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The long journey home

Friends come together to help cancer patient George Porter-Young return to his family in England one last time

By CHRIS HINE
News Writer

On a bitter cold January day in South Bend, Dr. Dean Park walked into George Porter-Young's hospital room and shut the door.

Over the past few weeks, George, 72, had been passing out during his breaks at work in Sbarro's in the LaFortune Student Center, a pattern that alarmed his doctor. Dr. Park, an oncologist, had put him through a rigorous regimen of tests — from X-rays to multiple bone marrow drills — but this time George sensed something was different in Dr. Park's demeanor; he rarely shut the door to talk to George.

"I said, 'Hello, something must be up,'" George said in his British accent. It's been 42 years since George left his family in England and came to America, but he never lost that accent so many customers in LaFortune have come to love over the past eight years. "You closed my door, you must want some privacy."

Dr. Park confirmed George's intuition. "I've got some bad news for you," he said.

But before Dr. Park could speak another word, George interrupted him. George was fed up with all the tests he was taking and the time he was spending in the hospital. He didn't want more tests. He didn't want Dr. Park skirting the issue. He just wanted to know the truth, no matter how chilling it



DUSTY MENNELLA/The Observer

Former LaFortune employee George Porter-Young stands in front of postcards of every British ruling monarch at his home in South Bend. The Huddle is collecting funds to help George move back to England while he battles bone cancer.

was. "Do me a favor," he told the doctor. "You better tell me the truth, because if you don't tell me the truth, I'll be your worst enemy. But if you tell me the truth, then I'll be your best friend."

Dr. Park told George the truth. "You have myelodysplastic syndrome," Dr. Park said.

But George had no idea what that was. "It's bone cancer," Dr. Park said. "And it could lead to leukemia."

Leukemia? George knew from experience — his uncle had suffered from it — that leukemia was not curable. And so, George asked one of the most painful questions of his life.

"How long do I have left to live?" he

asked.

"Six months to two years. But maybe more," Dr. Park said, trying to put as positive a spin on it as he could.

At first, George's mind went blank.

"I said 'Well, there's only one person who knows when I'm going to die,'" George said. "And that's God. I'm sure he will let me know when it's my time."

After a few seconds he thought of one thing — his sister, Joan.

After listening to Dr. Park describe the various treatments he would have over the next few months — including hydration, blood transfusions and chemotherapy — George called his sister in England.

George dreaded this call to England. Joan's husband, Thomas, had just died of cancer a few months earlier, and George couldn't make it home for the funeral. How would Joan react now when George told her that he, too, had cancer?

"I thought 'Oh God, not another one,'" Joan said. "I said to him, 'Please come back home.' All my life I've always said he's been gone to America. Wait until he's a little older and he's not well. He'll be back. And I've always said that."

George Porter-Young has stared death in the face before, and hasn't backed down. As a young boy living near London during WWII, death was an everyday occurrence. George said its coming was signaled by the sound of Nazi war planes flying overhead

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Juan Muldoon named new varsity Leprechaun

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

Football fans will see a new face on the sidelines in the fall when junior Juan Muldoon graces the field as the new varsity Leprechaun.

Muldoon said his experience as junior varsity Leprechaun for the past two years has prepared him for the busy role of being the

University mascot.

"I have learned to communicate with a crowd and think on my feet, which are skills absolutely necessary to work a football crowd," Muldoon said.

Muldoon's desire to represent Notre Dame as the Leprechaun began during his Freshman Orientation.

"During Frosh-O I had a beard and I was about five feet [tall], so some people in

my section joked that I should be the Leprechaun," he said. "In the spring as tryouts drew nearer, a cheerleader in my section encouraged me to give it a shot. It was a long shot because they generally choose older students, but I got the J.V. position.

"That's where the dream all started."

The grueling process of tryouts began in early April to replace graduating varsity

Leprechaun Matt Phipps. The position of Notre Dame Leprechaun is about more than just sports, Muldoon said. The judges have to evaluate the candidates as public relations figures for the University, as the Leprechaun frequently speaks with fans, the media and participates in rallies and community service. During the tryouts, the Leprechaun candidates have to partake in mock media

interviews and role-play different scenarios that they may encounter as Leprechaun, Muldoon said.

And, of course, the prospective Leprechauns had to demonstrate their ability to work a crowd.

"You have to conduct a Pep Rally on your own in front of a live crowd," Muldoon said. The judges watched to see

see MULDOON/page 4

Valedictorian: Josh Hammack

Zahm resident participated in Bengal Bouts, service outside of class

By CLAIRE REISING
News Writer

Although Joshua Hammack, the class of 2008 valedictorian, earned a GPA of 3.99, Zahm rector Corry Colonna said he filled his college career with more than just academics.

"He's obviously well-rounded," Colonna said. "Everyone assumes [being a valedictorian] comes from your GPA, but in Joshua's sake, it reflects the person he is."

While maintaining his grades, Hammack participated

in a variety of activities, including Bengal Bouts, interhall basketball and soccer and the University admissions office's high school ambassador program.

Hammack said he made time for all of the activities that he enjoyed during his years at Notre Dame.

"You just end up making time for the things that you want to do," he said. "You just have to find the balance for yourself and force yourself to do the things that are really

important to you," he said.

Senior Chris Izaguirre, who knows Hammack from Zahm and Bengal Bouts, said his dedication extends to his athletics, and that Hammack seems to have an unending source of energy.

"He seems to find energy somewhere and is never too tired," he said.

In addition to athletics, Hammack places service as a

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See Also
"LeMans hall director gets new apartment."
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ND creates office for environment awareness

By KATIE PERALTA
Assistant News Editor

In its efforts to continue sustainability and environmental awareness, Notre Dame has created the Office of Sustainability, and had named James M. Mazurek as its first director.

Mazurek, a Notre Dame graduate, will begin at his new post May 1.

The new office, which was created in January, will focus on University building efficiency and carbon strategy, among

other environmental issues, said junior Lourdes Long, a representative to the Energy and Environmental Issues Committee.

"[The office was created] to focus on energy and environmental action on campus," Long said. "It will develop a sustainability strategy for Notre Dame."

Long said the plans for the office's implementation have been in the works for about a year, and that she is excited about Mazurek's appointment

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INSIDE COLUMN

Love thee Notre Dame

I did not always know that I wanted to attend the University of Notre Dame. For a while, I thought the University of Pennsylvania or possibly Dartmouth would be my top choice. They were both good schools, close to home and a bunch of my kids from high school always went there.

I decided to visit Notre Dame on a whim. Two of my best friends from high school both went here, and I figured that even if I didn't like the school, it would be a fun weekend anyway.

Joseph McMahon

Assistant news editor

When my dad and I drove up Notre Dame Avenue, we were greeted by possibly the most beautiful sight I have ever laid eyes on — the Golden Dome. It left both of us speechless, and I never looked back. I ended up applying to Notre Dame early action, and, after receiving my acceptance letters; I shredded my other applications (much to the chagrin of my mother).

However, it was not long until she too was won over. When we came out to South Bend last fall, she still was not convinced that Notre Dame was the right choice. It was far from home in New York, and it had always been her hope that I would attend an Ivy League school.

But the energy I felt when I stepped on this campus was intoxicating — unlike anything else I have ever felt. There is this incredible aura that surrounds the University. As my dad would say, it is weird to be in a place where everyone seems so happy all the time. My mom must have felt it too, because at the end of Frosh-O she told me that I had definitely made the right decision in choosing Notre Dame.

However, freshman year has not been entirely easy. There have been times of trial and tribulation as well. I have gotten bad grades, experienced heart-break and gotten very little sleep.

But the mistakes I have made and the hard times that I have experienced at Notre Dame have helped me grow more as a person. I am happier now than I have ever been in my life, largely because the friends I have made at Notre Dame have helped me get through the bad times and focus on the good. Together, we have tested our strength against the force of gravity, found new uses for a rope, a skateboard and a bike, fed the ducks, experienced the glory that is Fr. George Rozum, Alumni Hall and the Wake and made more trips to Meijer than I can even count.

It has truly been the greatest time of my life, and all this summer I will be counting down until next year.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Joseph McMahon at jcmah06@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: ARE YOU MORE LIKE THE TORTOISE OR THE HARE, AND WHY?



Jaime Minor
sophomore Cavanaugh

"I want to be the hare, so I could hop, hop, hop, hop, hop all day."



Joel Sharbrough
junior Keough

"The tortoise, because of 'kinky turtle sex.'"



Kerry McGuire
junior Welsh Fam

"I'm like the tortoise, because I'm slow, but I still don't win."



Robin Link
sophomore Cavanaugh

"I'd be the tortoise, so I can outlive the hare."



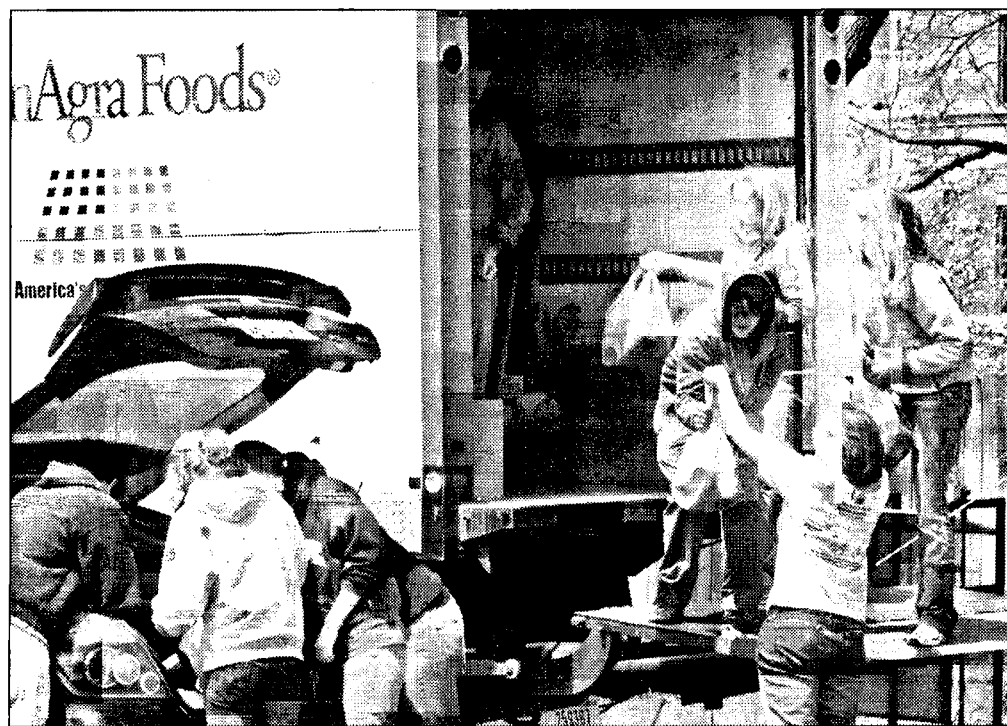
Joy Hwang
sophomore Cavanaugh

"I'd be the tortoise — slow and steady wins the race."



Shea Doyle
sophomore Cavanaugh

"I'd be the hare because I'd keep going and going and going ..."



JESS LEE/The Observer

Students load canned goods into a truck Saturday during the Earth Week canned food drive. All food collected will be donated to the food bank of Northern Indiana.

IN BRIEF

The Notre Dame Jazz Band's Spring Concert will be held today at 7 p.m. in the Leighton Concert Hall of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are free but must be reserved at the DPAC ticket office.

Notre Dame baseball will play today at 7 p.m. in the Frank Eck Baseball Stadium against Mississippi Valley State.

"Rumors," the Neil Simon play sponsored by Sorin Hall, continues today from 8 to 10:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. Tickets are \$5 and proceeds go to Sorin's fund for St. Jude Primary School in Uganda.

Collegium Musicorium spring concert will take place Wednesday at 7 and 8:30 p.m. in the Reyes Organ and Choral Hall of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The performance will feature sacred and secular a capella music from the Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque eras. Tickets are \$3 at the DPAC ticket office.

Screenings from the Angelus Student Film Festival will be shown at the Angelus Film Series Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Browning Cinema.

Assistant Professor Paul Gao will speak in the Finance Seminar Series Friday from 11:30 to 1:05 in room 339 of the Mendoza College of Business.

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

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

OFFBEAT

Newlyweds spend night in jail after fighting each other

PITTSBURGH — A newlywed couple spent the night in separate jail cells — she in her wedding gown — after police said they brawled with each other, then members of another wedding party, at a suburban Pittsburgh hotel.

The fight started Saturday night after a reception when he knocked her to the floor with a karate kick in the seventh-floor hallway of a Holiday Inn — and escalated when she attacked two guests from another wedding party who came to her aid, police said.

The melee moved to an elevator and then to the lobby, where the couple threw metal planters at the two good Samaritans, causing minor injuries, police charged.

300-pound man sues Ark. jail over weight loss

BENTONVILLE, Ark. — An inmate awaiting trial on a murder charge is suing the county, complaining he has lost more than 100 pounds because of the jailhouse menu.

Broderick Lloyd Laswell says he isn't happy that he's down to 308 pounds after eight months in the Benton

County jail. He has filed a federal lawsuit complaining the jail doesn't provide inmates with enough food.

According to the suit, Laswell weighed 413 pounds when he was jailed in September. Police say he and a co-defendant fatally beat and stabbed a man, then set his home on fire.

"On several occasions I have started to do some exercising and my vision went blurry and I felt like I was going to pass out," Laswell wrote in his complaint.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 50 LOW 41	HIGH 41 LOW 33	HIGH 58 LOW 45	HIGH 70 LOW 48	HIGH 68 LOW 40	HIGH 57 LOW 43

Atlanta 68 / 44 Boston 56 / 50 Chicago 54 / 33 Denver 78 / 41 Houston 79 / 53 Los Angeles 68 / 58 Minneapolis 58 / 33 New York 64 / 50 Philadelphia 63 / 49 Phoenix 97 / 67 Seattle 50 / 41 St. Louis 63 / 37 Tampa 77 / 66 Washington 63 / 45

George

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and manifested itself in the form of 500-pound bombs or tracer bullets that claimed the lives of thousands of London citizens, including one of George's best boyhood friends, David.

George, who wrote about his life during WWII in his self-published book, "A Boy Amidst the Rubble," said his family would spend the fearful nights in a shelter, only to emerge and find rubble and dead bodies lying on the ground or hanging out of windows. The whole experience made George grow up faster than he should have, and made him numb toward the reality of death.

"It hardens you," George said. "You have to get over death. You have no other choice but to."

Only recently did George allow himself to feel the pain of that time. All those repressed images, all those distant memories, especially of David, the first person George ever saw dead, came flooding back to him as he was writing his book and putting his thoughts about the war on paper for the first time.

"It was a catharsis, writing that book," George said.

But now, George is facing death again. Having gone through so much in his life — diabetes, a triple by-pass surgery — he is not afraid of it.

"I've had my problems over the years. I've had my ups and I've had my downs," George said. "But I've also been very lucky, because guess what, I'm still here. As far as I'm concerned, it's been a great adventure. And I'm not scared to meet my Lord. Nobody really wants to die, but then I think of Sarah Brightman, and she sings this song 'Who wants to live forever?' Well, I don't."

Finding a way home

At first, George didn't know if it was worth the trouble of going through chemotherapy and multiple blood transfusions. Was it worth the fatigue, the dry heaves, and the stomach pain? Eventually, with a little help from his longtime friend and caretaker D.J., he decided it was worth the trouble.

"He said persevere, you need to persevere," George said. "Thankfully, we got some anti-

nausea medication and that works well."

George is going through chemo for another reason — his sister, who wants him to come home again and stay there as long as he lives.

"Whatever time he's got, I told him, 'Don't look at it as six months or two years. Don't look at it like that. You just last day by day and you could go on for two years. Who knows what can happen?'" Joan said. "I love him dearly because he's my only true brother. My others are step-brothers. But he's my brother and we've always been so close."

Even though he's lived in the United States since 1966, George has always left a piece of himself at home. During WWII when his mother and grandmother took him to a train station to evacuate him to a safer part of England, George got on the train — only to get off on the other side and wait for the train to leave. He watched as his mother and grandmother waved the train goodbye before they glanced over and saw him on the other side of the platform.

"My grandmother looked over and said, 'You little sod,'" George said. "And I said, 'Well, dad told me I had to take care of you while he was away and that granddad would be all right as long as he's got his beer. How can I take care of you when you're sending me away?' And my mom just kissed me on the head and said, 'Come on, love, let's go home.'"

In his home in South Bend, George has postcards hanging on a wall of every British monarch dating back to William the Conqueror.

But George's trip home isn't as easy as hopping on a plane.

Because of the low platelet count in his blood, George — who currently lives in South Bend with D.J. — can't fly, or else he'll likely develop blood clots in-flight and possibly die. To find an alternate way home, George got in touch with his friend Mary Kowalski, vice president of travel services at Anthony's Travel.

"And I'm not scared to meet my Lord. Nobody really wants to die, but then I think of Sarah Brightman, and she sings this song, 'Who wants to live forever?' Well, I don't."

George Porter-Young
author



George Porter-Young looks at a poster in his home depicting a dogfight during WWII. George wrote about his experiences during WWII in the book "A Boy Amidst the Rubble," which is being sold at The Huddle.

Mary, along with the help of travel consultant Sarah Dickey, found a way for George to get home, but George still needs to raise enough money to fund the expensive trip.

"He's one of our neighbors and we've gotten to know him really well and we want to do all we can to help him out," Kowalski said.

In September, George and D.J. hope to take an Amtrak train in New York City and stay overnight. The next day, they would board a cruise ship leaving from New York City. Six days later, the ship would dock in Southampton, England, and George and D.J. will drive approximately two and a half hours to Ashford, Kent, where his sister and niece Amanda are looking for a place in the countryside for George and D.J. to stay.

Only problem is, the total cost for the cruise is a little more than \$3,600, and once in England, George would also have to buy a car to get around in order to drive to the local hospital and clinic to receive further treatment once in Ashford Kent.

Insurance problems are hampering George's ability to get home. Facing rising medical bills, George had an idea to raise money to get home — he would ask The Huddle to sell bookmarks and ask people to make a donation to help him get home. George said he decided to sell bookmarks because they are something useful for the students.

George contacted Jim La Bella, general manager of The Huddle and George's former boss, about the idea and La Bella got on board right away.

"George's been like a grandfather to all of our employees [in LaFortune]," La Bella said. "He always takes time to tell a story. Any subject, he's got a story for."

La Bella said he would put the bookmarks, along with George's book, at the cash registers in The Huddle. People could pick up a book or bookmark and contribute to George's trip home.

But in order to do this, George needed someone to print the bookmarks.

Luckily, events marketing coordinator at the Hammes Bookstore

Cassandra Wilarski, who met George during an autograph session at the Bookstore for "A Boy Amidst the Rubble," had a few contacts she could use to get the bookmarks printed.

"I have a great working relationship with the local printing company Rink," Wilarski said. "Once the bookmark was designed, I called my Rink representative Bill Deethart and asked him for a favor — to print the bookmarks for free."

Rink agreed. Wilarski designed the bookmarks which feature the word "faith" spelled out vertically in British flags, against the backdrop of another British flag. On the back is a message from George, detailing his struggle with cancer.

"I have spoken to my Lord in the privacy of my night prayers and told him we'll have a meeting of the minds," part of the message says. "Of course, I'm certainly not ready for him and I know he's not ready for me. However, when it's time for me to meet my Lord, we shall fully understand each other."

George is also receiving help from the University. Supervisor for Events and Educational Planning Dee Dee Sterling said the University will pay for George's train ride to New York and his hotel stay there through the Employee Compassion Fund. The cost is estimated to be about \$500, Sterling said.

"The program is funded by University of Notre Dame employees for the purpose of ministering to Notre Dame employees who experience a bona fide need for emergency assistance," Sterling said in an e-mail to The Observer.

George does not expect the University to help him in any other way to get home.

"Why doesn't Notre Dame pay for my fare? Well Notre Dame is not a charity institution. It's a business and it's run like a business and should be run by a business. And I understand that," George said.

So far, The Huddle has raised over \$1,700 for George, La Bella said, but George still needs a few thousand more to have enough to go home. The Huddle is also holding a pie sale on May 7 to raise money for George. The order deadline for the pies is May 6 at 9 a.m. The Huddle will cover the cost of the caramel apple pies, which are \$10 each, while the Bake shop will cover the cost of the labor needed to bake the pies. One-hundred percent of the proceeds will go toward George's travel fund.

Leaving Notre Dame

After seeing a travel poster advertising New York City back in 1966, George decided to come to America. Since that time, he's lived in El Paso, Tex., Davenport, Iowa, and San Diego, Calif. In 2001, financial troubles brought him to South Bend and forced him to settle here. But since joining the staff at LaFortune, George has had nothing but fond memories to take with him when he leaves for England.

"When I bring friends to the University, they say, 'George, I'm just amazed how much they love you. They come around, kiss you on the cheek,'" George said. "It's a wonderful situation and that's what I'll miss most — the students. I think it's wonderful just to get to know them. It's nice when people recognize you. A lot of places nobody says, 'Hello, how are you, how are you doing?'"

La Bella even said he always thought George specifically requested to work at Sbarro because it allows him to interact more frequently with the students. Sbarro doesn't have as many customers as Subway, and this allowed George some time to chat with the students that came in there.

But for as pleasant as his experience has been at Notre Dame, George is ready to go home.

"I'm sorry but I don't want to die in Indiana," George said with a laugh. "I really don't. I have nothing against Indiana, it's been very good to me, but it's not where I want to be."

