu), Fran Tolán at [ftolan@nd.edu](mailto:ftolan@nd.edu)

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## Belles

continued from page 24

Zamler, and their No. 2 singles, sophomore Michelle Mulder. Both Zamler and Mulder are strong top players for the Brits this season, each going 3-2. The real threat is when they join forces to become Albion's No.1 doubles team, going 4-1 this season. Their next challenge will most likely be Saint Mary's No. 1 doubles of Gebert-Hurley.

"Winning our doubles will give us an advantage," Gebert said. "We need to start off strong in each match, and keep the intensity up throughout. We have a very good chance at beating them, so long as we play to our potential."

The Belles travel to Albion today to take on the Brits in their conference opener at 3 p.m.

"Our matches are all going to be tight, so we must stay positive," Gebert said. "Giving up will not be an option. I believe we will rise to the occasion."

Contact Meaghan Veselik at [mvesel01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:mvesel01@saintmarys.edu)



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Sophomore Lisa Rubino serves during Saint Mary's 8-1 loss to Albion April 21, 2007.

Write Sports. Contact Chris Hine at [chine@nd.edu](mailto:chine@nd.edu)

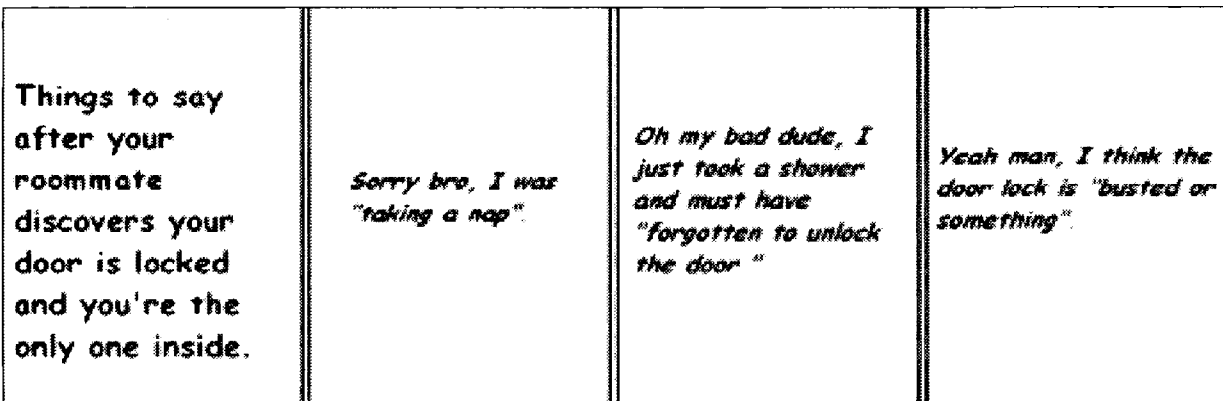
**BLACK DOG**

MICHAEL MIKUSKA



**LOLLERSKATES**

DIDIER LEWIS



**ANOTHER UNFUNNY COMIC**

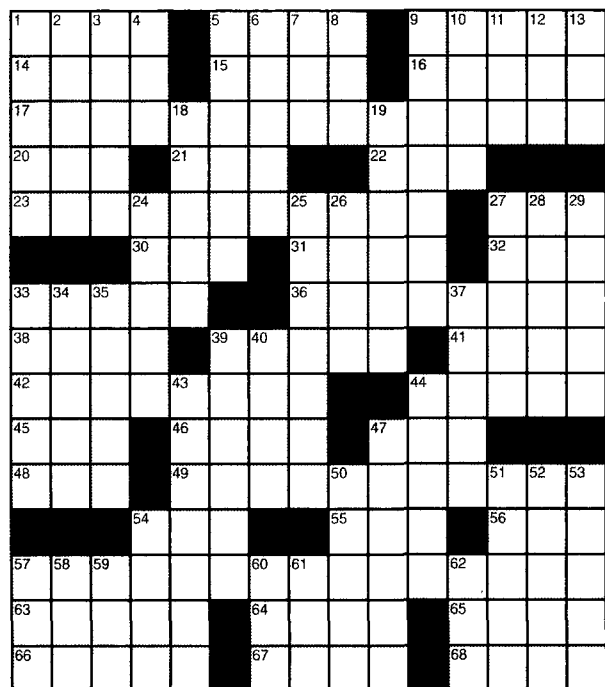
LIZ MURPHY & SARAH MUSCARELLA



**CROSSWORD**

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Ashen
  - 5 Decorative molding
  - 9 Yellow shade
  - 14 Gen. Robt. \_\_\_\_
  - 15 "Look both ways before crossing," e.g.
  - 16 Lax
  - 17 In front of a hydrant, say
  - 20 Notice for late ticket-buyers, maybe
  - 21 "Waking \_\_\_\_ Devine" (1998 film)
  - 22 Ignited
  - 23 "Uh-oh"
  - 27 Cool, to a cat
  - 30 They might be near I.C.U.'s
  - 31 Hair removal product
  - 32 Tic-tac-toe loser
  - 33 Atlanta university
  - 36 Fran of "The Nanny"
  - 38 School lady
  - 39 Things hidden in 17-, 23-, 49- and 57-Across
  - 41 Pawn
  - 42 Loch Ness monster, e.g.
  - 44 Dictatorial
  - 45 Umberto who wrote "The Name of the Rose"
  - 46 1998 song by the Goo Goo Dolls that was #1 for 18 weeks
  - 47 Part of m.p.g.
  - 48 Aurora's Greek counterpart
  - 49 Publicists
  - 54 Nafta signatory
  - 55 Opposite of post-
  - 56 Only Super Bowl won by the New York Jets
- Down**
- 1 "Taste that beats the others cold" sloganer, once
  - 2 Morning waker-upper
  - 3 "Vive \_\_\_\_!"
