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# ND Olympics results released

Keough, Welsh Family team wins by 1,000 points, while event raises over \$4,500

By SARAH MERVOSH News Writer

Keough Hall and Welsh Family Hall defended their title as champions of RecSports' Late Night Olympics on Saturday, an event which raised just over \$4,500 for St. Joseph's County Special Olympics, according to John Beven, Facilities and Student Development Intern for RecSports.

Beven said that the \$4,599.62 raised does not include the donations made at the door and T-shirt sales, so the amount raised will likely increase once that money is added.

Beven said that the highlight of the night was when "the

Special Olympians trounced the Athletic Department and Rectors in the basketball game."

"Fr. Pete McCormick; [rector] of Keough Hall, was the one bright spot of Notre Dame's basketball team, but turnovers, poor teamwork, and tempers did their team in," Beven said.

McCormick said that his favorite part of the night was "playing against the Olympians and seeing ... the excitement and energy they had during the game."

"You could just tell that they were so excited to be there playing the game and the student body was so supportive of

see OLYMIPICS/page 4

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AARON STEINER/Observer Graphic

## Groups react to abortion-funds ban reversal

Right to Life Club, Feminist Club presidents disagree on Obama's decision to lift ban



A man wearing a President Barack Obama mask throws fake money into the air during an anti-abortion protest at the U.S. embassy in Mexico City on Tuesday.

By TESS CIVANTOS News Writer

In one of his first acts as president, Barack Obama signed an executive order on Jan. 23 that put a stop to the so-called Mexico City policy.

The overturned policy prohibited U.S. government funding from going to clinics or groups that provide abortionrelated services or that lobby for abortion in other countries.

Mary Daly, president of Notre Dame's Right to Life Club, said, she originally thought the policy's end would mean that the U.S. would begin funding abortions.

"When I first heard that Obama overturned the policy, I thought it meant we would start giving money to fund abortions. Really, though, it's more that ... organizations that receive government funding are no longer banned from promoting and providing abortions," she said. "There's no movement of money, just a ban lifted."

With this act, Obama is failing to live up to his campaign promises, Daly said.

see BAN/page 3

# Professor defends pope on disputed bishop issue

By ROBERT SINGER News Writer

Pope Benedict XVI's recent decision to lift an excommunication order on four radical bishops, one of whom denied the Holocaust, has focused worldwide criticism on the Vatican.

But Lawrence Cunningham, profes-

sor of Theology, supported pope's decision, helping to clarify the reasons for the action amid criticism from Jewish groups and liberal Catholics.

"The pope's desire to reconcile these people was



Cunningham

good but it was handled very badly from a public relations stand point, he said.

According to Cunningham, the four men reinstated by the pope were part of a rogue sect — the Society of St. Pius X — that had been operating without the church's permission. Radically traditional in their views, members of this group reject religious liberty and have supported authoritarian political rulers in the past, such as General Franco in Spain and Augusto Pinochet in Chile, he said.

"The Vatican is in a tough situation," Cunningham said. "They want these people back under the authority of the church, because they don't

see POPE/page 3

# SMC Human Rights panel discusses peace

By ALICIA SMITH **News Writer** 

Three panelists told first hand stories of armed conflict in the Philippines, helping Chilean psychiatric patients, and working with refugees in Pennsylvania during a discussion on human rights Tuesday evening at Saint Mary's.

The College's Justice Education Department hosted the panel, titled "Speak Truth to Power: Voices for Peace and Human Rights."

The panelists, who spoke about their experiences with human rights, included Mayla Leguro, a Nobel Peace Prize nominee, Andrew Masak, a senior at Notre Dame who has experience with refugee rights and

immigration issues, and Laura Snider, a Notre Dame graduate student who worked in Sri Lanka as well as Chile.

Leguro spoke of her experiences in the Philippines. She comes from the island of Mindanao, and discussed the problems related to human rights found there, including conflict between various groups.

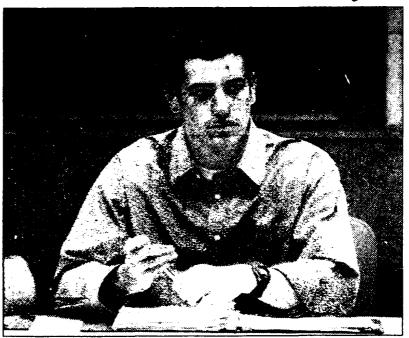
"In the island of Mindanao we have four key armed groups that are waging their own wars. The other armed groups are actually engaged in a war of power, "Leguro said.

According to Leguro, there has been "armed conflict" in the Philippines since the 1970s. "The situation in Mindanao is not ... unique in terms of armed conflict. 91 per-

see PEACE/page 3

#### COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

## COR discusses new Web site focused on off-campus life



Student Body Vice President Grant Schmidt listens to discussions at a COR meeting in December.

By LIZ O'DONNELL News Writer

Council The Representatives (COR) discussed the new off-campus Web site in their meeting on Tuesday evening.

After a recommendation made by the Campus Life Council (CLC) last year, a specific committee was assigned the task of creating a Web site focused on off-campus life.

Members of the committee who had worked on the development of the Web site were on hand to present their plans

see CORpage 4

#### INSIDE COLUMN

## Mt. Rushmore

As is their nature, ESPN recently asked another meaningless and completely subjective question of its audience: Who belongs on the Mt. Rushmore of Sports? And, as is my nature, I had to come up with my own idea of who belongs on the Mt. Rushmore of Sports, and discuss (or argue) with anyone who is willing (or even unwilling) to listen. By no means do I consider my opinion to be infallible, but I do think that my knowledge

cient to at least

**Eric Prister** of sports is suffi-

Sports Writer

allow myself an opinion. I have talked to multiple people about my own opinion and have heard the opinions of many others. I have heard responses that vary from Jackie Robinson to Arnaz Battle to Barry Bonds. Robinson, because of the impact he had on baseball, and on sports itself. Battle, because he is my cousin's favorite player, and what better criteria for one's own personal Mt. Rushmore of Sports than the athletes you like best? And Bonds, because if one goes purely by stats alone, then no one has dominated the game as our favorite steroid-ridden home run king.

For me, though, one deserves to be on the Mt. Rushmore of Sports if he (or she) transcends his sport. He must have not only been an athlete, if not the greatest of all time, but must also have meant more to the image of his sport than any other. Therefore, I have chosen four athletes who I think are most deserving of the honor: Michael Jordan, Tiger Woods, Muhammad Ali and Babe Ruth.

In my opinion, Jordan is the most deserving of the honor. Not only is the unquestioned greatest basketball player of all time, but he also did more for the sport than it ever could have done for him. One only needs to look at the state of the NBA post-Jordan to see what I mean. Jordan is the greatest basketball player of all time, and may even be the greatest athlete of all time. He clearly deserves a spot on this great sports monument.

The next most obvious for me is Woods. I have heard people argue that even though he is the most dominant golfer ever, it is still just golf. One friend said that Mt. Rushmore is for presidents, and Woods is simply the greatest ever Secretary of the Interior. He is great for his game, but his game just doesn't have the prestige of the other, more mainstream sports. I however, think that golf is commonly considered a mainstream sport, and that Woods is so dominant that he deserves his face immortalized.

For me, then, Ali and Ruth go in the same category. Both dominated their sport in their own time, and became the image for it as well. Although neither has statistics that prove their greatness, at least not when compared to others, they truly transcended their respective sport. Thus, they deserve a spot on Mt. Rushmore.

These four athletes would be my choices for the Mt. Rushmore of Sports. Feel free to disagree, however. Remember, it's just a meaningless and subjective argument.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact EricPrister eprister@nd.edu.

#### **CORRECTIONS**

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

#### QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PICKUP LINE?



**Bobby Graham** Freshman Stanford

"Are you a ninja? Because your body is kickin'!"



**Chris Adcock** 

Junior Stanford

"I'm from Texas."



**Kerry Casey** 

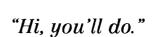
Freshman *Howard* 

"Check your tag ... just what I thought. Made in heaven."



**Maggie Slavin** 

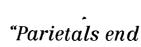
Freshman *McCandless* 





**Griffin Ashkin** 

**Junior** Stanford



in ten minutes."



**Don Whitley** 

**Junior** Stanford

"If you were a yogurt, would you be fruit at the bottom or stirred?"



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

A student uses one of the many recycling bins on campus to dispose of her waste. A new recycling program, Miraculous Metals, focuses on recycling aluminum cans and proceeds go to the poor.

#### **OFFBEAT**

#### Officials catch traveler with pigeons in pants

SYDNEY — An Australian traveler was caught with two live pigeons stuffed in his pants following a trip to the Middle East, customs officials said Tuesday. The 23-year-old man was searched after authorities discovered two eggs in a vitamin container in his luggage, said Richard Janeczko, national investigations manager for the

**Customs Service** They found the pigeons wrapped in padded envelopes and held to each of the man's legs with a pair of tights, according to a statement released by the agency. Officials also seized seeds in his money belt and an undeclared eggplant.

#### Man celebrates birthday with 24-hour treadmill run

BROOKLYN CENTER, Minn. — A Twin Cities man was looking for a challenge, so he decided to celebrate his 30th birthday by running on a treadmill for 24 hours straight. B.J. Van Beusekom covered about 80 miles before he stopped running at noon Tuesday. He promptly went to the nearest chair and rested his obviously stiff legs.

The 6-foot, 175-pound Van Beusekom took breaks

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only to use the restroom and change clothes.

He accomplished his feat at Athletic Performance Inc., a training center in Brooklyn Center. To keep him motivated, API provided a dance with a disc jockey, a slumber party and a big screen television.

For the rest of his birthday, Van Beusekom says he just wants a nap and a massage.

Van Beusekom's effort also raised just over \$3,000 for the American Lung Association.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

#### IN BRIEF

At 5:30 p.m. today in the **Hammes Student Lounge of the** Coleman-Morse Center, panelists from Wabruda, Shades of Ebony, Sister of Nefertiti and the University Counseling Center will discuss the impact of the inauguration of the nation's first black president.

Keenan Hall's annual comedy show "The Keenan Revue" will take place Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7p.m. in the O'Laughlin Auditorium at Saint Mary's College.

The Baseball Eighth Annual Opening Night Dinner will be at 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse. Mike Scioscia of the LA Angels and Notre Dame alum Jeff Samardzija will speak. Notre Dame team members, who will be seated at tables with the rest of the attendees, will be available for autographs prior to the dinner, from 6 - 6:45 p.m. For dinner ticket information, please contact the Notre Dame athletics ticket office at (574) 631-7356

L.A. Theatre Works presents "The Great Tennessee Monkey Trial" Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Decio Mainstage Theatre of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The play is based on original transcripts of the famous 1925 Tennessee v. John Scopes "Monkey Trial," which challenged the newly passed Tennessee legislature's "Butler Act" banning the teaching of evolution in the state's public schools. Purchase tickets online, visit or call the Ticket Office at 574-631-2800.

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

LOCAL WEATHER

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LOW

**TODAY** 

HIGH 13

LOW

**TONIGHT** 

HIGH

LOW

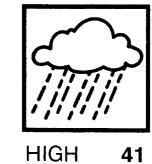
**THURSDAY** 



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**FRIDAY** 



26

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**SATURDAY** 



**SUNDAY** 

HIGH 39 LOW 28

Atlanta 36 / 18 Boston 29 / 11 Chicago 18 / 7 Denver 63 / 39 Houston 62 / 38 Los Angeles 76 / 50 Minneapolis 17 / 9 New York 30 / 13 Philadelphia 30 / 15 Phoenix 83 / 52 Seattle 57 / 42 St. Louis 28 / 13 Tampa 56 / 31 Washington 31 / 19

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# Panel to discuss electric power

Special to The Observer

A panel of energy industry experts will discuss the future of electric power and energy Feb. 25 (Wednesday) from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Center for Continuing Education at the University of Notre Dame.

The discussion, which will be led by moderator Joan F. Brennecke, Keating-Crawford Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and director of the Notre Dame Energy Center, is free and open to the public.

The forum is part of the University's yearlong emphasis on global energy, which was introduced during the 2008 Notre Dame Forum on Sustainable Energy.

Sponsored by the Energy Center and the College of Engineering and coordinated by Frank P. Incropera, the Clifford and Evelyn Brosey Professor of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Dean Emeritus, the panel features four experts in the field:

♦ Anthony Earley Jr., chairman and chief executive officer of DTE Energy, which includes Detroit Edison, an electric utility serving more than 2.2 million customers, and Michigan Consolidated Gas, a gas utility serving 1.3

million customers; he earned three degrees — a bachelor's in physics, a master's in engineering, and law — from Notre Dame; serves on the University's advisory council for the College of Engineering; and received an honorary degree from Notre Dame in 2006;

◆ Patrick Eilers, managing director of Madison Dearborn Partners, responsible for the firm's energy and power practice, focused on the acquisition and management of companies in this sector; he earned a bachelor's degree from Notre Dame; serves on the advisory council for the College of Engineering; was a member of the 1988 Irish national championship football team;

◆ William Hederman, special advisor to the U.S. Congress and previously executive director of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius; founding director of the Office of Market Oversight and Investigations at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and vice president of strategic initiatives at Columbia Energy Group; and

◆ Michael O'Sullivan, senior vice president of development at FPL Energy, a world leader in the production of clean energy, including wind and solar power.

## **Pope**

continued from page 1

want this schismatic group spreading."

Since excommunication does not deny clergy the capacity to perform sacraments — it only withholds the church's consent — the Vatican was concerned these

"[Pope Benedict XVII is

one of the greatest

theologians ever to

become pope, but he is

very traditonal."

**Lawrence Cunningham** 

theology professor

four bishops would continue to ordain other bishops outside of the Catholic Church's unity. Restoring them to the church would prevent schisms from developing along traditionalist lines, according to Cunningham.

"The pope's motivation was to get these people back under papal authority, so they're not consecrating more bishops outside the authority of the church," he said.

Some critics have highlighted the decision as an example of the pope's conservative leanings, arguing that he would not be so willing to reconcile with fringe religious groups on the left. But Cunningham denied that point and also noted that the pope's next encyclical will be about social justice.

"The difference is that these liberal groups don't have bishops who are ordaining other bishops," he said. "In some ways, he does reach out to liberals." Cunningham explained the pope's role in decision-making.

"[Pope Benedict XVI] is one of the greatest theologians ever to become pope, but he is very traditional.

"It's not of the job to be liberal," he said. "It's the job of the pope to keep unity."

Concerns have also been raised that the pope's decision will drive people away from the church, especially

> moderates and those close to the Jewish community. However, Cunningham disagrees.

"Something like this is so arcane and so local, and this group is relatively small, that it's not going to have much of an influence," he said.

Cunningham said that the Vatican had been planning to take

planning to take action to prevent schisms for some time.

"I guess he wanted to get this done and maybe hadn't fully realized how much of a clamor it was going to cause," he said. "He'll probably make some kind of amends about it."

According to Cunningham, the pope must be careful about the image of the Catholic Church he projects to the rest of the world.

"He has to think not only think of his position in the church," Cunningham said. "He has to think of himself as a symbol to the larger world."

Contact Robert Singer at rsinger@nd.edu

### Ban

continued from page 1

"Whenever the topic of abortion came up on the campaign trail, Obama said he would enact policies to reduce the number of abortions," Daly said.

"In his first week, though, he has already allowed federal money to fund abortions [in other countries]. There's no way that overturning this ban fulfills that assertion," she said.

Mandy Lewis, co-president of Feminist Voice, said her group has no policy on abortion, but offered her own opinion.

"Feminist Voice does not take an official stance on abortion, but personally, I don't think it's fair to cut off aid because of the abortion issue," she said.

Lewis supports Obama's decision to lift the ban.

"I think abortions should be reduced. I don't see a problem with Obama's decision," she said.

Lewis also wrote in an e-mail: "Research suggests that actively addressing social problems ... is more likely to result in fewer abortions than just banning funding to groups that, among other services, provide access to abortions. Obama seems to understand that concept, and we support our president as he tries to tackle the serious social problems that face him."

While Obama's act may be an effort to solve social issues, his decision hurts the American economy, Daly said. "Economically speaking, this is a huge problem because right now we don't have any money to spend anywhere," Daly said.

President Reagan first enacted the Mexico City policy, so named because it was unveiled at a United Nations conference in the Mexican capital city, in 1984.

The policy has historically been instated by Republican presidents and rescinded by Democrat presidents. President George H. W. Bush kept it in place. President Bill Clinton rescinded the rule in 1993, and President George W. Bush reinstated it in 2001.

Critics refer to the policy as the "global gag rule" because they consider its restrictions a violation of free speech.

Contact Tess Civantos at tcivanto@nd.edu

### **COR**

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and answer questions that the council had about the new Web site.

The Web site is designed to allow students to find useful information about places and events off campus in one location, rather than having to visit several Web sites.

CLC and the Office of Student Affairs are sponsoring the Web site that is tentatively set to launch in early March.

The project was developed in part from the Good Neighbor Guide, the current booklet given to students that reside off campus. Instead of reprinting copies of the guide from year to year, the Web site would contain virtually all the information listed in the guide.

Along with this information, the Web site will also incorporate various other aspects of off-campus life.

Information from the presentation given last Wednesday by attorney C.L. Lindsay about students' rights off campus will also be included.

Members of COR suggested that an additional tab called "Entertainment" that lists bars, pubs, clubs and other nightlife venues in the Michiana area be added to the site.

Members also proposed a tab with links to shopping around the Michiana area. The shopping would include directions to Wal-Mart, Target and other places relevant to students.

In addition, information regarding safety off campus will also be available. This will include a link to a crime prevention officer from the South Bend Police Department.

Students will be able to e-mail the officer and ask to place their name on a listserv that will alert subscribers if a crime happens in their area.

A listing of local cab numbers was also recommended.

Although the Web site was designed with the purpose of helping students off campus, members of COR felt that it would also benefit students who reside on campus as well.

"I think that the Web site would be useful for people before they move off campus. Also, there are many people on campus who go off campus who could also use the site," junior class president Kim Kyrouac said.