And when his dying day comes, George knows where he wants to spend eternity.

"I told D.J. I want him to take my ashes and put them in the ocean in Puerto Rico so I could go swimming with the dolphins," George said. "And he said, 'You don't want them to go in the English Channel?' And I said 'No, I don't want them to go in the English Channel because that water is cold. I want to go to Puerto Rico to my favorite part of the beach, spread my ashes in the sea so I could go swimming with the dolphins.'"

George has always lived his life as if he's everybody's friend. He's one of those people whom you never forget, no matter how long he was in your life. His laugh, his smile — and his accent — are hard to erase from memory. George hopes he has brought as much joy to the students of Notre Dame as they have brought him. He only asks for one thing from them in return — to help him get home one final time.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

If you wish to make a contribution to help George raise money to get home, send a check or money order to:

**Mary Kowalski
Anthony Travel
LaFortune Student Center
P.O. Box 1086
Notre Dame, IN 46556**

Make checks payable to Anthony Travel and include a note saying the check is "For George."

Donations can also be made in person on campus at The Huddle or at Anthony Travel.

Office

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as the office's first director. "He's very passionate about Notre Dame," Long said. "He cares about issues in sustainability."

The University administration is similarly passionate about Mazurek's appointment.

"As Notre Dame progresses toward becoming a more environmentally responsible campus, I am certain Jim will provide the necessary leadership and expertise as we strive to reach our goals," University President Father John Jenkins said in a statement.

Mazurek's appointment is especially important "as Notre Dame builds its green program and aspires to be recognized as a global leader in this area," vice president for business operations James Lyphout said in the statement.

The Office of Sustainability, Long said, will be granted a \$2 million loan to sponsor environmental improvements on campus.

Long said the loan will fund many types of energy programs, from building improvements to research initiatives.

Mazurek, who majored in mechanical engineering as an undergraduate at the University, earned his masters degree in environmental engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology and his MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern, Long said.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

Muldoon

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how excited the crowd became while the Leprechaun entertained, he said.

"It was nerve wracking, but I put my best face forward," Muldoon said.

As an additional part of the tryout process, the Leprechauns took clinics with the cheerleaders in order to learn stunts, he said.

The panels of judges conducting the tryouts was composed of representatives from different offices on campus, such as Student Activities, the Alumni Association, Marketing and Public Relations, Muldoon said. The cheerleading coaches also took part in the decision process, he said.

At the end of the process, he said, each Leprechaun candidate faced the panel in a personal interview.

"They are looking for someone with the right attitude, heart and ethics," Muldoon said. "You have to be enthusiastic, positive, and have a great love for the University."

Although Muldoon has embodied these qualities for the past two years as the junior varsity Leprechaun, he will face new challenges and responsibilities as the Varsity Leprechaun. The junior varsity Leprechaun is generally in charge of working the men's soccer games and women's volley-

ball and basketball games, and the varsity Leprechaun works football and men's basketball.

"I have to start thinking about entertaining a bigger audience at the games and Pep Rallies, and traveling with the football and basketball teams, Muldoon said. "I'm used to having 30-40 fans, and during the Blue and Gold game I had 32,000 fans. I have the responsibility of communicating with a broader audience."

While moving to a larger arena is exciting, Muldoon had some nostalgia for his old position.

"I'm actually going to miss J.V. because I'm used to having personal relationships with the parents and players," he said. "However, I'm hoping to establish some new relationships as well. I look forward to working with the new J.V. Leprechaun Dan Collins. We can both learn from each other."

Muldoon will face his position as Varsity Leprechaun next year with "all the enthusiasm in the world."

"I have some big shoes to fill," he said. "I had the pleasure of being the understudy of Matt Phipps, and I have learned a lot. I can build on that experience and bring my own personality to the table. I will be on the field next year with a smile, jump and a jig."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Class

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high priority and has worked on projects such as Relay for Life, mentoring and tutoring math at local high schools. At his home in Huntington, West Virginia, he volunteers at Nazareth House, where people can buy food and clothing that they cannot regularly afford.

Even with these time commitments, Hammack earned straight A's at Notre Dame, except for one A-, and worked as a teaching assistant for business professor William Sexton for two years. Hammack also expanded his academic interest beyond his accountancy major and said two of his most influential classes were Fiction Writing and Poetry Writing.

"They gave me a great opportunity to reflect on things that I believe and values that I hold and write about them," he said.

Hammack said he strove to achieve balance in college, incorporating faith, academics, service and athletics into his life. He added that his perception of this balance in Notre Dame students is what attracted him to the University.

During Hammack's sophomore year, he experienced the strength of the Notre Dame community when his brother Sean, a current freshman in Zahm, battled cancer. Hammack said it was difficult to be far from his family during this time and that he had to go home for a week.

Senior Doug Vranderic, Hammack's roommate from

freshman through junior year, said he still maintained his work ethic, despite the family crisis he faced.

"I was very impressed with how he handled his school work," Vranderic said.

According to Hammack, Sean's battle with cancer was one of the experiences he drew from to write his graduation speech, and he was inspired by "unrelenting faith and hope beyond hope that things were going to get better, in spite of what doctors were telling us."

After graduation, Hammack will serve for one year, possibly in a teaching position with AmeriCorps. He said he plans to eventually attend law school and become a corporate lawyer, but that he feels this is the best time in his life to work for a service organization.

"If I do end up going to law school, that's going to pile on more loans and more responsibilities," he said. "Service is very important to me, so I think I'm seizing the opportunity at its best."

In addition to law, Hammack said he also wishes to become a published author, and he is beginning a novel based off his experience of having a sibling with cancer. He said he hopes his story will encourage readers who are struggling through situations similar to his.

"If someone can see that someone has a relatable experience ... that's another source of hope," he said. "When you're fighting cancer, that's all you can ask for."

Contact Claire Reising at creisin2@nd.edu

The Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture Presents

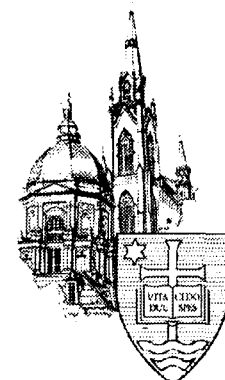
An Evening of Angelus at Notre Dame

Thursday, May 1, 2008

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
7:00 PM

A **FREE** screening of four short, award-winning films produced, written, and directed by students. A Q+A with the filmmakers will follow the screening. This is a **FREE**, but ticketed event. Contact the DPAC's box office at 1-2800 to reserve your ticket.

FamilyTheater Productions created the Angelus Awards in 1996 to showcase and award emerging filmmakers and encourage them to continue creating visionary projects that honor the fundamental dignity of the human person.



For more information go to ethicscenter.nd.edu

WORLD & NATION

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Barbie deemed 'destructive' in Iran

TEHRAN, Iran — A top Iranian judiciary official warned Monday against the "destructive" cultural and social consequences of importing Barbie dolls and other Western toys.

In the latest salvo in a more than decade-old government campaign against Barbie, Prosecutor General Ghorban Ali Dori Najafabadi said in an official letter to Vice President Parviz Davoudi that the doll and other Western toys are a "danger" that need to be stopped.

"The irregular importation of such toys, which unfortunately arrive through unofficial sources and smuggling, is destructive culturally and a social danger," said the letter, a copy of which was made available to The Associated Press.

Iranian markets have been inundated with smuggled Western toys in recent years partly due to a dramatic rise in purchasing power as a result of increased oil revenues.

Chinese train derails leaving 70 dead

ZIBO, China — Some passengers were sleeping, but others were standing in the aisle waiting to get off when their high-speed train derailed, toppling into a ditch "like a roller coaster" and slamming into another train. At least 70 people died and more than 400 were injured.

China reacted swiftly to its worst train accident in a decade, sending top officials and soldiers to Zibo, the site of Monday's pre-dawn crash in eastern China's Shandong province, and sacking two railway officials.

Authorities were quoted as saying that human error was to blame. The official Xinhua News Agency also said one of the trains was traveling too fast.

NATIONAL NEWS

100 truckers protest high fuel prices

WASHINGTON — Horns blaring in a deafening fanfare, a convoy of truck drivers traveled to Washington on Monday to protest record fuel prices.

Members of Truckers and Citizens United circled the National Mall before parking their rigs at RFK Stadium. From there, about 100 protesters marched and took shuttles to the Capitol, where an afternoon rally was held.

"The high price for oil is hurting our economy," organizer Mark Kirsch said. "It's hurting middle class people."

The national average price of a gallon of regular gasoline is a record \$3.51, according to a recent survey of stations by AAA and the Oil Price Information Service. The price for diesel — used to transport most food, industrial and commercial goods — is \$4.20 a gallon.

Storms, tornadoes damage Virginia

RICHMOND, Va. — Authorities say one person has died and at least 200 injured as severe storms cut through central and southeastern Virginia.

Suffolk city spokeswoman Dana Woodson says the death occurred when two apparent tornadoes passed through the city Monday afternoon.

Bob Spieldenner from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management says at least 200 others were injured in Suffolk. Spieldenner says at least 18 others were injured in Colonial Heights.

LOCAL NEWS

Voters still required to show photo ID

WASHINGTON — The surge of new voters into the 2008 presidential campaign could run up against a Supreme Court-sanctioned barrier next week, a law requiring photo identification before casting a ballot.

The court upheld a Republican-inspired law in Indiana Monday that Democrats say will keep out some poor, older and minority voters.

Indiana's presidential primary is May 6, and many new voters are expected to turn out for the Democratic contest between Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama.

The results could say something about the effect of the law, either because a large number of voters will lack identification and be forced to cast provisional ballots or because the number turns out to be small.

Clinton takes lead in new election poll

Senator 9 points ahead of McCain, outpaces Democratic rival Barack Obama

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton now leads John McCain by 9 points in a head-to-head presidential matchup, according to an Associated Press-Ipsos poll that bolsters her argument that she is more electable than Democratic rival Barack Obama.

Obama and Republican McCain are running about even.

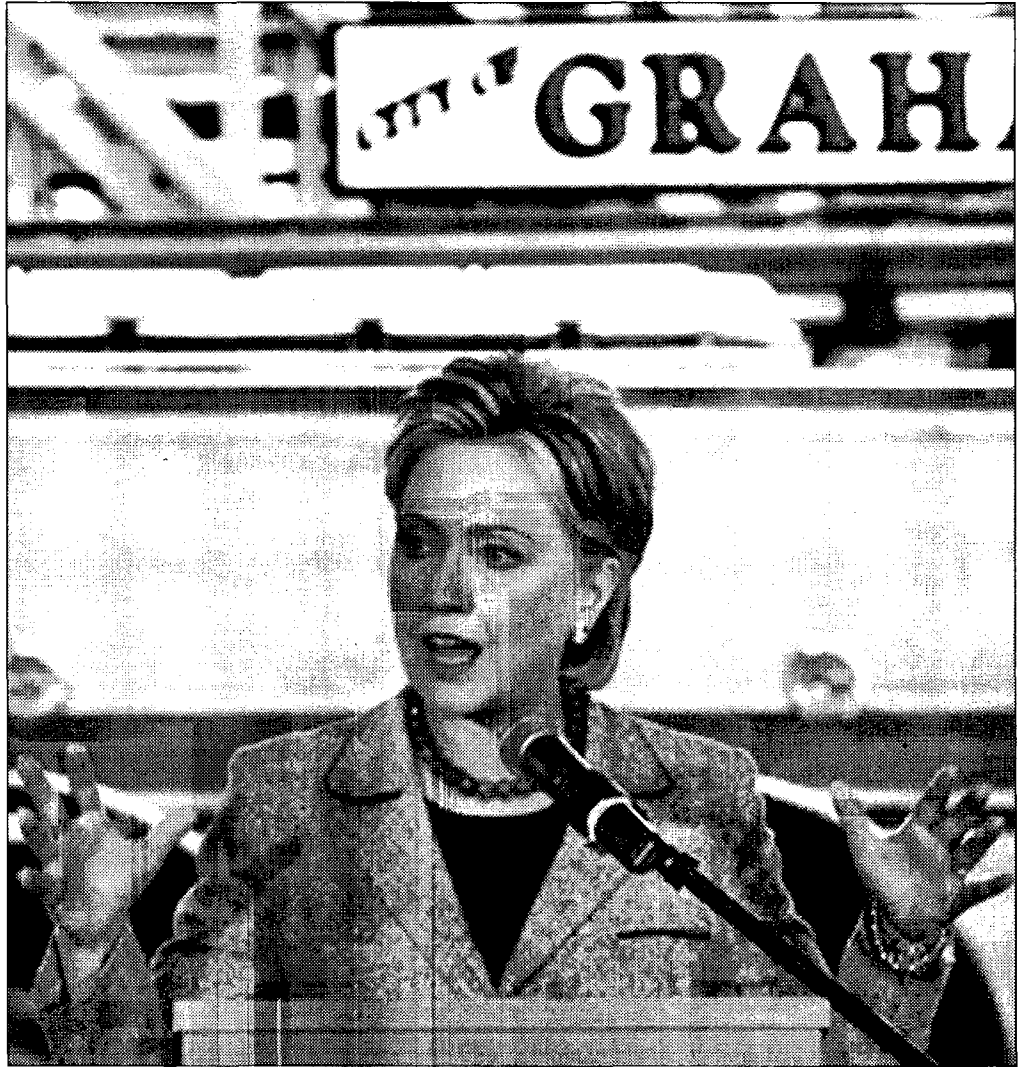
The survey released Monday gives the New York senator and former first lady a fresh talking point as she works to raise much-needed campaign cash and persuade pivotal undecided superdelegates to side with her in the drawn-out Democratic primary fight.

Helped by independents, young people and seniors, Clinton gained ground this month in a hypothetical match with Sen. McCain, the GOP nominee-in-waiting. She now leads McCain, 50 percent to 41 percent, while Obama remains virtually tied with McCain, 46 percent to 44 percent.

Both Democrats were roughly even with McCain in the previous poll about three weeks ago.

Since then, Clinton won the Pennsylvania primary, raising questions anew about whether Obama can attract broad swaths of voters needed to triumph in such big states come the fall when the Democratic nominee will go up against McCain. At the same time, Obama was thrown on the defensive by his comment that residents of small-town America were bitter. The Illinois senator also continued to deal with the controversial remarks of his longtime Chicago pastor, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright.

"I don't think there's any question that over the last three weeks her stature has



Democratic presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton speaks at a news conference after a campaign event Monday at Graham Fire Department in Graham, N.C.

improved," said Harrison Hickman, a Democratic pollster unaligned in the primary. He attributed Clinton's gains to people moving from the "infatuation stage" of choosing the candidate they like the most to a "decision-making stage" where they determine who would make the best president.

Added Steve Lombardo, a GOP pollster: "This just reinforces the sentiment that a lot of Republican strategists are having right now — that Clinton might actually be

the more formidable fall candidate for a lot of reasons, not the least of which is that Obama can't seem to get his footing back."

The AP-Ipsos poll found Clinton and Obama about even in the race for the Democratic nomination. Underscoring deep divisions within the Democratic Party — and a potentially negative longer-term impact — 30 percent of Clinton supporters and 21 percent of Obama supporters said they would vote for McCain in November if their preferred

candidate didn't win the nomination.

Obama leads Clinton in pledged delegates, but she has the advantage among superdelegates with about a third yet to make up their minds.

Democratic Party Chairman Howard Dean said Monday that either of the two will know when it's time to drop out of the race after the primary season wraps up in June so Democrats can unite before the late-summer convention and the fall campaign.

AUSTRIA

Woman held captive by father for 24 years

Associated Press

AMSTETTEN — The children locked in the basement never saw the light of day for years.

A retired electrician has confessed to imprisoning his daughter for 24 years and fathering seven children with her in a windowless cell sealed by an electronic keyless-entry system, police said Monday.

One of the children died in infancy and was tossed into the furnace of what stunned Austrians have labeled a "house of horrors," officials said. The suspect owned the gray stone apartment building, lived there with his family, and rented the other units to relatives.

Austria is still scandalized by a 2006 case involving a girl who was kidnapped and imprisoned in a basement outside Vienna for more than eight years, and residents of this working class town west of the capital were puzzled as to

how the latest instance could go undetected for so long.

Questions were being raised as to how the suspect — identified as Josef Fritzl, 73 — deceived neighbors, social workers and police for so long.

"How is it possible that no one knew anything for 24 years?" asked Anita Fabian, a teacher in Amstetten. "This was not possible without accomplices."

Fritzl was placed in pretrial detention and faces up to 15 years in prison if charged, tried and convicted on rape charges, the most grave of his alleged offenses under Austrian law.

Police released Fritzl's full name and photograph at a news conference Monday, after his identity was widely reported by media in Austria and elsewhere in Europe.

Fritzl was born in 1935 and was a young child when the Nazis annexed Austria before World War II.

His daughter, now 42, was 18 when

she was imprisoned in the cell constructed deep beneath the family's apartment in the building, said Franz Polzer, head of the Lower Austrian Bureau of Criminal Affairs.

"He admitted that he locked his daughter ... in the cellar, that he repeatedly had sex with her, and that he is the father of her seven children," Polzer told The Associated Press.

According to police, Elisabeth said she gave birth to twins in 1996 but one died several days later.

Police said the surviving children are three boys and three girls, the youngest of whom is 5. The oldest child is 19. DNA tests were expected to determine whether Fritzl is the father of the children, as he claims.

Investigators said they were trying to determine how the victims could have been hidden away for so long from other families in the building and everyone else in the town of 23,000 people.

LeMans hall director gets new apartment

Office of Residence life converted the student lounge located in the tower into a living space during break

By MANDI STIRONE
Assistant News Editor

LeMans Hall residents returned from break in January to find that the tower room, one of the few student lounges in the building, had been turned into an apartment for their hall director, Trish Hodge.

All of the hall directors at Saint Mary's were having their apartments refurbished, Director of Residence Life Slandah Dieujuste said.

Continued construction around and throughout the building had rendered Hodge's previous apartment, located in the basement of the building, unusable, Director of Facilities Bill Hambling said.

"We kept traipsing through the apartment to do what we had to do. It just really was making a mess of things for anybody who had to be down there," he said.

Construction on the tower room was supposed to be over in December but didn't finish until January, Dieujuste said.

Hodges was able to move in right after that, she said.

Her new apartment is a "New York style kind of motif," Hambling said.

It has a loft where her bedroom is with a space underneath, Dieujuste said. There is also a private kitchen off to one side of the entrance to the apartment, she said. On the opposite side of the entrance is "her private bath which also has her washer and dryer," she said.

Construction crews have been working on the plumbing and drainage of the building and much of the work has been in the basement, Hambling said.

"The down spouts and gutters from the roves were plugged, water was backing up and going into student rooms," he said.

This was because these down spouts and gutters actually ran inside the walls of LeMans and were tied into the sanitary lines of the building, Hambling said.

Construction crews were working to clear out these spouts as well as disconnecting them from the sanitary lines and connecting them to the storm water system, he said.

Now, instead of running rain-water out of the building with the sanitary lines, he said, it is going into Lake Marion and the St. Joseph's River, he said.

In addition, the pipes that are running down the walls of LeMans are being pressurized to check for further leaks, and then hydro-flushed to ensure that all the water is flowing out of them, he said.

"We're going to stop the leaks from coming back into the building," Hambling said.

This summer they will also be going back through LeMans to fix much of the damage caused by the leaks, he said.

Though the basement apartment probably could have been refurbished, the decision was made to move Hodge into an apartment in another part of the building, Dieujuste said.

"It just wasn't the same as the other hall directors apartments that were renovated," she said.

After a careful search of the building, Dieujuste and Hambling decided on the tower

room for the new apartment, he said.

"Slandah and I walked around looking for available space throughout the entire part of Lemans ... trying to find something that would be big enough to accommodate Trish's needs and there really wasn't anything without taking rooms out of service," he said.

The decision was made in October or September of this school year and student input was not considered, Dieujuste said.

"[When we do] renovations then we consult students and we form a small committee, but something like this, because it was a personal space, we really didn't form any committees or anything like that," she said.

Based on the information she had received, the tower room was hardly being used by students, she said.

"From the feedback we got from RA's and the hall directors, [use was] seldom. I mean, most students didn't even know that it was there, for those students that did know it was quite a hike ... it was just an awkward space," she said.

Student reactions to losing the lounge space has been mixed.

Some students were unaware that the tower room space had once been available to them as a student lounge.

"I didn't even know that we were allowed up there," sophomore LeMans resident Ashley Breen said.

Other students were upset about losing the space once reserved for student use.

"I hate it, I think it's ridiculous," sophomore Emily Schneider said, "When it would snow, you could see the coolest view ever [from the tower room] and it was really serene and really pretty and now we can't even see it."

She went on to talk about how she and her friends used the room.

"We used to have pizza parties up there for my friends' birthdays," the former LeMans resident said.

Other students who lived in LeMans were also upset about losing the tower room.