  - 4 "Horrors!"
  - 5 Directives
  - 6 Father \_\_\_\_ Sarducci, longtime "S.N.L." character
  - 7 Pipe joint
  - 8 Epitome of slipperiness
  - 9 Home of the Casbah
  - 10 Castle defense
  - 11 Ex-hoopster Manute \_\_\_\_
  - 12 Course for a recent émigré: Abbr.
  - 13 King in unpalacio
  - 18 Contestant's mail-in
  - 19 The Oscars of magazine publishing
  - 24 \_\_\_\_ Jean (Marilyn Monroe, affectionately)
  - 25 Disrobe
  - 26 Zinger
  - 27 Ding Dongs competitor
  - 28 Board members, for short
  - 57 Business sessions that drag
  - 63 Seed-to-be
  - 64 Israel's Abba
  - 65 French seas
  - 66 Mythological reveler
  - 67 Hair line
  - 68 Zebras, to lions



Puzzle by Peter A. Collins

- 29 Looney Tunes pig
- 33 Maker of introductions
- 34 \_\_\_\_ Polo
- 35 Snacks dipped in milk
- 37 Dusting or taking out the garbage
- 39 "Yippee!"
- 40 Lake \_\_\_\_, outlet of the Maumee River
- 43 Racetrack tout
- 44 Father
- 47 Father, e.g.
- 50 Stab
- 51 Forty-\_\_\_\_
- 52 Un gato grande
- 53 Girlish boy
- 54 Hard on the eyes
- 57 \_\_\_\_ Lobos
- 58 TV's Longoria
- 59 Kook
- 60 Opposite of "naw"
- 61 Wall St. hire
- 62 Little troublemaker

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**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**



**JUMBLE**

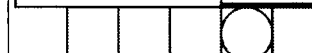
HENRI ARNOLD  
MIKE ARGIRION

**JUMBLE**

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

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

LAWRD



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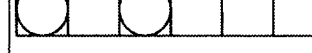
RIGAN



ROYLOP



WHYROT



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(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LIBEL PIKER UNCURL HANDLE  
Answer: One result of being riled — IDLER



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

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**Happy Birthday:** Plunge into unknown waters and learn something new. The more you have to add to your resume or to your life experience, the easier it will be for you to find your way. Children or younger friends will make a difference to the way you view things. Don't pass up an opportunity to advance because you are too afraid to try. Your numbers are 3, 14, 19, 27, 31, 34

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** You'll have to take the bad with the good today. Try to remain unbiased and passive when dealing with friends or relatives. Discussing religion, politics or controversial subjects will lead to feuds. 5 stars