Since the Web site is also in part a conjunction with the Office of Residence Life and Housing, it will include a list of rules that apply to off-campus students as well as important rules from du Lac.

One recommendation by COR members that will not be included in the Web was a classifieds section. The committee who put the Web site together felt that certain privacy issues could arise if students were placing ads for potential roommates.

While the ND Media Group was behind the initial construction of the Web site, Student Government members will be responsible for its upkeep.

#### In other COR news:

◆ COR voted unanimously to approve the seven individuals elected to the Election Committee of Judicial Council. The Election Committee deals with election violations such as campaigning before turning in petitions or tearing down of campaign signs.

♦ Grant Schmidt, student body vice president, announced that the off-campus discount booklets are now on sale both in the LaFortune Box Office and online. These booklets will be good through December 2009.

Contact Liz O'Donnell at eodonnel@nd.edu

## **Peace**

continued from page 1

cent of the 81 provinces in the Philippines have been affected by armed conflict," Leguro said.

Leguro continues to work with the community in Mindanao to help them create a world of peace.

"Everyone has a value and a contribution to the peace process," she said. "Even those who have guns."

"Envision the possibilities for peace. This is the kind of challenge that we always issued the youth. You have the space to envision change," Leguro said to those in attendance.

Like Leguro, Masak, a Peace Studies major at Notre Dame, also works for peace. After graduation, Masak plans to work in Peru and start a nutrition campaign.

"I'm also going to be building a Women's Association building. There's already an association that's actively involved. There are about 40 young women, in the village of 1000 and the valleys of 9000, who are involved in making political decisions," he said.

"We are going to hope to build a structure that they can actually meet in, that they can have an office in," Masak said.

Masak became involved in Peace Studies after working with Catholic Charities. He participated in a summer program where he worked with refugee placement in Allentown, Pa.

"[When] I got there, and I was told I was going to be working with refugees and the immigrant population," he said.

Masak is the president of an undergraduate peace conference at Notre Dame that will be held April 3 and 4.

Snider is currently studying at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at Notre Dame.

At age 10, her mother brought her to Guatemala and El Salvador for three months. Snider said that after noticing how small the children there were, she asked her mother why she was so much bigger than those children. When her

mother explained that the ranchers were exporting all the meat, Snider made the decision to stop eating meat.

"If they can't eat meat than I won't either. And I haven't touched red meat since," Snider said.

Snider bogan her career by

Snider began her career by working in Sri Lanka with women whose children were taken by the government.

"This was my first experience with trauma. All of them had known for 20 plus years that their children probably weren't coming back to them. These women had never been able to get any sense of closure," Snider said.

After working there for some time, Snider moved to Chile where she worked with psychiatric patients who were used as human test subjects. Later she found herself working with children in New Mexico.

Snider said she is now trying to set up a volunteer program that works with human rights locally.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

## **Olympics**

continued from page 1

great moment to see."

Another memorable moment of the night was when "former Irish basketball standout Harold Swanagan was thrown out of

the game after doing his best Bob Knight impression when he threw a chair onto the court after a call did not go his way," Beven said.

"It was certainly in jest and the crowd got a big kick out of it," said McCormick.

Keough-Welsh Family had a total of 2,445.62 points, leading the next best team, Duncan-O'Neill-McGlinn, by over one thousand points. The Keenan-Alumni-Lewis team came in third place, Beven said.

Senior Rusty Podbelski, who organized Keough's Late Night Olympics team, said that a high demand for spots on the teams and high participation in Penny Wars were two key reasons for success.

"We've kind of had a history of doing well in this event. It's something that people around the dorm really look forward to," Podbeski said. "There's always a lot of demand to even get on the rosters for each sport. I think that really helps out because then you are able to make rosters full of people who are talented at their sport instead of trying to fill it up with just a warm body."

Of the dollar amount raised in pennies, 25 percent was

"The Notre Dame

students came

together for a great

cause and really

showed their

support."

John Beven,

**Facilities and Student** 

**Developmental Intern for** 

**RecSports** 

added to the overall points. On top of that, the team that won Penny Wars received an additional 150 bonus points, Beven said.

"The penny war is a big part of scoring. Every year we've really come through with a mind boggling num-

ber of coins and I think this year that happened again," Podbeski said, who said that for a week prior to Late Night Olympics jars were put outside of Resident Assistants' doors for people to donate money.

"Overall, it was a great night. The Notre Dame students came together for a great cause and really showed their support for the St. Joseph County Special Olympics," Beven said.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

## Hamas ready for truce with Israel

**Associated Press** 

CAIRO — Hamas officials said Tuesday they are ready to commit to a cease-fire with Israel for at least a year in exchange for a full opening of Gaza's borders, as the group began a new round of truce talks with Egyptian mediators.

At the same time, foreign ministers of pro-U.S. Arab nations, including Saudi Arabia, met in the United Arab Emirates in a show of unity in support for Egypt's efforts to forge a long-term truce and against Iran, Hamas' most important ally.

Egypt is trying to mediate a durable cease-fire in place of the temporary and increasingly wobbly truce that ended the Gaza war last month. It has set a Thursday deadline for the Islamic militant rulers of Gaza to accept a deal.

But the complicated details of an accord appeared unresolved with border security arrangements a key obstacle.

"There is an agreement in principle about a calm for one year," said Ahmed Abdel-Hadi, a Lebanon-based Hamas official. "But the movement could show flexibility regarding the time ... if there are guarantees and commitments to lift the sanctions and open the borders," he told Gaza's Al Quds Radio, signaling the possibility of extending the truce beyond one year.

Fawzi Barhoum, a Hamas spokesman in Gaza, said the Palestinian group is open to extending the cease-fire for 18 months.

Abdel-Hadi said Hamas rejects a gradual opening of the border crossings or linking a truce deal to a release of Israeli soldier Sgt. Gilad Schalit, held by Hamas-allied militants in Gaza since June 2006.

"We are going to deal with all the issues as one package, because we are going to avoid the trap of gradual implementation," he said.

Hamas demands that any truce include the opening of borders into Gaza, which Israel and Egypt have largely kept sealed since the group seized control of the territory from the rival Fatah faction in 2007.

Hamas also wants a role in administering the border crossings in recognition of its power in Gaza.

Israel says it won't ease the 20-month blockade of the densely populated and impoverished coastal strip without international guarantees that Hamas will be prevented from smuggling more weapons into Gaza. It does not want any deal to give Hamas a role in controlling Gaza border crossings.

Hamas remains committed to Israel's destruction and refused to renounce violence. Both the U.S. and Israel consider it a terrorist group.

Egypt is also pressing Hamas to start reconciliation talks with U.S.-backed Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to form a unity government that can negotiate peace with Israel. Abbas, a moderate, runs a rival Palestinian government in the West Bank that has been conducting peace talks with Israel for more than a year.

But past attempts to broker a power-sharing deal among the rival Palestinians factions have failed. Prospects remain dim, with Hamas increasingly entrenched since its takeover of Gaza.

So Egypt has focused on what may be a more limited goal installing forces loyal to Abbas at the border crossings. Egypt's proposals would include some form of symbolic Hamas presence at the crossings along with European monitors.

Barhoum said the key to any truce is that Egypt open its crossing with Gaza, but added that the details of running the crossing into Gaza are open to discussion.

In the Gulf emirate of Abu Dhabi, foreign ministers from Egypt, Saudi Arabia and other Mideast nations gathered Tuesday for a hastily convened meeting that represented a more assertive effort by pro-U.S. Arab governments to push Hamas toward an Egyptian-mediated truce — and away from Iran.

It made starkly clear the split in the Arab world between U.S. allies and the pro-Iranian camp, particularly Syria, which backs Hamas and the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah. Syria was not invited to the meeting — nor was Qatar, which has taken an increasingly pro-Hamas turn since Israel's Gaza offensive.

"We have to ensure with our unity that unwelcome, non-Arab parties do not interfere in our affairs in an unneeded manner," the United Arab Emirates' foreign minister, Sheik Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, said in a clear reference to Persian Iran.

Egypt, Saudi Arabia and allied Arab nations accuse Iran of using its alliance with Hamas to increase its influence in the region and gain a foothold on Israel's doorstep. Iran gives millions of dollars to Hamas and is believed to supply the militants with weapons — though Tehran denies this.

Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco, Bahrain, Yemen and Abbas' Palestinian Authority also attended the meeting.

# Mother of octuplets not receiving donations

**Associated Press** 

LOS ANGELES — Where is the unlimited supply of diapers, formula and baby wipes? The free van? The brand-new house?

Women who give birth to six, seven or eight babies are often showered with dazzling gifts from big corporations, local businesses and strangers. But that is not happening with the Southern California mother who delivered octuplets last week.

The news that she is a single mother with six other children — and that all 14 were conceived by having embryos implanted — seems to have turned off many people, and companies are not exactly rushing to get publicity by piling on the freebies.

Nadya Suleman, 33, has been lambasted by talk-show hosts, fertility experts, even her own mother, who has her hands full taking care of Suleman's other children, ages 2 to 7.

A veteran Hollywood publicist said Suleman's handlers have their work cut out for them in trying to win public sympathy for her.

"I think it's a calamity," said publicist David Brokaw, who has handled crises for celebrities. "I don't see, the way this is shaped, how you can say much about it in terms of something favorable."

Makers of diapers, formula and other products would probably want to steer clear of her, Brokaw said. He suggested she lie low for now and concentrate on crafting an image as a responsible parent.

Gerber spokesman David Mortazavi said that if the babyfood maker was planning to do something for the family, it probably would have done it already, and that the octuplets' birth was not on Gerber's radar. He would not elaborate.

Procter & Gamble spokeswoman Tricia Higgins said that the maker of Pampers does not actively seek out parents to sponsor, but that the octuplets' mother can ask for what is typically provided in multiple births: a jumbo pack of diapers for each child, baby wipes, and coupons for discounts. That is unlikely to last Suleman a week.

Conservative radio talk show host Bill Handel in Los Angeles, who has branded the births "freakish," said on the air Tuesday that people are ready to boycott any corporations that help the octuplets or their mother.

Suleman's spokesman Mike Furtney said that he has received some "fairly negative" comments from the public but that offers to help with the babies have come in from nurses, and some baby stores have stepped forward to volunteer their support.

:I don't remember the brand name, but one major disposable diaper company sent some diapers," he said. Furtney said he was confident that once Suleman tells her story, many of her critics will "readjust their thinking a little."

Furtney said Suleman has had offers for TV and other media deals, but he added it was too early to discuss how much money she might receive.

For a single mother, the cost of raising 14 children through age 17 ranges from \$1.3 million to \$2.7 million through age 17, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.



COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

#### INTERNATIONAL NEWS

#### Supplies tight for US troops abroad

KABUL — U.S. troops in Afghanistan saw their supply lines squeezed from the north and east Tuesday after militants blew up a bridge in Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan's government said it would end American use of a key air base following Russia's announcement of new aid.

Securing efficient and safe supply routes into Afghanistan has become a top priority for U.S. officials as the Pentagon prepares to send in up to 30,000 more American soldiers this year. Some 75 percent of U.S. supplies travel through Pakistan, where militants have stepped up attacks on truck convoys destined for U.S. bases.

Attackers on Tuesday blew up a bridge in northwestern Pakistan in a fresh salvo in an escalating campaign seeking to cripple Washington's war effort in Afghanistan.

#### Rebels release prisoner to family

VILLAVICENCIO, Colombia — An ex-governor freed Tuesday by leftist rebels stepped from a helicopter into the embrace of the wife and son he hadn't seen for 71/2 years then said President Alvaro Uribe and the guerrillas are equally to blame for Colombia's still-festering conflict.

Alan Jara, 51, looked fit but thin, wearing a gray canvas hat and carrying a rucksack across which a battered and blackened pot was strapped.

The rebels handed Jara over to the International Red Cross in eastern jungles around midday. The Red Cross then flew him to the regional capital of Villavicencio, his hometown in the eastern lowlands.

"I've rested for 7½ years," Jara told reporters at the airport. "Now it's time to get to work."

#### **NATIONAL NEWS**

#### Blagojevich says he's misunderstood

NEW YORK — Former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich (bluh-GOY'-uh-vich) tells David Letterman he keeps thinking he'll wake up and people will realize "this is just one big misunderstanding."

The ousted governor showed up Tuesday for a taping of CBS' "Late Show with David Letterman." He laughed with the audience when Letterman mentioned watching him on several television talk shows.

Letterman joked that the more Blagojevich talked and repeated his claims of innocence, the more the host said to himself, "Oh, this guy is guilty."

#### Disease kills bats in northeast

ROSENDALE, N.Y. — A mysterious and deadly bat disorder discovered just two winters ago in a few New York caves has now spread to at least six northeastern states, and scientists are scrambling to find solutions before it spreads across the country.

White-nose syndrome poses no health threat to people, but some scientists say that if bat populations diminish too much, the insects and crop pests they eat could flourish. Researchers recently identified the fungus that creates the syndrome's distinctive white smudges on the noses and wings of hibernating bats, but they don't yet know how to stop the disorder from killing off caves full of the ecologically important animals.

#### **Local News**

#### Ind. man did not kill girlfriend

RICHMOND, Ind. — Prosecutors dropped a murder charge Tuesday against a man accused of killing his 19-year-old girlfriend after a forensic pathologist reversed himself and said he didn't know how the woman died.

Wayne County Prosecutor Mike Shipman said he was left with no case against James McFarland, 25, after Dr. Joseph Czaja signed an affidavit saying he couldn't conclusively state the cause of Erin Stanley's Sept. 1, 2007, death. The case drew national attention six days after Stanley's death when her younger sister died mysteriously in the same home.

## 'Mother' of bomb network arrested

Iraqi woman confesses to recruiting troubled women to be suicide bombers

**Associated Press** 

BAGHDAD — A woman accused of helping recruit dozens of female suicide bombers looked into the camera and described the process: trolling society for likely candidates and then patiently converting the women from troubled souls into deadly attack-

The accounts, in a video released Tuesday by Iraq police, offer a rare glimpse into the networks used to find and train the women bombers who have become one of the insurgents' most effective weapons as they struggle under increasing crackdowns.

In a separate prison interview with The Associated Press, with interrogators nearby, the woman said she was part of a plot in which young women were raped and then sent to her for matronly advice. She said she would try to persuade the victims to become suicide bombers as their only escape from the shame and to reclaim their honor.

The AP was allowed access on condition the information would not be released until the formal announcement of the arrest.

The U.S. and Iraqi militaries have made past claims without providing much evidence about efforts by insurgents to recruit vulnerable women as well as children as attackers. Those included statements by the Iragis that two women who blew themselves up last year in Baghdad had Down's Syndrome, accounts that were not supported by subsequent investigations.

It also was not possible independently to verify the claim that insurgents sent out people to rape women who could then be recruited as bombers in the volatile Diyala province northeast of Baghdad.



Samira Ahmed Jassim is seen in a detention facility in Baghdad, Iraq, Monday, Jan. 27. The woman is suspected of recruiting more than 80 female suicide bombers.

- who said her code name was "The Mother of unusual firsthand descriptions of the possible workings behind last year's spike in attacks by women bombers.

The Iraqi military spokesman, Maj. Gen. Qassim al-Moussawi, said the suspect had recruited more than 80 women willing to carry out attacks and admitted masterminding 28 bombings in different areas.

Female suicide bombers attempted or successfully carried out 32 attacks last year, compared with eight in 2007, according to U.S. military figures. Most

But the suspect, 50-year recently, a woman detonatold Samira Ahmed Jassim ed an explosive under her robes that killed at least 36 people during a Shiite Believers" — has given religious gathering last month.

The attacks reflected a shift in insurgent tactics: trying to exploit cultural standards that restrict male security forces from searching women and use the traditional flowing robes of women to hide bomb-rigged belts or vests.

In response, Iraqi security forces have tried to recruit more women. In last week's provincial elections, women teachers and civic workers helped search voters.

Al-Moussawi, the military spokesman, alleged Jassim was in contact with

top leaders of Ansar al-Sunnah in Diyala, the last foothold of major Sunni insurgent strength near Baghdad. The group is one of the factions with suspected ties to al-Qaida in

Al-Moussawi said Jassim "confessed to recruiting 28 female suicide bombers who carried out terrorist operations in different areas." He gave no other details on the locations or dates of the attacks.

In the video played for reporters, Jassim described how she was approached by insurgents to urge women to carry out suicide attacks. She said her first assignment was Um Hoda, a nickname meaning mother of Hoda.

#### RAN

## Iran launches first satellite of its own

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran sent its first domestically made satellite into orbit, the president announced Tuesday, a key step for an ambitious space program that worries the U.S. and other world powers because the same rocket technology used to launch satellites can also deliver warheads.

For nearly a decade, Iran has sought to develop a national space program, creating unease among international leaders already concerned about its nuclear and ballistic missile programs.

The telecommunications satellite called Omid, or hope, in Farsi — was launched late Monday after President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad gave the order to proceed, according to a report on state radio. State television showed footage of what it said was the nighttime liftoff of the rocket carrying the satellite at an unidentified location in Iran.

A U.S. counterproliferation official confirmed the launch and suggested the technology was not sophisticated. Speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss intelligence gathering, the official said it appeared it "isn't too far removed from Sputnik," the first Soviet orbiter launched in 1957.

The TV report praised the launch as part of festivities marking the 30th anniversary of the 1979 Islamic revolution that toppled the U.S.-backed Shah and brought hard-line clerics to power.

In a year in which Ahmadinejad faces a tough election battle to stay in power, the launch provided a symbol of national pride to hold up even as falling oil prices batter the economy and the hard-line leader's popularity.

As it seeks to expand its influence in the Middle East, Iran touts such technological successes as signs it can advance despite U.S. and U.N. sanctions over its nuclear program.

The launch touched off concern in the United States, Europe and Israel about possible links between its satellite programs and its work with missiles and nuclear technology.

White House spokesman Robert Gibbs condemned the launch, saying: "This action does not convince us that Iran is acting responsibly to advance stability or security in the region."