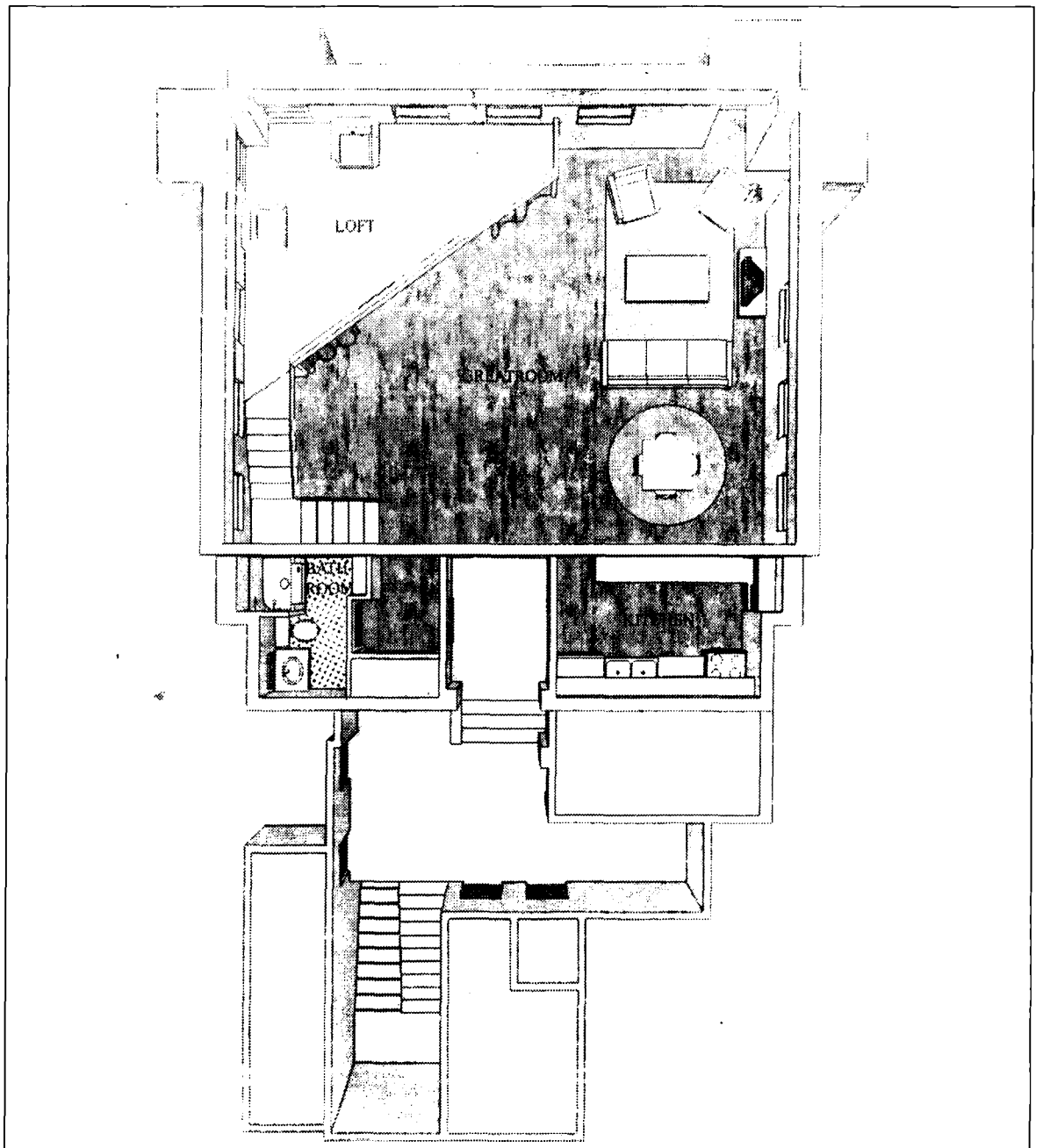
"[The tower room] should be for the use of students, like it's always been," senior Jeney Anderson said.

However, students will be getting an updated lounge space in LeMans, Dieujuste said. They will be refurbishing "Vendoland," the area near the vending machines and the washers and dryers in the basement of LeMans, she said. That includes new lighting, rugs, window treatments, tables and chairs for group work, she said, and some more comfortable couches, potentially including a few recliners.

They are also looking to add some new appliances and supplies to the kitchen also located in the basement of LeMans off of the "Vendoland" room, she said.

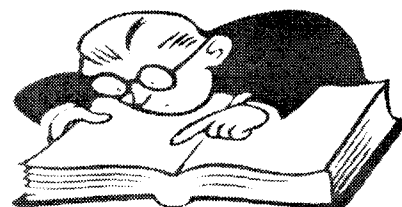
"What we're really looking to do [with Vendoland] is provide students a space that they're comfortable, where they can socialize but a space that they can also study. So we're looking at providing different types of furniture than is already there," she said.

Contact Mandi Stirone at astiro01@saintmarys.edu



Graphic courtesy of Slandah Dieujuste

The floor plan depicts the new LeMans tower apartment, which was converted from a student study lounge over break for the Hall Director, Trish Hodge.



STUDY TIME

DeBartolo Hall

STUDY DATES AND TIMES:

May 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th: 7am to 3:00am Midnight Snacks!

Finals Week: May 5th-8th: Rooms available except when scheduled by the Registrar's office.

May 9th: DeBartolo Hall closes 30 minutes after last exam scheduled by the Registrar's Office.

See Building Support Personnel if you have specific needs: Room 103 or 104.



Coleman-Morse: May 1st-4th:

Finals Week: Rooms available except when scheduled by the Registrar's office.

May 9th: Coleman - Morse closes at 5:30 pm

1st Floor: 7:00am-4:00am

2nd floor: 7:00am-3:00am

3rd Floor: 7:00am-12am

See Building Support Person Room 101 if you have a specific need.

O'Shaughnessey: *May 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th: 7am to 3:00am

*Finals Week: May 5th-8th: 7am to 3:00am

204, 206, 207, 208, 209, 242, 338, and 345: Rooms available except when scheduled by the Registrar's office.

Good Luck with Finals

Special thanks to
Auxiliary and Facility Operations, Campus Ministry and the Student Union Board.

MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	12,871.75		-20.11
Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume:
1,958	102	1,174	3,878,040,406
AMEX	2,324.31	+5.07	
NASDAQ	2,424.40	+1.47	
NYSE	9,349.61	+5.30	
S&P 500	1,396.37	-1.47	
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	13,894.37	+30.90	
FTSE 100 (London)	6,090.40	-1.00	
COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
FORD MOTOR CO (F)	+9.47	+0.71	8.21
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	+0.02	+0.03	139.63
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-2.82	-0.84	28.99
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	+0.26	+0.21	27.02
Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	-0.80	-0.031	3.835
13-WEEK BILL	+3.50	+0.045	1.33
30-YEAR BOND	-0.52	-0.024	4.565
5-YEAR NOTE	-1.29	-0.041	3.135
Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.23		118.75
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+5.80		895.50
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-2.55		74.25
Exchange Rates			
YEN			104.2200
EURO			0.6389
CANADIAN DOLLAR			1.0129
BRITISH POUND			0.5023

IN BRIEF

NYRA moves its way out of bankruptcy

ALBANY, N.Y. — The New York Racing Association said Monday it's closer to emerging from bankruptcy, and horse racing in the state got a potentially lucrative boost with a decision allowing racetracks and off-track betting facilities to take wagers over the Internet.

NYRA holds the state's franchise to run thoroughbred racing at Aqueduct, Belmont and Saratoga. The group said a federal judge approved its amended plan to pay back creditors, a deal funded by a \$105 million state bailout.

The Racing and Wagering Board, the state's racing regulator, said it will allow bets to be taken from phones, including cell phones, over the Internet or by other electronic means. Some Internet betting has been temporarily allowed since last summer.

In another development, bidders who created Hard Rock cafes and others who helped bring big-time casinos to Connecticut want to turn Aqueduct into a Queens hot spot.

Crude oil prices continue to rise

VIENNA, Austria — Oil prices hit an all-time high near \$120 a barrel Monday after a weekend refinery strike closed a pipeline system that delivers a third of Britain's North Sea oil to refineries in the U.K.

The shutdown comes amid supply outages in Nigeria that have helped to support oil against a strengthening dollar.

"We've got a confluence of a number of events that have really disrupted crude oil supply," said Victor Shum, an energy analyst with Purvin & Gertz in Singapore. "That's what's driving oil to a new record even though the U.S. dollar actually strengthened a bit."

Light, sweet crude for June delivery rose to a record \$119.93 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract eased back to \$119.04 a barrel by afternoon in Europe, up 52 cents from Friday's close of \$118.52.

BP PLC on Sunday shut down the Forties Pipeline System that carries more than 700,000 barrels of oil a day to the U.K. because of a 48-hour walkout by employees at a refinery in central Scotland.

Candy corporations to combine

Wm. Wrigley Jr. Co. to sell to M&Ms maker Mars Inc. in deal financed by Warren Buffett

Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Oracle of Omaha is betting that the country's candy jar is recession-proof.

With financing from Warren Buffett, candy maker Mars Inc. on Monday said it is buying confectioner Wm. Wrigley Jr. Co. for an estimated \$23 billion in cash. The deal would marry brands that sweet-toothed Americans have munched on for decades: Mars owns Snickers and M&Ms; Wrigley's gum brands include Juicy Fruit, Orbit, Extra and Big Red.

"A good time to buy a really great business is when you can do it," Warren Buffett said on CNBC Monday, adding that he understands Mars and Wrigley better than the balance sheets of most major banks.

Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc. will purchase a \$2.1 billion minority equity interest in the Wrigley subsidiary once the deal is completed. The Omaha, Neb.-based company also offered \$4.4 billion of subordinated debt to fund the deal.

"In terms of Warren Buffett's sweet spot, these are exactly the kind of brands that he wants," said Jet Hollander, a former candy industry executive who is president of the snack food consulting firm Pre-Eminence Strategy Group.

If the buyout receives regulatory and shareholder approval, the combined companies would leapfrog over Britain's Cadbury Schweppes as the world's largest confection maker — a move that's already fueling speculation that the buyout could spawn a



Wm. Wrigley Jr. Co. President and CEO Bill Perez speaks during a press conference Monday in Chicago.

round of candy industry consolidation.

"I look at it as two companies that see the opportunity to create a true global confectionary powerhouse," said Morningstar analyst Mitchell Corwin. "They become No. 1 in chocolate and No. 1 in chewing gum with a strong international presence and growth in emerging markets."

Under the agreement, shareholders at Chicago-based Wrigley would receive \$80 in cash for

each share. Mars will also assume less than \$1 billion of Wrigley debt.

Executives said family owned Mars first began eyeing Wrigley in January and approached the company with their unsolicited bid in April 11. Since then, the two sides have haggled to reach the \$80-per share offer — a 28 percent premium to Wrigley's Friday closing price of \$62.45.

Monday's announcement sent Wrigley's shares into overdrive, reaching an all-time high.

"I think this is a bold move, but beyond that, I think this is the right move," said Wrigley Chief Executive Bill Perez.

After the buyout is completed in six to 12 months, Wrigley would become a subsidiary of McLean, Va.-based Mars. Its headquarters will stay in Chicago, where the business has operated since it was founded by the Wrigley family in 1891. The Wrigley family will no longer hold any equity in the company.

General Motors to lay off 3,500 workers

Associated Press

DETROIT — Sagging pickup truck and sport utility vehicle sales have forced General Motors Corp. to shut down one shift each at four North American factories and lay off about 3,500 workers.

The world's largest automaker by sales said Monday that the cuts, to take effect starting this summer, were brought on by weak demand due to high gasoline prices and an economic downturn.

The cuts will affect pickup factories in Pontiac and Flint, Mich., and Oshawa, Ontario, as well as the full-size SUV plant in Janesville, Wis. The layoffs represent just over 4 percent of GM's hourly manufacturing work force of about 80,000 in North America.

The company said the cuts mean it will make about 88,000 fewer pickups and 50,000 fewer large SUVs this calendar year.

GM said the exact number of layoffs will be worked out with its unions. Workers will get unemployment benefits and supplemental pay that total 80

percent of their normal 40-hour gross pay, said GM spokesman Dan Flores.

"With rising fuel prices, a softening economy and a downward trend on current and future market demand for full-size trucks, a significant adjustment was needed to align our production with market realities," GM North America President Troy Clarke said in a statement.

For about the past three years, the U.S. auto market has been shifting away from pickup trucks and SUVs to cars and crossover vehicles, but the trend accelerated in recent months due to gas prices that have topped \$3.50 per gallon across the nation.

The company expects the layoffs to take place starting July 14 at the Flint, Janesville and Pontiac plants, and Sept. 8 at Oshawa. Most of the factories had already seen layoffs and production cuts due to a parts shortage from a two-month strike at American Axle and Manufacturing Holdings Inc.

GM spokesman Tony Sapienza said the company will eliminate shifts with 750 workers each at Flint and Janesville, 1,150 workers in Pontiac

and 900 workers in Oshawa.

"Those are the people that we believe will be impacted based on what the shifts are," he said. "We'll be working with our partners to determine how that's brought to fruition."

Greg Gardner, an analyst with the Oliver Wyman Group, said the cuts look like "a realistic assessment."

"The full-size pickup and SUV market is not going to rebound anytime soon," he said. "It looks like that they don't plan on making up very much of the production loss due to the American Axle strike."

Gardner said GM's announcement reflects the industry's overall production forecast this year, down to about 15 million light vehicles from an earlier forecast of 15.5 million.

"Obviously, the larger, heavier vehicles are taking the biggest hit," he said.

The Flint, Pontiac and Oshawa plants make the Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra pickups, while Janesville manufactures the Chevrolet Tahoe and Suburban and GMC Yukon big SUVs.

SOUTH AFRICA

President urged to step down

Opposition unites in Parliament; asks Mugabe to concede defeat

Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG

Zimbabwe's opposition movement united Monday in spite of long-standing divisions, declaring that it has won control of Parliament for the first time in history and that President Robert Mugabe must concede defeat.

Opposition leaders also appealed to the U.N. Security Council to send a special envoy to Zimbabwe and to warn Mugabe that the mounting violence against opposition supporters was tantamount to "crimes against humanity."

Putting months of bickering behind them, Movement for Democratic Change leaders Morgan Tsvangirai and Arthur Mutambara stood together and ordered Mugabe to step aside.

"Old man, go and have an honorable exit," Tsvangirai said in a message to the 84-year-old autocrat who has ruled since independence from Britain in 1980.

"In a parliamentary democracy, the majority rule," Tsvangirai said alongside Mutambara at a news conference. "He should concede that ... he cannot be president."

More than a month after the elections, results from the presidential race have not been announced. Tsvangirai maintains that he won the presidency outright — although independent observers say he fell just short of the votes needed to avoid a runoff.

Tsvangirai reiterated Monday that he would not take part in a runoff.



MDC leader Morgan Tsvangirai announces that the country's opposition has won control of Parliament at a press conference Monday.

"The question about a runoff doesn't arise. It doesn't arise because of the simple fact that the people have spoken, the people have decided," he said.

The opposition maintains that hundreds of its supporters have been arrested, attacked or driven from their homes, especially in rural areas that used to be Mugabe strongholds but voted against him in the elections. It says that 14 of its supporters have died, but there is no independent confirmation of this.

The Zimbabwe Association of Doctors for Human Rights says more than 63 people were hospitalized in three days last week alone, and provided shocking photos of injuries.

Movement for Democratic Change secretary-general, Tendai Biti, was due at U.N.

headquarters in New York for a U.N. Security Council discussion Tuesday on the deteriorating situation in Zimbabwe.

Tsvangirai said Biti would ask the Security Council "firstly to stop the violence, and to communicate to the regime in Harare that its actions are tantamount to crimes against humanity." Biti would also ask the U.N. to send a special envoy to investigate the violence and recommend a way to resolve it.

On Monday, the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission failed to publish the results of the recount of 23 disputed parliamentary seats from the elections, as had been scheduled.

Officials announced Saturday that recounts of 18 of 23 disputed parliamentary seats left initial results unchanged — enough to confirm opposition's

GAZA STRIP

Israeli tank shell kills 5 civilians

Associated Press

GAZA CITY — An explosion shattered a tiny Gaza Strip house as Israeli troops battled militants Monday, killing a Palestinian woman and four of her children in new bloodshed that threatened efforts to arrange a truce between the warring sides.

Palestinians said the house was hit by an Israeli tank shell; Israel said explosives being carried by militants blew up and brought down the two-room structure.

Miyasar Abu Meatak was preparing breakfast for her children in the northern Gaza town of Beit Hanoun when an explosion ripped through the home, her stepson Ibrahim said. Four of her children, ages 15 months to 6 years, were killed instantly, and she died shortly afterward at a hospital, Palestinian officials said. Her two older children were reported critically wounded.

"What a black day. They killed my family," the grief-stricken father, Ahmad Abu Meatak, wailed outside the hospital. Abu Meatak said he was on his way to a nearby market when the house blew up.

The force of the blast scattered clothes and other household items outside the wrecked home. A single white child's shoe, flattened by the explosion, lay near a pair of blue shorts covered in sand. A green baby seat, one end bent, stood empty.

Omar Abdel Nabi, a farmer in a large crowd watching workers clean up debris and bloodstained sand, said he was driving his tractor in a nearby field when two or three explosions shook the ground.

"People were screaming that a tank shell landed in the next street," he told The Associated Press. "I carried two people covered in blood out of a house."

Israel's military said its troops launched an operation in the town after gunmen approached a border patrol. Palestinian Health Ministry official Moaiya Hassanain said two militants and an unidentified man were also killed in the fighting.

In a statement, the military said explosives carried by the militants were detonated by an Israeli airstrike, and the blast from the explosives hit the house, not a tank shell, "and uninvolved civilians were hit." Palestinians said the militants were at least 400 yards from the house and none of the fighters were killed near the structure.

Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak put the blame on the Islamic militants of Hamas, which has run Gaza since defeating the rival Fatah movement in a five-day battle last June. Barak said Israel would continue to operate in the volatile

coastal territory.

"We see Hamas as responsible for everything that happens there, for all injuries," Barak said during a tour of an Israeli weapons factory. "Hamas is also responsible, by operating within the civilian population, for some of the civilian casualties."

During fighting April 16, a Reuters TV cameraman was killed by an Israeli tank shell in central Gaza.

At least 18 rockets and dozens of mortar shells were fired at Israel from Gaza on Monday, the Israeli military said. No one was seriously hurt. Palestinian militants frequently launch rockets from Beit Hanoun.

In recent weeks, militants have also tried to infiltrate into Israel at least four times.

Monday's violence was a mediate to Egyptian efforts to mediate a truce between Israel and Gaza militants.

Ismail Haniyeh, Gaza's Hamas prime minister, accused Israel of trying "to ruin any regional and international efforts to end the siege and halt aggression."

Last week, Hamas said it would accept a six-month cease-fire with Israel, provided Israel ended the economic blockade it imposed on Gaza after the Hamas takeover. The blockade has caused shortages of fuel, cement and other basic items in the impoverished territory.

Israel dismissed the truce offer, saying Hamas would use the lull to rearm after sustaining heavy losses in recent fighting. But Israel said it would hold its fire if Hamas and smaller Gaza militant groups halted their attacks.

While battling Hamas in Gaza, Israel has been conducting peace talks with the rival Palestinian government of President Mahmoud Abbas in the West Bank.

Abbas condemned the new Gaza fighting, saying it would make peace negotiations with Israel even more difficult. "We emphasize the need to achieve calm and keep our people away from the agony of war and destruction," he said.

The sides hope to reach a peace deal by the end of the year, though Abbas acknowledged after a trip to the White House last week that he was growing pessimistic because of the lack of progress in talks.

Monday, the West Bank on Monday, a Palestinian military court ordered the execution of a man convicted of collaborating with Israel.

Judges said the man, a Palestinian security officer, provided information that helped Israeli forces kill four Palestinian militants. Abbas must approve death sentences, though often they are commuted.

The last execution was in 2001. Suspected collaborators are often killed vigilante-style before they can be arrested and tried.

Girl dies of untreated diabetes

Parents charged with murder after refusing medication for their daughter

Associated Press

WESTON, Wis. — Two parents who prayed as their 11-year-old daughter died of untreated diabetes were charged Monday with second-degree reckless homicide.

Family and friends had urged Dale and Leilani Neumann to get help for their daughter, but the father considered the illness "a test of faith" and the mother never considered taking the girl to the doctor because she thought her daughter was under a "spiritual attack," the criminal complaint said.

"It is very surprising, shocking that she wasn't allowed medical intervention," Marathon County District Attorney Jill Falstad said. "Her death could have been prevented."

Madeline Neumann died March 23 — Easter Sunday — at her family's rural Weston home. Her parents were told the body would be taken to Madison for an autopsy the next day.

"They responded, 'You won't need to do that. She will be alive by then,'" the medical examiner wrote in a report.

An autopsy determined that Madeline died from undiagnosed diabetic ketoacidosis, which left her with too little insulin in her body. Court records said she likely had some symptoms of the disease for months.

The Neumanns each face up to

25 years in prison if convicted. The couple and their attorney did not immediately return messages left Monday by The Associated Press.

Falstad said the Neumanns have cooperated with investigators and are not under arrest. They have agreed to make an initial court appearance Wednesday, she said.

Randall Wormgoor, a friend of the Neumanns, told police that Dale Neumann led Bible studies at his business, Monkey Mo Coffee Shop, and believed physical illness was due to sin, curable by prayer and by asking for forgiveness from God, the complaint said.

Wormgoor said he and his wife, Althea, were at the Neumann home when Madeline — called Kara by her parents — died. Wormgoor said he had urged the father to seek medical help and was told the illness "was a test of faith for the Neumann family and asked the Wormgoors to join them in praying for Kara to get well," the complaint said.

Althea Wormgoor said she "implored" the parents to seek medical help for the girl, the complaint said.

Leilani Neumann, 40, told the AP previously she never expected her daughter to die. The family believes in the Bible, which says healing comes from God, but they have nothing against doctors, she

said.