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Someone is likely to try to make you feel guilty for doing something you want to do. Don't let this person ruin your fun. Sometimes you simply have to go it alone. 2 stars

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Rely on someone who has more experience and who can help you see things clearly. If you aren't certain about getting involved in something or about a change at home, take a pass. Don't make a decision without being sure. 4 stars

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Put your heart into whatever you do. A change may not be your idea of a good time but, in the end, it will work in your favor. Don't become emotional regarding finances. Money matters will improve. 3 stars

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Don't let your emotions get the better of you. If someone makes you angry, don't retaliate. Focus on making money and getting work out of the way rather than wasting time or spending money trying to cheer yourself up. 3 stars

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Don't be too concerned about what anyone else does. You can meet new people, make plans that will help you professionally and financially, start new partnerships or even pick up a new hobby. Love is in the stars and romance can be yours. 3 stars

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Being successful will stop everyone from trying to run your life. Step outside the box and do things a little differently. Someone special wants to get to know you better. 4 stars

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** You may find it difficult to keep your emotions under control especially when discussing matters that concern someone's honesty. Try not to let this matter slow you down from what's really important. 2 stars

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** You will easily fool yourself into thinking that you have more than you do. Be careful not to make promises or commitments that will put you in debt. A change of mind or heart may bring serious repercussions. 5 stars

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** You are pretty much in control, so follow through with your thoughts and actions and your timing will be impeccable. You can undertake with confidence something that means a lot to you. 3 stars

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Pressure may be put on you to help a cause. If it is someone you work with, reconsider your position and donate a little of your time. Don't lend money or accept others' responsibilities. It's one thing to lend a hand and another to be left doing everything on your own. 3 stars

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** You will get far more done working from home today. An opportunity will arise if you are in touch with someone you have worked with in the past. An idea you have will spark an interest in someone who is looking to make an investment. 3 stars

**Birthday Baby:** You are energetic, enthusiastic and determined to succeed. You are creative, unique and not afraid to take on a challenge. You are serious-minded but love to day-dream.

Eugenia's Web sites: [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun, [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations

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## ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# Lucky 13

*McGraw sends team to NCAA tourney again*

By **BILL BRINK**  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will hit the dance floor for the 13th consecutive year.

The Irish (23-8) earned a No. 5 seed and will play Southern Methodist University Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in West Lafayette, Ind.

Last season, the Irish received a No. 9 seed and lost in the second round, 60-51 to No. 1 seed North Carolina after beating No. 8 seed California 62-59.

Notre Dame is 23-13 all-time in the tournament and won the national championship in 2001.