## Minn. ballots disputed again

**Associated Press** 

ST. PAUL, Minn. — The judges in Minnesota's Senate election trial threw Republican Norm Coleman a lifeline on Tuesday, opening the door to adding nearly 5,000 rejected absentee ballots to a race that Democrat Al Franken leads by just 225

It wasn't a total victory for Coleman, who had wanted the judges to look at about 11,000 such ballots. He also has to prove the absentees were unfairly rejected, and it's likely that Franken would gain votes from the pile too.

But his attorneys had said the absentees were the centerpiece of his court challenge, and they cheered the ruling.

"This is a victory for thousands of Minnesotans whose rejected absentee ballots will now be properly reviewed in this election," Coleman attorney Ben Ginsberg said in a prepared statement.

While the judges limited Coleman's field of potential new votes, they allowed many more ballots than Franken had wanted. His attorneys had argued Coleman should be limited to about 650 — the specific figure given in his initial Jan. 6 law-

The judges, however, ruled that the Jan. 6 filing laid out additional categories of ballots that should be examined.

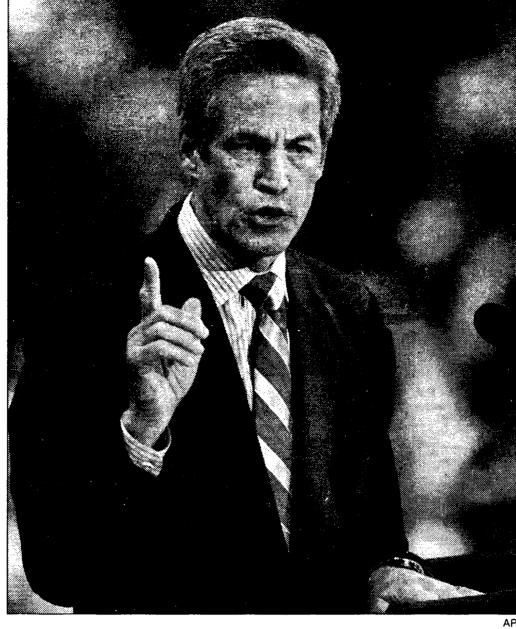
The judges said they would look at two categories of rejected absentees: those where it appeared the voter had met the legal requirements, and those where voters might have run afoul of the law through no fault of their own.

The judges agreed to consider 4,797 rejected absentee ballots because that was the number Coleman said in a Jan. 23 filing met one of those two conditions.

In a separate order later Tuesday, the judges made clear that Coleman would have to prove at trial that each questioned ballot was wrongly rejected in order for it to be counted.

Coleman's attorneys said they're ready to offer individual evidence that all or most of those ballots were wrongly rejected — strengthening the possibility that the trial could last several months.

Ginsberg said the 4,797 ballots was always "the universe of



Sen. Norm Coleman, R-Minn., speaks at the Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minn. on Sept. 3, 2008.

ballots we thought should be examined because they are valid." He said they never expected the rest to be brought into the count, but "we were willing to bring them here so everyone could see that."

Franken has his own pile of 771 rejected absentees he wants considered, but his lawyers aren't expected to make his argument on those until after Coleman rests his case.

Meanwhile, Franken attorney Marc Elias said, "We're prepared to go forward with the universe they've defined." Elias said he believed the judges would find that most of the 4,797 had been properly reject-

It's not clear how the absentees will be examined. Ginsberg said Coleman's lawyers are prepared to offer evidence on each one if necessary.

Ginsberg said the rejected absentees now subject to review weren't cherry-picked from areas that favored Coleman. Elias said he was skeptical of that claim: "Let's just put it this way — it was a list compiled by the Coleman campaign," he said.

Meanwhile, in testimony at the trial Tuesday, Coleman's attorneys sought to show that different Minnesota counties applied different standards to rejecting absentees — the heart of their case in seeking a uniform standard on absentees.

Kevin Corbid, who supervises elections in Washington County, said his county decided on absentees with the best information available at the time.

But Coleman's attorney, Joe Friedberg, highlighted an area where Corbid's decisions appeared to differ slightly from his counterpart in a neighboring county.

Corbid testified he didn't make a special effort to accept previously rejected absentee ballots if he had reason to believe they were rejected because of mistakes by election judges. A day earlier, Ramsey County Elections Manager Joe Mansky testified he made a particular effort to remedy such mistakes.

## Merkel: Pope must clarify bishop stance

**Associated Press** 

BERLIN German Chancellor Angela Merkel called on Pope Benedict XVI to make a "very clear" rejection of Holocaust denials after the Vatican's rehabilitation of a former bishop who questioned whether 6 million Jews were gassed by the Nazis.

Merkel's rare and public demand came amid increasing outrage among Germany's Roman Catholic leaders over the German-born pope's decision.

Merkel said she "does not believe" there has been adequate clarification of the Vatican's position on the Holocaust amid the controversy over the lifting of the excommunication of Britishborn Richard Williamson.

Benedict last week expressed "full and indisputable solidarity" with Jews and warned against any denial of the horror of the Holocaust, but several leading German bishops have decried the decision and called for the rehabilitation to be revoked.

The issue is particularly sensitive in Germany, where denial of the Holocaust is a crime and Roman Catholic leaders have worked hard to restore relations with the Jewish community.

"I do not believe that sufficient clarification has been made." Merkel said.

The Vatican moved quickly to counter Merkel's sugges-

"The pope's thinking on the subject of the Holocaust has been expressed very clearly," said Vatican spokesman Rev. Federico Lombardi.

He cited the pope's visit to a synagogue during his first visit to Germany as pope in 2005, a visit to Auschwitz in 2006 and his remarks during last week's general audience.

"I hope that the memory of the Shoah leads humanity to reflect on the unpredictable power of evil when it conquers the heart of men," Lombardi quoted the pope as saying. "May the Shoah be a warning for all against oblivion, against denial or reductionism."

Lombardi said that during the audience "the pope himself clearly explained the purpose of lifting the excommunication, which has nothing to do with any legitimization of positions denying the Holocaust, which were clearly condemned" by Benedict.

Williamson was consecrated by the late ultraconservative Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre without papal consent, leading to his excommunication. The Holy See has said that removing the excommunication did not imply the Vatican shared his views.

Merkel's stand was out of the ordinary, said Elan Steinberg, vice president of New York-based American Gathering of Holocaust Survivors and their Descendants.

"When German the Chancellor admonishes a German-born Pope it is an extraordinary message," Steinberg said in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

## Protestor hurls shoe at Chinese PM

**Associated Press** 

CAMBRIDGE, England — A protester hurled abuse and then a shoe at China's premier Monday while he delivered a speech on the global economy at Cambridge University.

The protester leapt up from his seat near the back of a crowded auditorium, blew a whistle and yelled that Premier Wen Jiabao was a "dictator" before throwing the shoe toward the stage.

"How can this university prostitute itself with this dictator here, how can you listen...to him unchallenged," the man shouted.

Like the now-famous incident when an Iraqi reporter threw his shoes at former President George W. Bush in December, the gray athletic shoe missed its intended target.

the Wen protest Tuesday, even visit to Britain dogged by

though news organizations were quick to report the incident involving Bush.

Unlike Bush, Wen, who was standing on a stage behind a podium, did not need to duck. He merely paused for a few seconds before he continued with his speech. One of his aides quietly stepped on to the stage, picked up the shoe and took it away.

Security staff escorted the protester out of the auditorium. He was arrested and taken to a police station for questioning on suspicion of committing a public order offense, said police spokeswoman Shelly

"The university is a place for discussion, debate and considered argument, not for shoe throwing," said Tim Holt, a university spokesman.

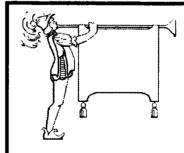
The shoe-throwing incident China's media were silent on came at the end of a three-day

demonstrations over human rights and Chinese policy in Tibet. Security was tight at the university and police kept a group of about 20 demonstrators away from the Chinese leader when he arrived for his speech.

Shoe throwing has become a globally recognized form of protest since the case involving Bush. Iraqi reporter Muntadhar al-Zeidi was scheduled to face trial in December on a charge of assaulting a foreign leader, but the court date was postponed after his attorney filed a motion to reduce the charges. He remains in custody in Baghdad.

In China, state-run newspapers and Web sites carried stories Tuesday on Wen's speech but had no reference to the shoe-throwing. Content mentioning it on Internet forums also appears to have been deleted.

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**Announcing the Year** 2009 Annual Awards of the Albert Ravarino **Italian Studies Travel Scholarship** 

Thanks to a generous gift from the Albert Ravarino family, the Italian Studies Program is pleased to announce the year 2009 annual competition for travel in support of summer research and foreign study in Italy. Grants will be made in amounts not to exceed \$3,000, and will not normally cover all expenses. Notre Dame graduate and undergraduate students who are planning to pursue research or a formal program of summer study in Italy are invited to apply. Students must have completed at least one year of Italian language. The course work will normally be in Italian; will involve the study of Italian language, literature, and culture; and must be applicable to a student's degree program at the University of Notre Dame.

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

Students are invited to submit a letter which should include:

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

Application Deadline: Friday, March 6, 2009 Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship Program in Italian Studies 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall University of Notre Dame

# BUSINESS

#### MARKET RECAP

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	,		
COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
BK OF AMERICA (BAC)	-11.67	-0.70	5.30
SPDR S&P 500 (SPY)	+1.40	+1.16	83.74
FINANCIAL SEL (XLF)	-1.84	-0.17	9.07
CITIGROUP INC (C)	-5.21	-0.19	3.46

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+4.52	+0.123	2.842
13-WEEK BILL	+26.53	+0.065	0.310
30-YEAR BOND	+4.41	+0.153	3.623
5-YEAR NOTE	+6.52	+0.114	1.862

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.70	40.78
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-14.70	892.50
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-0.35	82.00

Exchange Rates			
YEN	89.4200		
EURO	1.3035		
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.2339		
BRITISH POUND	1.4454		

#### IN BRIEF

#### US auto sales plunge to 26-year low

DETRUIT — Consumers trightened by the prospect of losing their jobs stayed away from auto showrooms again in January and sent U.S. car and truck sales falling 37 percent, a familiar refrain for the struggling industry but an unwelcome start to a critical year for U.S. carmakers.

Devastated by an economy in which few people have the spare cash to buy a car or can obtain the financing to do it, Chrysler's domestic sales for January were less than half what they were a year earlier.

Sales fell 49 percent at General Motors and 40 percent at Ford. Toyota and Nissan's sales each fell at least 30 percent.

"How many ways can you say disaster?" asked Aaron Bragman, an auto industry analyst with the consulting firm IHS Global Insight in Troy, Mich. "That's across the board. It's not unique to one company."

Wells Fargo cancels Vegas junket WASHINGTON — Wells Fargo & Co. abruptly canceled Tuesday a pricey Las Vegas casino junket for employees after a torrent of criticism that it was misusing \$25 billion in taxpayer bailout money.

The company initially defended the trip after The Associated Press reported it had booked 12 nights beginning Friday at the Wynn Las Vegas and the Encore Las Vegas. But within hours, investigators and lawmakers on Capitol Hill had scorned the bank, and the company canceled.

The conference is a Wells Fargo tradition. Previous all-expense-paid trips have included helicopter rides, wine tasting, horseback riding in Puerto Rico and a private Jimmy Buffett concert in the Bahamas for more than 1,000 of the company's top employees

"In light of the current environment, we have now decided to cancel this event as well," the company said Tuesday night in a news release that also said the it had never planned to use taxpayer bailout money for

Corporate retreats have attracted criticism since the bank bailout last fall.

## Tax break approved for new car buyers

Senate sets aside bipartisan issues to give tax deduction for sales of new autos

**Associated Press** 

WASHINGTON — The Senate voted Tuesday to give a tax break to new car buyers, setting aside bipartisan concerns over the size of an economic stimulus bill with a price tag edging above \$900 billion.

The 71-26 vote came as President Barack Obama said he lies awake nights worrying about the economy and signaled he'll try to knock out "buy American" provisions in the legislation to avoid a possible trade war.

Sen. Barbara Mikulski led the successful effort to allow many car buyers to claim an income tax deduction for sales taxes paid on new autos and interest payments on car loans.

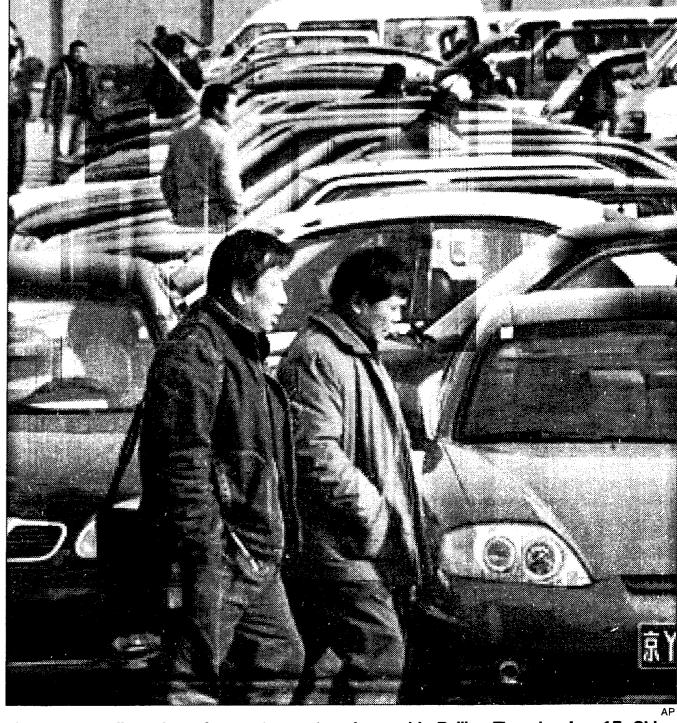
She said the plan would aid the beleaguered automobile industry as well as create jobs at a time the economy is losing them at a rapid rate. "I believe we can help by getting the consumer into the showroom," she said.

The provision was attached to the economic stimulus bill at the heart of Obama's economic recovery plan and is subject to change or even elimination as the measure makes its way toward final passage.

Democratic leaders have pledged to have the bill ready for his signature by mid-month, and in a round of network television interviews, the president underscored the urgency. He told CNN that even three months ago, most economists would not have predicted the economy was "in as bad of a situation as we are in right now."

He also spoke out against efforts to require the use of domestic steel in construction projects envisioned in the bill, telling Fox News, "we can't send a protectionist message."

stimulus bill



Customers walk past used cars at an auto sales yard in Beijing Thursday, Jan. 15. China has approved a new set of tax cuts and subsidies aimed at boosting the demand for cars.

remains a work in without explanation, GOP Nelson of Nebraska, said week's party-line vote in the House and an Oval Office meeting on Monday in which Obama and Democratic leaders discussed ways to reach across party lines.

In a series of skirmishes during the day, the Senate turned back a proposal to add \$25 billion for public works projects and voted to remove a tax break for movie producers. Both moves were engineered by Republicans who are critical of the bill's size and voice skepticism of its ability to create jobs.

But several hours later,

dropped their opposition to a \$6.5 billion increase in research funding for the politically popular National Institutes of Health.

Even so, Democratic leaders conceded they may soon be obliged to cut billions of dollars from the measure. "It goes without saying if it's going to pass in the Senate, it has to be bipartisan," said Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois, the second-ranking Democratic leader, adding that rankand-file lawmakers in both parties want the bill's cost reduced.

One Democrat, Sen. Ben

progress, following last conservatives abruptly he hoped for reductions "in the tens of billions of

The developments unfolded as more companies announced job layoffs — including 5,800 at PNC Financial Services Group. In another sign of economic weakness, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation predicted the cost of bank failures will exceed its estimate from last fall and urged lawmakers to more than triple the agency's line of credit with the Treasury Department to \$100 billion from the current \$30 bil-

## Government works on pay restrictions

**Associated Press** 

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration plans to mandate new executive pay limits on Wednesday for government-assisted financial institutions in a new get-tough approach to bankers and Wall Street.

"If the taxpayers are helping you, then you've got certain responsibilities to not be living high on the hog," President Barack Obama said in an interview Tuesday with "NBC Nightly

The president and members of Congress are weighing various proposals to restrict chief executives' compensation as one of the conditions of receiving help under the \$700 billion financial bailout fund.

Obama did not reveal details of the administration's compensation caps.

But administration officials have said that the new restrictions would apply only to those struggling large firms that receive "exceptional assistance," such as the American International Group Inc., Citigroup Inc., and Detroit automakers. They would not apply to healthy banks that receive government infusions of capital.

And Obama's chief economic adviser, Larry Summers, has proposed that firms that want to pay executives above a certain threshold would have to compensate them with stock that could not be sold or liquidated until they pay back the government funds.

Top officials at companies that have received money from the government's Troubled Asset Relief Program already face some compensation limits. But elected officials want to place more caps, a sentiment reinforced in

recent days by revelations that Wall Street firms paid more than \$18 billion in bonuses in the midst of the economic downturn in 2008.

"I do know this: We can't just say, 'Please, please,'" said Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., who has proposed that no employee of an institution that receives money under the \$700 billion federal bailout can receive more than \$400,000 in total compensation until it pays the money back.

The figure is equivalent to the salary of the president of the United States.

On Tuesday, Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., introduced amendments to the Senate's economic stimulus legislation that would require firms that receive bailout funds to disclose the bonuses they paid during the time they received government funds.

# THE OBSERVER THE OBSERVER THE OBSERVER

#### THE OBSERVER

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

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Office Manager & General Info (574) 631-7471

CONTROLLER: Stacey Gill

(574) 631-6927
ADVERTISING

(574) 631-6900 observad@nd.edu EDITOR IN CHIEF (574) 631-4542 MANAGING EDITOR

(574) 631-4541 obsme@nd.edu
ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR
(574) 631-4324
BUSINESS OFFICE

(574) 631-5313 **News Desk** (574) 631-5323 obsnews.1@nd.edu

VIEWPOINT DESK (574) 631-5303 obsviewpoint@nd.edu

SPORTS DESK
(574) 631-4543 sports.1@nd.edu
SCENE DESK

(574) 631-4540 scene.1@nd.edu
Saint Mary's Desk
smc.1@nd.edu

PHOTO DESK (574) 631-8767 obsphoto@nd.edu Systems & Web Administrators (574) 631-8839

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Chris Hine.