Dale Neumann, 46, a former police officer, has said he has friends who are doctors and started CPR "as soon as the breath of life left" his daughter's body.

According to court documents, Leilani Neumann said in a written statement to police that she never considered taking the girl, who was being home-schooled, to a doctor.

"We just thought it was a spiritual attack and we prayed for her. My husband Dale was crying and mentioned taking Kara to the doctor and I said, 'The Lord's going to heal her,' and we continued to pray," she wrote.

The father told investigators he noticed his daughter was weak and slower for about two weeks but he attributed it to symptoms of the girl reaching puberty, the complaint said.

A day before Madeline died, according to the criminal complaint, the father wrote an e-mail with the headline, "Help our daughter needs emergency prayer!!!!" It said his daughter was "very weak and pale at the moment with hardly any strength."

The girl's grandmother, Evalani Gordon, told police that she learned her granddaughter could not walk or talk on March 22 and advised Leilani Neumann to take the girl to a doctor.

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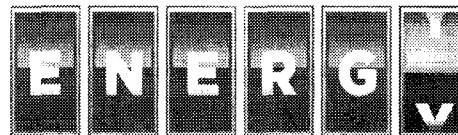
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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 10

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

THE OBSERVER

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

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I don't remember who spoke at my graduation. It's not that he/she was so forgettable, though I'm sure he/she was. I didn't go. I do remember, though, the previous year, when the graduating class president sniffed publicly that the speaker was good enough for Purdue maybe, but not Notre Dame. How she endeared herself to all Indiana!

Anyway, I don't remember any administrators asking us seniors whom we wanted to hear, and if they had, I hope they wouldn't have listened, for I'm sure that whoever did speak that day was less of an embarrassment to ND than our pick would have been.

Nonetheless, I understand seniors' frustration with this year's speaker. One doesn't become a cardinal archbishop by saying anything interesting. I imagine he'll talk a bit about following Jesus, but it's doubtful at best that he'll make such following seem noble or somehow attractive, or that he'll discuss clearly what the stakes are. No, this won't be Patton, or Kierkegaard, or Alyosha's speech by the stone. But I hope I'm wrong.

What I do not understand, though, is how seniors can complain that the administration didn't consider their input, given that their pick was Stephen Colbert. I'm more worried that the administration actually did consider it. They're giving the Laetare award to someone who played pretend for a living, so why not invite an obnoxious pretend journalist to address the seniors? What I hope happened instead is that whichever official saw Colbert at the top of the list just blurted out "[expletive] grow up" and hit delete.

I don't dislike Stephen Colbert, or think he'd disgrace ND by speaking at graduation, because of his show's

Colbert? Really?



Greg Yatarola

Dome and
Domer

rather un-Catholic content. It's sad to see a man his age amuse teenagers with jokes about selling his own semen, but oh well. Nor is it because I can't identify a single accomplishment of his that would make him worthy of being at all honored by the University of Notre Dame. It's not even that Colbert, like his mentor Jon Stewart, is a small, weasely man, a dishonest cheap-shot artist, a bigot with all the acceptable bigotries who can only counter ideas he doesn't like by caricature. I highly doubt they'd practice their routine casual smearing if we had the right kinds of laws in this country, allowing dueling. I stopped watching Colbert when he described the pope in passing as a former Nazi. It's not just that his target was the pope. He and Stewart do it all the time. Just recently, after his man-crush the Obamesiah came under fire for his delightful "bitter" remarks (delivered to affluent San Francisco donors — perfect!), Stewart went to bat for him. Obama was wrong in saying that slack-jawed rural whites turn to religion, guns, and racism because of economic hardship — no, according to Stewart, small-town white America is built on such backwardness. Don't hold your breath waiting for him to give such candid analysis of some of Obama's constituencies — say, Chardonnay-sipping hot-tub liberals in Marin County.

No, what disappoints me about this year's pick is how unimaginative it was. I bet the couch-burners up in East Lansing picked Colbert too, or would have. Why not just pick Flavor Flav? I'm sure an interpreter could be provided.

Notre Dame's student body is often criticized for conformity, and usually in terms of its Catholicity. I saw plenty of conformism at Notre Dame, but it wasn't to the teachings of the Church. It was to our culture. As I tried to state in a previous article, I knew as many girls actually on birth-control as dead-set against it. I knew far more people who watched "Seinfeld" religiously than who said the rosary. The music I heard at

parties was whatever awful noise was popular at the time, not the quirky unknown stuff college kids traditionally take pride in liking. Nobody I knew went to see independent movies, but blockbusters were a staple. Several kids I knew could recite every line of "Austin Powers". Girls on the treadmills read "Cosmo". My classmates, by and large, had no problem adopting a critical attitude toward the authority of the Church, often with the help of their theology professors. But rarely did I see such critical distance maintained toward the multiform stupidities of our popular culture. Slander Jennifer Lopez, and you'd start a fight; my theology professor called St. Paul "evil," and nobody batted an eyelash.

Of course, it's better to have low-brow tastes in music, movies, TV, magazines, etc. than to be pretentious and elitist. But that's the thing — Notre Dame too often combined the worst of both, devotion to "The Real World" or "Sex & the City" with looking down at state-school kids, believing themselves so different from the collegiate hoi polloi. You're not that different. You greet strangers sometimes on the way to class? Great, but do you think they just hiss and spit at each other at Penn State or LSU? And kids at Cornell do lots of service too. You're maybe smarter than the kids at Kentucky, and you've spent four years studying timeless works of towering genius (hopefully). But then you want a comedian at your graduation?

I'm not trying to scold anyone. Just please don't go out into the world with a sense of superiority. We Domers already have a bad reputation for that. If we're really that much better, let's show it.

Greg Yatarola is a 1999 alumnus. He hopes it's clear to all now why he asked to write under a pseudonym this year. He fears his class would have picked Jerry Seinfeld as graduation speaker. His address is gregpy@hotmail.com

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

THE WITTIEST STEIN



OBSERVER POLL

What are you doing this summer?

Being a beach bum
Traveling
Stuck in the office
Summer school
No idea

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at
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to the Editor at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Summer afternoon — Summer afternoon ... the two most beautiful words in the English language."

Henry James
British author

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Economics at Notre Dame, an open letter

As members of the University of Notre Dame, we have a special obligation to engage our learning, our teaching, and our world with integrity. Additionally, students deserve an education that explores the "full range of ideas." Therefore, the University, if it hopes to fulfill its mission, must teach its students to think critically and provide opportunities for students to intellectually engage their discipline. It is our contention that the current situation of economics at Notre Dame often stifles debate, impedes student learning, and undermines the Catholic character of our University.

At Notre Dame, economics is divided into two separate departments: "The Department of Economics and Econometrics, which is a neoclassical economics department committed to rigorous theoretical and quantitative analysis in teaching and research," and The Department of Economics and Policy studies, which is committed to "issues relating to socioeconomic justice and ethics," "openness to alternative methodological approaches," and the "roles of history and institutions" in the "broader political economy" It is our fear that, in pursuit of higher department rankings, Notre Dame will sacrifice the latter department in favor of the former.

In other words, we oppose a situation in which neoclassical economic theory is taught to the exclusion of other theories. This tendency is already apparent in the

one-sidedness of economics majors at our University. The required courses — introductory/intermediate microeconomics and macroeconomics, statistics, and econometrics — are all typically taught using only mainstream theory. It is alarming that a student could easily graduate from Notre Dame with a degree in Economics, having never questioned the basic assumptions of or been presented with plausible alternatives to neoclassical economics.

Neoclassical economic theory, because of its dominance in the academy, has become widely known as "mainstream" economics. Currently, introductory and intermediate micro and macro theory courses teach mainstream economics from an a historical perspective. These courses foster a narrow and incomplete view of economics, because they exclude teaching about the social and historical forces that shape economic theory and avoid sincerely questioning the underlying assumptions vital to the models. Furthermore, most professors present only neoclassical models to their students. This exclusive presentation implies that neoclassical theory itself is "economics." This system of education, insulated from critical dissent, produces the next generation of economists with a fixed toolkit of models and prescriptions that assume an unchanging economic reality. As a result, students fail to contextualize neoclassical theory in the broader discourse of the social sciences.

In addition, mainstream economics is often presented as analogous to a natural science, such that economic laws are attributed the same character of universality as the laws of physics. As such, many faculty members teach mainstream neoclassical theory as a series of straight-forward mathematical concepts. This causes students to believe that economics is merely a matter of fine-tuning a particular model and thus void of ethical implications. Many faculty promote this inaccurate notion in their courses by arguing that mainstream economics furthers a "positive analysis" of the world, a value-neutral agenda of "efficiency" in the process of allocating scarce resources. They argue that their economic models do not contain or render value judgments. However, this perspective ignores the reality that neoclassical theory's starting assumptions and supporting logic carry an embedded ethics and have serious social implications. This misrepresentation of a value-laden theory seriously misleads students and inhibits their ability to morally engage current trends. Today's simultaneously increasing wealth and growing inequality affirm a desperate need for models critical of the mainstream.

To prevent this tendency toward a one-sided education, some economics students take courses where heterodox theories are introduced. These students are empowered to think about and critically engage both neoclassical models and

alternative approaches. Unfortunately, the number of these courses at Notre Dame has dwindled in recent years. The deeper understanding afforded by these courses reveals that the current stunted education in economics is one of mostly memorization and unchallenging acceptance rather than a critical examination of assumptions, logic, and implications. With a more sophisticated teaching of economics, which includes a plurality of ideas, students better learn mainstream neoclassical theory and, in the process, are exposed to a variety of instructive alternatives.

As firm believers in the mission of the University and our ability to fulfill it, we hope that this letter begins a dialogue for change. The University of Notre Dame should reconsider its current teaching of economics, affirm the courses that currently offer heterodox approaches, and create more opportunities for challenging intellectual engagement if it hopes to provide its students with the truly premiere education it espouses.

Please visit our blog with comments and sign our petition: www.openeconomics.blogspot.com

Angela Maxey
Nick Houpt
Felipe Witchger
Sean Mallin
students
April 28

Living wage now

I have worked in Building Services for two years, so most of this is about the people there, plus food service, lawn care and laundry.

South Bend has one of the highest numbers of children living in poverty as compared to other towns around the U.S., and our children are also some of the worst-educated, as reported by the South Bend Tribune. The chances of them going to college are very small. In that Notre Dame is the largest employer in South Bend, they must help stop the poverty. It's good that they help all over the world, but take care of home first.

There are two people in my home and I qualify for help to pay heat and electric; you get help once a year. I also go to two churches every month for food. Notre Dame keeps saying that the benefits make up for the low pay, but they don't. We need a 401K that they match up to 6 percent, not a college benefit that is no help to us.

The college benefit is not fair, because how will many of us ever use it? Even if the children made it, where would we get the extra money for room and board? Also, many workers are older and will never be able to use the benefit. If we were paid more, we could save for a college fund or retirement if needed, but there is no money left over to save. Plus, many schools offer free schooling to low-income families.

For right now, I want to be able to pay my bills. The university says we need to manage our money. I see people with food stamps eating better than I do. We don't even get a cost of living raise.

If I was off work with no pay, I would lose my home. I am going to show you what I make and what my bills are:

Here is what I make in a month:
\$1,334.94
Here is the total of my bills:
\$1,311.00
That leaves \$23.94

Bills:
House payment 525.00
Heat budget 110.00
Phone 45.00
Electric budget 50.00
House/car insurance 78.00
Car, gas, etc. 160.00
Save for house tax 53.00
Old bill 50.00
Food 240.00
Total \$1,311.00

I shop at stores where I get a discount, I use coupons and I buy what is on sale. I do all of my trips in one to save gas. I take lunch to work, do not eat out, do not go out to bars, movies, etc. I have no cable or computer. At the end of the month, there is no money left, not even for the co-pay on a visit to the doctor. No money to take my grandkids to the zoo or pool. No money for car repairs, house repairs, or for gifts or vacations. No money to buy children's clothes. There isn't even money to put gas in the lawnmower.

You can't buy a car if needed. I know two people who lost their cars and can't afford to buy replacements. The bus only helps if you work first shift.

A lot of the other benefits that the University offers us we do not use because many people work overtime or two jobs and do not have time to play golf, go swimming, or go to the gym. I would like to see a change in some of the benefits. Maybe give us options for things that we could choose from, things that we need or would actually use.

Notre Dame always wants to be number one. Keeping campus workers and their children out of poverty would be a good place to start in achieving this goal. The University keeps promising that things are going to improve, but they have not, and we need a living wage now.

Prudence Dorsey
staff
April 28

Staying true to Catholicism

I believe too much is being made over the university's decision to not include sexual orientation in the non-discrimination clause. The Catholic Church opposes social acceptance of homosexuality, yet recognizes that homosexuals deserve respect and justice. The University is standing completely by that ideal by not including sexual orientation in the non-discrimination clause. They recognize and have stated that they accept and value homosexuals on campus (by treating them with respect as stated in the "Spirit of Inclusion") yet will not put into policy a clause that recognizes social acceptance of homosexuals.

Leave it at that. It's not like the university asks on their application what your sexual

orientation is. They don't ask and therefore are non-discriminatory in that respect. The university is simply upholding the Catholic values that we are required to uphold as a Catholic university. Adding sexual orientation to the non-discrimination clause would create the Pandora's Box mentioned in the "Two Words" viewpoint by opening up the door to attacking different Catholic values and would therefore be an irresponsible move towards maintaining a Catholic university.

David Fairburn
sophomore
Keenan Hall
April 28

Too juicy to be real

Today I did something awful. I posted a nasty comment about someone on juicy-campus.com. The only thing is, I've never met her. I just randomly searched a name on facebook and then spoke my uninformed mind. In reality, I mean her no ill-will; I am just trying to make a point.

Here's the deal, guys. Juicy Campus is nothing more than the stuff of bathroom stall graffiti. The posts on Notre Dame's forum could be written by anyone (read: Notre Dame students OR students from other colleges, any faculty, Joe Schmoe, a racist KKK member, or an attention-seeking sixth grader posing as an Notre Dame student), from anywhere (read: Notre Dame's campus OR anywhere else in the world), about anyone (read: real people OR fake people, or students the writer has never actually met), concerning anything (read: actual events OR completely fabricated situations, false character descriptions, bent truths, half-lies, etc.), which may or may not reflect the author's true feelings (read: reflecting their actual beliefs OR totally made up crap just to get a rise out of people, someone from the outside trying to give Notre Dame students a bad name, etc.)

We are giving this Web site way more credit than it deserves. If you found a comment posted about you on there, it could have been made by a prankster roommate, a jealous friend, or some random dude from Bumpsville, Ill. who has never met you and hates all things Irish. Isn't the poor spelling and grammar a tip-off that maybe it's not Notre Dame students who are doing the posting? If you are reading about what a classmate did at a party, chances are the party never happened, much less what the classmate is said to have done. Juicy Campus provides NO true information. It is like Wikipedia without any moderators keeping it relatively accurate. Let's stop using up our energy on this useless site and get back to wasting our time on more important things like facebook.

P.S. If I managed to damage anyone's reputation by posting on that site, I'm sorry, but I'm more sorry if our community has come to a place where reputations can actually be damaged by such a site.

Scott Deeney
senior
Keough Hall
April 28



Director botches **BABY MAMA** delivery

Fey and Poehler still bring the laughs

MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

By CASSIE BELEK
Assistant Scene Editor

Tina Fey and Amy Poehler are two women at the top of their comedy game. After serving as head writer for "Saturday Night Live," writing "Mean Girls" and creating, writing, producing and starring in her own sitcom on NBC, "30 Rock," Fey has gone farther than most women in comedy today. Meanwhile, Poehler has become the MVP of "Saturday Night Live" while co-anchor-

ing "Weekend Update" and adding to her ever-expanding film and television resume.

The problem with being at the top is that raised expectations make it so much easier to fall. Fey and Poehler's "Baby Mama," does not fail completely, but it doesn't live up to the quality of their other work either.

"Baby Mama" follows 37-year-old Kate Holbrook (Fey), a successful executive for a health food store chain

who longs for a baby before it is too late for her to have one. Kate decides to go the route of artificial insemination through an anonymous sperm donor, but her fertility specialist (John Hodgman) doesn't like her uterus. In other words, her "junk" has gone bad, forcing her to use a surrogate, who comes in the form of South Philly working girl Angie Ostrowski (Poehler). When Angie breaks up with her boyfriend, Carl (Dax Shepard), she moves in with

Kate, turning Fey and Poehler into the new "odd couple."

There is no denying that Fey and Poehler are hilarious together. The two have known each other for 15 years and they have developed a chemistry that is

The movie is at its best when the pair is allowed to have fun on screen, not only with each other but with the script as well.

as apparent in talk show interviews as it is in "Baby Mama." The movie is at its best when the pair is allowed to have fun on screen, not only with each other but with the script as well. "Baby Mama" could

use a little more improv, like in the scene of Kate and Angie singing along to Karaoke Revolution.

Most of the blame in the movie lies with writer and director Michael McCullers. Although "Baby Mama" sounds like a movie Fey would have written, it was actually written by the man who co-wrote the "Austin Powers" trilogy. McCullers is clearly better at writing than directing. His script is funny, even if it lacks proper character development for Kate. We never dig deep enough into her motivations for wanting a child. And once we see her dating smoothie maker Rob (Greg Kinnear), she seems so normal, confident and unflawed that we can't understand

why her past relationships failed, leaving her single today.

"Baby Mama" is McCullers' directorial debut, and it quickly becomes clear that with faster pacing (and a better editor), he could have made a better and funnier film. But "Baby Mama" drags, particularly in the beginning, and the humor doesn't come as sharply and quickly as Fey and Poehler are capable of.

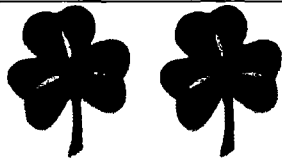
But even with all its flaws, "Baby Mama" still has its charms. As Kate's boss, Steve Martin steals scene after scene. His haircut alone is a visual gag that makes us laugh as soon as he appears on screen. "SNL" fans will get a treat with cameos from cast members Will Forte and Fred Armisen (watch out for Forte's killer mustache). The friendship between doorman Oscar (Romany Malco) and baby mama Angie is sweet (yet unexplored), and Dax Shepard even has his moments to shine as Angie's white trash boyfriend.

In the end, "Baby Mama" is worth seeing for its truly hilarious moments. But it's unfortunate that poor directing gets in the way of Fey and Poehler producing comedy gold. The two do not fail as actresses or comedians; they only fail in their choice of project.

Contact Cassie Belek at cbelek@nd.edu

Baby Mama
Universal Pictures

Director: Michael McCullers
Written by: Michael McCullers
Starring: Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Greg Kinnear, Romany Malco and Sigourney Weaver



The Wrights release brief, but beautiful self-titled album



MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

By JOE LAWLER
Scene Writer

How would a young duo of Johnny Cash and June Carter fare in today's country music world? Or Gram Parsons and Emmylou Harris?

That's the question the young country duo The Wrights pose in their new self-titled album, released Jan. 29. The answer is not yet clear, but husband Adam Wright and wife Shannon's newest release follows their 2005 debut album "Down This Road" with another collection of beautifully lyricized and harmonized

country duets.

The nephew of established country star Alan Jackson, Adam Wright already had an in with the Nashville crowd. Released on Jackson's personal label ACR, an RCA affiliate, "Down This Road" drew interest from Nashville critics for the couple's direct and soulful lyrics as well as for their close harmonizations. The lyrics on songs like "Down this Road" and "On the Rocks" displayed an honesty only achieved when the lyricists are in fact partners in love.

Whether it was the lack of over-affected country accents or amped-up guitar riffs, "Down This Road" failed to attract the broad country audience it deserved.

Instead of bowing to pressure from record executives to abandon the duet format, to water-down lyrics, and over-produce the accompaniment to increase sales, The Wrights left the RCA label to release their second album solely on the indie ACR label. A sparse collection — only eight songs — the album is quick and devastating, with the couple's lyrical agility and harmonization prowess on full display.

On the opening track, "Rewind," the couple wastes no time in launching into

two-part close harmony. While wistfully hoping to "rewind" their relationship to recapture their passion, Adam and Shannon showcase their improved vocals as well as their sense of the intimate.

The couple ruthlessly interrogates each other in their co-written "Do You Still." Adam begins the song with leading questions: "Honey are you happy/ That you wear that little ring/ Or is it heavy on your finger/ Is it like a ball and chain?" Shannon joins him for a refrain marked by a classic Wrights contrapuntal turnaround of a wedding vow: "You said 'I do,' but do you still?" The slight distortion on Adam's guitar and the upbeat drum part mark a slight departure from the band's previous sound, but none of the new effects undercut the pure, old-fashioned country sound Wrights fans expect to hear.

The Wrights' strongest effort is another introspective duet, "Planting Flowers." The title is part of the metaphor in the refrain, when the couple lament, "I'm planting flowers on a gravel road/ Waiting on a bloom/ Trying to make a garden grow/ Where nothing ever grew/ I give you my attention/ Keep you from the cold/

When I might as well be planting flowers on a gravel road." The harshness of the lovers' words to each other belies the overall hopeful impression of the song. All couples go through times when they would like to express their frustration in

Although short, "The Wrights" presents the young couple as worthy of comparison to Cash and Carter, Harris and Parsons and all the great Nashville duos.

the words of "Planting Flowers," but, alas, they are unable to do so in soft two-part harmony with major key changes and a delicate steel guitar accompaniment.