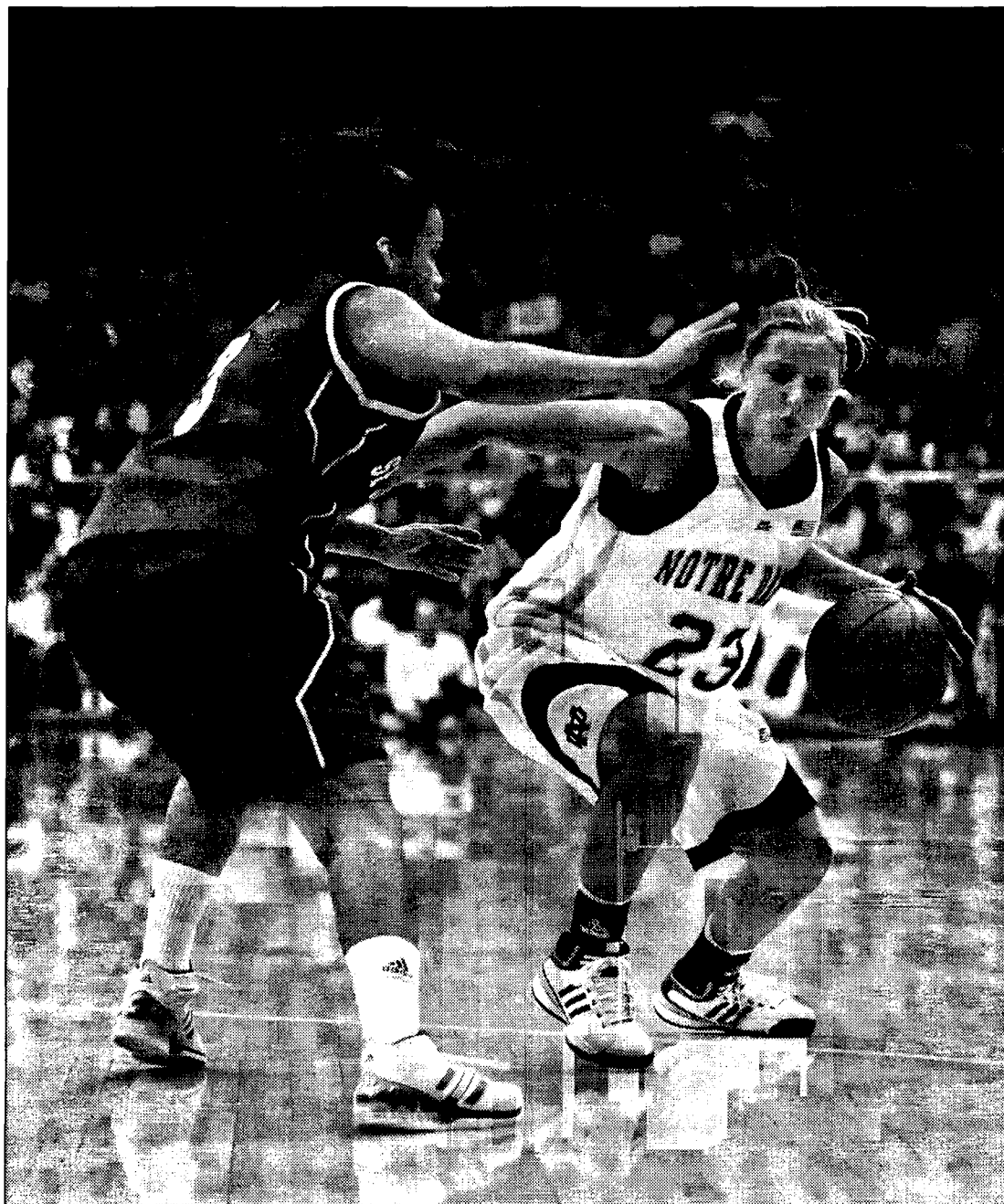
The end of the season was not kind to the Irish. They dropped their last two games, including their first-round Big East tournament game — a 64-53 loss to Pittsburgh. Notre Dame raced to a 14-2 lead, but went 8-for-27 in the half and was up only one at the break.

Pittsburgh rebounded from shooting 25 percent in the first half to hit 14 of their 32 second-half shots, including three 3-pointers to put it ahead for good.

"We want to get away from that [two game losing streak] and start a new streak and get busy at practice," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

The Mustangs (24-8) amassed the most wins in program history this season. They beat Texas-El Paso Sunday, 73-

see NCAA/page 20



Sophomore guard Melissa Lechlitner drives to the hoop during Notre Dame's 70-55 win over Seton Hall on March 1.

IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

*Coach prepared for tough game at Mackey*

Just because Notre Dame is playing in familiar territory doesn't mean that it is comfortable there.

The Irish drew the 5-12 game in the Oklahoma City regional, a game that will be played at Mackey Arena in West Lafayette, Ind., on Purdue's campus.

At first glance, this home-state advantage sounds like a huge boon for the Irish.

But more important than the game being in Indiana, it is being held in Mackey Arena — where the Irish have struggled mightily in the past.

Before this season, Notre Dame was winless at Mackey in eight tries, including a previous trip in the NCAA Tournament. The Irish lost 78-61 in the first round of the big dance in West Lafayette two years ago against Boston College, when then-freshman guard Lindsay Schrader netted a career-high 29 points.

The Irish did get their first win in Purdue this season, a 61-48 victory on Dec. 8. Muffet McGraw said she was happy to get that first win in Mackey Arena just to know she can go down there and win.

"Well we won our last game

see McGRAW/page 21



Jay Fitzpatrick

Sports Writer

## SMC TENNIS

# Belles open conference play against Britons

By **MEGHAN VESELIK**  
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's opens their conference play today as they head to Albion to take on the Britons, who are currently ranked first in the MIAA. The Britons (6-0, 1-0 MIAA) started off their conference season with a win on Feb. 13 when they defeated Adrian 9-0. Tuesday's match will be the first meeting of the two teams this season.