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Cris Masoud
Scene
Michelle Fordice

# Tales from an 8th grade nothing

Carl Sagan may have thought the cosmos worth analyzing, but I take a different approach. Instead of looking out and up, let's look in and down. What can we learn about our world from the life of thirteen year

olds? My contention: Absolutely Everything. From my experiences as a summer camp counselor, I have seen that eighth graders truly are the unacknowledged legislators of the world. They, in their interactions, provide us with a microcosm of our day-to-day



**Andrew Miller** 

The Roads Scholar

lives. And so I give you: Microcosmos — How 8th Graders Can Teach Us How Not To Live.

Let's first look at Blaire and Jenna. Blaire is your average, run-of-the-mill cowboy who lives and works on his family farm. Jenna is a big-city cosmopolitan (Arlington, VA — the biggest of the big cities). And the two fall in love. Now first of all, you know this isn't going to work out for these star-crossed lovers. They'll only be together for two weeks at camp and they come from families ideologically at odds with each other. The farmer and the cowman should be friends, but the cowboy-farmer and the debutante -Heaven forbid! As futile as their relationship appeared, though, Blaire and Jenna were making it work.

Making it work, that is, until Blaire decided it was over. He pulled Jenna's best friend aside and told her to tell Jenna he never wanted to see Jenna again. This was on the last day of camp. Jenna's friend faithfully reported the news and Jenna cried from lunchtime until her parents came to pick her up at 5 p.m. Blaire and Jenna — separated forever.

So what can we learn from this first case? Men don't know how to handle relationships. Blaire didn't commit this folly because he's innocent, naïve, or 13. He acted this way because this is the easiest way for a guy to get out of something; he shirked responsibility to remove himself from culpability and feeling bad. I see my guy friends do similar things all the time. Like when my friend, who for the sake of argument we'll call Friendy-Pants, decided that he wanted to break up with a girl but couldn't do so face to face so he just stopped talking to her.

Blaire and Friendy-Pants share the trait that all men share. We have an inability to confront the necessary. This may seem counter-intuitive to the macho-mystique that has built up around such figures as John Wayne and Clint Eastwood. But every time one of these actors actually did something active and direct it was probably only to cleverly avoid doing something else that would have bothered him emotionally. Remember, John Wayne built him an airport and put his name on it only so he could fly away from his feelings.

Now let's shift our evolving drama and look at Sammy and Jimbo. Sammy is a great kid with a lot of friends: one of the most well liked kids at camp (by counselor and camper alike). Jimbo is a quieter kid, but deliberately so, because he early on decides that he is better than everyone else. Sammy has a girlfriend; Jimbo does not. Sammy is the life of the party; everyone thinks Jimbo is a jerk. Then one night Jimbo decides to steal Sammy's letters from his girlfriend. Jimbo thinks that this will be the perfect way to get back at Sammy for all the popularity Sammy "stole" from him. Sammy, trying to get his private correspondence back, swats at Jimbo but inadvertently hits him in the throat. Jimbo starts hyperventilating and threat-

The lesson here: we live in an extreme-

ly litigious society. Anytime anything happens that could even be remotely considered assault, we go running for a personal injury attorney and sue, sue, sue! Then there are the counter-suits, and the counter-counter-suits, and so on. We just love making other people pay for our discomfort. Jimbo would not accept it was his own fault Sammy hit him; he should not have been stealing Sammy's letters. Instead Jimbo responded in the way any of us would have in a similar situation: "You attacked me. I'm not hurt. But I can get money from you if I claim that I was or still am." Just like the woman and the hot coffee that she was not expecting to burn her, Jimbo's relationship with Sammy shows us how far we will go in our society to make other people feel bad for our personal misfortunes.

In these two brief examples (in which I have explicitly changed names but not even slightly changed the details), I have shown you the extent to which eighth graders do in fact represent real people. Yet we look back on our eighth-grade selves and think, "Wow, I was really lame back in eighth grade. I'm so much more mature now than I was then. I'm glad I never have to be in middle school again."

But think about it. Really think about it. How much have you actually matured in the past six, seven, eight years? After living with thirteen year olds for three summers straight, I have re-evaluated my own early teenage years. And I realize I'm the exact same person doing the exact same types of things. Why don't you take the time to reflect on the same question...

Yeah. That's what I thought.

Andrew Miller is a senior English major. He can be contacted at amille15@nd.edu

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

#### **EDITORIAL CARTOON**



#### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Isn't it interesting that the same people who laugh at science fiction listen to weather forecasts and economists?"

Kelvin Throop III author

# Submit a Letter to the Editor at

www.ndsmcobserver.com

#### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A bookstore is one of the only pieces of evidence we have that people are still thinking".

Jerry Seinfeld comedian

# THE OBSERVER THE OBSERVER THE OBSERVER

#### **LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

## Let's be a hockey school

Over the past three and a half years, something remarkable has happened to our hockey team. In the 2004-05 season, the year before Jeff Jackson took over as head coach, our team won a grand total of 5 games. Two years later, I sat in Joe Louis Arena and watched as we beat Michigan to win our first ever CCHA tournament championship. Last year, after struggling during the second half of the season, our team shocked the college hockey world by not only making it to the Frozen Four but by knocking off No.1 Michigan in the semi-finals, only to fall to Boston College in the championship game. Thanks to coach Jeff Jackson and the dedication and determination of our players, our team has gone from perennial bottom-dweller in the CCHA to national powerhouse in under 4 years.

Despite this success, our work is not yet done. I was lucky enough to be able to attend Saturday night's game up in Ann Arbor. Michigan's Yost Arena is notorious for being one of the toughest places to play in college hockey. After 2 periods of showing why we are the top team in the country by blanking Michigan 3-0 (including our spectacular 3rd goal which left 7,000 fans speechless), Yost began to live up to its reputation. About 5 minutes into the third period, Michigan scored a powerplay goal, and the ice suddenly tilted in Michigan's favor. About midway through the period, Michigan scored another powerplay goal, sending the place into a frenzy. As I quietly sat in stealth mode in the rowdy student section, I began to realize that we Notre Dame Hockey fans could learn a thing or two from the Michigan fans. Don't call me a traitor, but instead think of this like our football program: Michigan helped us set

up our program so we could grow and eventually be better than them. This isn't to say our fans are lacking; I think we're doing about the best we can with the subpar facility we currently have. By no means am I advocating us using the Michigan students' constant profanity. Nor am I saying we should throw things on the ice when our team can't tie a game up in the final minute. We have more class than that. What I am saying is that when our team does get its much deserved new arena in the JACC, it should become one of the most feared places to play in college hockey, like Yost. The seats should be packed tightly around the ice with more capacity than the current arrangement. It should get loud, very loud. Our band should pick a distinctive song to play at every game's second intermission, much like the 1812 Overture at football games, but the song should be unique for hockey games and should get the fans pumped up. That way, we will always be ready to cheer our team back to victory when we are down 3-0 in the 3rd period. Underclassmen, if you like hockey, take a trip up to Yost next year and see what I mean. Michigan students are dedicated to their hockey team; they pay more than \$200 for season tickets. I hope Notre Dame students don't ever have to pay that much to see the hockey team play, but I hope we can one day become just as much of a "hockey school" as Michigan. I think we're already more than halfway there; this year I don't hope that we make it to the Frozen Four, I expect us to.

David Schaller senior Alumni Hall Feb. 2

## To Notre Dame women

Please refrain from wearing tights with thongs without a shirt of appropriate length.

I repeat, please refrain.

I cannot speak for the rest of the student body, but I personally do not wish to see jiggling, flailing, unsupported butt cheeks in my face as I try to climb the stairs of DeBartolo. I get it, you don't want to hide behind bulky jeans or sweats in the dead of winter; you want to show off your body. But please, a perma-wedgie is not a good look, especially when your tights are just a little too tight and I see a massive camel toe peeking through. Maybe if I were a guy, I would enjoy these scenes. But if I were, I don't think I would. If you have a firm, tight rear, by all means, go ahead and flaunt it. I appreciate a good a\*\*

when I see one, guy or girl. If, however, you do not possess the above criteria, then do not display to the entire school your Richter-scale-worthy butt cheeks, followed by the wave of aftershocks once you've stopped walking.

Wear a shirt, tunic or dress that completely covers your tush. Oh, and wear supportive underwear!!! This will help to give you that perfectly bootylicious bum without looking like a certain dromedary's digit. Ladies, give those boys a good reason to look at your behind.

ennia. Thank you for your consideration.

> Lourdes Meraz senior McGlinn Hall Feb. 3

## Can't get a scooter?

Friday night, my roommate, Tom, underwent surgery to repair a torn ACL. Shortly after I picked him up that night, I visited a nearby CVS/Pharmacy to fill his Percocet prescription. I walked in with his out-of-state driver's license, insurance card and prescription. Without asking to see my ID or even to call Tom and confirm that, you know, he was okay with this random guy obtaining his medicine, the pharmacy quickly and politely gave me the 80 tablets of (someone else's) narcotics and sent me on my way.

In contrast to the simplicity of this transaction, our efforts to obtain a scooter for Tom have been fruitless and frustrating. Health services advised us to call NDSP, who told us to call health services. Awesome. Upon calling health services a second time, we were informed that a doctor needs to authorize Tom's need for a scooter before NDSP will provide it. No problem, surely the stack of discharge papers signed by Tom's doctor, papers which detail the nature of his surgery and which note that he requires crutches and will be unable to walk for weeks, should suffice, right?

Unfortunately, no. Likewise, the fact that Tom's entire left leg is wrapped in

gauze and that he's walking on crutches is apparently not enough justification to obtain a scooter. The authorization can only come from Tom's doctor or a Health Services doctor, and neither is available on the weekend. Thus, Tom has spent the entire weekend and all of today relying either on his crutches or on rides from NDSP to get around, waiting until he get can the necessary documentation signed and delivered in order to receive a scooter. While the free rides offer is refreshingly helpful (and we thank the kind NDSP receptionist who alerted us to that offer), it's clearly more trouble than him simply having a scooter of his own, and it, of course, means that there's one less NDSP officer available.

So, the inescapable conclusion: It's easier to obtain someone else's Schedule II Controlled Substance than a scooter from Notre Dame. We can all sleep peacefully knowing that the University is doing its part to curb the rampant abuse of prescription scooters plaguing our campus.

Jim Masters junior Fisher Hall Feb. 2

## Pay employees more!

During the economic boom years from 2004-2007, Notre Dame's endowment received an average annual return on investment of 20 percent, ahead of many of its peers. Even in 2008, an economically tumultuous year, the University realized a 5.8 percent return. And yet, during these financially bountiful times, the workers at this University heard a common refrain: "We can't afford to pay you more." Workers heard this at town hall meetings, where a couple of graphs showing available revenues and costs seemed to show that the University was paying as much as it could, if not more. These were the reasons for wages commonly below the Indiana Federal Benefits Line, which defines food stamp eligibility, and certain-

One might wonder, "How could this be?" The common explanation given by the University was that most of the funds in the endowment were untouchable for wage purposes; they were earmarked donations from alumni that could only go toward certain parts of the budget. This lack of fungibility supposedly hamstrung the University, and so, they did the best they could. If this seems hard to believe, it is because it is simply not true. Look no further than the University's Annual

Report. In 2008, the University saw an increase in unrestricted net assets from operations of over \$51 million. This was on top of over \$58 million for the previous year. The key word is "unrestricted"; it means that these funds can be used for anything. The University merely chooses to put them back into the endowment.

A little back-of-the-envelope math reveals that last year's surplus could give each of the University's 2300 (estimated) non-exempt employees and increase in salary of \$22,000, which would double the salary of many workers here. Even using 20 percent of the surplus would result in a \$2/hour increase in wages, moving many employees above the food-stamps line and closer to a living wage. Obviously, money is tightening up around the University. No one expects the University to realize a return on its investments in this fiscal year. However, as the economy begins to

recover, let's remember to prioritize where our largesse goes, and direct it to those in the Notre Dame family that need, and deserve it, the most...

Nick Krafft senior Stanford Hall Feb. 2

# Choose your battles wisely

This viewpoint is in response to the letter written by Ms. Hass, Ms. Quiros and Mr. Angulo entitled "Why is Notre Dame Involved in the Arms Trade?" (Monday, Feb. 2). In simple terms, the mission of the United States military is to be ready to respond in full force to any conflict in the world as quickly as possible, which usually means putting bombs on target within a day of the order given by the civilian leadership of this coun-

Many different companies, such as Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman and Boeing, who all recruit at Notre Dame, are just as vital to that operation as Raytheon. If you have an issue with Raytheon's bombs and missiles, then you should also have an issue with all of those companies, as their weapons systems allow for the delivery of those bombs and missiles. However, I rarely see anyone writing in about the atrocities of the F-22 Raptor or the B-2 Spirit, planes whose combined capability allows this nation's military to drop a Raytheon-made bomb anywhere in the world virtually undetected.

The vendetta that students at this University have

against Raytheon is illogical. Raytheon is not even the largest defense contractor that this nation uses, and it receives many military contracts for products that are defensive in nature, such as radar systems, air traffic control systems, satellite systems, the list goes on. Raytheon is not evil. They build systems that the Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airmen on the frontlines need to accomplish their mission.

Whether or not you agree with the foreign policy of our nation, it is largely the U.S. military's warfighting capability that allows that foreign policy to exist. If the problem you have is with the methods by which our military wages war, your concerns should not be directed at the University allowing companies to recruit its students, but at the U.S. government. The University cannot tell the D.O.D. whether or not they can buy weapons from Raytheon.

If the D.O.D. feels that it needs certain weapons to accomplish the objectives outlined by the foreign policy of this nation, a foreign policy put in place by the lawfully elected civilian officials of this country, then it is going to acquire those weapons from Raytheon. If

Raytheon were to stop producing its weapons for the U.S. military and its allies because they could no longer recruit any engineers, two things would happen: Raytheon would go out of business, costing many people their jobs, and the weapons it made would then simply be made by another defense contractor.

Raytheon, just like every defense contractor, needs intelligent and moral people with a good education to work for them. Notre Dame offers some of the best, brightest and morally sound students that this nation has to offer, which is why so many defense contractors recruit here. Raytheon is no different than other defense contractors, and therefore has the same right to recruit engineers and students from this University as any other corporation. At the very least, don't start a movement that could cost some of your classmates future job opportunities with a very reputable company.

David Schaller senior Alumni Hall Feb. 2

# SCENE SERVER

# MIDSEASON: WHAT'S N

### "DOLLHOUSE" FRIDAYS 9 P.M. LOW

## "TRUST ME" MONDAY

By STEPHANIE DePREZ

Assistant Scene Editor

On Friday the 13th, one of TV's best writers will return. Joss Whedon, creator of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," "Angel" and "Firefly" returns with his next show, "Dollhouse."

Starring Eliza Dushku ("Buffy"), the show centers on a group of "Actives," people who have voluntarily donated five years of their life to the Dollhouse, a super-secret community full of people committed to fulfilling your wildest dreams. The catch? They don't know they're doing it. Clients request a fantasy, ranging from love to adventure, and the Actives (or Dolls) are imprinted with memories that will help them carry out (and help clients participate in) their mission. When the mission is complete, the Dolls memories are wiped clean.

The story was born out of a lunch between Dushku and Whedon. He was looking for a new project, and she was looking for more acting challenges. The idea is that within the world of the Dollhouse Dushku's character, Echo, will play many different roles.

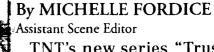
The show has been in production for a while now, thrown off a bit in the beginning by the writers' strike. (Time which was well used by Whedon to create the Internet phenomenon "Dr.

Horrible's Sing Along Blog.")
"Dollhouse" was set to air in the beginning of January, but Fox's issues with the look of the show's first episode caused a series of rewrites and pushed the premier back to mid-February.

But it has been time well spent in several ways. The sets themselves are far larger than is usually seen on TV. The Asian-inspired Dollhouse décor is supposed to be a calming environment for the Dolls, with an exercise room and a working fountain in the center of the building, causing the show to have an air of spectacle. The time has also allowed for anticipation to build. Whedonophiles are a small but mighty Internet force who have relentlessly promoted the show as far as the MySpace can see.

A lot is riding on this show. Joss' last show, "Firefly," also had the Friday night kiss-of-death slot on Fox, and it was cancelled after 13 episodes. Even though the DVD sales convinced Universal to pick it up for a movie (2005's "Serenity"), many are wondering if the TV genius has still got staying power. If this summer's "Dr. Horrible" is any indication, fans are ripe and ready for another venture into the World of Whedon.

Contact Stephanie DePrez at sdeprez@nd.edu



TNT's new series "Trust Me" has all the potential: two leading men with plenty of comedic experience, the advertising office setting that sent "Mad Men" rising and offers the chance to comment on our own times, and the promise of quick and witty dialogue. But it isn't there yet.

"Trust Me" is a look into the lives of professionals in the advertising business working at the Rothman Greene & Mohr Advertising Agency. Starring Eric McCormack of "Will and Grace" as Mason and Thomas Cavanaugh of "Ed" as Connor, the show focuses on these two friends and their lives as ad-men. Their long time dynamic is upset by Mason's promotion in the first episode, making him Connor's boss. The two friends are a classic set-up of contrasts, with Mason being the more settled and methodical half of the pair, and Connor acting more childlike but providing the creativity and energy. Unlike most pairs of this sort, there are few physical differences between the characters, which is refreshing. Sarah Krajicek-Hunter helps fill out the cast as Monica Potter. The character is meant to unbalance the duo and provide the feisty female character every series

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Contact M mfordice@



By ANALISE LIPARI Scene Editor

Top CTU agent Jack Bauer is back for another day of top secret government operations. Fox's massive hit series "24," starring Kiefer Sutherland as Bauer, recently returned for its seventh season.

"24" has had a tumultuous history of kidnapping, murder, counterterrorism and presidential assassinations in its years on Fox. At the conclusion of season 5, Jack had been captured and imprisoned by the Chinese for actions he had taken in the previous season. Day 6 led to Jack being released from that imprisonment twenty months later, during an eleven-week period of terrorist bombings in the United States. But rather than facing freedom, Jack found himself being traded by the Chinese to Abu Fayed (Adoni Maropis), the head of an Islamic terrorist group formorly headed by Ilamri Al-Assad (Alexander Siddig). Assad is known by Jack to be innocent of past accused crimes, and now works for the U.S. government by bringing such organizations to peace talks. After some complications with his father, Phillip Bauer (James Cromwell), and his brother Graem (Paul McCrane) — which result in Graem's death by Phillip's hand — Jack succeeds in thwarting Fayed's terrorist plot by killing him.

Jack's personal life also took a hit on Day six when Audrey Raines (Kim Raver), Jack's love interest in past

seasons, was also kidnapped by the Chinese. After Jack saves her life, he discovers that she has lost her memory and doesn't remember her former lover. It seems that sometimes even Jack Bauer can't catch a break.

After "24: Redemption," a special television event that aired between Days 6 and 7, Day 7 began on Jan. 11 of this year. The premiere was actually delayed by a year due to the strike by the Writers' Guild in 2008. Day 7 has seen Jack officially on trial for torture, having turned himself in to the U.S. Marines at the end of "Redemption" after being subpoenaed. The day has begun at 8 a.m. with a kind of reboot for the series. While "Redemption" saw Jack repentant and pensive, helping orphans in Africa and living away from direct involvement with CTU, Day 7 brings this enigmatic action figure back to the real world.

Whether or not Jack will have to atone for his political actions in a post-Bush diplomatic world remains to be seen. As the season began its Day 7, FBI agent Renee Walker (Annie Wersching) was pulling Jack out of his hearing to work against the African terrorist groups that originally surfaced in "Redemption." With a renewed focus and a few new characters, including new president Allison Taylor (Cherry Jones), Day 7 may prove to be the most intriguing yet.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu

## "SCRUBS" TUESDAYS 9 P.M.

By CAITLIN FERRARO
Scene Writer

The doctors of Sacred Heart returned with their eighth and possibly final season of "Scrubs" on Jan. 6, but this time around J.D. (Zach Braff) and gang have left the Peacock and found a new home on ABC. The NBC finale left viewers unsatisfied as it took place outside of the hospital in the form a fairy tale Dr. Cox told his son. It would have been a devastating end to an underrated yet much loved, hilarious show. The end of the seventh season also left viewers wondering who would take over for the Chief. The new season premiered with Courtney Cox joining a lengthy list of great guest stars as the new Chief of Medicine. Cox played a gorgeous, but unethical doctor that butts heads with Dr. Cox.

But after her exit, sarcastic Dr. Cox (John C. McGinley) is offered the position of Chief of Medicine and surprisingly goes to retired Dr. Bob Kelso (Ken Jenkins) for advice. Kelso is hanging around the hospital enjoying his life-long supply of free muffins while messing with his former co-workers.

Old storylines have resurfaced, as the tumultuous love saga of J.D. and Elliot (Sarah Chalke) started a new round in the fourth episode of the season. And of course the couple's best friends Turk (Donald Faison) and Carla (Judy Reyes) are back as the hilarious married couple. Our favorite sanitation man, the Janitor (Neil Flynn), also returns to torture J.D. every chance he gets. Audiences will also be happy to see other favorite quirky hospital employees such as the sexobsessed Dr. Todd (Robert Maschio) and horribly depressed lawyer Ted (Sam Lloyd).

Fans were overjoyed last season when ABC picked up the show to save it from certain demise. Talk has swirled that this will be the final season, but "Scrubs" creator Bill Lawrence has suggested a possible ninth season without himself and star Zach Braff. Lawrence has promised that no matter what happens everyone will be given a proper farewell, including the big reveal of the Janitor's real name. While new interns have been introduced this season, fans can expect the typical quirkiness and fun of the old "Scrubs." At least for now, J.D. will continue to have his outrageous daydreams and voice-overs, which have helped to navigate the important lessons about life and love that the characters have learned over the years.

"Scrubs" has always had trouble with ratings so be sure to catch this great comedy and your favorite eccentric doctors on Tuesdays at 9 p.m. on ABC.

Contact Caitlin Ferraro at cferrar 1@nd.edu



# S THE OBSERVER S CENE

# NEW AND WHAT'S BACK

#### INDAYS 10 P.M.

111

"LIE TO ME" WEDNESDAYS 9 P.M. LOW

needs, but the writers need to give Krajicek-Hunter more to work with. Her character's constant complaints about her lack of an office and other neuroses make the character a bit grating and she needs to be given more moments to shine and balance them out.

Intriguingly, like most things on TV, the show itself is a kind of advertisement. Opening with a recreation of a 1979 Chanel No. 5 Chanel commercial, "Trust Me" then becomes an excellent example of the placement ad, as Starbucks and Apple fill the screen.

"Trust Me" doesn't quite find its legs in the first episodes. The balance between comedy and drama was off, the characters were a little too one dimensional even for the first exposure, and all that witty banter fell a little flat. The second episode had more momentum than the first, and definitely had more laughs, wisely pulling the show in a more comedic direction. It also introduced more characters, such as Mason's wife Erin (Sarah Clarke), that should help add interest. The show has a lot of ground to cover before it nears great, but all that potential remains. "Trust Me" could be worth holding onto.

Contact Michelle Fordice at mfordice@nd.edu

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By CAITLIN FERRARO
Scene Writer

New on FOX this year is the hour long drama series "Lie to Me" which follows the story of Dr. Cal Lightman (Tim Roth) a deception expert who, you guessed it, can tell when people are lying. He helps uncover the truth for anyone who needs it, including the FBI, local police, lawyers, corporations, and individuals. The show is inspired by a real-life behavioral scientist and premiered on January 21st.

The real expert is Dr. Paul Ekman, who can read clues fixed on the human face, body, and voice to expose the difference between truth and lies during a criminal investigation. Previews of "Lie to Me" demonstrate Dr. Lightman using the same techniques as he analyzes a criminal's face, body, voice and speech. He reads his subject's feelings to help solve cases. While on the job he might face skepticism from law enforcement officials, but he is usually correct. However, outside of the office, Lightman's ability can be a curse because he is constantly aware of whether or not his friends and family are telling the truth. He even cannot help but notice the involuntary body language of strangers on the street.

Dr. Lightman, together with his team,

forms the Lightman Group and they act as human polygraph machines. Lightman and his partner Dr. Gillian, Foster (Kelli Williams), a gifted psychologist, run the Group. Together they have impeccable insight of human behavior. Roth, a Quentin Tarantino favorite, and Williams of "The Practice" fame make a dynamic duo.

Rounding out the team is Eli Loker (Brendan Hines) as the lead researcher. Loker is uncomfortable with the excessive amount of lying he witnesses on the job and decides to try "radical honesty." Of course, being brutally honest causes trouble. Then there is the "natural," Ria Torres (Monica Raymund) the newest member of the Group who has an innate ability to read people.

The ratings for the series premiere were quite respectable, as it held its own against ABC's established show "Lost" and 13 episodes of the drama have been picked up. Of course, "Lie to Me" did have a good chance at early success since it premiered in the extremely coveted post-"American Idol" spot.

Discover the truth with the cast of "Lie to Me" Wednesdays at 9 p.m. on FOX.

Contact Caitlin Ferraro at cferrar 1@nd.edu

## "BURN NOTICE" THURSDAYS 10 P.M.

By MICHELLE FORDICE

ssistant Scene Editor

With a smart script, plenty of action, and great characters, "Burn Notice" is a great show to take a break with. Fast and fun, it makes few demands and offers plenty of entertainment.

The show is all about what a spy does after being been burned — instantly cut off because he's been marked as unreliable and left in a city with no assets, free unless he tries to leave. Of course, for former spy Michael Weston (Jeffery Donovan), being burned is just the beginning, as he tries to discover who filed the notice. Eventually, he is contacted by Carla (Tricia Helfer), representing the organization that burned him. Through her threats to his family and life, and her better knowledge of the situation, she manipulates Michael into doing jobs for them. In the meantime, refusing to take money from Carla, Michael works as a freelance investigator and all around problem fixing man for people who have no one else to turn to, providing the episodic element of the show.

Tune into the USA Network for more than a second and you'll be bombarded with their "Characters Welcome" campaign. Alongside the Emmy darling "Monk" and other personality driven shows like "Psych," "Burn Notice" holds its own in this quest for excellent characters. Michael's sardonic humor, ability to build an X-ray machine in the back of his car with a broken TV, and inability to deal with his mother, Madeline (Sharon

Glass) make him more than interesting to follow. Michael's on-again-off-again girlfriend, Fiona (Gabrielle Anwar) steals every scene she's in. A former IRA agent, who first met Michael on a mission in Ireland, Fiona adds emotion and firepower — to Michael's manipulations of the bad guys. Sam (Bruce Campbell), Michael's friend and former Navy Seal, is happily in the midst of his retirement, enjoying all the booze and babes Miami can provide, when Michael gets dumped in Miami. For a time, he feeds selected information to the FBI about Michael, but eventually as they lose interest he transitions to full time go-to guy for the former spy. "Burn Notice" also does a great job of making a character out of its setting. By immersing itself in the fashion, scenery, and soundtrack of Miami, the show gives a voice to the city Michael is stranded in.

"Burn Notice" loses nothing over the mid-season break. Two episodes in, the series has not lost any momentum. The show ended last fall with Michael being thrown out of his second floor apartment by an explosive rigged to his front door. He is soon picked up by Carla and told to search for the person who tried to kill him, as several of their operatives suffered the same fate. Likely to be the focus of the rest of the season, Michael accepts this task with more willingness than usual, curious to discover the identity of Carla's enemy. The show promises to match its first season.

Contact Michelle Fordice at mfordice@nd.edu

### "HEROES" MONDAYS 9 P.M. LOW

By KAITLYN CONWAY
Scene Writer

"Heroes" returned to Fox Monday night to an audience who wasn't sure they wanted to continue watching the show. Previously in season three, just about every character underwent major changes and acted completely contrary to their previously established traits. The show was rapidly losing popularity, as the writers turned everything we had once known and loved about the show upside down. Tuning back in to the series for the continuation of the season was a risky task, but one that ended up being worth it.

The first half of season three left taudiences with mixed emotions. Apparently, the villain since season one, Sylar, had been killed off, but at what cost? Peter Petrelli and Hiro Nakamura lost their powers and seem to be out of luck in terms of getting them back, and some of the other characters appeared to have completely lost their minds. Heck, the first half of the season even had some people liking Sylar for a while! It seemed that season three could go nowhere but downhill from there, taking the entire show with it.

Then, writers Jesse Alexander and

Jeph Loeb were fired.

May the "Heroes" fans rejoice, the show is returning to how it was in season one!

What made the show so popular in

its first season was its focus on the

already showing much more promise. One of my favorite scenes harked back to season one, when Peter and Mohinder first met in a taxi cab. The two jokingly review that dialogue, commenting on how things have changed. This scene is also refreshing because Mohinder is no longer going crazy, though he does have powers. The basis of this season is Nathan Petrelli's plan to round up all the people with super powers and 'detain' them — hence the name of Volume Four of the

series is "Fugitives."

The newest episode ended with a plane crash. Let's hope that instead of taking a nosedive, the show continues to get better from here on out.

characters. The story line was sim-

ple, but the characters were rich

and complex. One of the crucial

aspects that made the show so fasci-

nating was watching the diverse

As writers, Alexander and Loeb

were more focused on action and

twists in the story? While the twists

are shocking, and were often used

in the first season to shock the view-

the second season and first half of

the third season contained one of

these twists, taking the show from

The second half of season three is

intriguing to absurd.

ers, it seemed like every episode in

characters interact with each other.

Contact Kaitlyn Conway at kconway2@nd.edu

**NBA** 

# T-wolves top Pacers to snap three-game skid

James scores 33 to become fastest player to 12,000 career points and help Cavs maintain perfect record at home

**Associated Press** 

INDIANAPOLIS — Randy Foye scored 19 points, and the **Timberwolves** Minnesota snapped a three game skid with a 116-111 victory over the Indiana Pacers on Tuesday night.

Sebastian Telfair and Ryan Gomes each scored 16 points, Kevin Love had 15 points and 11 rebounds and Al Jefferson had 12 points and 15 rebounds for the Timberwolves.

Danny Granger scored 28 points, Mike Dunleavy scored 20 and Troy Murphy added 17 points and 12 rebounds for the Pacers, who have lost back-toback home games.

Seven players scored in double figures for the Timberwolves, who won despite Jefferson's below-average offensive game. Jefferson entered the game averaging 23 points per contest.

Minnesota shot 49 percent and the Pacers 48 percent. The Timberwolves committed 21 turnovers, but made up for it by outrebounding the Pacers 54-44.

Minnesota led 110-106 in the final minute, but Indiana had a chance to draw closer. Marquis Daniels missed twice in close, then T.J. Ford missed a 3-pointer before the Timberwolves rebounded. Minnesota's Mike

Miller made two free throws with 31 seconds left to make it 112-106.

Granger made a 3-pointer with 27 seconds left to make it 112-

Ford intercepted Minnesota's inbounds pass and was fouled by Miller. Ford made the first of two free throws with 21 seconds left. Jefferson rebounded the missed second free throw, but Foye turned the ball over and the Timberwolves fouled Ford again. Ford again made the first free throw and missed the second to make it 112-111, Minnesota.

Minnesota's Telfair made two free throws with 13.4 seconds

Granger missed a 3-pointer from the left wing that could have tied the score with seven seconds left. Minnesota rebounded, and Indiana couldn't get to any of the Timberwolves to foul them.

Indiana led 72-71 in the third quarter before going on an 8-0 run that included a 3-pointer by Jarrett Jack and a three-point play by Granger to make it 80-71 with just over three minutes left in the period. Minnesota trimmed its deficit to 82-78 by the end of the quarter.

Granger took charge early in the final quarter. He started it with a 3-pointer, hit two free throws, and converted a threepoint play in the opening three minutes to give the Pacers a 94-85 lead.

It took Minnesota one minute to tie the score. Brian Cardinal was fouled on a clear path. He made the two free throws, then made a 3-pointer when the Timberwolves kept possession. Love's bank shot tied the game at 94, and the game stayed close the remainder of the way.

#### Cavaliers 101 Raptors 83

That's 23 and climbing.

LeBron James scored 33 and eclipsed 12,000 points for his career, and the Cleveland Cavaliers remained flawless on their floor by winning their 23rd straight home game, over the Toronto Raptors on Tuesday night.

James became the fastest player in NBA history to reach the 12,000-point plateau. At 24 years, 35 days, he did it quicker than Los Angeles superstar Kobe Bryant, who was 25 years, 220 days, when he did it.

Daniel Gibson scored 18 and Mo Williams 16 as the Cavaliers broke the club record for consecutive home wins set during the 1988-89 season. Cleveland, which built a 23-point lead in the first quarter, also became the first team since the 1949-50 Rochester Royals to win their first 23 home games by at least four points.

Chris Bosh scored 29 and Jermaine O'Neal 20 to pace

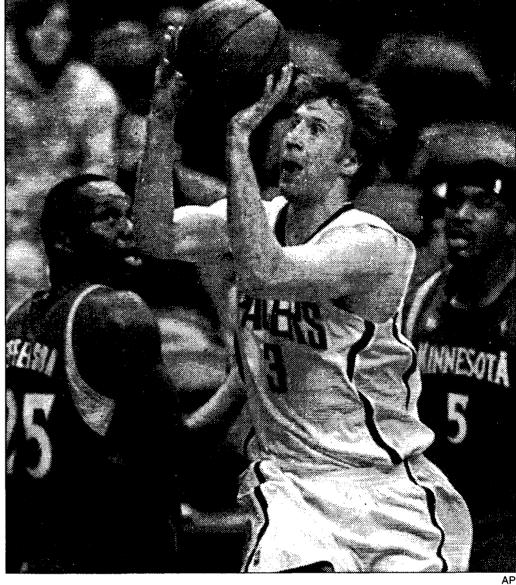
Trailing by 19 at halftime and showing little fight, the Raptors regrouped and outscored the Cavaliers 26-15 in the third quarter to close to 74-66 entering the fourth.

Cleveland shot just 4-of-18 from the field in the third, and too often settled for outside jumpers instead of attacking the basket.

But that changed midway through the fourth when James, who did not make a field goal in the second half, decided it was time to put Toronto away.

First, he was fouled on a drive and made both free throws. On the Raptors' next trip, James challenged a soaring Bosh on a dunk attempt and got just enough of the ball to alter its course. James was again fouled while powering inside and made his free throws — he finished 13-of-13 at the line — to make it 87-75.

Gibson's 3-pointer made it 90-



Pacers forward Troy Murphy goes up for a shot during Minnesota's 116-101 win over Indiana Tuesday.

75 and the Raptors were unable to get any closer.

James, Eastern the Conference's player of the month in January, scored 16 in the first quarter and had 25 in the first half on an array of shots. Nearly everything dropped Cleveland's All-Star, who will now head to Madison Square Garden on Wednesday and possibly take aim at Bryant's scoring record in the "world's most famous arena."

Bryant scored 61 on Monday night against the Knicks, and New York coach Mike D'Antoni is well aware that James could rewrite the record book quickly.

"We set the bar up high for him. He'd have to play really well," D'Antoni said.

It's rare that he doesn't. James scored 50 at the Garden last season, leaving the court to chants of "M-V-P!" just as Bryant did.

James outscored the Raptors 16-15 in the first quarter as the Cavaliers, moving the ball around the perimeter, had one of their best offensive periods this season. They made 7-of-10 3-pointers, committed just one turnover and blasted to a 37-15 lead after 12 minutes.

James made his first six shots

and Williams had six assists in the period.

Williams, snubbed as an All-Star reserve by coaches, may get another shot at going to Phoenix for the league's showcase of stars. With Orlando's Jameer Nelson likely to miss several weeks — at least — with a shoulder injury, Williams could be selected by commissioner David Stern.

"You don't wish injury on anybody, it is unfortunate Jameer got hurt," said Cavs coach Mike Brown, who will coach the East. "But if they have to select somebody, you hope it's Mo. We believe our team should still be represented."

The Cavaliers were at less than full speed because of the flu.

Starting swingman Sasha Pavlovic, reserve center Lorenzen Wright and longtime play-by-play announcer Joe Tait were all sick and missed the game.

Wally Szczerbiak made his first start this season in place of Pavlovic, who moved into the starting lineup on Jan. 16 after guard Delonte West broke his wrist. Szczerbiak made two 3pointers in the first few minutes and finished with 15 points.

Cleveland-forward LeBron James slam dunks the ball during the Cavaliers 101-83 win over Toronto Tuesday.

## **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**

safety/assault/

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\_\_\_\_\_\_

A woman, while touring a small South American country was shown a bullfight.

The guide told her, "This is our number one sport."

The horrified woman said, "Isn't that revolting?"

"No," the guide replied, "revolting is our number two sport."

So we need to get normal size cups

You mean 'B' cups? (pause, confusion and recognition) I feel like less of a man right now

wedding anniversary. His wife was really pissed. She told him "Tomorrow morning, I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in 6 seconds AND IT BETTER BE THERE !!"

Bob was in trouble. He forgot his

The next morning he got up early and left for work. When his wife woke up, she looked out the window and sure enough there was a box gift-wrapped in the middle of the driveway.

Confused, the wife put on her robe and ran out to the driveway, brought the box back in the house.

She opened it and found a brand new bathroom scale.

#### **NCAA Women's Basketball** AP Top 25

	team	record	points
1	Connecticut (45)	21-0	1125
2	Oklahoma	18-2	1079
3	California	18-2	979
4	Duke	17-2	917
5	Louisville	20-2	873
6	Auburn	21-1	872
7	Stanford	17-4	852
8	Baylor	17-3	792
9	North Carolina	19-3	792
10	Texas A&M	17-3	790
11	Florida	20-2	660
12	Tennessee	16-4	594
13	Maryland	16-4	584
14	Ohio State	18-3	514
15	Florida State	18-4	498
16	Texas	15-5	444
17	Virginia	18-4	435
18	Kansas State	18-2	334
19	Vanderbilt	17-5	260
20	Iowa State	16-4	247
21	NOTRE DAME	16-4	241
22	Pittsburgh	16-4	215
23	Xavier	19-4	135
24	DePaul	17-5	99
25	South Dakota State	20-2	94

#### Preseason Baseball USA Today/ESPN Top 25

	team	points
1	LSU" TAKET HELEN TELLER	738
2	North Carolina	737
3	Rice Part Vol. Auto.	673
4	Georgia	600
5	Texas A&M	590
6	Stanford	576
7	Arizona State	533
8	Cal State Fullerton	507
9	Florida State	500
10	Texas	500
11	Mississippi	431
12	Georgia Tech	327
13	Oklahoma State	321
14	Miami	320
15	San Diego	304
16	Louisville	292
17	Baylor	269
18	UC Irvine	262
19	Fresno State	247
20	Missouri	224
21	Pepperdine	156
22	UCLA	140
23	Florida	112
24	Coastal Carolina	102
25	Clemson	80

#### **Preseason Women's Lacrosse Rankings**

	team * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	points
1	Northwestern	399
2	Syracuse	365
3	Duke	362
4	Virginia	313
5	Penn	302
6	Maryland	285
7	Princeton	280
8	Georgetown	236
9	North Carolina	230
10	Boston U. 1977	214
11	NOTRE DAME	195
12	Vanderbilt	146
13	Dartmouth	135
14	New Hampshire	89
15	Johns Hopkins	86
16	Cornell	75

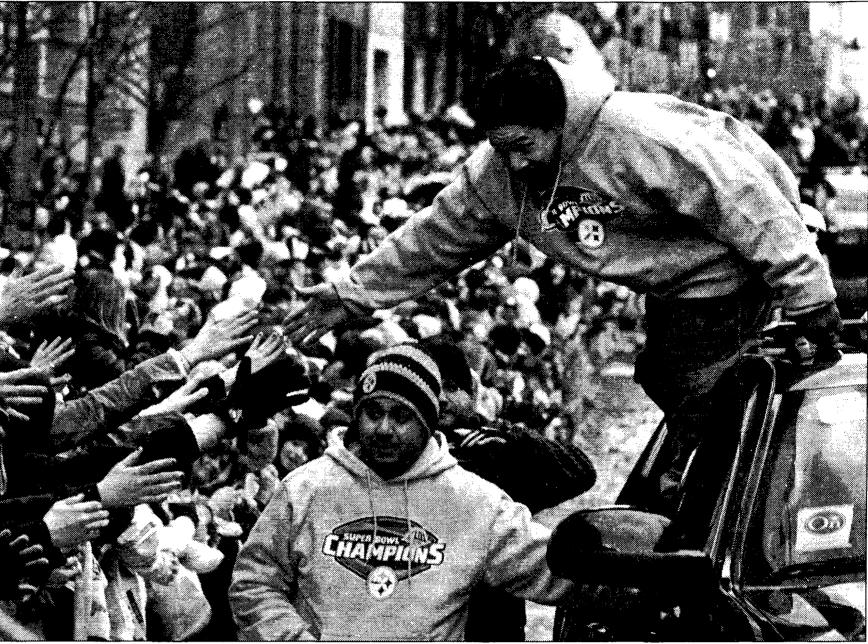
## around the dial

#### NCAA Men's Basketball

No. 6 Wake Forest at Miami 7:30 p.m., ESPN2

No. 3 Duke at No. 10 Clemson 9 p.m., ESPN

#### **NFL**



Pittsburgh Steelers safety Troy Polamalu, right, reaches out to greet fans during the Super Bowl parade on Tuesday. Downtown Pittsburgh's Grant Street and Boulevard of the Allies were filled with over 300,000 fans.

## "Sixburgh" celebrates Super Bowl

**Associated Press** 

than 300,000 black-and-gold bedecked Pittsburgh Steelers fans — about the population of the city itself — packed the streets of "Sixburgh" on Tuesday for a parade celebrating the storied franchise's unprecedented sixth Super Bowl title.

From infants to senior citizens, fans braved freezing temperatures and crowds so deep that for some even seeing the parade was impossible.

Not that it mattered. Many just wanted to be part of the festive atmosphere and have the chance to revel in the team's 27-23 victory over the

Arizona Cardinals in Sunday's Super Bowl. PITTSBURGH — More Rousing chants of "Here we go Steelers!" pulsed through the crowd as they waited for the team to make its way along the route.

"We're going to tell the school we had fever -Steeler fever," 12-year-old Rachel Russell said, excusing her absence from school before leading a Steelers

Renaming the city Sixburgh for the day, Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl made his way through the parade alongside quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, both filming the crowd that painted a gray sky yellow with twirling Terrible Towels.

Fans filled parking garages, skyscraper windows, balconies and even climbed trees to get the best view of the team they love and possibly find shelter from the sporadic flurries and temperatures that hovered in the mid-20s.

"It's never too cold to watch the Steelers," said Annette Mowery, 47, who drove from the Pittsburgh suburb of Mars with her children, Lexie, 12 and Lucas, 10.

"We didn't have a good day, we had a great day. It's history," Lucas said, a Super Bowl XI.III hat perched atop a blue ski mask, a matching T-shirt squeezed over his jacket.

Even police got into the spirit, waving Terrible Towels

from atop horses as they led the parade. Coach Mike Tomlin followed behind in the back of a red convertible, while players holding video cameras cheered and waved from the back of pickup trucks.

Tomlin couldn't stop smiling as he was greeted on stage at the end of the parade route with thunderous applause.

"What do you say to this?" Tomlin asked the massive crowd. "Steeler Nation, you leave us all speechless, man, we just appreciate the love. How about the Steelers? How about the greatest fans in the world? How about number six? Thank you, we love you guys."

#### IN BRIEF

#### Ramirez rejects latest offer from persistent Dodgers

LOS ANGELES — The Dodgers are still trying to bring back Manny Ramirez. Only the enigmatic slugger doesn't like their latest deal.

He rejected their third offer — for one year — that would have made him baseball's second-highest paid player behind Alex Rodriguez.

That leaves Ramirez unsigned three months after deciding to test his value in the recession-plagued free agent market, with the Dodgers the only team to have confirmed making any offers.

"We have interest in signing Manny," general manager Ned Colletti told The Associated Press in an e-mail Tuesday. "We don't have a deadline but these situations can change in an instant and either side can change them in an instant."

The Dodgers open spring training for the first time in Arizona on Feb. 14.

#### Moorad reaches deal to buy struggling Padres

SAN DIEGO — In a move that could prop up the team's sagging on-field fortunes, former agent Jeff Moorad reached an agreement Tuesday for his group to buy the San Diego Padres from majority owner John Moores.

Moorad, who resigned last month as chief executive officer of the Arizona Diamondbacks, and his group will acquire 100 percent ownership during a period of up to five years, subject to approval by baseball owners.

Moorad heads what he has called a "small but significant" group of investors that has had an exclusive right to negotiate with Moores since early January. Moorad hasn't identified any of his partners.

"The deal with Jeff has been signed," Moores said in an e-mail to The Associated Press. "I will remain involved with the club for the next few years — but I absolutely dread thinking about the last day. Life goes on."

#### Hornets' Paul day-to-day with mild groin strain

WESTWEGO, La. — Chris Paul laughed and joked with teammates after Hornets practice on Tuesday, the grim silence that followed the All-Star point guard's injury and his team's ensuing collapse a night earlier fading into memory.

New Orleans learned while blowing a big lead to Portland on Monday night that adjusting to life without Paul may be even harder than imag-

The good news for the Hornets is they may not have to endure without him for much more than a few games. An MRI indicated that Paul had only a mild strain of his right groin and he is listed as day-to-day.

"I feel good," Paul said. "Maybe I can play (Wednesday), maybe Friday, so I'm going to just go with it and see how it feels. ... Any time something's torn or something like that, it can be a long time, but this right here, I felt like that was good news.'

#### **MLB**

## Torre assures new book doesn't bash Yanks

Returning to Big Apple for book signing, former Yankees manager claims "The Yankee Years" is as honest as he can be

#### **Associated Press**

NEW YORK — A veteran of baseball's biggest stage, Joe Torre had his lines well rehearsed.

No, he didn't write anything controversial.

No, he didn't trash the clubhouse code.

No, no regrets.

On a snowy day in Manhattan, Torre was back in town Tuesday for his first signing session for "The Yankee Years," co-written by Sports Illustrated's Tom Verducci. Fans stood in line on Fifth Avenue, and the queue snaked around the corner halfway to Madison Avenue as people waited to meet the man who still refers to the Yankees as "we."

"I don't think I violated anything. At least, that was my intention," said Torre, whose job as former Yankees manager overshadows his occupation as the current Los Angeles Dodgers manager. "I'd like to believe that's what I'm about, to be as hon-

est as I can be."

Torre gets to have it both ways. He wrote a controversial book, helping the publisher recoup the advance, then said he didn't say anything he hadn't previously said.

"There's no question bitter things happen, but when I left it was more a sense of relief,".
Torre said.

He did two sessions with reporters before the signing: print and radio first, then television. He did

an interview with NPR and another with Bob Costas that will air Thursday on the MLB Network. ESPN is scheduled for Wednesday.

His quotes were smoothly similar. His most striking line came when referring to fans at Dodger Stadium.

"Never once did I say, 'You're the best in the world,'

because the Yankee fans, there are no fans like the Yankee fans. They are unbelievable," Torre said. "Yeah, they're passionate in Los Angeles, and they grew over the course of the year. But the experience I had at

Y a n k e e
Stadium with
the fans,
they'll never
be able to
d u p l i c a t e
that."

Torre made light of the fact that some in the Yankees clubhouse have referred to Alex Rodriguez

as "A-Fraud."

"There's no question

bitter things happen,

but when I left it was

more a sense of

relief."

**Joe Torre** 

**Dodgers manager** 

Torre said Larry Bowa, one of his coaches, used to invoke A-Fraud when hitting grounders after the third baseman had a bad night in the field.

"He says, 'Come on, let's see who we see today? Is it going to be A-Rod or A-Fraud? Let's go,'" Torre recalled. "I mean, it was in front of him. You never did any of that stuff behind his back."

Trouble is, sensitivity to jokes increases with each additional dollar in salary in the Pinstriped Paradiso, where outsized paychecks trigger outsized egos, outsized expectations and outsized ticket prices at an outsized new ballpark.

When questions were cut off, Torre made a point of clarifying his relationship with GM Brian Cashman.

"Brian was supportive of me," he said. "We disagreed on a number of instances, a number of things, but, you know, Brian, we got along. ... Last few years I thought it changed somewhat, but I — overall I thought Brian and I got along."

Everywhere, the talk was Torre. At the Yankees minor league complex in Tampa, Fla., catcher Jorge Posada said he planned to buy the book.

"It will take me about three

years to read it," he joked.

Speaking at Ed Randall's Bat for the Cure prostate cancer charity event in Pleasantville, Cashman wouldn't discuss the book and said he hadn't spoken with Torre since a telephone call on Jan. 25, when news of its contents began to get out.

"Let's change the subject about Torre," Cashman said. For veteran Yankees, Torre

remains revered.

"He's been a father figure to me. I don't think he can do any wrong," Posada said. "There's nothing that has been on the book that hasn't been written or talked about earlier or before."

At the Thurman Munson awards dinner in New York, Johnny Damon said Torre remained atop the Yankees' heap for him.

"I have no reason to not trust him," said Damon, bashed by the authors for being out of shape two years ago. "Until Joe does something crazy to me, he's fine in my book."

#### **MLB**

## Selig to take wait and see approach on MLB salary cap

#### Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Baseball commissioner Bud Selig says the game's economic structure has come a long way and still could use some tinkering.

And while the man who bought the Milwaukee Brewers from Selig's family, Mark Attanasio, has suggested a salary cap might be the solution, Selig isn't ready to take a stand on an issue that could revive dormant tensions between owners and players.

The current collective bargaining agreement doesn't expire until 2011, and Selig suggested securing long-term labor peace with continued economic reforms could be his final major achievement as commissioner.

"The last year of my commissionership will be devoted to that," Selig said Tuesday during a seminar with students at Marquette University's law school. "So there's no sense in me sitting here today and engaging them on (a salary cap). We'll just watch how the system develops and what we need to do."

Whatever economic tweaks to the game might be forth-coming, Selig said they will be made with one goal in mind. He calls it hope; others might call it parity.

"Our job is to give hope and faith in as many franchises as possible on April 1st," Selig said. "That's the intent."

Toward that end, Selig praised measures baseball has taken to help teams in smaller media markets compete with big-market teams, such as revenue sharing and a luxury tax on teams with lofty payrolls.

Selig used Tuesday's hourlong session with students to make the case that baseball is stronger than ever despite increased competition from an ever-expanding universe of entertainment options.

Selig said baseball is "more popular than it's ever been" in the U.S. and has significant growth potential overseas, adding he would like to see games played in Europe.

Selig also went out of his way to praise franchise owners for showing restraint on ticket prices. By his own count, Selig said eight clubs have cut ticket prices, 15 or 16 have kept them the same and others have raised prices "very judiciously."

But when asked afterward about his personal economic well-being, Selig was less forthcoming.

Selig brushed off a question about this week's revelation that he made nearly \$17.5 million in 2007, according to Major League Baseball's latest tax return.

Is that commensurate with the success the game is experiencing?

"I let others make that decision," Selig said. "I'm not going to comment on that."

Selig also sidestepped reports that financially troubled Citigroup was rethinking its sponsorship of the New York Mets' new stadium.

"Believe me, that's a very complicated issue," Selig said.

Nor was Selig ready to offer an opinion on a salary cap, an idea recently put forth by Attanasio after the New York Yankees snapped up Brewers ace CC Sabathia as part of a three-player, \$423.5 million

free-agent spending spree.
"I've talked to Mark about that, and I've talked to other

owners," Selig said. "But I'm just not going to comment on that. ... The cap has been talked about a lot. All caps are different. Some of them have worked, some haven't."

Teams already have been more cautious with their money this offseason because of concerns about the slumping economy, and almost half the players who filed for free agency remain unsigned. Manny Ramirez, Ben Sheets and Adam Dunn are among the players still on the market, and the players' union is keeping a close eye out for evidence of collusion.

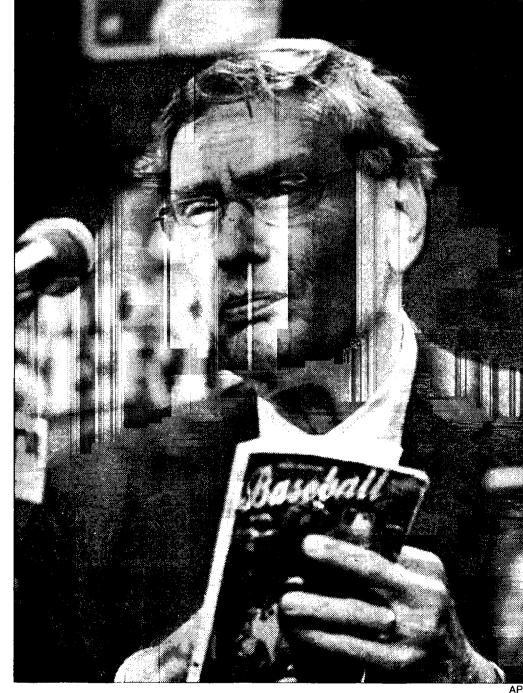
"We are, as always, looking at the market," union head Donald Fehr said in an email. "When conclusions are drawn, it won't be a secret."

Selig pointed to the success of the Brewers, who made the playoffs for the first time since 1982 last season, and other small-market clubs as evidence that revenue sharing and the luxury tax already are helping to level the playing field.

"There's more competitive balance than ever in the history of baseball," Selig said. "The reason you're seeing small-market teams do better is because the economic system allows them to be better."

Selig said the outlook for small-market teams is far different today than it was in the 1990s, when his family still was running the Brewers.

"We didn't really have much of a chance," Selig said. "We couldn't say that, but it was true. Today, they do. And can it be made better? We'll see. I meant what I said today. I'm just going to watch it. We've got three more years."



MLB Commissioner Bud Selig speaks after Game 5 of the World Series Oct. 27 in Philadelphia.

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#### SERIE A

# AC Milan hopes to keep English superstar

**Associated Press** 

MILAN — David Beckham has the support of AC Milan's coach and management if he wants to get out of his Los Angeles Galaxy contract to stay in Italy.

Beckham is halfway through a three-month loan with Milan that will end on March 8, and he's told the Italian media he's enjoyed his return to Europe more than he expected. While he respects the five-year contract he signed with Los Angeles in 2007, Beckham said playing for Milan was "something special."

The Galaxy has reiterated that it wants Beckham, who has two goals in five games, back when the loan ends.

But Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti, who has been surprisingly impressed by Beckham, would like the England midfielder to remain at San Siro.

"Nobody can tell what will happen after March 9,' Ancelotti told Sky TV Italia. "He wants to stay here, he has not hidden that fact, but it is a

problem between him and LA Galaxy. As a club, we cannot get into this matter.

"Beckham has given a new push to the team in terms of quality and enthusiasm," Ancelotti added. "He has given the team something extra and certainly if he stayed it would make it easier to win the scudetto (the top Italian league title)."

Beckham has had such an impact that he was included in Milan's 25-man roster for UEFA Cup games against Werder Bremen on Feb. 18 and 26.

"I am realistic about his future," Ancelotti said. "I knew that he will be with us until March 9, that is for certain, so we will have to make the most of him during his time here.

"He has given the team all his quality, by his work rate, his talent, his assists and the goals he has scored. He has made an unexpected contribution."

Vice president Adriano Galliani said the financial benefits of Beckham's presence have also boosted the club.

"I think he does (want to stay), but I can only speak of what the club wants to do and Milan will do everything possible to have Beckham after March," Galliani told La Gazzetta dello Sport.

"It is evident that our will is there to keep him until the end of the season or even on a permanent transfer. There is hope, but contracts have to be honored. If the Galaxy want to start negotiations we will be happy to try, but they are right, the agreements are clear - on March 9 Beckham must return to America."

In January, he played in a lucrative friendly with Hannover, and was expected to play some part in a friendly against Rangers in Glasgow on Wednesday.

"(Beckham's marketing appeal) exists and we understand it following the many requests we have received to play friendly games, but it is not only his presence which attracts other clubs," Galliani said. "We have a group of stars."



AC Milan midfielder David Beckham reacts during a game against Lazio Tuesday Feb. 3.

"Every time I come

here, it's like a warm

feeling just because

you know the

history."

**LeBron James** 

**Cavaliers forward** 

**NBA** 

## After Kobe's royal performance, Knicks brace for King James

**Associated Press** 

GREENBURGH, N.Y. — The scoring record at Madison Square Garden lasted more than 24 years, even withstanding a famous challenge from Michael Jordan.

Now LeBron James can MVP front-runseize it from Kobe Bryant ner at midseaafter just two days.

Of course, he'll need to score 62 points to do it.

"We set the bar up high for him. He'd have to play really well," New York coach Mike D'Antoni said Tuesday.

Still dazed from Bryant's 61-point performance, the Knicks brace for a visit Wednesday from James, who loves playing in the Big Apple just as much and authored

his own 50-point masterpiece here last season.

The NBA's two best players, appearing two nights apart 1984. Jordan had the top on basketball's

biggest stage. Even James, perhaps the son, will have a tough time matching Bryant's act.

"Last night Kobe made a lot of tough shots," Knicks center

David Lee said. "I'm sure LeBron will probably do the same thing and we're going to need to play our best ball."

Bryant shattered Bernard

King's record of 60 points at the present Madison Square Garden, set on Christmas

> performance by a visiting player, scoring 55 points in 1995 shortly

ment. James also is on the list of 50-point scorers at the Garden, finishing with 50 in

Cleveland's 119-105 victory over New York on March 5, 2008. Like Bryant, he was treated to raucous ovations and "MVP!" chants during that game — along with a fan coming on the court to meet him when James exited for good in the final minute.

And just like Bryant, always talks about his passion for "the after ending world's most his first retire- famous arena."

"Every time I come here, it's like a warm feeling because you know the history," James said

in November, before his first Knicks have positioned themvisit this season.

"It's not just basketball, everything that ever went on. Concerts, boxing, I mean

everything that ever went on at Madison Square Garden. Being a basketball junkie like myself, how could you not

love it being in this building?"

New Yorkers still cling to hope James will someday make it his permanent home.

He could be the marquee free agent in a stellar class in 2010, and the

selves for a run at him by clearing salary cap space for that summer. The Knicks still hope to get far enough under the cap to offer maximum deals to two superstars, hoping they can convince a Chris Bosh or Dwyane Wade to join James in New York.

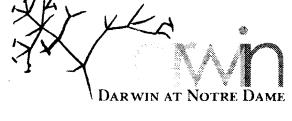
"That's a long ways off, so that's not our focus," D'Antoni said. "Our focus is to win that game."

James had only 26 points in his November visit, but he sat out the fourth quarter of Cleveland's 119-101 romp. He's less likely than Bryant to have huge scoring nights because he tries to do so many other things — he had 10 assists and eight rebounds in his 50-point game here but his size and strength could make him a more difficult matchup for the Knicks.

"LeBron can do the same things and he does it with a 6-9, 260-pound body," D'Antoni said. "He not only can get 61, he can hurt you doing it, and that's not good."

D'Antoni has said that if a player wants to be MVP, it helps to play well in New York. Bryant, last season's winner, did his part with the greatest scoring performance Madison Square Garden had

Now it's James' turn.



"We set the bar up

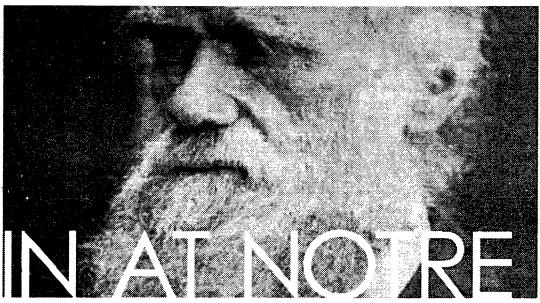
high for him. He'd

have to play really

well."

Mike D'Antoni

**Knicks coach** 



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#### NCAA BASKETBALL

# Marquette stays undefeated in Big East play

**Associated Press** 

ROSEMONT, Ill. — Jerel McNeal scored 26 points and No. 8 Marquette beat DePaul 76-61 on Tuesday night for its 12th straight victory, matching its longest winning streak in seven years.

The Golden Eagles (20-2, 9-0), the Big East's only undefeated team, had trouble putting away DePaul but did enough to send the Blue Demons (8-15, 0-10) to their 10th straight loss and keep them winless in the conference.

Will Walker hit five 3s and had a career-high 30 points for the Blue Demons, who played without leading scorer Dar Tucker, who twisted an ankle in the morning shootaround.

Wesley Matthews added 20 points for Marquette, while Dominic James had 15.

McNeal was 8-of-16 from the field, including 5-of-8 on 3s, to go with six assists, five steals and four blocks.

DePaul trailed by 18 points in the first half and was able to cut the margin to five at halftime. The Golden Eagles went back ahead by 11 early in the second half.

The Blue Demons were within 62-54 after two baskets by Mac Koshwal, but a 3-pointer by McNeal made it 65-54 with just over 5 minutes remaining and Marquette remained in control from there.

The Blue Demons were coming off a 19-point loss at Rutgers in a matchup of teams that had not won in the conference. The game before that they lost by 22 points to then-No. 2 Connecticut.

A nine-point winner over DePaul at home last month, Marquette took a 30-12 lead midway through the first half behind a scorching start by McNeal. Third in the Big East in scoring with a 19.7 average, McNeal had three 3-pointers during that stretch and scored 11 points.

Walker, who hit four 3-pointers against Rutgers, had two during an 8-0 run that cut the lead to 33-26. And his 3-pointer and breakaway layup after a turnover by Marquette pulled DePaul within 37-33 with just under 3 minutes left in the half.

#### North Carolina 108, Maryland 91

Wayne Ellington started knocking down 3-pointers, and the rest of his teammates soon followed: Danny Green, Ty Lawson — even star big man Tyler Hansbrough.

It all added up to North Carolina's best game from long range in quite a while.

Ellington scored a season-high 34 points and hit seven of his team's season-high 16 3s in the third-ranked Tar Heels' sixth straight victory, a rout of Maryland on Tuesday night.

Hansbrough had 24 points including a late 3 over defender Dave Neal — and Lawson added 21 and four 3s for North Carolina (20-2, 6-2 Atlantic Coast Conference).

"We just came out and were hitting shots — not just myself, but Danny was hitting shots, Tywan

was hitting shots from the perimeter," Ellington said. "We just kept it rolling."

The ACC's hottest team used some early long-distance touch to clinch their fifth straight 20-win season under Hall of Fame coach Roy Williams.

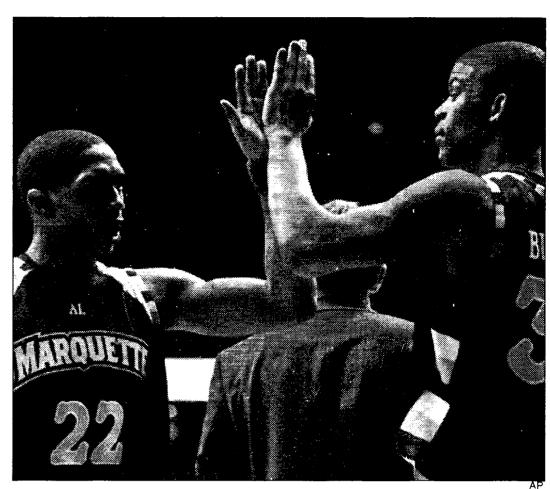
Green finished with 16 points for North Carolina, which hit 11 of its first 14 attempts from behind the arc to match the school's record in a half, and finished one 3-pointer shy of the record for a game set against Florida State in 1995.

"I've said a lot of times this year that we can really shoot the ball," Williams said. "We shot the Dickens out of it tonight."

They shot 51.4 percent, reached the 100-point mark for the sixth time and snapped a two-game losing streak in the series with their first win against Maryland since 2006.

Freshman Sean Mosley scored a season-high 19 points, Cliff Tucker added 18 and Greivis Vasquez scored 13 for the Terrapins (14-8, 3-5), who hoped to draw some confidence from their return to the arena where last year they became the first team to beat the then-No. 1 Tar Heels.

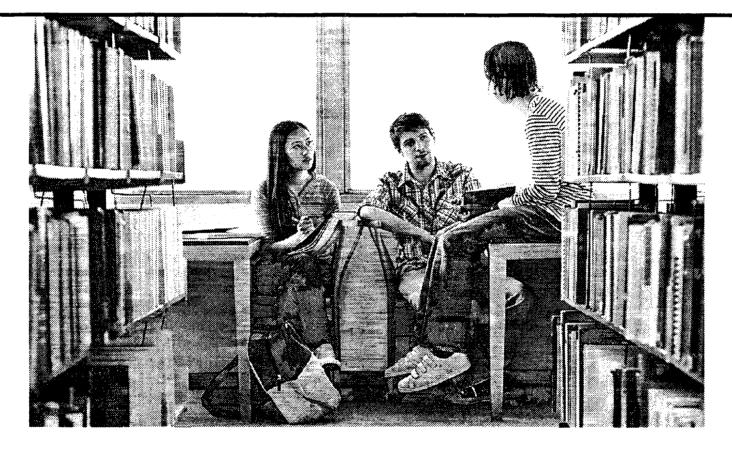
They only briefly led this time and were handed their sixth loss in nine games since Jan. 3, falling to 0-4 on the road with a second straight blowout loss on Tobacco Road. Two weeks ago, they were routed by 41 points at Duke after allowing the Blue Devils to make 48 percent of their 3s.



Marquette's Jerel McNeal, left, celebrates with Jimmy Butler after they defeated DePaul 76-61 Tuesday.

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#### **OLYMPICS**

## Phelps could face drug charges

#### **Associated Press**

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Olympic superstar Michael Phelps could face criminal charges as part of the fallout from a photo that surfaced showing the swimmer smoking from a marijuana pipe at a University of South Carolina house party.

A spokesman for Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott, who is known for his tough stance on drugs, said Tuesday the department was investi-

gating.

"Our narcotics division is reviewing the information that we have, and they're investigating w h a t charges, if any, will be filed," said Lt. Chris Cowan, spokesman for agency.

The photo first shown in sity class on sports' role in British tabloid News of the World on Sunday was snapped during November party while Phelps was visiting the university, according to the paper.

Phelps, 23, and his team have not disputed the photo's accuracy. Phelps has issued a public apology, acknowledging "regrettable" behavior and "bad judgment" after the photo appeared.

One of Phelps' agents, Drew Johnson, said Tuesday authorities had not contacted the swimmer. "So we really can't speculate," he said.

Last fall, Phelps was introduced applause

"Our narcotics division

is reviewing the

information that we

have, and they're

investigating what

charges, if any, will be

filed."

Lt. Chris Cowan

Richland County spokesman

to large South a t Carolina's football game with Arkansas. He met with players and visited with Gamecocks coach Steve Spurrier. gave who Phelps one of the ball coach's trademark visors.

Phelps also spoke at a univer-

society.

Where exactly the party occurred isn't clear. The university said its police have no evidence it was on campus, and city police said they won't pursue

criminal charges unless more information comes forward.

The Richland County sheriff can pursue charges as long as the party was in the county, the spokesman said.

"The bottom line is, if he broke the law, and he did it in Richland County, he's going to be charged," Cowan said. "And there's no difference between Michael Phelps and several other people that we arrest for the same type of a charge everyday.

Under South Carolina law, possession of one ounce or less of marijuana is a misdemeanor that carries a fine up to \$200 and 30 days in jail for the first offense. Possession of paraphernalia is a \$500

The Richland County sheriff has long sought to fight drug crimes. He rose from patrol officer to captain of the narcotics division in the early 1990s, after the television series "Miami Vice" made its splash.

Lott played the part well. He wore stylish suits and had long hair then. He drove a Porsche seized from a drug dealer and even worked undercover with federal agents in Florida.

ND Women's DIVING

# Divers doing their part to help squad

By NATHANIEL LEE Sports Writer

While most people may focus on the "swimming" aspect of the Notre Dame swimming and diving squad, the Irish divers have also been doing their part in helping the team towards a 13th consecutive Big East title.

Former Chinese national coach Caiming Xie, currently in his 31st season with the Irish, has led his divers to both All-Americans awards and Big Championships. Caiming has also earned some accolades himself. being named Big East Diving Coach of the Year five times.

"In Big East competition, the only events are the 3-meter and 1-meter springboard dives" Caiming said. "But our women's divers have been doing very well, winning many dual meets with some big competition like Northwestern and Michigan State."

This year is no exception, with two outstanding divers leading the way for Notre Dame in the pool and on the springboards. Sophomore Heidi Grossman and junior Natalie Stitt have been leading the Irish all season.

"Natalie and Heidi both have potential to win the Big East, and both qualify for NCAA diving Championships," Caiming said. "I believe they will do very well at the conference championships this year."

At the recent Shamrock Invitational, the Irish divers navigated through a strong field of competitors from West Virginia, Denver and Michigan State to help the team improve to 6-2 on the season.

In the 1-meter dive, Grossman took first with a score of 280.70, followed closely by Stitt, who earned a mark of 273.20 to take second place. The results were similar in the 3-meter, where Stitt placed first with an impressive 307.05, and Grossman snagged second with 291.10.

These are just two more excellent performances added to a multitude of wins and top-three performances that the duo has racked up throughout the regular season, including wins over then-No. Toledo, Northwestern, Pittsburgh, and Louisville.

In a sport with only 19 total events, the ability to dominate two of those is essential in the tight Big East. As the Irish prepare for the post-season, Still, Grossman and the rest of Notre Dame's Women Divers will be an essential part of the Championship seeking team.

Caiming, along with first year swimming head coach Brian Barnes, are certainly sharpening up in these final weeks to prepare for a dominating performance as the postseason starts in two weeks.

Contact Nathaniel Lee at nlee5@nd.edu



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**NFL** 

# Raiders plan to keep Cable as HC

**Associated Press** 

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Oakland Raiders retained head coach Tom Cable on Tuesday, officially removing the interim designation from his title more than five weeks after their season ended.

Cable went 4-8 after replacing Lane Kiffin with the Raiders (5-11), who have lost at least 11 games in six consecutive years. Cable, Kiffin's former offensive line coach, rallied Oakland to back-to-back victories to end last season.

Raiders owner Al Davis interviewed a handful of candidates for the job, but never seemed seriously inclined to replace Cable, valuing his organizational loyalty and leadership. Davis spoke to New York Giants offensive coordinator Kevin Gilbride and Green Bay assistant head coach Winston Moss before sticking with Cable, the former Idaho head coach who joined the Raiders in 2007.

Cable's hiring, to be announced at a news conference on Wednesday, will bring some stability to a coaching staff that's already undergoing wholesale changes even with Cable staying in charge. Cable, who represented Oakland at the Senior Bowl in Alabama last month, has argued that keeping him would bring stability to a club already on its fifth head coach since 2003.

But several key assistant coaches who finished the season under Cable's leadership already have left the Raiders for new jobs, including defensive coordinator Rob Ryan (Cleveland), offensive coordinator Greg Knapp (Seattle), special teams coordinator Brian Schneider (Southern California), running backs coach Tom Rathman (San Francisco) and linebackers coach Don Martindale (Denver).

While waiting to announce Cable's hiring, Davis filled several positions on the Raiders' new staff, hiring a few new assistants and retaining several others. Oakland notably picked veteran offensive coach Paul Hackett to be JaMarcus Russell's quarterbacks coach.

With a head coach finally in place, the Raiders can get to work hiring coordinators. They're also deep in preparations for the draft, in which they have the seventh overall pick.

Cable went 11-35 in four seasons in charge at Idaho from 2000-03 in his only previous experience as a head coach before Davis promoted him to replace Kiffin, who was fired Sept. 30 after a series of embarrassing public disagreements with Davis. Cable spent 2006 as Atlanta's offensive line coach following two years as UCLA's offensive coordinator.

### **Pitt**

continued from page 20

Bruszewski was 7-of-13 with 14 points and six boards and Solomon went 6-of-11 with 14 points and four rebounds off the bench.

"They kept us in the game at times," McGraw said of her forwards. "They did what they could do and the guards just shot poorly as a group. All of them. They all had a bad shooting day. I thought we could have gotten better shots, but we didn't."

After Notre Dame fell behind

by nine at halftime Bruszewski helped the Irish mount two comebacks midway through the second half, bringing the team to within one and three points, respectively, before Zellous and Stewart regained control and brought the score back up again.

McGraw said that defense once again was the biggest problem her team must correct in order to end this skid for good.

"It's all about defense," she said. "It's pride in our defense, it's heart. It's all defense. If we want to win, we've got to play defense."

Although the defense has

been a point of emphasis all season, the Irish have struggled under their own basket of late, allowing 78 to Rutgers, 67 to St. John's and 75 to Marquette before giving up 82 points to Pittsburgh Tuesday night.

McGraw said she does not know how she plans to fix the defense before Notre Dame's next game, Sunday at home against DePaul.

"We're gonna watch film tomorrow [Wednesday] and decide that tomorrow," she said.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at ifitzpa5@nd.edu

## **Divers**

continued from page 20

"I developed some personal goals and team goals at the

"I developed some

personal goals and

team goals at the

beginning of the

season, and, as a

team, we have

achieved most of our

goals."

Michael Bulfin

**Notre Dame captain** 

beginning of the season, and as a team.  $\mathbf{we}$ have achieved most of our goals," Bulfin said. "Going into the Big East championship, we will have an opportunity to check some more off the list. I think the looks team great right

now and will definitely exceed people's expectations. I personally would love to end my career at the NCAA Championships in College Station, Texas."

One of the most impressive aspects of the Irish's dominant stretch is the relative youth of the team. Of the Irish's six divers. Bulfin and

Dunnichay are the only upperclassmen. Along with Lex, fellow sophomores Wesley Villafor and Nathan Geary and freshman Sean Rademaker make up the contingent of underclassmen.

"It really hasn't been a

challenge to these lead guys," Bulfin said. "They are all hard workers and into come practice with a good attitude everyday. It's been easy being captain this year."

The talent on the team fosters competition amongst them, as the

divers are constantly shuffling their order according to the finish in meets. Bulfin believes that this competition has helped the team succeed.

"I think that one of the main reasons for the success of the team this year has been the level of competition in practice," Bulfin said. "The guys on our team are very talented and when some of your biggest competition is right in front of you everyday, it really keeps you motivated to get better each practice. We are each others' biggest fans and also our biggest competitors — it is a great dynamic."

As the season approaches its end, the Irish diving squad does not plan to cool off.

"We have two or three meets left this season," Bulfin said. "First we will head to the Big East Championships — we really want to take five of the top eight spots at this meet. It is a pretty high bar to meet, but I believe we can get it done."

After the Irish compete at the Big East championships, they will compete in the NCAA Zone meet, which Bulfin thinks will serve as great experience for the younger divers. Finally, the team is looking to send one or two divers to the NCAA Championships at the end of March.

Contact Mike Gotimer at mgotimer@nd.edu

## **Bearcats**

continued from page 20

something that hasn't, or won't happen with this year's squad, according to senior Zach Hillesland.

"I think it's a good point of comparison to see the psyche of this team compared to the psyche of that team because that team was falling apart a bit at certain places," Hillesland said. "I think, looking at our guys, everyone seems like they're still on board and everyone's ready to go. So, this group is ready, they're mentally tough and we're going to go out and keep fighting.'

And why is this team able to avoid this internal disruption that happens when teams fall short of expectations?

"I think as a group we're closer and have a better line of communication between everyone on the team between the players and the coaches," Hillesland said. "Everyone's on the same page. We know what has happened, we're going to be honest and up-front with it.

"We know what we need to do and there really isn't any bickering or behind-the-back finger-pointing.'

Part of that honesty is recognizing that Notre Dame

isn't going anywhere unless its post defense and reboundimprove. Against Pittsburgh Saturday, the Panthers made fools out of the Irish on the glass, outrebounding Notre Dame 49-30, with 22 of those coming as offensive boards. DeJuan Blair had 22 by himself. So far in Big East play, Notre Dame ranks 14th in rebounding defense. This has been a point of emphasis as Notre prepares Dame Cincinnati.

"They pose some problems with an athletic front line that we've had problems with keeping people off the backboard," Brey said.

Cincinnati is led by guard Deonta Vaughn, who averages 15.3 points per game. But if the Irish can contain Vaughn, it won't mean much if they can't rebound. If they can, Notre Dame may finally turn the page on a brutal first half Big East play.

"I think we're ready to do it," McAlarney said. "No one likes to lose, and five in a row puts you at the point of Godknows-what. I think we're ready to do it. I think practices have gone very well, very good lately, and it's just a matter of us translating that over to the game."

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

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## Where the girls are.

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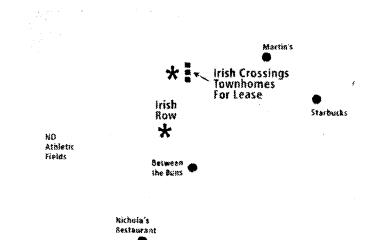
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- 26 Rand who wrote 60 Gain back "Atlas Shrugged"
- 27 Sch. where Shaquille O'Neal played basketball
- 28 Writer's guidelines 32 Spanish uncles

- 35 Mexican restaurant offering
  - 39 "Heads up!," e.g. 40 Letters after two slashes
  - 41 Grounds for a good night's sleep?
  - 42 Dick Van 43 Addlebrain

  - 44 Skilled 45 "\_\_\_ see it ..."
  - 47 Enterprise inits 49 Basis of a false
    - arrest, perhaps 58 Suffix with hotel
    - 59 Richard and Jane in court
  - 61 Going past the fourth quarter, say
  - 64 Altimeter user
  - 65 Again 66 Hamburg's river
  - 67 Informal reply to "Who's there?"
- **ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE** 
  - 18 "Finally!"
  - may be hiked
  - as colors 28 "\_\_\_ but true"
  - 30 "A cockroach!"
  - 33 "Sands of Jima"
  - hand card

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#### **EUGENIA LAST**

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kathleen Kinmont. 44; Morgan Fairchild, 59; Blythe Danner, 66; Fran Tarkenton, 69

Happy Birthday: You'll be inclined to overlook the obvious this year, partly due to emotional concerns you may not want to face. You are at a crossroad and choices and decisions must be made with great thought and honesty so you can move confidently into the future. Your numbers are 9, 14, 18, 22, 29, 34, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't count on anyone but yourself to do the work you want done. Be on your toes and ready to counteract anything that may incriminate you. Arguing will be a waste of time. Success will be sweet revenge. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): If you let anyone meddle in your affairs, it will take a long time to sort out the mess created. Don't second-guess your intentions. You must be on top of matters and in control in order to make the most of your day. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't hesitate when you have something important to say concerning an emotional matter. Waffling will confuse others and deter them from getting involved in your plans. If you are gung ho, you will attract followers. 5 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You have a good handle on your situation. Now, if you can express your feelings, you can come out on top. When you back away and sulk, you lose ground. Listen to the options that others present. 4 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't give in to emotional blackmail. Refuse to let anyone take advantage of your generosity and good nature. There are other opportunities, so don't let anyone make you feel you are in a do-or-die situation. 2 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Put your best foot forward and you'll have everyone eating out of your hand. You can persuade even the toughest opponent that you have something worth investing in or getting involved in. Make your move with confidence.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Go after your goals. Getting involved in groups that can introduce you to people of influence will help you map out your course of action and bring about success. Romantic opportunities are present. 5 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Think for yourself. You have to read between the lines if you want to know where you stand. Changes to your environment will leave you wondering where you will end up. Don't leave yourself open for criticism. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You are likely to get involved in an emotional situation that will make you squirm if you haven't been honest. If you fall short, someone will be happy to point it out. Stay where you can get the most done in the least amount of time. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You have everything going for you but, if you let someone you are emotionally involved with cloud your vision, you will miss out on a prosperous opportunity. Changes to your home or your personal situation will ease

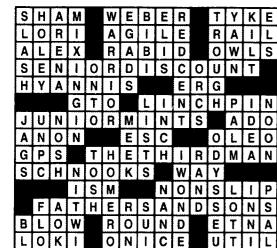
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Too much, too fast will lead to emotional upset and poor choices. Someone will try to talk his or her way into your life but past records should help you make your final decision. It's time for you to move on to new people,

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Mingle with people who are doers. A partnership looks promising but, before you decide to get involved financially, make sure that the deal is fair to both parties. Get what you want in writing. 4 stars Birthday Baby: You are creative, innovative and imaginative. You will stand alone, if

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

you must, to be true to your beliefs. You are kind and compassionate.

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REALLY GO FOR SOME

DOME PIECE RIGHT NOW.

YES SHE RELIES ON OUR HELP BECAUSE SHE'S UNMARRIED AND HAS NEVER HAD A JOB.

#### Sadie 69 U.K. military

medals

68 Like the Beatles'

#### Down

- 1 Give \_\_ in the arm 2 "I love you," in
- Spanish 3 Support with stone, as an
- embankment 4 "It's the end of
- 5 Monastic jurisdiction
- 6 "Bus 9 to Paradise" author Buscaglia
- Games 8 Common lunch
- 9 Women's hybrid clothing
- 10 Steal, slangily 11 Greet the day

Puzzle by Tim Wescott

37 Gown's partner

the Banshee

Moore poem)

seasonal octet

thirst" sloganeer,

card, 1-800-814-5554.

43 Use as a bed

46 "Obey your

41 One of a

Cried" (Thomas

38 "How \_\_\_ Has

48 Off the wall

49 Hedren of

Birds"

50 Activated again,

south from the

52 "At the Milliner's"

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit

as a burner

Kara Sea

painter

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WELL, AT LEAST YOU'LL HAVE A NICE STREAM OF CHILD SUPPORT CHECKS TO HELP YOU OUT, EH?

NONE OF THEM HAS A

THEY WERE ALL IN-VITRO

FATHER. NONE OF THEM

puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).

- 12 A little advance work
- 13 Native of NE
- Siberia
- 19 Call after a toss 24 When a football
- 25 No longer bright,
- 29 Use diligently
- 31 Alfredo sauce ingredient
- 34 Confess 36 Dead man's

WOW. SO YOU'RE GONNA HAVE EIGHT LITTLE RUGRATS RUNNING AROUND.

FOURTEEN ACTUALLY. SHE HAS SIX CHILDREN ALREADY.

#### Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

MICHAEL MIKUSKA

I'M GOING BACK TO

WORK AS A CONTRACTOR

IN IRAQ. FAR, FAR AWAY

DAVID CAVADINI

HERE YA GO!

I ONLY GET IT

ON M-W-FS!

YOW. SO HOW YOU

GONNA SUPPORT THEM ALL?

53 Auto route from

at the Olympics

Me. to Fla.

55 Agitates

56 Okra stew

62 \_\_\_\_ Kippur

63 Annoy

Hitchcock's "The 54 Did one's part?

51 Range extending 57 They're guarded

#### **JUMBLE**

#### HENRI ARNOLD MIKE ARGIRION

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

## Unscramble these four Jumbles,

one letter to each square. to form four ordinary words.

KNFTO ©2008 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved. **TANGE** 

**KELCHE** 

www.iumble.com **DEFANE** 

Whew, I'm HEMMING DRESSES ALL DAY LEFT THE SEAMSTRESS-

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

**Answer** 

Jumbles: AFOOT FAIRY

(Answers tomorrow) JAILED BECKON

Saturday's

Answer: What Dad considered the icy drink on a hot day - A COOL "AID"

## THE OBSERVER

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

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# THE OBSERVER SPORTS

#### MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Hoops squad looks to get back on track vs. Cincinnati

By CHRIS HINE Sports Writer

Ever since Notre Dame's loss to Louisville on Jan. 12, the Irish have been trying to turn the page, and start a new chapter, a new winning streak. Too bad the pages have been glued together.

Five straight games against ranked opponents, four against teams now in the top-10, offered no respite, no easy wins, and in fact, no

wins at all.

"You know, I think after each loss, we've been trying to turn the page and get onto something different," Irish guard Kyle McAlarney said. "But I think now, you've just got to forget about all that and you've got to just go out and play."

Notre Dame's matchup Wednesday at Cincinnati represents Notre Dame's best chance at a win since the Irish downed Seton Hall on Jan. 10, a win Irish coach

was "last season." But Brey said just because Cincinnati may not have the number next to its name doesn't mean you can automatically put one in the win column for Notre Dame.

"You can't fall into the trap iust because where Cincinnati's not in the top-10, you're not ready to compete," Brey said before practice Monday.

The Bearcats posted a 65-57 win over Georgetown last

Mike Brey said seemed like it week, but Villanova blew them out Sunday, 71-50. For the Irish to beat the Bearcats, they'll need to play well in every facet of the game for 40 minutes, something they haven't done in their current

> "We've done stuff in spurts and then just kind of, one important play, important rebound we just haven't been able to get, which was evident in the Marquette and UConn game," McAlarney said.

A loss to Cincinnati would

not mean the end of Notre Dame's season, but it would make the road the NCAA Tournament a lot tougher. Brey and Notre Dame's seniors were in a similar situation three years ago, when Notre Dame couldn't buy a win, and suffered heartbreaking loss after heartbreaking loss, failing to make the NCAA Tournament.

Each defeat wore on the team's chemistry and psyche,

see BEARCATS/page 18

#### ND Women's BASKETBALL

# Over-Zellous

Senior guard nets 29 for Panthers, ensures Irish skid continues

By JAY FITZPATRICK Sports Writer

Pitt guard Shavonte Zellous made sure that Notre Dame would not get out of its current funk, scoring 29 points in 31 minutes to lead the Panthers in their 82-70 win over the Irish.

The loss was Notre Dame's fourth in its last six games.

"Muffet on the losing streak," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said in a phone interview with The Observer Tuesday night.

Zellous, the Big East leader in scoring, was one of four Panthers in double figures Tuesday night. Guards Xenia Stewart and Taneisha Harrison each put up 17 points and forward Shayla Scott added 11 for Pittsburgh in the win.

"I thought Pitt came out ready to play. It was an important game and they came out like they wanted to win," McGraw

said. "They played harder than we did. Everybody for them stepped up and had a great game. They did what they needed to do; they rebounded, they

Similar to Notre Dame's most recent loss — a 78-68 home defeat at the hands of Rutgers — its opponents got an early lead with the 3-point shot. Zellous and Stewart each nailed a trey in the first 40 seconds of the game.

Pitt stayed hot from beyond the arc all game, finishing 7-of-12 from 3-point land. Zellous was 4-of-5 and Stewart was 2of-3.

On the other end of the court, Notre Dame's shooting struggles continued to show up in a big way, especially in the back-Guards Melissa court. Lindsay Lechlitner and Schrader combined to shoot only 6-of-26 during the game for 17 total points.

The one bright side for the Irish, McGraw said, was the play of forwards Becca Bruszewski and Erica Solomon.

see PITT/page 18



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish freshman forward Erica Solomon, left, goes up for a layup during Notre Dame's 78-72 win over Michigan State on Nov. 29. Solomon and the Irish fell to Pittsburgh 82-70 last night.

#### MEN'S DIVING

## Led by Bulfin, Irish divers make their mark

By MIKE GOTIMER Sports Writer

Although the Notre Dame men's swimming and diving team has experienced its ups and downs throughout its 6-6 season, the Irish have seen remarkable consistency from its divers.

In four meets since the start of 2009, the Irish have yet to drop either the 1-meter or 3meter diving events. Furthermore, the Irish have swept at least the top three spots in six of their past eight diving events, including two sweeps of the top-five and topfour spots.

Leading the way for the Irish is senior captain Michael Bulfin, who has placed first in five of his six events in 2009. He also ranks third and second in the Big East in the 1meter and 3-meter events, respectively. Sophomore Eric Lex trails Bulfin with two first place finishes while junior Caleb Dunnichay has one win in the new year. With numerous strong showings at this point in the season, the Irish believe that they are on their way to accomplishing the goals that they set for the sea-

see DIVERS/page 18

#### **SMC BASKETBALL**

## SMC seeks conference win

Belles will try to rebound after blowout loss to rival Hope

By BOBBY GRAHAM Sports Writer

Coming into last Saturday's matchup against Hope, the Belles had generated a considerable amount of momentum.

After winning the first three games of a grueling four-game road trip, including a tough overtime victory against Calvin, Saint Mary's was tied with the Hope's nationally ranked Dutch for the best record in MIAA conference play and a shot to go head-to-head for the regular season crown. However, despite the Belles' hot streak, they fell behind early in their matchup Saturday afternoon

and could never regain their grip, falling to the Flying Dutch 84-59, Saint Mary's most lopsided loss of the season.

With their own fate no longer in their hands, Saint Mary's (11-8, 9-2 MIAA) looks to help themselves out as much as they can as they face conference opponent Olivet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

The Belles' first home game in nearly two weeks should offer the squad a nice change of pace as the countdown to the MIAA conference tournament draws closer. Including Wednesday's matchup against Ölivet, Saint Mary's has already played their next five opponents at least once this season. With a combined record of 41 against those teams, winning out is a possibility. Throw in a Hope loss, and the race for the regular season conference championship would heat up once again.

In order to make sure they don't lose their second straight, however, the Belles will need to rejuvenate their game on the boards. In last Saturday's loss to Hope, Saint Mary's was outrebounded 57 to 45, allowing the Flying Dutch 30 second chance points. Another strong outing from freshman Jessica Centa, who broke through with 12 points last Saturday, would also help the Belles' cause.

Contact Bobby Graham at rgraham@nd.edu