One slight blemish on the album is "A Love Like That,"

where Shannon forgoes the prominent harmony for a loud and somewhat pounding list of qualities she's looking for in a man. Also, "True Love is a Golden Ring," written by Alan Jackson, lacks the sensitivity of the Wrights' own works and sounds somewhat moralistic in its comparison between the ideals of wedding vows and the reality of love.

Although short, "The Wrights" presents the young couple as worthy of comparison to Cash and Carter, Harris and Parsons and all the great Nashville duos. If only they can be recognized as such, and produce more albums like the two they have.

Contact Joe Lawler at jlawler2@nd.edu

The Wrights
The Wrights

Label: Mailboat Records
Recommended Tracks: "Rewind," "Do You Still" and "Home Sweet Highway"





**Scene staffers reflect on
The Observer, Notre Dame experience
through entertainment**

MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

SENIOR PLUGS '30 Rock' ONE LAST TIME

Like everyone, I have a few regrets in college. I didn't discover the café in Grace Hall until three weeks ago. I walked up the stairs of Main Building the first week of my freshman year. I never got to share in the experience of underage drinking at the infamous Boat Club before it closed and I didn't join the Scene staff until my sophomore year.

Cassie Belek
Assistant
Scene Editor

However, there will be other cafes in my life, I will most likely graduate in three weeks, I can drink legally now (although never at Boat Club) and even though I only had three short years at The Observer, it was time well spent.

I've had some good times delaying homework to write for Scene. I previewed concerts, wrote movie reviews, avoided CD reviews at all costs (I don't do music), interviewed people who knew famous people (making me someone who knows someone who knows famous people!) and covered the award show beat. But soon after I started writing for Scene, I found an area of the entertainment industry that I loved writing about more than anything else — television.

Those of you who have recognized my byline over the years are aware of my undying love for television. I have made no secret of my obsession with soap operas, my commitment to "Arrested Development" and my attendance at "The Office" Convention in Scranton, Pa. My DVR keeps me company when I can't sleep at night or I want to avoid homework, as does my expansive collection of TV shows on DVD.

My favorite way to use my Scene & Heard columns is to implore you all to watch TV shows that you are most likely not watching, specifically "30 Rock" and "How I Met Your Mother." Seriously guys, these shows will make you laugh. Don't you like to laugh?

But sometimes my television opinions are met with some resistance. Recently, I have shared the controver-

sial opinion that I believe that "30 Rock" is better than "The Office." As a second semester senior nearing graduation, I have run out of the energy to defend my opinion again, so take what I say as truth and start worshipping at the altar of Jack Donaghy and Button Classic.

While I'm at it, I might as well get some other thoughts off my chest. Michael Scott has become a gross caricature of his season two self, Ted is a super lame character on "HIMYM" (but still watch it), "Gossip Girl" will never be as good as "The O.C." and "Grey's Anatomy" sucks. Period. Watch "General Hospital" instead.

There, I feel better now, but not completely since I will soon be leaving Notre Dame and The Observer behind. It's true that I'll be moving on to a new newspaper staff in graduate school, but I have this secret fear that I'll end up having to work for News. I shudder at the thought (but still respect my Observer colleagues working hard in that department).

So now it's time to acknowledge those who have supported me during my time with Scene. Thank you to all the mothers of my friends who read my articles online. Thank you to my own friends who find my articles by accident while flipping to the crossword puzzle. Thank you to my parents who read each one of my articles and send them to their friend's cousin's grandmother's son. Thank you to my FTT classmates who read my articles and tell me how wrong I am, and last but not least, thank you to everyone who has e-mailed me in the past to tell me how wrong I am.

I'm not wrong, so watch "30 Rock." But more importantly, I would like to end my position at The Observer with two pieces of advice: Don't be ashamed to love television, and get a DVR. It will change your life. That's all.

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

Contact Cassie Belek at cbelek@nd.edu

FRESHMAN MEASURES THE YEAR IN MUSIC

How do you measure a year? The number of classes you took? Ratio of football games we won? Amount of flex points you dropped at Starbucks? Number of pictures you got tagged in on Facebook? Love?

As the first year of my Notre Dame experience comes to a close, I've found a far more telling way to measure this year. I can trace all sorts of experiences, ups and downs, revelations and shortcomings by looking back at the music that has been a part of my year. The music I have discovered, shared or been obsessed with says a lot about my life.

The first song of note that entered into my life would be "Cyclone" by Baby Bash. I do not like hip-hop. I am not particularly fond of the song. But when two of the girls in my newly-furnished quad realized they both knew the song, it became our official anthem. I heard it every day for the first two weeks of the fall semester. I still can't stand it, but it has a very strong image tied to it of four girls from four corners of the country getting to know each other and learning how to work out living away from home. It represents a time of change, a little fear, and a lot of hope.

Getting settled into my new life of freedom was daunting at first. I clung to certain songs for familiarity and comfort. One song in particular that helped me was "Different Names for the Same Thing" by Deathcab for Cutie. I vividly remember riding my bike around the lake at top speed, racing over the leaves and listening to that song, trying to gain what little wisdom it could afford, because nothing at college was making sense.

In the fall, I decided to join the World Music class for its field trip to the Chicago music festival. On Navy Pier, a Czech woman named Lenka Dusilova played the song "Litaci." It is a beautiful dream-pop tune, and even though I have no idea what the words mean, the song is calming and served to remind me that college was going to be a challenge, but that I could handle it. Things were

gonna be all right.

The spring semester began with a whirlwind of music, most notably "Falling Slowly," from the film "Once." The song is heartbreakingly beautiful, and its performance at the Oscars made me cry. When I think of that song, it brings me back to my section lounge, sighing with the other girls at how simple and yet moving music can be.

The dead of winter was hard for me, a Coloradoan, used to 300 days of sunshine a year. The lovely perma-cloud that descended upon campus sent me into deep doldrums. The song "Breathe Me" by SiA, which I bumped into when it was used in a presentation by the PostSecret guy, became my refuge. I listened to that song every morning on my way to class for about three weeks during Lent.

Spring break came along, and my friend burned me a number of discs of music to listen to on the plane ride home. The five-disc set opened with "This Year" by the Mountain Goats. This is a song worth checking out. The one line that pounded in my head the entire flight was, "I am gonna make it through this year if it kills me."

The arrival of spring brought about the opera and the final trio from "Faust" by Gounod. This is the song that struck me to the core whenever I heard it. All good things about being in the opera are tied to that song.

And now, where are my musical tastes? Firmly planted in "Can't Go Back Now" by the weepies. This song of moving on and finding a way to survive on your own perfectly describes freshman year: "Go where you want to go. Be who you want to be...In the end the only steps that matter are the ones you take all by yourself." I have survived. I didn't die, fall off the Dome, fail out of class or lose my room key. I've signed up for classes next semester, bonded with my future roomy, and picked a major. Looks like the music's gonna keep on coming.

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

Contact Stephanie DePrez at sdeprez@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of tv.com

How many more times can this Scene staffer print pictures of the "30 Rock" cast before she graduates? Sadly, just once.



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Glen Hansard, right, and Markéta Irglová's music, particularly "Falling Slowly," helped define this staffer's freshman year.

CLUB SPORTS

Men's, women's ultimate fall short of title bids

Special to The Observer

Ultimate

Notre Dame competed in the Great Lakes Regional, part of the UPA College Series, this weekend in Hartland, Mich. Both the men's and women's squads were playing for a spot in the National Championships, which will be held in Boulder, Colo.

Notre Dame's women's team opened with two pool games Saturday. Its first game was against rival North Park, who they had seen multiple times throughout the season. The women got the job done early and coasted to a 17-6 victory under the leadership of captains Shannon Morrison and Loretta Brown. The Irish dropped the second game 13-11 to the University of Chicago.

Notre Dame headed into bracket play looking for a spot at Nationals. Notre Dame defeated Indiana 15-5 to close out the day on Saturday.

On Sunday, Notre Dame had to win four games in a row to earn a spot at Nationals. Notre Dame used fresh legs to outrun Loyola to come out on top 15-6 in the first game. The team's next game was against a Michigan State team who had previously rolled over Notre Dame 13-1 earlier in the season. The Irish came out with intensity and fire but were no match for Michigan State's speed and backhand breaks, falling 15-4 in the final contest

of the season.

Men's play was double elimination in a sixteen-team field. Notre Dame beat Oberlin 15-11 in the first game. The next opponent was Dayton, who had pulled off an upset in the first round. Next, Notre Dame took care of Dayton with a 15-6 victory.

This set up an anticipated match up between Notre Dame and Illinois in the semifinals. After not seeing each other at the sectional tournament, each team was anxious to get a chance to test its merit against the other. The game went back and forth early on with both teams essentially trading points until half. After halftime, Illinois came out firing and capitalized on some costly Notre Dame mistakes. Illinois pull ahead and led 12-7 before the Irish fought their way back into the game. Despite amazing defense from junior Danny Collom, Notre Dame fell short, 15-13.

On Sunday, Notre Dame drew Miami (Ohio). Miami gave Notre Dame problems early on. The first half only involved one break from each team and Miami took the halftime lead, 8-7. Notre Dame came out fired up in the second half. Thanks to some fine throws from senior Eric Morin, Notre Dame pulled away and eventually won, 15-10.

Notre Dame dropped its final game to Ohio State by a score of 15-12.

The club finished one of the

most successful years in recent men's play, with a 41-9 record. The Irish women's season was equally successful. Two tournament victories, including Sectionals, were among the highlights.

Men's Rowing

The oarsmen of Notre Dame traveled to Eagle Creek for the perennial Indianapolis Invite, a regatta drawing the best crews of the Midwest. Arriving late Friday afternoon in preparation for Saturday's morning races, windy conditions that swamped three other crews prevented the Irish from getting in a light row before race day. Fortunately, however, the conditions improved, albeit slightly, affording the Irish an opportunity to row for coveted shirts and medals.

The story of the first day was the Notre Dame first novice 8-plus boat. The crew was the top seed entering the day's racing and confirmed its status with the best morning row, setting the stage for the highly-contested final that was to follow in the afternoon. After a countdown start at 1:30, the Irish asserted their dominance, establishing an early lead, and holding off Marietta during the last 500 meters for what appeared to be the Novice crown. However, after lengthy deliberation stemming from post-race protests, the officials deemed the race void and mandated a re-row. The unusual re-row resulted

from two separate instances of poor steering on the part of competing crews during the race, neither of which involved Notre Dame. Yet, after a poll of the coaches involved, a majority cast for a re-row that sent all six crews back on the water at 3:30, making it the final race of the day. The Irish found themselves sitting in fifth place off the start and had only reclaimed fourth place at the 1000-meter mark. The Irish rallied in the final 1000 meters, with a sprint in the final 250 that had the crowd on its feet. But the Irish came up short, losing to Purdue by nine-tenths of a second with a second place time of 6:29.6.

Sailing

Having already earlier qualified entries in both the team and fleet racing at the Intercollegiate championships in Newport, R.I., Notre Dame was unable to qualify for the third event, co-ed racing. The club did earn a berth in the pre-nationals, which were hosted by USC in Los Angeles this weekend. Georgetown, Yale, College of Charleston, and MIT finished in the top four spots.

Rugby

Notre Dame dropped a 56-24 game at Bowling Green over the weekend to conclude its season. Bowling Green played in the Nationals last year, and was ranked No. 5 just two weeks ago. The Falcons' coach retired

after the game, which made for an emotionally inspired opponent.

Don Greiwe intercepted a pass and scored the game's first try and conversion in the opening two minutes to give the Irish a 7-0 lead. Bowling Green scored two minutes later on an advantage call following an Irish off-side. The Falcons then rolled to a 42-7 lead as the Irish next scored as they mauled into the try zone off a lineout as David Bray scored. Three minutes later, Andy Mullen scored yet another try. Kevin Ritt added the final score of the day for the Irish A-side squad.

The B-side fared no better, dropping a 65-7 game. Andy Mullen scored the only Irish try and Don Greiwe added the conversion. The Irish measured themselves against one of the nation's strongest teams and displayed promise for the future.

Fishing

Largemouth bass provided the competition for the fishing club this weekend in Chelsea, Mich. The club arrived Friday evening and immediately started catching fish. Using a "touchdown worm" from their canoes, the anglers caught many big fish, highlighted by Brian Kirkendall's seven-pound bass. A full day of fishing on Saturday was followed by continued success on Sunday, as the club used the canoes to fish the entire lake.

SUMMER OLYMPICS

No disruptions as thousands celebrate torch in North Korea

Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea — North Korea mobilized tens of thousands of citizens on Monday to celebrate the Olympic torch relay in Pyongyang, the flame's first visit to the authoritarian nation.

Men in their best suits and women wearing traditional high-waisted dresses waved flags and paper flowers in the capital, greeting the torch like a visiting head of state.

Unlike some other parts of the relay ahead of the Beijing Olympics, everything went off without a hitch in North Korea.

Only the most loyal communist elite are allowed to live in Pyongyang, a showpiece city filled with monuments to the hard-line regime.

China is North Korea's main ally and a key provider of aid, and the torch relay was used to herald their ties. North Korea has condemned disruptions of the torch relay elsewhere, and supported Beijing in its crackdown on violent protests in Tibet.

Leader Kim Jong Il was not seen at Monday's event, but he was "paying great interest to the success of the Olympic torch relay," Pak Hak Son, chairman of North Korea's Olympic commit-

tee, said at the relay start, according to a report from Pyongyang by Japan's Kyodo News agency.

"We express our basic position that while some impure forces have opposed China's hosting of the event and have been disruptive, we believe that constitutes a challenge to the Olympic idea," Pak said.

The torch began its run from beneath the giant red stained-glass flame that tops the 558-foot-tall obelisk of the Juche Tower, which commemorates the national ideology of "self-reliance" created by the late founding President Kim Il Sung,

father of Kim Jong Il.

An attentive and peaceful crowd watched the start of the relay, some waving Chinese and Olympic flags, APTN footage showed. The ceremony was presided over by the head of Parliament, Kim Yong Nam.

Kim passed the flame to Pak Du Ik, a former soccer star who played on North Korea's 1966 World Cup soccer team.

As the 12-mile relay wound through Pyongyang, thousands of cheering people lined the streets waving pink paper flowers and small flags with the Beijing Olympics logo and chanting "Welcome! Welcome!"

Middle-aged women in traditional dresses danced and beat drums in one square, while young girls held red balloons and bouquets of flowers, APTN footage showed.

Security was far lighter than in most other cities visited by the torch, although the flame was followed by several Chinese in blue tracksuits along with vehicles and motorcycles.

The relay ended after about five hours at Kim Il Sung Stadium, where female marathoner Chong Song Ok used the torch to light an Olympic cauldron, China's official Xinhua News Agency reported.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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PERSONAL

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

AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 13

Baseball America Top 25

team	record	prev
1 Miami	33-4	1
2 North Carolina	34-7	4
3 Florida State	34-5	3
4 Missouri	28-10	6
5 Stanford	21-12	10
6 Arizona State	31-6	2
7 California	26-10	8
8 Nebraska	28-7	9
9 Rice	31-10	11
10 Georgia	27-12	13
11 San Diego	31-11	12
12 South Carolina	29-11	14
13 Oklahoma State	27-11	18
14 Wichita State	30-7	7
15 Cal State Fullerton	23-13	15
16 UC Irvine	24-9	5
17 Vanderbilt	28-11	17
18 Texas A & M	33-7	19
19 Michigan	28-8	21
20 Coastal Carolina	33-7	22
21 Mississippi	25-15	16
22 Kentucky	30-9	25
23 Arizona	25-11	NR
24 North Carolina State	27-12	NR
25 Long Beach State	23-14	NR

ESPN.com/USA Softball NCAA Top 25

team	record	prev
1 Arizona State	48-3	1
2 Florida	51-2	3
3 Alabama	44-3	2
4 UCLA	38-5	4
5 Michigan	41-4	5
6 Texas A & M	42-7	6
7 Stanford	40-8	8
8 Arizona	29-14	7
8 Oklahoma	37-11	11
10 Tennessee	43-9	9
11 Fresno State	42-8	12
12 Northwestern	28-10	13
13 Houston	40-7	10
14 North Carolina	45-8-1	17
15 Long Beach State	33-12	14
16 LSU	34-14	16
17 Louisiana-Lafayette	34-10	18
18 Virginia Tech	38-12	19
19 Hawaii	31-13	15
19 San Diego State	35-13	22
21 Washington	25-16-1	20
22 California	36-18	21
23 Mississippi State	37-16	24
24 Massachusetts	30-11	NR
25 Nevada	31-14	NR

MIAA Women's Softball Conference Standings

team	league	overall
Alma	14-2	24-9
Tri-State	11-3	27-5
SAINT MARY'S	12-4	23-8
Adrian	8-6	20-16
Hope	9-7	23-12
Olivet	6-10	13-21
Calvin	5-11	12-23
Albion	4-12	13-16
Kalamazoo	1-15	3-25

NBA



Former Heat coach Pat Riley resigned on Monday at a news conference after 11 seasons in Miami. Riley, who ranks third among NBA coaches in all-time wins, will remain team president.

Riley steps down, appoints Spoelstra

Associated Press

MIAMI — On the night of his last game as an NBA head coach, Pat Riley heard the final buzzer, looked straight ahead and briskly walked away.

Deep down, he knew it was over.

"I didn't have to look back," Riley said. "I know that's behind me."

And now, after spending several days plotting the Miami Heat's next course, Riley's past becomes Erik Spoelstra's future.

The Hall of Fame coach resigned Monday, although he'll remain team president. His first act as Miami's former coach was to choose its

new one, and hired Spoelstra, a 37-year-old who started in the Heat video room in 1995 and now becomes the NBA's youngest coach.

Riley sees himself in Spoelstra.

Riley was 36 when he first became a head coach, and didn't have any experience either. His first off-the-court job in the NBA was traveling secretary for the Los Angeles Lakers, handling boarding passes. Spoelstra also was at the bottom of the Heat totem pole when starting out, making videos for the team Christmas party, but Riley is convinced he's ready for the top job.

"It's very rare to have the

opportunity to work for one organization for your entire career like I have," said Spoelstra, who was told the job was his Friday. "It means it's a special organization."

Miami finished with the NBA's poorest record (15-67), by far the worst of Riley's career. As president, Riley will continue overseeing the plan to revamp a franchise just two years removed from a championship, after deciding he'd best benefit the franchise from the front office.

Last year, Riley said he was committed to coaching three more seasons. Monday, he admitted he never believed that to be true.

"I am definitely sure that I don't want to do this anymore," Riley said.

Riley's future was among Miami's many offseason issues. The Heat could have the No. 1 pick in the draft, are assured a top-four pick and are certain to make moves in an effort to revamp a roster plagued by injuries.

"Pat Riley has instilled in me values that enabled me to win a championship in just three seasons," Heat guard Dwyane Wade said Monday. "I've seen him do the necessary things to make us winners and I believe that with his focus on being president and his commitment to the team, we will once again become a contender."

IN BRIEF

Major changes to BCS not likely

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. — As they kicked off three days of meetings at an oceanfront resort, the Bowl Championship Series overseers appear to have a better chance of getting a sunburn than making any major changes in the controversial system.

"I continue to sense a certain comfort level, if you will, with the current status of things with the BCS," BCS coordinator John Swofford said after Monday's session. "I think it's been a pretty stable few years."

Still, the commissioners of the 11 major college football conferences, along with Notre Dame athletic director Kevin White, will have their most detailed discussions to date of the plus-one model, which could use two bowls as semifinals and another as a national title game, with the four participants seeded.

Lieberthal to retire in June with Phillies

PHILADELPHIA — Two-time All-Star catcher Mike Lieberthal will retire with the Phillies on June 1, ending his career with the franchise where he played 13 of his 14 major league seasons.

Lieberthal, the third overall pick in the 1990 draft, hasn't played this season and spent last year with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

"Philadelphia has always been a second home to me, so I'm really looking forward to this," Lieberthal said on Monday. "I spent half my life there and still follow the team closely on television."

Lieberthal hit .275 with 150 home runs and 609 RBIs in 1,174 games with the Phillies. He batted .234 with one RBI in 38 games with the Dodgers.

Lieberthal was the sixth catcher in major league history to hit .300 with 30 home runs in a season when he reached those marks in 1999.

Posada placed on DL for first time in career

CLEVELAND — The New York Yankees took the field Monday missing a familiar face: Jorge Posada, the club's proud catcher and one of its leaders, was in Alabama getting his injured right shoulder examined.

Posada was placed on the 15-day disabled list for the first time in his career, ending a remarkable run of durability at baseball's most physically demanding position. The 36-year-old, who has caught at least 137 games in each of the past eight seasons, finally succumbed to pain in his shoulder that he had been feeling for most of the season's first month.

"It's kind of strange to go into the clubhouse and you don't see him," said Yankees manager Joe Girardi, who helped teach Posada in the 1990s. "He's a quiet leader. He's a constant in the clubhouse, you like to see guys like that."

around the dial

NBA PLAYOFFS

Mavericks at Hornets
7 p.m., TNT

Suns at Spurs
9:30 p.m., TNT

MLB

Reds defeat Cards on the strong arm of Arroyo

Yankees jump on youngster Laffey, Tribe in four-run sixth to split series, Mussina earns 253rd career win

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Edwin Encarnacion had a pair of RBI doubles and made a standout play at third base in the seventh inning to preserve a one-run lead in the Cincinnati Reds' 4-3 victory over the St. Louis Cardinals on Monday night.

Bronson Arroyo (1-3) worked six solid innings for the Reds, who won their first series opener after losing the first nine. Adam Dunn and Brandon Phillips had an RBI apiece to help Cincinnati win three in a row for the first time this season and even its record at 3-3 since Walt Jocketty became general manager.

Rick Ankiel hit his fifth home run for the Cardinals, for whom Jocketty served as GM the previous 13 seasons before getting fired last October. Albert Pujols singled twice and walked, extending his hitting streak to 12 games, and has reached base in all 27 games to start the season.

Arroyo allowed three runs on six hits and struck out six for his first victory since Sept. 12 against the Cardinals. He had been 0-4 in eight outings since, including an 0-3 start to the season for the second time in his career. He entered with a 7.56 ERA after failing to make it out of the fourth inning while allowing eight runs in his previous start, against Houston.

Francisco Cordero allowed a hit in the ninth for his fourth save in four chances.

The Reds bunched five hits in the second and third off Todd Wellemeyer (2-1), scoring twice in each inning to go ahead 4-0. Encarnacion had an RBI double in each inning.

Encarnacion's second RBI double put the Reds ahead 4-0 and was a gift after left fielder Chris Duncan lost his routine pop fly in the lights.

Wellemeyer allowed only two hits in his last three innings, striking out five and walking two. He had been 2-0 with a 1.50 ERA in his first two starts at home this season.

Troy Glaus drew a bases-loaded walk in the third, Ankiel hit his fifth homer in the fifth, and Cesar Izturis' opposite-field RBI double in the sixth off a sidearm 2-2 delivery from Arroyo cut the gap to a run. It stayed that way when the Cardinals caught a break in the seventh as Dunn's bases-loaded single struck Brandon Phillips for an out as he was running to second.

Glaus, who left Friday night's game due to watery eyes after striking out twice, wore sunglasses while flying out to end the first. Glaus, whose eyes are only affected during night games at home due to allergies, went without glasses while coaxing a full-count walk in the third.

Yankees 5, Indians 2

Their record is barely above average, one of their superstars is still limping around and their everyday catcher is on the disabled

list.

The New York Yankees aren't themselves.

But at least they're headed home.

Mike Mussina earned his 253rd win, tying Hall of Famer Carl Hubbell on the career list, and the Yankees concluded an extended odyssey on the road by making the most of their five hits in a victory over the Cleveland Indians on Monday night.

After winning the final two games to split the four-game series, the Yankees packed their bags for New York to end a stretch of playing 18 of 20 games away from home. On Tuesday night, they'll be back in the comforts of Yankee Stadium after 18 road games in April — the most by any team in the month.

"I've got to find my house key," Mussina joked. "It's been so long since we've been home, we just assumed we're going to another hotel."

At 14-13, the Yankees aren't playing up to their potential or payroll, but considering the demanding schedule and a slew of injuries, they'll take it.

"Basically we played three weeks in a row on the road," Mussina said. "That was a seven-city road trip over three weeks and I think we played .500 for that stretch. We should be pleased with ourselves."

Mussina (3-3) allowed two runs and seven hits in five innings, just enough to catch Hubbell for 41st place. The 39-year-old had his second consecutive solid outing after there was speculation he might lose his spot in the rotation.

Mussina was followed by Jonathan Albaladejo, Kyle Farnsworth, Joba Chamberlain and Mariano Rivera, who worked the ninth for his eighth save in eight tries. New York's bullpen held the Indians to one hit over the final four innings.

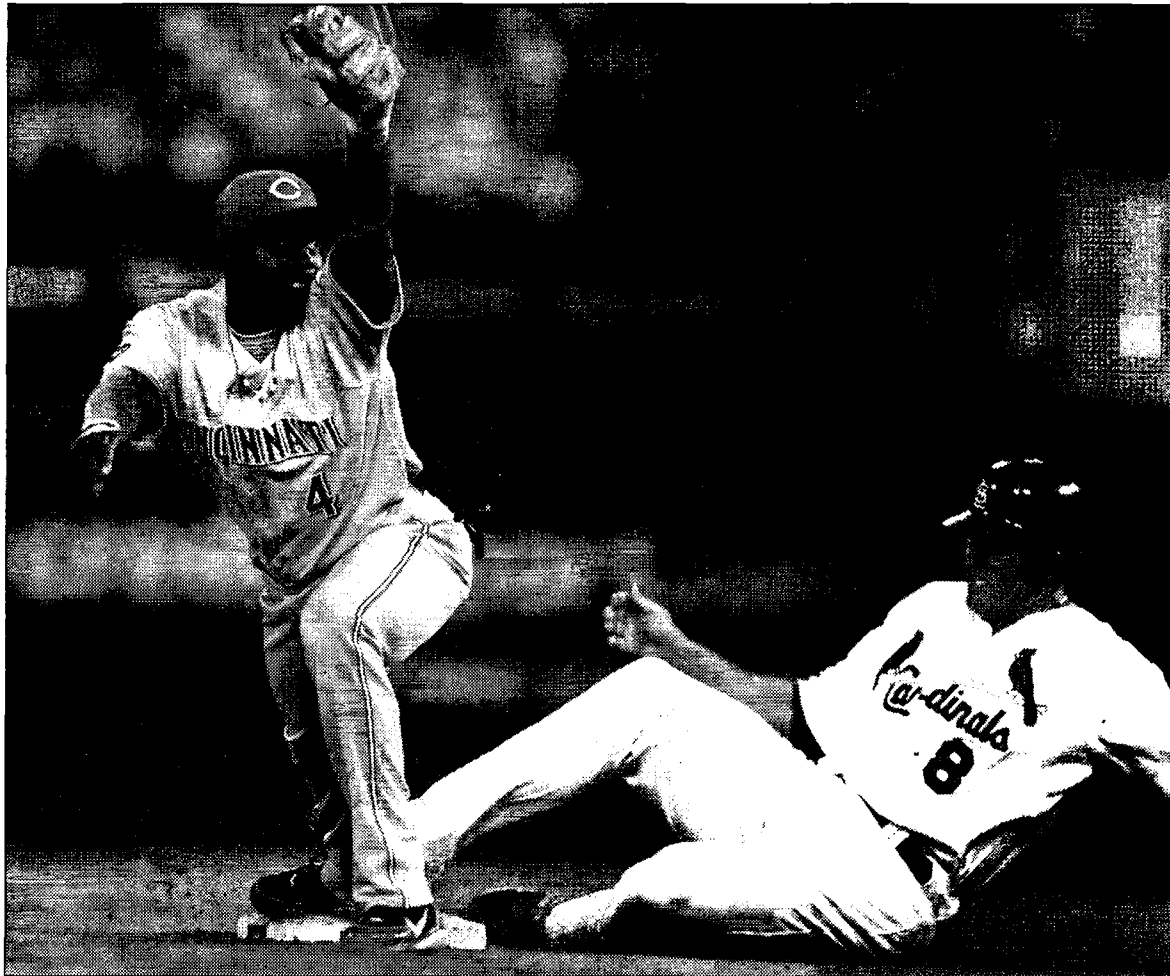
Hideki Matsui had two RBIs for the Yankees, held without a hit for five innings by Aaron Laffey (0-1), making his season debut.

But in the sixth, New York strung together four hits — three didn't leave the infield — two groundouts and a hit batter to score four times and take a 4-2 lead. Matsui's RBI double in the eighth made it 5-2.

"Sometimes it's not how you hit them, it's where you hit them," New York manager Joe Girardi said.

It wasn't pretty, but the Yankees will take it on a day when they had to place durable catcher Jorge Posada on the disabled list for the first time in his career. The 36-year-old has been bothered by a shoulder problem for weeks. He left the team to have his shoulder examined by famed orthopedic surgeon Dr. James Andrews in Birmingham, Ala.

The Yankees are still awaiting test results on Posada, who played in at least 137 games in each of the past eight seasons. Girardi is trying to stay optimistic he'll get



Reds second baseman Brandon Phillips, left, catches the ball to force out Cardinals third baseman Troy Glaus at second base in the Reds' 4-3 victory Monday in St. Louis.

back his catcher, who signed a four-year, \$52.4 million contract before the season.

"I have my fingers crossed," Girardi said.

He's also going to keep a close eye on Alex Rodriguez, who played the entire series but is still slowed by a strained right quadriceps. Rodriguez was lifted for a pinch-hitter in the eighth inning, and Girardi said he'll likely sit his All-Star third baseman on Tuesday against Detroit.

"He's not 100 percent and we felt it was best to get him out of there," Girardi said. "He gave us four games and kind of sucked it up for us." Rodriguez said he felt a "pull" while running the bases.

"It's hard for me not to play 100 percent," Rodriguez said. "The key for me is to get healthy."

Laffey had never faced the Yankees, but he didn't look scared of their big names or big salaries.

He gave up a leadoff walk in the first and was in immediate trouble when Derek Jeter reached on an error. Laffey, though, settled down and retired Bobby Abreu, Rodriguez and Jason Giambi.

Laffey retired 14 straight before hitting Robinson Cano in the ribs with a pitch in the fifth.

With Hall of Famer Bob Feller, who no-hit the Yankees 62 years ago this week, watching from the press box, Laffey took a no-hitter into the sixth before New York manufactured a scoring rally that hardly befitted their Bronx Bombing image.

Melky Cabrera hit an infield single and Jeter was safe on a bad-hop roller to third. Abreu's single loaded the bases and Laffey got ahead of Rodriguez 1-2 before hitting him on the left leg to force in

New York's first run.

Giambi and Matsui followed with RBI groundouts, putting the Yankees up 3-0 and chasing Laffey. Jensen Lewis came on and got Morgan Ensberg to tap one near the mound, but the right-hander didn't field it cleanly and Ensberg beat it out for an infield single as Rodriguez scored.

"It was very frustrating," Indians infielder Jamey

Carroll said. "You saw them hit balls that took just the right hop, found just the right hole. What we have to do is keep battling and it will eventually happen for us, too."

The Indians, who played their second straight game without All-Star center fielder Grady Sizemore, took a 2-0 lead in the fifth on a run-scoring single by Jason Michaels and Travis Hafner's sacrifice fly.

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IRLL 30107	<i>The Hidden Ireland</i>	Prof. Peter McQuillan (TR 12:30-1:45)
IRLL 30108	<i>20th Century Irish Literature</i>	Prof. Sarah McKibben (MW 11:45-1:00)
IRLL 30307	<i>The Irish Tradition I</i>	Prof. Hugh Fogarty (TR 3:30-4:45)
IRLL 40304	<i>Poetry and Politics in Ireland</i>	Prof. Breandán Ó Buachalla (TR 2:00-3:15)
IRLL 60203	<i>Scottish Gaelic</i>	Prof. Peter McQuillan (TR 2:00-3:15)
IRLL 60305	<i>Clasaici na Gaeilge</i>	Prof. Breandán Ó Buachalla (W 6:00-9:00)

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IRLL 10101:02	<i>Beginning Irish I</i>	Prof. Tara MacL.eod
IRLL 10101:03	<i>Beginning Irish I</i>	Staff/TBA
IRLL 10101:04	<i>Beginning Irish I</i>	Prof. Muireann Ní Bheaglaioich
IRLL 10102:01	<i>Beginning Irish II</i>	Prof. Ciara Connolly
IRLL 10102:02	<i>Beginning Irish II</i>	Prof. Tara MacL.eod
IRLL 20103:01	<i>Intermediate Irish</i>	Prof. Brian Ó Conchubhair
IRLL 20103:02	<i>Intermediate Irish</i>	Prof. Sarah MacKibben
IRLL 20203:01	<i>Advanced Readings in Irish Culture</i>	Prof. Brian Ó Conchubhair
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SMC GOLF

Postseason hopes in NCAA's hands

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

The season hangs in the balance for Saint Mary's until May 5 when an NCAA selection committee will determine the fate of the Belles' post-season lives.

The Belles finished as the runner-up in the MIAA conference tournament, placing them into a group of teams vying to receive an at-large bid into the NCAA national championship May 13-16 at the Centennial Oaks Golf Club in Waverly, Iowa.

There are a total of three spots open for at-large teams who did not receive their conference's automatic bid.

Belles coach Mark Hamilton said he likes his team's chances of receiving one of those spots.

"The first two spots are pretty much wrapped up by higher-ranked teams that failed to win their conferences," Hamilton said. "But with our recent performances against higher-ranked opponents, I think we have a

very good chance of capturing the final spot."

One of the Belles' best performances of the season came in the MIAA tournament last weekend.

After the first round of play, the Belles found themselves down 18 strokes to No. 10 Olivet.

However, in the final two rounds, Saint Mary's showed great improvement by shooting the lowest score of each round.

"It was a pretty gutty performance by our team, but the first-round deficit proved to be too great," Hamilton said. "We beat the No. 10 team on its own course and that is a pretty big feat."

If the Belles are fortunate enough to receive an at-large bid into the national championship tournament, they will certainly have their work cut out for them. However, they have beaten many higher-ranked teams already this season and will not hold anything back in trying to do it one last time.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker1@nd.edu

SMC SOFTBALL

Team off to MIAA Championships

Belles earn No. 2 seed, will open against No. 3 seeded Tri-State

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's heads to the MIAA conference championships for the third straight year Thursday. The tournament will be held Thursday and Friday at Alma College.

The Belles are a No. 2 seed in the tournament, and will play No. 3-seeded Tri-State Thursday morning. The match-up provides some familiarity as Saint Mary's faced the Thunder on Saturday. That doubleheader was split, with Tri-State taking the first game 8-3 and Saint Mary's winning the second contest 8-0.

Belles coach Erin Sullivan said that she feels her team has an advantage playing Tri-State again so soon.

"They are going to be nervous to play us again, especially after our convincing win in game two," she said.

The tournament is double-elimination, so if the Belles

win, they will play the winner of a game between No. 1 seed Alma and No. 4 seed Hope. If the Belles lose, they will play the loser of that game.

Sullivan did not say which of her two starting pitchers — junior Calli Davison (11-8) and senior McKenna Corrigan (12-0) — she plans to start in the first game.

"We will warm up both for our first game," Sullivan said. "Either one of them will be great against Tri-State. They both pitched well on Saturday."

The Belles bring a formidable offense to the tournament, led by Corrigan and sophomore Peterson, whose .580 in conference batting average was good for the regular-season batting title. Peterson also leads the MIAA in slugging

percentage, on-base percentage, runs scored and total hits, and is tied with two others for the most doubles.

Corrigan leads the conference in RBI and home runs.

Saint Mary's has won the MIAA tournament only once, in 2004. Sullivan was a senior that

year. However, because the current system awards points based both on tournament place and regular season play, the Belles did not get the MIAA's automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

Sullivan said that in 2006 and 2007, when Saint Mary's came in third and fourth, respectively, they tired in the postseason. However, she does not expect that to be the case this year.

"Our plan is to play hard and leave everything on the field," Sullivan said. "No regrets."

Contact Laura Myers at lm Myers2@nd.edu

"They are going to be nervous to play us again, especially after our convincing win in game two."

Erin Sullivan
Belles coach

"Our plan is to play hard and leave everything on the field. No regrets."

Erin Sullivan
Belles coach

NHL

Flyers take 2-1 series lead from Canadiens in Philly

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Derian Hatcher was like all the other Flyers fans who watched the last 15 minutes on TV. He did it in the locker room, feeling sick, stressed and helpless as the lead nearly slipped away.

Unlike the other orange-clad diehards, Hatcher could have prevented the frayed nerves Monday night.

When Philadelphia held on for the victory, Hatcher could thank Martin Biron that the defenseman's late ejection didn't cost them the series lead.

Biron stopped 32 shots and the Flyers scored three goals in the second period to beat the Montreal Canadiens 3-2, taking a 2-1 lead in their second-round series.

"Marty has been terrific. He's been our best player in this series," coach John Stevens said. "We probably felt going in that he would have to be."

Biron lost his shutout — and the Flyers nearly wasted a three-goal lead — when Hatcher was ejected in the third period and Montreal capitalized on the lengthy power play.

Hatcher drove his right arm into the center of defenseman Francis Bouillon's back and slammed him into the glass. Bouillon, who wears a visor, was cut near the corner of his right eye.

Hatcher was whistled for 5 minutes for boarding and a game misconduct, ending his night. That was all the opportunity Montreal needed to make its first serious run at Biron. It was

nearly enough to tie the score.

"Your first reaction is you just hope the team can get through it," Hatcher said.

Tomas Plekanec quickly scored a power-play goal off a scrum in front of the net to make it 3-1. The goal was reviewed, but the replay showed the puck was over the line before the net became dislodged.

Saku Koivu was stopped on a breakaway by Biron's poke check in the first period, but he scored on the power play in the third to pull Montreal to 3-2.

"It got a little scary on the power play," Biron said.

Hatcher felt awful. "Watching the last 15 minutes was a lot more draining than actually playing the game," Hatcher said. "I feel mentally exhausted right now."

The Flyers killed the rest of the penalty and Biron quickly reverted to the form of the first two periods, when he stopped shots in all kinds of ways. He made 17 of his saves in the third period while the Flyers took a measly two shots on goal.

No wonder he was serenaded again from the stands: "Mar-ty! Mar-ty!" "Mar-ty!"

That's a sound the Flyers want to hear all the way to the Stanley Cup.

"It's fun when they chant your name," Biron said. "They challenge the guys to play better."

The Canadiens outshot Philadelphia 34-12.

"It seems that we're being tested right now," Koivu said. "I don't think we played as well tonight as we did in the second

game, but still we were able to put a lot of pucks on net and create a lot of chances. That's a positive thing, but at the same time when you outshoot your opponent, you're hoping to get the win."

Mike Richards, R.J. Umberger and Scottie Upshall all scored goals on the first six shots of the second against 20-year-old Carey Price.

Price never made it to the end, yanked at the start of the third period for Jaroslav Halak. Price will get another shot in Game 4 on Wednesday in Philadelphia.

"Cary has proven in the past that he can bounce back and come back really strong," said Montreal coach Guy Carbonneau. "I know he can come back and play really strong."

After a scoreless first period, the Flyers made the most of their limited shots in the second.

Upshall fired a wrister past Price 7:04 into the period and another sold-out crowd roared in approval. One fan pressed a sign that read "The Price Is Wrong" against the glass.

Richards made it 2-0 when his short-handed goal bounced off Price's glove. Lasse Kukkonen was in the penalty box for holding in the stick, putting the Flyers a man down. Who else but Richards would give them a lift? He scored five short-handed goals in the regular season, which led the Flyers and was tied for third in the NHL. Richards picked off the puck to score the unassisted goal.

Then the Flyers got what turned out to be a needed goal.

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MLB

Relationship could hurt Clemens' rep

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Roger Clemens had a decade-long relationship with country star Mindy McCready that began when she was a 15-year-old aspiring singer and the pitcher was a Boston Red Sox ace, the Daily News reported.

Clemens' lawyer, Rusty Hardin, confirmed a long-term relationship but told the newspaper it was not sexual.

"Mindy McCready is a long-time family friend of Roger Clemens and the Clemens family," Hardin said in a statement Monday. "At no time did Roger engage in any kind of inappropriate or improper relationship with her. It is unfortunate that the Daily News has chosen to report anonymous allegations that are completely unfounded, have no basis in fact, and have nothing to do with Roger's baseball career or the issue of steroid use in baseball."

The story, which appeared on the newspaper's Web site Sunday night and in editions Monday, quoted several people who asked not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the situation.

McCready's lawyer, Lee Ofman, said he did not have any comment on the Daily News

story.

Clemens was 28 and a married father of two when he first met McCready, the newspaper reported.

The story could undermine Clemens' reputation, which is central to the defamation suit the former pitcher has filed against former personal trainer Brian McNamee. McNamee contends Clemens used performance-enhancing substances during his major league career.

"If true, it's just another example of Roger's pervasive prevarications which will be at the core of any defamation case," said McNamee's attorney, Richard Emery, in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

The newspaper said Clemens sent cash to McCready to help her with legal issues and reached out to her when she was in jail last year in Tennessee.

The 32-year-old McCready was sentenced last September for violating probation from a 2004 drug arrest and was released from jail last Dec. 30. The violation occurred in July when McCready was accused of scuffling with her mother and resisting arrest at her mother's home in Fort Myers, Fla. She still must serve two years' probation.

NBA

Turkoglu named most improved

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Hedo Turkoglu, whose 19 points, five rebounds and five assists per game helped the Orlando Magic win their first division title in 12 years, was selected as the NBA's most improved player Monday.

Turkoglu's numbers marked career highs in each category, and dramatic improvements from 13 points, four rebounds and three assists last season. He earned back-to-back Eastern Conference player of the week awards in late January and early February and was named player of the month for April.

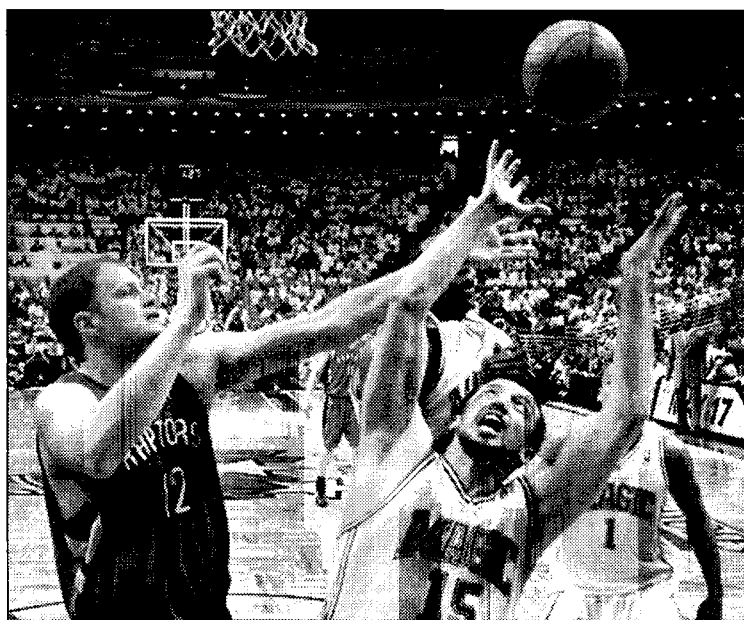
This was the type of season the Magic always expected from the 6-foot-10 forward, now in his eighth year.

"Without him, I don't know where we would be," Magic general manager Otis Smith said. "I am happy to have him on our team and I'm happy that he is winning this award eight years late, but I am happy that he is at least winning this award. This is a sign of things to come for Turk."

Turkoglu received 61 first-place votes and 380 points in the voting by a panel of American and Canadian sports journalists, well ahead of Memphis Grizzlies forward Rudy Gay, who earned 167 points, 23 for first-place, and the Portland Trailblazers' LaMarcus Aldridge with 128 points and nine first-place votes.

Turkoglu was the fourth Magic player to win the award, handed out since the 1985-86 season.

His 40 percent shooting behind the arc helped Orlando record the second



Raptors center Rasha Nesterovic, left, battles for a rebound with Magic forward Hedo Turkoglu for a rebound on April 20.

most prolific 3-point season in NBA history. The Magic made 9.77 a game, behind only the Phoenix Suns' 10.21 a game in 2005-06. He also started all 82 regular-season games for the first time in his career.

"I guess this year was the time for me to step it up and come this far, so I am just blessed that I was healthy this year and all the things went well for me, having a good coach, my teammates, everybody," Turkoglu said. "If you look at it, it is not just my improvement, it is the Magic's improvement too, comparing to last year."

Turkoglu had two triple-doubles this season, also the first of his career. But perhaps most importantly, the Turkish-born pro has been key in the clutch. He hit winners with the clock running down twice — against

Chicago on Dec. 31 and Boston on Jan. 27 — and drained the go-ahead free throws with 2.4 seconds left on Feb. 1 against Philadelphia.

Turkoglu also made an acrobatic layup in traffic with 30 seconds left in Game 2 against the Toronto Raptors, the go-ahead bucket.

"He is as talented a basketball player I have seen at 6-foot-10 in a long time. You feel comfortable with the ball in his hands," Smith said. "He can make decisions for your teammates — he is always at the top every night (in assists), and you can't ask for a 6-foot-10 guy to do that."

"He has been asked to do a lot this year, and he has responded well. He has had these abilities all along, he just had to be brought out of them, and now he is able to do it."

MLB

Giants send Zito to bullpen

Struggling lefty was 0-6 with 7.53 ERA

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Barry Zito was demoted to the bullpen Monday by the San Francisco Giants, who hope the former ace can correct his problems by working in relief.

Zito, who only 16 months ago signed a \$126 million, seven-year contract with the Giants to lead their rotation, was informed of the move in

a meeting with manager Bruce Bochy.

The left-hander has lost his first six starts this season and has a 7.53 ERA that jumped considerably after Zito was tagged for eight earned runs in a 10-1 loss Sunday to Cincinnati.

The 2002 AL Cy Young Award winner with Oakland, Zito lasted just three innings against the Reds and was booed frequently by the crowd at AT&T Park during his shortest outing of the year.

A three-time All-Star and

San Francisco's opening-day starter this season, Zito is only the third pitcher since 1956 to go 0-6 before May, joining Texas' Dave Stewart (1984) and Detroit's Mike Maroth (2003).

The durable Zito has made 247 consecutive starts without missing a turn due to injury, the longest streak in the majors. He made his only big league relief appearance last season.

Zito's next turn in the Giants' rotation would have been Saturday in Philadelphia.

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NBA

Johnson scores 35, Hawks surprise Celtics again

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Forget about a Boston sweep. The Hawks are headed back to Beantown all tied up with the mighty Celtics.

Joe Johnson scored 35 points — 20 in the fourth quarter — and Josh Smith added 28 points and seven blocks for Atlanta, which surprised the Celtics again 97-92 on Monday night to even the best-of-seven series at two games apiece.

A Game 5 that many never expected to happen is now on, Wednesday night in Boston.

The Hawks, who had the worst record (37-45) of any playoff team, overcame two double-digit deficits to beat a team that won an NBA-leading 66 games during the regular season.

The credit for this Atlanta stunner goes largely to Johnson, who took control in the final quarter. After Smith's jumper put the Hawks ahead to stay 81-79, Johnson scored nine straight points to keep the Celtics on the ropes.

The knockout came when Paul Pierce drove to the hoop and left it short, then tumbled over a cameraman alongside the basket. When the Boston star finally climbed back to his feet, he had a look of disbelief — which pretty much sums up the way the Celtics are feeling about this series.

Smith went to the other end and made two free throws with

26 seconds remaining for 93-87 lead. Johnson — appropriately enough — finished off the Celtics by making two more foul shots with 14 seconds left.

Ray Allen led Boston with 21 points, and Kevin Garnett added 20.

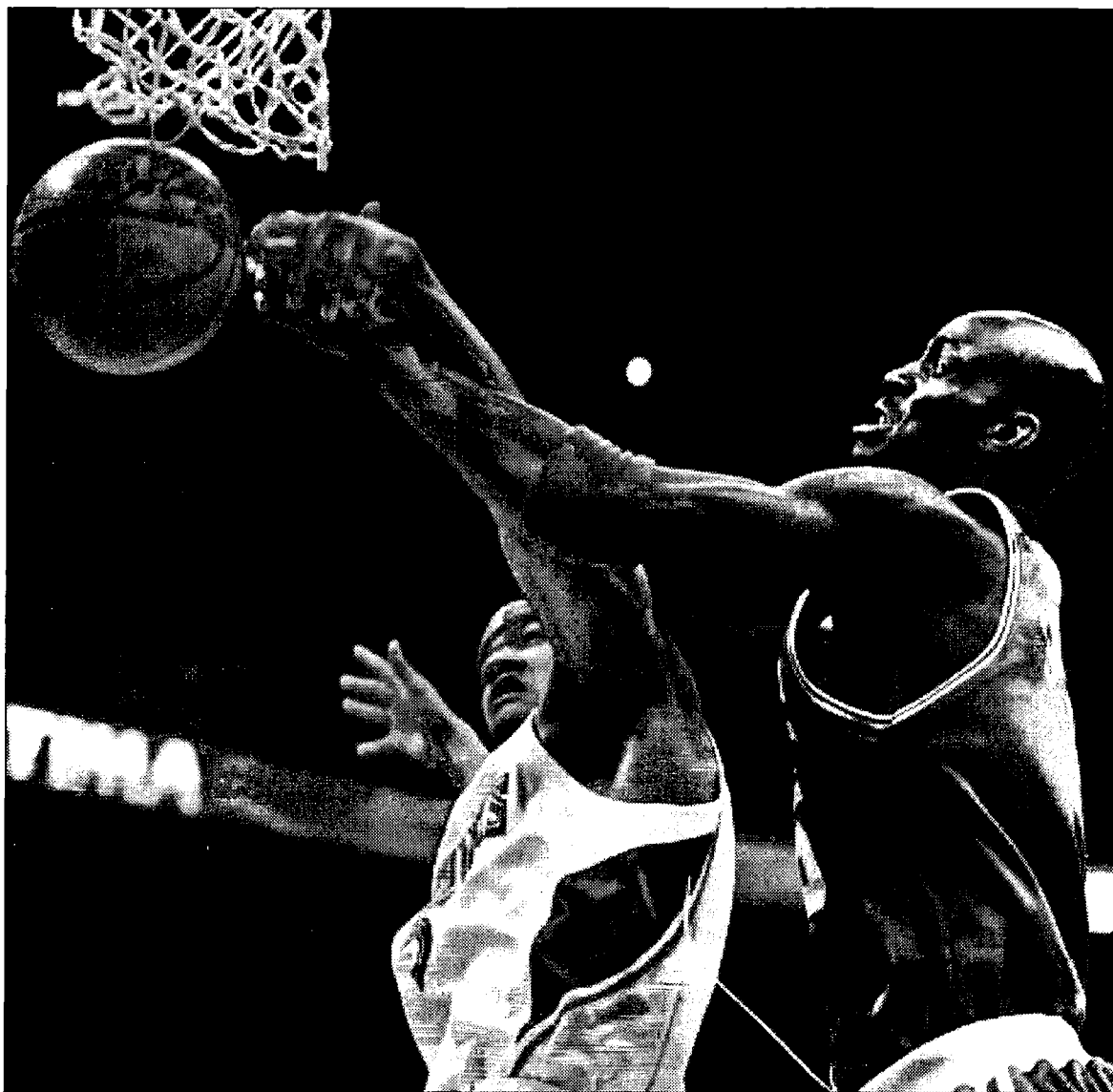
Smith set an Atlanta playoff record with seven blocks, the last of them a key swat on Garnett after he backed down in the lane, looking for the easy shot, with just over 3 minutes left.

"It's time to shock the world," the public address announcer screamed to the sellout crowd of 20,016.

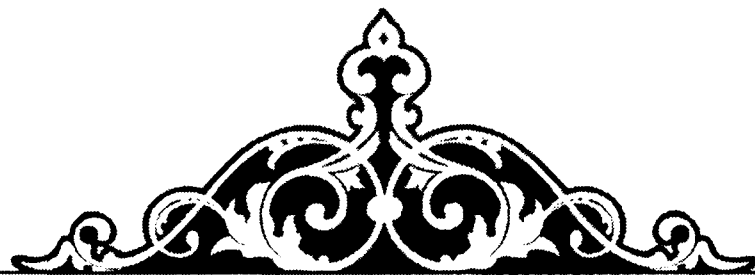
After getting blown out in the first two games, Atlanta turned feisty on its home court. Rookie Al Horford taunted Pierce after putting the Celtics away in Game 3, prompting the Boston forward to flash a menacing gesture that drew a \$25,000 fine from the NBA shortly before Game 4.

Then, with 77 minutes left in the second quarter, things really got testy. Garnett threw an elbow at Zaza Pachulia while going for a loose ball. The rugged Pachulia got right in Garnett's face, going forehead to forehead with the Boston star.

The officials stepped in quickly and Hawks coach Mike Woodson charged onto the court to pull his players away. No punches were thrown and no one was ejected, though the officials did call offsetting technical fouls — two on each team — after looking at a replay.



Hawks forward Josh Smith, left, and Celtics forward Kevin Garnett battle for a rebound during the first quarter of Atlanta's 97-91 first-round NBA playoff win Monday.



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NBA

Magic make Raptors disappear in five games

Howard leads Magic to second round with 21 points, 21 rebounds; earns his third 20-20 game in series

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Orlando Magic coach Stan Van Gundy saw something different about Dwight Howard heading into the playoffs.

The 22-year-old All-Star, usually the team's biggest jokester, suddenly got serious. So did his already-impressive numbers.

Howard had 21 points, 21 rebounds and three blocks — his third 20-20 game in the series — and the Magic advanced to second round for the first time in 12 years by beating the Toronto Raptors 102-92 in Game 5 on Monday night.

"There was a different demeanor from him," Van Gundy said of his young center. "Dwight is a fun-loving guy and he likes to fool around. There are a lot of times during the year, not bad, but a lot of times during the year where I've got to try to bring him back to being serious when we're preparing."

"I did not have to say one word, from the start of preparation for this series all the way through," Van Gundy said.

Howard's game said it all. And with Orlando's usually steady 3-point shooting on the fritz, his inside power was enough to pull them through.

"He's a phenom; he's the best center in the league," said Raptors star Chris Bosh, who was guarded by Howard all game. "He's probably the strongest guy in the league, and he knows how to use his body. It doesn't surprise me at all. I've seen him play this whole series, I've seen him play this season."

Bosh, who posted career playoff highs of 39 points and 15 rebounds at Toronto on Saturday, had 16 points and nine rebounds Monday. Howard frustrated him down low into 7-of-19 shooting, and Bosh picked up a third-quarter technical foul after the Magic star muscled past him for a layup.

T.J. Ford and Carlos Delfino both scored 14 points for the Raptors, while Jason Kapon had 13 and Jose Calderon 12. Delfino added seven rebounds and Ford had five assists.

"We knew in the regular season that every time we played the Orlando Magic that you've got to score, and we just couldn't score," Toronto coach Sam Mitchell said. "We didn't make enough shots."

The Magic will play the winner of the Detroit-Philadelphia series, which is tied 2-2, in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

Keyon Dooling's free throw

after the technical on Bosh put the Magic ahead 73-66 with just under a minute left in the third quarter, and Orlando kept that cushion until midway through the fourth. Delfino hit a jumper and Bosh made two free throws in four trips to the line, plus a hook shot over Howard, to draw the Raptors within 84-82.

The Magic, who shot the fourth-best percentage in the NBA from 3-point range this season, struggled again from long range (9-of-32), but made them when it counted. Keith Bogans and Jameer Nelson each hit one and Howard added a layup as the Magic answered with an 8-0 run over 3:13 to open a 92-82

lead, then its largest of the game.

It was enough room to let them coast.

"We've depended on the 3 all year. It's going to make us or break us," Bogans said. "Coach just tells us to keep shooting them and don't stop."

Nelson scored 19 points for Orlando and Rashard Lewis had 18 points and 13 rebounds. Hedo Turkoglu just missed a triple-double with 12 points, eight rebounds and nine assists, while Maurice Evans scored 12 points and Bogans added 11.

Orlando hadn't won a playoff series since 1996, when Shaquille O'Neal and Penny Hardaway led the team to the Eastern Conference finals. The Magic played 28 postseason games in the intervening years, winning only eight.

Howard grinned broadly, still unable to believe it was true.

"It's just an unbelievable feeling," he said. "We did something I feel that hasn't been done here in a while."

Orlando looked good early, taking a 10-2 lead on 3-of-5 shooting, but the Raptors guards took over for the rest of the first half. Calderon fueled a 10-4 run with two 3-pointers to close the first quarter up 26-22, and Delfino scored eight straight points in the second quarter. The Magic drew to 44-43 as the Raptors went 2:20 Raptors without scoring — a period in which Lewis had nine points — but Ford scored six straight on two jumpers and two free throws to keep the Magic from regaining the lead before halftime.

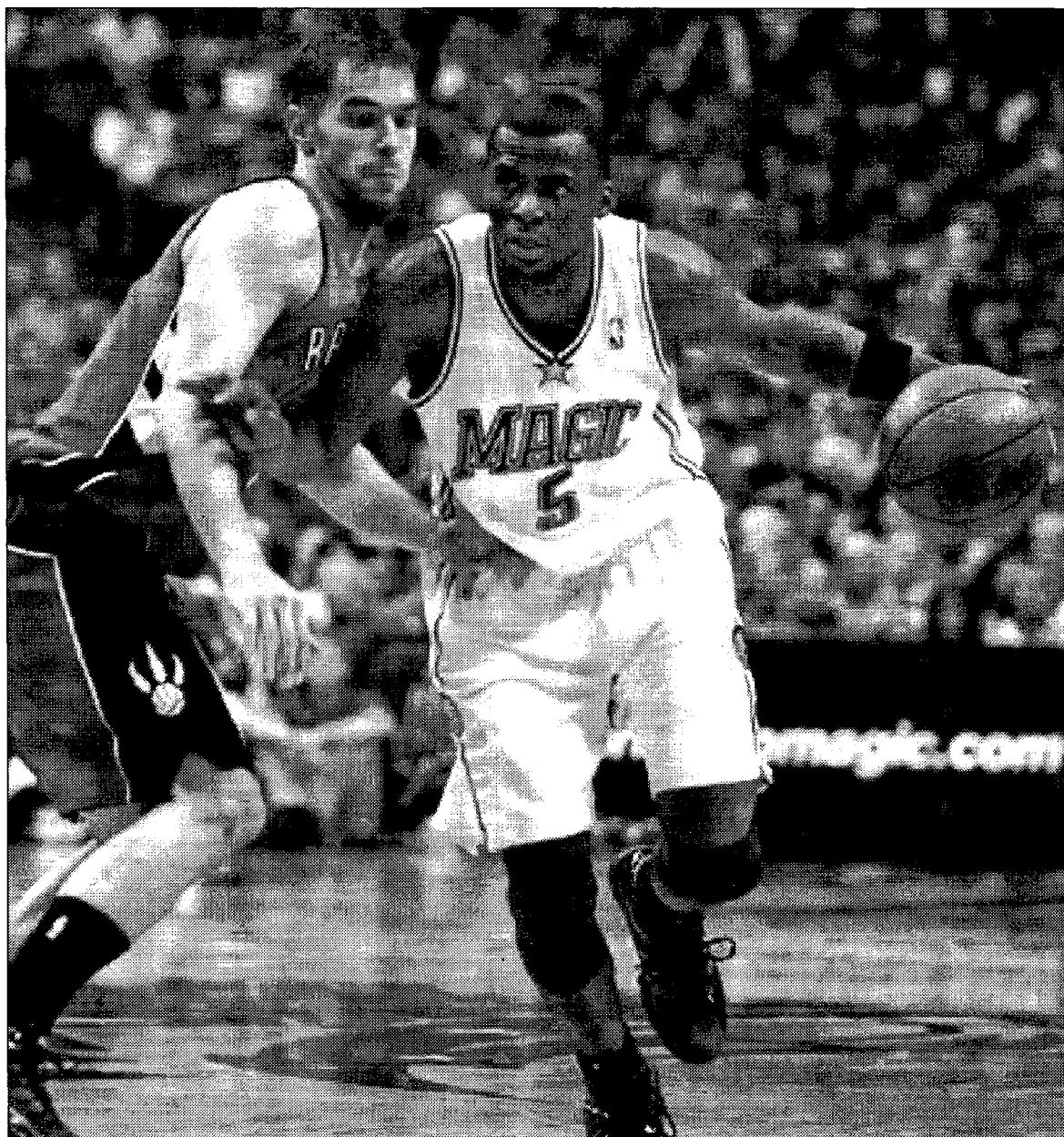
Toronto's Jamarion Moon, who strained his groin in the third quarter Saturday and didn't return, started for the second time in the series. He had six points in the first quarter on two quick 3-pointers but just two more the rest of the way.

"He's probably the strongest guy in the league, and he knows how to use his body."

Chris Bosh
Raptors center

"It's just an unbelievable feeling. We did something I feel that hasn't been done here in a while."

Dwight Howard
Magic center



Magic guard Keyon Dooling drives around Raptors guard during the second half of Game 5 in an NBA Eastern Conference playoff series Monday. Orlando won 102-92 to advance to the next round.

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Awards

continued from page 24

Krisik and freshman Kristen Rafael.

For all-conference singles, the coaches filled four of the 10 spots with Notre Dame players — Tefl, Buck, Rielley, and Ciobanu.

Finally, the coaches named Tefl the Big East's most outstanding player. Irish players have won that award three straight years. Catrina Thompson won the award in 2006 and 2007.

The recognitions are a fitting final chapter for the career of senior captain Brook Buck. Buck was named to the all-conference singles and doubles teams three times each in her career.

Buck was the only player to post three singles wins and three doubles wins in the Big East Tournament this year, and she will enter her final N C A A

Tournament as the No. 78 singles player in the nation.

Louderback said he could not be prouder of his team's leader and is pleased with how she is closing her outstanding career.

"This last part of the season, her play has been the best it's been since she's been here. [Brook and Keley] have done a great job in doubles, but [Brook's] singles play just has been very, very good," the coach said. "I really wish she had a better fall because then she could have made the singles tournament at the end of the year here. It's good to see such a great senior going out in style."

Louderback said he will miss Buck's leadership. In addition to her sportsmanship and the way she encourages her teammates on the court, Buck is a full-time leader.

"She's done a great job off the court as our captain, too, and I could not be happier about how things have turned out for her this year,"

Louderback said.

Buck and the Irish will finish the season with the NCAA Tournament in May. Buck and Tefl lead Notre Dame into the tournament as the No. 3 doubles pair in the nation.

In singles, Notre Dame has No. 56 Tefl and No. 102 Ciobanu alongside No. 78 Buck. Krisik quietly dominated from the bottom of the lineup and finished the dual season with a record of 23-4.

The NCAA Tournament splits the country's top 64 teams into 14 four-team regionals. Since only the top 16 teams will host regionals as No. 1 seeds, No. 22 Notre Dame will have to go on the road as a No. 2 seed.

Louderback is confident in his team going forward, and the Irish have revenge for past losses in the backs of their minds.

"We have no idea where we are going yet. We'll see when the pairings come out [today], but there are some teams we played earlier in the year that we would like to get a shot at again," Louderback said.

Among the group of likely top seeds are No. 1 Northwestern, No. 2 Georgia, No. 3 Georgia Tech, No. 5 Baylor, No. 9 Duke, and No. 11 Vanderbilt. Notre Dame lost tough matches to each of those teams in the dual season and Louderback said his team would not mind a rematch with any of them.

The Irish had a record of 11-6 in matches played on the road or at neutral sites and went 10-6 against the Top 75.

Notre Dame will try to improve those records May 9 when regional play begins. If the Irish win their regional, they will join the other fifteen regional champions at the University of Tulsa to decide the national champion starting on May 15.

Contact Dan Masterton at dmastert@nd.edu

"There are some teams we played earlier in the year that we would like to get a shot at again."

Jay Louderback
Irish coach

NCAA

continued from page 24

Irish season marked by rousing success. Notre Dame, who opened the fall season with three straight tournament victories, has finished in the top five in nine of 10 tournament appearances this season, with the Big East Tournament win being their fifth first-place finish. The Irish also collected honors at Golf World Magazine's mid-season awards banquet as they were named the most surprising women's team while freshman phenom

So-Hyun Park was named most surprising women's player. Park, the No. 14 player in the country, has led the Irish with a scoring average of 73.12, a program-record. Park also recorded two first-place finishes this season. Junior captain Lisa Maunu has contributed three podium finishes, including one first-place finish. In total, every Notre Dame golfer has recorded at least one top-ten finish this year. Holt attributes her team's success to preparation and mental toughness.

"Golf is basically hitting shots and playing holes and managing our game," Holt said. "We

have to get into our mode, that thought process, that comes with managing the course well."

This year marks the third time in program history the Irish have earned a bid to the NCAA Tournament. The squad will compete in a field of 21 in the regional tournament for a chance at the NCAA Championship, which will be held May 20-23 in Albuquerque, N.M. Complete seeding for the NCAA Tournament can be found at ncaa.com.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu

Valpo

continued from page 24

ular season. Notre Dame senior outfielder Sarah Smith earned Big East player of the week honors on Monday for her impressive performance against Loyola-Chicago, Providence, and Connecticut. For the week, Smith posted four multi-hit games with two three-hit outings and has a .538 average over that span.

Smith went 3-for-4 with a run and RBI in the second win over Connecticut on Sunday.

She has hit safely in ten straight games with an overall batting average of .385 and has the best in-conference batting average with her .466 mark in the Big East.

The Irish will look to continue to ride the strong arm of junior Britney Bargar, who now boasts a 26-10 record on the season. Bargar pitched 22.1 innings over the weekend and threw complete games in both halves of the Connecticut double-header.

Valparaiso (29-15, 11-4 Horizon) is quietly having one of its best seasons in its history, crushing school records left and right while putting themselves in very strong position to win the Horizon League crown.

In a series win over Youngstown State this weekend, the Crusaders topped their all-time single-season



DAN JACOBS/The Observer

Irish freshman outfielder Brianna Jorgensborg takes a pitch during Notre Dame's doubleheader against Loyola-Chicago April 24.

wins record with 29, including a program-best 11 at home.

Valparaiso senior pitcher Andrea Zappia earned a program-record eighteenth victory in a single season against Youngstown State on Sunday in a complete-game effort.

Senior catcher Shannon Robinson tied the career doubles record at Valparaiso and the Crusaders broke the team's single-season record for RBIs in one season.

Against the backdrop of this historic season for the Crusaders, the Irish will look to steal one away from their over-achieving Indiana rival and build some momentum to finish up strong in the Big East.

After the game against Valparaiso, the Irish will complete

their regular-season schedule with double-headers against Big East foes Pittsburgh and Syracuse over the weekend.

Winning Big East games has been the primary focus for the Irish all year, according to head coach Deanna Gumpf, and the team is still in good position to challenge for the Big East crown. Their 12-6 Big East record is good for a tie with Louisville for third in the conference behind DePaul and South Florida.

The Big East tournament begins on May 8 in Louisville, Ky., and the Irish will be looking to solidify their seeding in the coming weeks.

Contact Jared Jedick at jjedick@nd.edu

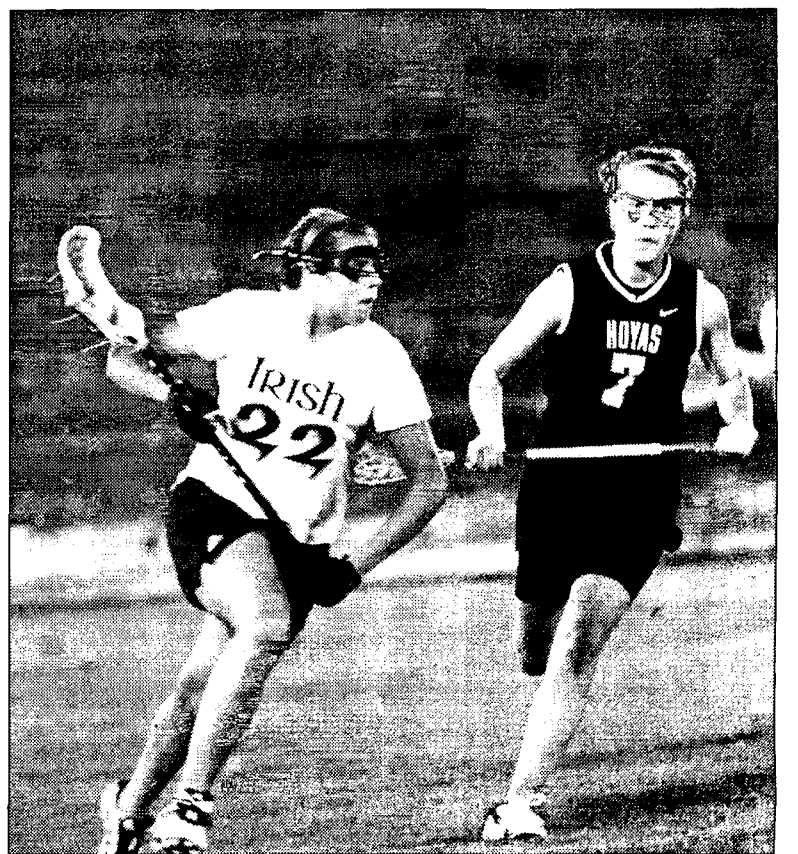
Big Red

continued from page 24

overall record and have been especially hot recently, winning six out of their last seven games. Their only loss in that stretch came at the hands of Syracuse, the winners of the Big East tournament. For their efforts, Cornell is currently ranked No. 14 by Inside Lacrosse.

With their loss in the Big East semifinals, the game takes on extra significance for the Irish. With a win on Friday, Notre Dame could have all but locked up a berth in the 16-team NCAA tournament. But with the loss, the team has put its fate in the hands of the NCAA Selection Committee. Because of the situation, a win is necessary for the Irish, not only to impress the committee but also to regain momentum in case they are selected.

Regardless of the outcome, the season has been a memorable one for the Irish, for better or for worse. The rough spring break road trip to start the year could have defined the season for the Irish, but the squad righted the ship before the season spun out of control. First-ever program wins on the road at both Duke and Georgetown were huge accomplishments and testaments to the team's resiliency. Now, with



DAN JACOBS/The Observer

Irish junior Beth Koloup carries the ball during Notre Dame's 15-14 triple-overtime loss to Georgetown Friday.

one game left, the Irish will look to focus all of their energy towards Cornell and attempt find a way to gain a berth in the NCAA Tournament.

Senior captain Caitlin McKinney talked about "ecstasy

or agony" after the team's loss to Georgetown. Notre Dame's final game Saturday will cap a season that has seen both.

Contact Andy Zicarelli at azicare@nd.edu

Arts & Letters Students



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BLACK DOG

MICHAEL MIKUSKA



LOLLERSKATES

DIDIER LEWIS

Habits everybody has, but nobody ever admits to it.	Every time you walk into a bathroom and you can't see what's behind the curtain you will make sure no one is hiding there unless it's glass or a clear curtain.	You run up the stairs when it's dark because you always feel like someone is behind you or chasing you.	
	You lock/unlock your car doors compulsively. If you're within range then you'll press the unlock button 50 times until you get into your car.	You constantly highlight text on a computer when reading it (usually half of the paragraph).	When guys pee, they flush half way through and try to finish peeing before the water comes back up.
	Repeatedly check your alarm clock to make sure it will go off. You'll probably even do a test round.	When a group of girls go in the bathroom together, typically you think they're just re-applying make-up and talking about how amazing Lauren from 'The Hills' is, but in all actuality they're just pooping a lot... and it's awesome.	

ANOTHER UNFUNNY COMIC

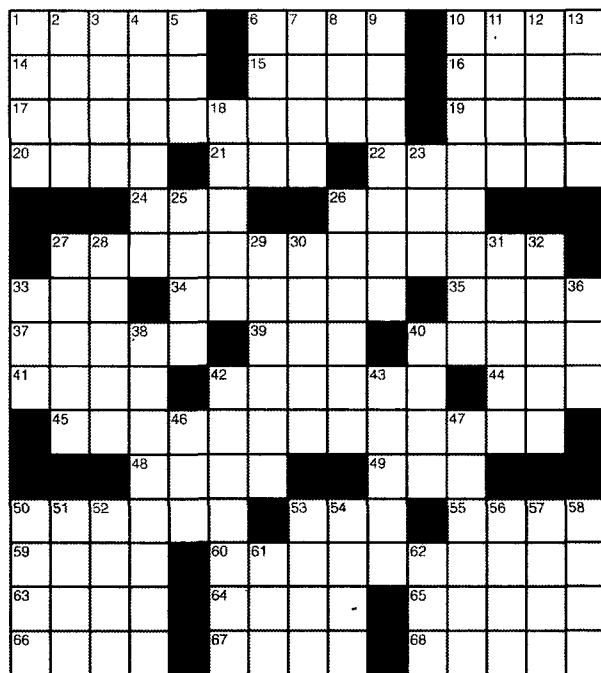
SARAH MUSCARELLA & LIZ MURPHY



CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 MacDowell of "Groundhog Day"
 - 6 #41 or #43
 - 10 These may be coddled
 - 14 Nickel and dime
 - 15 Home to most Turks
 - 16 Maul or awl
 - 17 Providential
 - 19 Mr. Peanut prop
 - 20 Vogue competitor
 - 21 Not 'neath
 - 22 Walked like a tosspot
 - 24 Disco ___ of "The Simpsons"
 - 26 Conclude one's argument
 - 27 Nary a penny
 - 33 Gymgoer's pride
 - 34 Portfolio contents
 - 35 Carrot or radish
 - 37 Ending with bed or farm
 - 39 Mai _____
 - 40 Cass and Michelle, in '60s pop
 - 41 Does something
 - 42 Like cows, to Hindus
 - 44 Hieroglyphics serpent
 - 45 In close pursuit
 - 48 Double reed
 - 49 One of two in "boxcars"
 - 50 Never-before-seen
 - 53 Be in hock
 - 55 Follow closely
 - 59 Pope from 440 to 461
 - 60 Adds up ... like this puzzle's theme?
- Down**
- 1 Ibuprofen target
 - 2 Coward of the theater
 - 3 "Don't touch that ___!"
 - 4 Play the market
 - 5 Suffix with Brooklyn
 - 6 When stolen, it stays in place
 - 7 Tech caller
 - 8 Covet thy neighbor's wife, say
 - 9 Dislikes, plus
 - 10 "Yadda, yadda, yadda"
 - 11 Slap shot success
 - 12 Auctioneer's last word
 - 13 Iditarod entry
 - 18 Some are proper
 - 23 Upper-left key
 - 25 Wart cause, in folklore
 - 26 Hit the hay
 - 27 Gunslinger's mark
 - 28 "___ a Nightingale"
 - 29 Everything that's left
 - 30 Get to
 - 63 "We try harder" company
 - 64 Up to the task
 - 65 Bracelet site
 - 66 Thought before blowing out the candles
 - 67 Tide type
 - 68 Significant _____



Puzzle by David Pringle

- 31 "___ is an island"
- 32 Done for, slangily
- 33 Org. with dens
- 36 Cough medicine amt.
- 38 Really wow
- 40 Early 17th-century year
- 42 One with a carrot nose, maybe
- 43 Tricky turns
- 46 U.K. honour
- 47 Full range
- 50 What "there oughta be"
- 51 Strauss of jeans
- 52 Cohort of Clark
- 53 State with a panhandle: Abbr.
- 54 Show grief
- 56 Hieroglyphics cross
- 57 Archipelago unit
- 58 Sly glance
- 61 "Honest" prez
- 62 ___ Paulo

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



JUMBLE

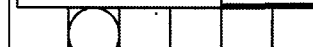
HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Mike Argirion and Jeff Kurek

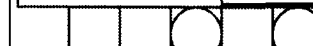
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GLEEY



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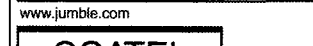
CADEY



HARPN



COATEL



www.jumble.com

Answer here: [] [] [] [] " [] [] [] [] "



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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: UNCAP GLORY CHISEL BOTTLE
Answer: What the tallest player did when the team stayed in a hotel — SLEPT "LONGER"

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jessica Alba, 27; Penelope Cruz, 34; Jay Leno, 58; Ann-Margret, 67

Happy Birthday: Don't be too quick to judge others this year. First make sure that you are on the right track. There is plenty of opportunity out there so be creative and you can turn something you like to do into a benefit. This is your year to stabilize your current position and your future. Your numbers are 6, 18, 24, 31, 42, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't pass up a chance to help someone out. What you get in return will be an interesting lesson that will help you with future partnerships. Strive for perfection in a timely fashion. 4 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Emotional issues will be brought to the surface. Stay calm and use your head and you can sort matters out. Someone you are dealing with will twist things around. Don't give in -- state facts and get to the root of the problem. 2 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Concentrate on what you can do, not what everyone else is doing. Gossip should be avoided at all costs. Promote your own interests and accomplishments. Criticize someone else and you'll look bad. 5 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You may think that time is running out but you have lots of room to ponder what is important to your future. A great offer may be presented and, if you go over every detail, you won't need to worry. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Confusion may set in, making it difficult to keep things straight. Don't profess to know something if you aren't sure. Emotional matters will make you think about what you should have done to avoid such uncertainties. Whatever you do, don't meddle. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't waste your time talking when whoever you are trying to convince of something isn't listening. Put your thoughts and efforts into securing your future. A meeting with someone from your past will enlighten you. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will realize that things aren't exactly as they appear. Concentrate on creative projects, children or friends who share common interests. Do things that don't cost too much and put cash away for an unexpected bill or luxury item. 5 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Trouble is brewing at home and within partnerships in which you are involved. Listen to whatever complaints are voiced and be prepared to do something quickly to keep the peace. A trip will lead to new ideas. 2 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Talking with friends, family, neighbors or even one of your peers will help you get things sorted out concerning a new direction you've been considering. Don't feel forced to oblige someone else if it doesn't work for you. Your knowledge will command prospects of all kinds. 4 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Something or someone from your childhood will remind you of old goals. Don't rule them out if they still interest you. There is progress to be made if you put in the hours and make the calls that can help you get something off the ground. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotions will be hard to control, causing difficulty when trying to find out the truth. Don't rely on what someone tells you -- find out first hand before getting upset or jumping to conclusions. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): So much is happening behind your back. Check out what everyone else is doing if you want to have a clear assessment of a deal, project or personal paperwork. Missing any little detail may cost you later. 3 stars
Birthday Baby: You are an opportunist, eager to make your way and claim your stake. You are fresh, youthful and know how to charm others with your charismatic approach.

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Looking for more hardware

No. 22 Irish look for first-ever NCAA title

By DAN MASTERTON
Sports Writer

The No. 22 Irish will be gunning to add another piece of hardware to their collection. As great as the 2008 Big East Championship and individual recognition looks, the trophy case has an empty place that Notre Dame will try to fill with a national championship.

As the Big East champs, the Irish (21-8) have an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. Their outstanding play in the conference tournament lead to the Big East coaches voting to recognize the Irish with nine different awards.

For the seventh time as Notre Dame coach, Jay Louderback was named Big East coach of the year. Louderback remained typically humble, crediting the award to his team's outstanding play. "The big thing was winning



Notre Dame junior Kelcy Tefft, left, and senior Brook Buck congratulate each other during their 8-0 doubles win against Marquette April 13. The duo was named to the Big East All-Tournament team.

the conference. After losing it last year, we were pretty disappointed. Our kids were not too happy about it. The awards were just a result of us winning the tournament and

having a really great year," Louderback said.

Big East coaches also voted all three of Notre Dame's double pairs to the All-Tournament team — the pairs

of senior Brook Buck and junior Kelcy Tefft, sophomores Colleen Rielley and Cosmina Ciobanu, and sophomore Kali

see AWARDS/page 22

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

ND to face Cornell in home tilt

By ANDY ZICCARELLI
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's season took a stunning turn for the worse on Friday night after the Irish let an early 8-1 lead slip away into what became a 15-14 loss to Georgetown in triple overtime in the Big East conference semifinals. Irish players were visibly distraught after the gut-wrenching loss that had such importance to the season.

Notre Dame's primary goal for the season, according to coach Tracy Coyne, was to win the Big East championship. But with that now out of the question, the Irish must play for something else in their final regular season game.

The Irish will have a week to regroup and focus, then will take on Cornell. The Big Red come into the game sporting a 10-5

see BIG RED/page 22

BASEBALL

Team prepares for games with Mississippi Valley State

By FRAN TOLAN
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame faces off against Mississippi Valley State in a rare two-game midweek series tonight and Wednesday night. The Irish are looking to rebound after dropping two of three to St. John's over the weekend.

Mississippi Valley State is 15-20 overall but sit in third place in the Eastern Division of the Southwestern Athletic Conference with an 11-9 league record. Besides

Notre Dame, the Delta Devils' tough non-conference schedule includes LSU, Mississippi State, Arkansas, Alabama and Auburn.

Tonight's game is scheduled to begin at 6:05 but the time is subject to change because Mississippi Valley State is traveling to Notre Dame by train. Irish coach Dave Schrage said the visiting team is riding the rails in order to reenact the lifestyle of players in the Negro Leagues decades ago.

"I know that they're really looking forward to this trip," Schrage said. "... It'll be exciting for them to

come up here so I'm sure they'll be ready to play."

As for his own team, Schrage said Notre Dame (28-12-1 overall, 13-5 Big East) is in the exact position it had hoped to be when the season began.

"We played the first [41] games of the season to be in the spot we're in," Schrage said. "Now every game we play is big because of what our record is."

The Irish will rely on a pair of freshman starting pitchers against Mississippi Valley State. Right-hander Brian Dupra will start the first

tilt of the non-conference series before fellow righty Ryan Sharpley takes the mound in the second game.

Eight of the nine batters in Notre Dame's lineup boast averages above .300 and another, Billy Boockford, sits at .299. But Schrage said the team also needs its pitching staff to come through against the Delta Devils.

"We have gotta go out and pitch," Schrage said. "We'll get our freshmen out there and get them some innings."

The Irish have not played

Mississippi Valley State in the past several seasons and are not familiar with this year's Delta Devils. But the Irish have won 20 of their last 25 games and senior co-captain Ross Brezovsky said the team is just eager to take the field again.

"I don't know much about them at all. This is the first about we've played them since I've been here. I can't really tell you anything. We gotta just go out and play well," Brezovsky said.

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ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish golfers earn NCAA Tourney berth

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

After clinching the Big East conference title for the third time in six years, No. 27 Notre Dame was awarded the No. 9 seed in the central region of the NCAA Tournament Monday night. The Irish earned an automatic bid as a result of their conference tournament victory.

The NCAA Central Regional will begin May 8 at the University of Texas Golf Club in Austin, Texas. This is the second time this spring Notre Dame will play at the University of Texas Golf Club.

The Irish turned in a middling fifth-place finish at the Betsy Rawls Longhorn Invitational in mid-March.

Notre Dame coach Susan Holt said she is confident in her team even though its success this season has been something of a surprise in the collegiate golfing world.

"As a team, at the beginning of the year, we set high goals for ourselves," Holt said. "People on the outside might be surprised, but we aren't. We made a commitment to do exactly... what we're doing. We're on track."

The conference title caps an

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ND SOFTBALL

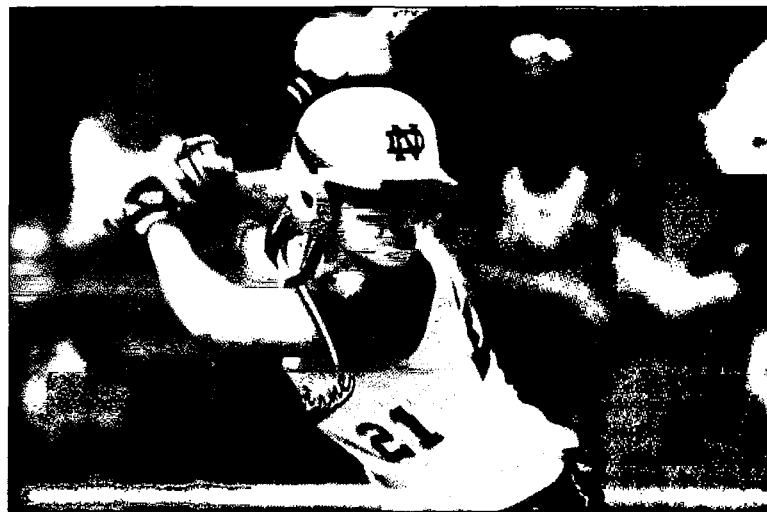
Squad heads to Valparaiso

Notre Dame hopes to take down record-setting in-state rival Crusaders

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

The Irish will travel to Valparaiso, Ind., to take on the Crusaders in their last non-conference game of the season on Tuesday after a convincing double-header sweep of Connecticut over the weekend.

The Irish (34-17-1 overall, 12-6 Big East) looked strong in their last home outings of the year, earning three wins over the weekend against conference foes, and will hope to ride that momentum through the last five games of the reg-



Irish junior infielder Linda Kohan connects with a pitch during Notre Dame's doubleheader with Loyola-Chicago Apr. 24.

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