Last season the Belles were unsuccessful against the Brits, losing 8-1 in their only meeting. Sophomore Camille Gebert gave Saint Mary's their only victory of the day when she defeated Albion's Holly Huth 6-3, 7-5. The Brits ended last season 15-6, 7-1 overall, and were the MIAA conference co-champions with Kalamazoo. The Belles went 13-13, 5-3 MIAA, finishing in fourth.

"We are expecting a very tough match," Gebert said. "If we want a chance at winning the conference

title, we need to beat Albion. They will likely have a very competitive team, and each match will be crucial for a team victory."

Last Saturday, the Belles went up against the Division II Indiana Wesleyan Wildcats, losing 6-3 and falling to 4-4. Saturday wasn't a complete failure for the Belles, however, as it gave them a chance to get back on the courts and compete once more before Albion. Gebert and freshman Jillian Hurley each continued their individual success in the singles division. Gebert won her match 6-2, 6-2, putting her at 4-4, and Hurley went 6-3, 5-7, 6-3, bringing her to 7-1. On the doubles side, the duo of sophomore Lisa Rubino and freshman Betsy Reed were the only victors for the Belles, winning 8-4 and putting them at 3-3 as a pair.

Saint Mary's biggest threats from Albion will be their No. 1 singles player, freshman Shelley

see BELLES/page 22

## ND WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

# Irish head to Kalamazoo

By **SAM WERNER**  
Sports Writer

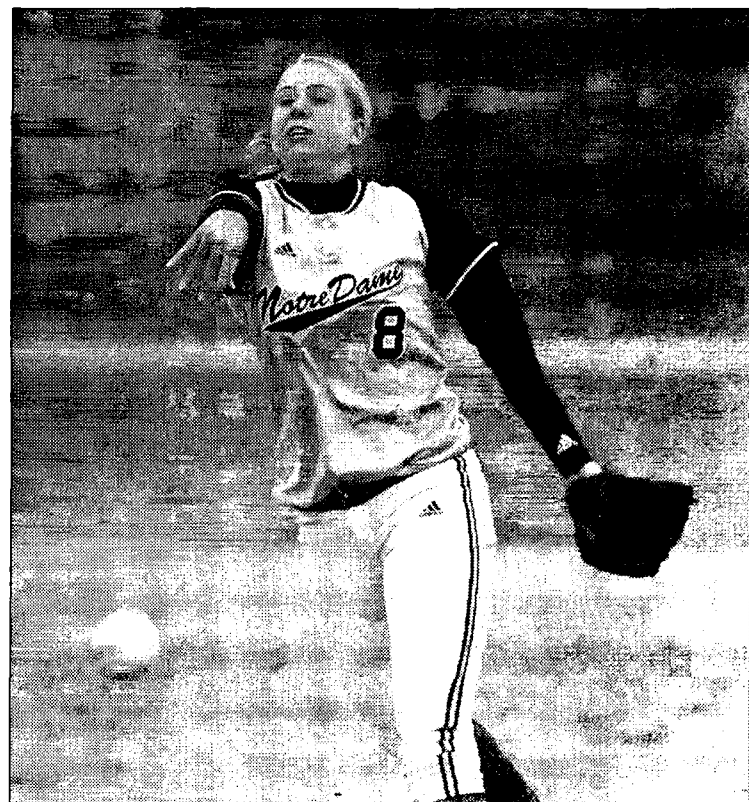
After competing in tournaments in Arizona, Florida, California, and South Carolina over the past month, Notre Dame will head to Kalamazoo, Mich., to take on Western Michigan University.

Irish coach Deanna Gumpf hopes that the switch to a colder climate will do nothing to cool off her team's red hot hitting. The Irish scored 46 runs in five games at last weekend's Lowcountry Invitational in Charleston, S.C., including a 16-2 thrashing of Charleston Southern.

"We've gotten better offensively and that showed this past weekend," Gumpf said. "We hit the ball much better."

While she was satisfied with the offense's improve-

see WMU/page 20



Junior pitcher Brittney Bargar pitches during Notre Dame's 3-0 win against Ball State April 18, 2007.

TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer