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Remaining ND tickets debate platforms

Schmidt-Weber and Burdick-Sanchez prepare for Thursday's run-off election

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

The Grant Schmidt-Cynthia Weber ticket emphasized its experience and platform research while the Laura Burdick-Derek Sanchez ticket accused their opponents of recycling ideas from old campaigns in the run-off debate for student body president and vice president Wednesday night in LaFortune.

Schmidt, a junior, and Weber, a sophomore, along with juniors Burdick and Sanchez, advanced to compete in the run-off election after neither ticket won 50

percent of the vote in the general election Monday.

The debate, moderated by George Chamberlain, president of the Judicial Council, featured questions from the Council and the audience with a chance for the candidates to give a rebuttal.

Schmidt and Weber said they present a comprehensive and well-researched platform with feasible ideas.

"I think a lot of people have questioned our taxi reform," Schmidt said. "But these are things I have been looking at for a really long time. We need to accomplish these big initiatives."

see DEBATE/page 6



Vice presidential candidate Derek Sanchez, with running mate Laura Burdick, speaks during the run-off debate on Wednesday.

Campuses, community seek better relationship

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

Improving relationships between Notre Dame students and South Bend residents and concerns with off-campus housing were two issues discussed Wednesday at the Community Campus Advisory Coalition (CCAC) meeting, held at the County-City Building in South Bend.

Student and faculty representatives from Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross met with South Bend Police Department (SBPD) officers and leaders from the community for the third time this year to talk about community and student related issues.

Council chairman Al Kirsits said one issue of concern between community members and students are parties and alcohol-related matters. But overall, the number of parties and incidents involving drinking has been down this year, he said.

Kirsits said the best way to handle alcohol-related issues is continued education.

The coalition would like to set up a booth on alcohol awareness at a spring event on campus and look into educating students by having them drive golf carts while wearing D.U.I goggles. The goggles distort the wearer's vision as if they were intoxicated.

see CCAC/page 6

Knights raise money for several charities

Organization collects \$48,325 from selling steak sandwiches at home football games



Photo Courtesy of Jim Redden

John Peterson, a member of the Knights of Columbus, grills steaks before a 2007 home football game.

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

There's a lot of money in steak sandwiches, at least when you sell them prior to Notre Dame home football games.

The Notre Dame chapter of the Knights of Columbus made a profit of \$48,325 during the 2008 football season. The Knights, a fraternal service organization, are currently in the process of distributing these funds to several charities, as they do every year.

Grand Knight Jim Redden

said the 2008 profit was good considering there was one fewer home game than recent years, and that the weather was rainy the day of the Michigan game.

On a football weekend with good weather, they sell about 3,000 steaks, said Redden, a junior at Notre Dame.

"People buy them faster than we can make them, so there's always more of a demand than we can get them cooked," he said. "So one of the challenges is to get started early enough that you can make enough of a

see KNIGHTS/page 4

Exhibit features poet's works

Ingeborg Bachmann's life and literary achievements on display at library

By LIZ LEFEBVRE
News Writer

The prominent exhibit "Writing Against War" featuring the life and works of renowned Austrian-born poet Ingeborg Bachmann will open on the second floor of the Hesburgh Library Thursday at 5 p.m.

The multi-media display focuses specifically on the theme of war throughout Bachmann's life and literary achievements.

The ceremony will feature a presentation and reading by poet and Bachmann translator Peter Filkins of Bard College. A reception will follow the event.

The exhibit will be on display at Notre Dame through March 8. This is the first stop on the exhibit's United States tour, though it has been traveling throughout Europe since 2003. The Austrian Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs provided the exhibit and it has already appeared at 57 different locations and been translated into seven languages.

Bachmann, a famous writer of poems, radio plays, short stories, novels and literary theory essays, became one of the leading voices in post-war German literature. Her works represent a large body of anti-war writing, as she used

language to challenge the chronic state of war in the world. Each year a prestigious award is given out in her name and memory to an outstanding work of Germanophone literature.

German professor and Nanovic Institute fellow, Anita McChesney was responsible for bringing the exhibit to Notre Dame.

"Ingeborg Bachmann's works present singular vision of literary protests against wars that touched her life, and they reflect both a criticism of war's atrocities as well as the continued hope for peace," McChesney said. "This

see HESBURGH/page 4

STUDENT SENATE

Web site discussed in informal meeting

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

Student Senate held an informal meeting Wednesday to discuss the creation of a Web site with information about South Bend geared towards students.

The meeting was informal because the group lacked enough members for quorum and could not call the meeting to order.

Community Relations committee chair Gus Gari said the off-campus Web site will be

broken up into tabs routing students to different categories, such as entertainment, off-campus living, safety and security and more.

"The bottom line is this is useful to the entire student body," he said.

For example, Gari said the site will have information about different off-campus housing options and how to sign a lease for students who are contemplating moving. The housing options tab would give students all the informa-

see SENATE/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Diamonds on Feb. 14

The temperature has been above freezing for almost a week now. On Tuesday, I saw the sun. I've been wearing flip-flops since Saturday. Yesterday, it started raining.

Indeed, signs of South Bend spring are everywhere. And with Feb. 14 drawing near, I've got diamonds on the brain.

No, I'm not talking about getting engaged. Seeing as how I'm a sophomore and single, it would be a pretty big shock if someone were to take me down to the grotto and pop the question. If it did happen, I'm pretty sure I would decline.

(Exception: Michael Floyd.)

Laura Myers
*Sports
Production
Editor*

I'm talking about a different type of diamond. A kind that is less expensive to enjoy — not counting in New York — and a much better best friend than a jewel is.

That's right. Cubs fans, start your engines (hear that distinctive whine?), because it's baseball season again.

On Saturday — known to some as Valentine's Day, to others as Singles Awareness Day, still to others as Jon McLaughlin Day — pitchers and catchers will begin reporting to their spring training camps all along the warm parts of the country.

Actually, the pitchers and catchers of one team will start reporting on Friday the 13th. Interesting that the Yankees think of themselves as above bad luck.

Baseball season is my favorite part of the year. I'm a happier person when I have sports to ease my stress, and basketball just doesn't cut it. Granted, sometimes it adds to my stress, but that's what you get for being a Notre Dame student from Cleveland.

The new season is already brimming with storylines, including yet another steroid scandal, C.C. Sabathia in those oh-so-slimming pinstripes, and my personal favorite, Manny-Being-Unemployed.

In my mind, though, the new season is still a blank slate.

Anything can happen over the course of five months and 162 baseball games. Every year, experts make predictions, and every year, they're proved completely wrong.

Remember the beginning of 2008's season, when the Tigers were supposed to score 1000 runs and easily win the World Series? Remember the end of the 2008 season, when the Tigers finished last, behind the Kansas City Royals?

I feel the urge to make fun of the Yankees and Cubs more, but it's not fair because I've already targeted them. Plus, it's just too easy.

The point is that, lame as it sounds, every team is undefeated right now.

There's a point in every season where the general attitude among Indians fans switches from "It's Tribe Time Now!" to "There's always next year..."

Well, guess what. It's 2009. It's Tribe Time Now. And there's always this year.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Laura Myers at lmeyers2@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 THE NICEST THING YOU HAVE DONE TODAY?



Gus Gari
Junior
Keenan

"I'm not a nice person."



Seung-Joe Oh
Freshman
St. Edward's

"I let myself get some sleep."



Elizabeth Flood
Freshman
Lewis

"I complimented a girl on her ugly sweater. Does that like count as community service or something?"



Jonas Gray
Freshman
Keenan

"I did the Heimlich maneuver on a guy choking on a Pop-Tart."



Matt Ong
Freshman
Keenan

"I generally don't believe in kindness but today I was everyone's sunshine since the skies were grey. I also adopted an orphaned turtle and named it Rodeo."



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Peter Campbell, a graduate assistant in the College of Arts and Letters, takes notes during a presentation by David Cortright and George A. Lopez entitled "The Impact of Counterterrorism on Civil Society" in O'Shaughnessy Hall on Wednesday.

OFFBEAT

Man arrested for letting 8-year-old child drive

BRADENTON, Fla. — Police arrested a 34-year-old man they said let his 8-year-old son drive a van just before midnight Sunday. A Bradenton police report said the boy hit a two trees and nearly hit two pedestrians in a parking lot when his father let him drive.

The father told police that he had taken Xanax, used to treat anxiety and panic attacks, and was "feeling woozy and didn't want to drive." He said he that he thought letting his son drive would be a

"bonding moment."

The boy told police his father took "liquid medicine in order to feel better," pointing to an empty whiskey bottle in the vehicle.

The man faces charges of child abuse and permitting an unlicensed driver to drive. He remained in jail Wednesday on a \$10,120 bond.

Robber runs out of gas after robbing gas station

CAPE HAZE, Fla. — Authorities said they arrested a man who apparently forgot to fill up when he was robbing a gas sta-

tion. The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office said a 23-year-old man used a Bowie knife to rob a Cape Haze gas station early Sunday. Deputies said the man pulled the 12-inch blade and demanded money. But when he left, a customer followed him and called 911.

While deputies were looking for signs of the robber, a newspaper carrier told them that a man in a car matching the one from the robbery had run out of gas nearby.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Valentine's Day Candy Heart-grams will be sold in LaFortune today. The hearts cost \$1 per package and will be delivered on Friday.

Fair Trade Coffeehouse in the CoMo Lounge, today from 8 p.m.-10 p.m. Learn about the Fair Trade movement and enjoy coffee, baked goods, and live entertainment from popular campus acts. Sponsored by the Department of Sociology. Proceeds help fund SOC 23534's cross-cultural trip to Guatemala.

The Glass Club is having a sale of some of their products — etched glassware, jewelry, stained glass and fused glass, in the Sorin Room of LaFortune. It will take place today from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The Freshman Class Council is hosting Lovefest on Friday at 9 p.m. The event will take place in Casey Auditorium in the Hesburgh Library and will include free candy from the South Bend Chocolate Factory and musical performers from the Freshman class. Tickets are \$5 and will benefit the American Heart Association.

The annual Edith Stein Project will take place throughout the day this Friday. The conference will address women's issues which will include speakers, a Mass, meals. Saint Mary's and Notre Dame students are invited free of charge, but must register at <https://marketplace.nd.edu/cc/e/index.cfm>.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 37 LOW 27	HIGH 26 LOW 22	HIGH 32 LOW 25	HIGH 30 LOW 18	HIGH 27 LOW 18	HIGH 30 LOW 20

Atlanta 65 / 43 Boston 51 / 41 Chicago 42 / 31 Denver 43 / 19 Houston 69 / 53 Los Angeles 60 / 48 Minneapolis 37 / 26 New York 49 / 42 Philadelphia 49 / 44 Phoenix 64 / 43 Seattle 45 / 34 St. Louis 55 / 37 Tampa 77 / 63 Washington 58 / 46

Italy's political landscape discussed

Ambassador Guido Lenzi addresses country's history and origins

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

In the Gallery of Bond Hall, adorned by Roman casts and sculptures, Italian ambassador Guido Lenzi described Italy's complicated character to a packed room on Wednesday.

"Italy is a country of contradictions. It's a land of improvisation — things are made up at the spur of the moment, and inventiveness is part of the life of everybody," Lenzi said.

Lenzi described Italy as a "grown-up teenager" because it is "full of life, inventive and smiling but totally irresponsible."

He explained the nation's history and origins.

"Italy is a very young country ... younger than the United States. It is a young country that has had a hard time holding itself together."

According to Lenzi, Italy's fragmented nature can be attributed to the city-states, which preceded Italy's unification.

"The city-states account for the fact that local allegiances are much stronger nowadays. People are first Florentine and Tuscan, and only eventually Italian," Lenzi said. "They are very provincial and local-minded ... which is the strength of Italy, but also means that it is not a coherent whole."

He said that bureaucracy does not play a fundamental role in Italian politics because people have learned

to live without the state.

"Bureaucracy does not work as smoothly as it should because Italian cities have not asked for the state to work properly. Italians know how to make do and obtain what they want without the state," he said.

"Italians subsist and prosper in spite of the state. We have learned to exist without needing the state."

Additionally, Lenzi said Italy's disorganization and incoherence must change in the future.

"Now Italy, after having survived and prospered in this very special, different way, now needs to organize itself and make itself recognizable."

Italy needs to make itself more accessible to the international community, he said.

"Now we need Italy for the Europeans, for the European Union, for the Mediterranean, for the Balkan states. All of this has to be made coherent," Lenzi said.

The Italian parliamentary democracy includes a strong parliament and a weak presidency, which has allowed for the spread of democracy and has ensured that the country remains united, he said.

He also discussed how the

Communist Party dominated Italy after World War II, and were followed by the Christian Democrats.

"Italy had a revolving door government ... there was a new government every year," Lenzi said.

"Italy is a country of contradictions. It's a land of improvisation — things are made up at the spur of the moment, and inventiveness is part of the life of everybody."

Guido Lenzi
Italian ambassador

However, he argued that Italy's current prime minister, Silvio Berlusconi, is not to blame for Italy's political struggles.

"[Berlusconi] is not the cause of the Italian woes. Berlusconi is the consequence of such a state of affairs. He did not want to have an organized party. He was fed up with party system.... Everybody in Italy was involved in that system, you can't point the finger [at Berlusconi]," he said.

Lenzi concluded that because Italy is a multilateral-minded country without a strong national interest, it has an important role in international relations.

"Italy is a front-line state. We have to be considered as a country that matters in presenting a united stance," he said. "Italy is a party-goer ... it is the most multilateral-minded country in Europe."

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ND drill team to perform in NYC

By CASEY KENNY
News Writer

The Irish Marauders, a color guard and exhibition drill team of the Notre Dame Army ROTC, recently received an invitation to perform at the St. Patrick's Day parade in New York City, Officer-in-Charge, Justin Figueredo said.

"We are really excited to be invited to march in this parade and provide the colors in a nationally televised event — not many teams are invited, so it is a huge honor to be recognized and invited to participate and represent Notre Dame," Figueredo, a senior, said.

The team provides color guard for sporting leagues and charities off campus, and represents Notre Dame's Army ROTC at various events and functions throughout the nation.

"Not many people know about the other component of the Irish Marauders ... the drill team," Figueredo said.

The drill team is made up of about 17 Army ROTC students in all classes and has practice every week, he said. The Marauders are a voluntary group for personal development, he said.

"Since it is intended to be for enjoyment and the development of personal discipline, there are no tryouts for the team or cuts from the team," Figueredo said.

He adds that their mission is "to develop leadership, confidence and teamwork while

learning the art of Army ceremonies and rifle and exhibition drill techniques, including spins, throws and other maneuvers."

The team's performances involve silent drill, which requires that all rifle movements be executed at precise moments.

"Our performances are a real show of discipline," adds Figueredo. "We move and spin our rifles with no beat or counting, but rather create our own beat which requires that all members be mentally sound and in complete sync with one another in order for it to work."

Though they are challenging, the performances are also meant to be fun and exciting for team members and viewers alike, he said.

The drill team's performances are "a lot of fun to watch and really demonstrate the values of the Army ROTC program. They are especially enjoyable for the team members."

The Marauders drill team has been looking forward to its performance at the Irish women's basketball game Wednesday night, he said.

"It is the team's first performance outside the battalion and a great opportunity to show the public our drill team," says Figueredo. "Public performance is such a rewarding part of our practice and the team really enjoys putting on these exhibitions."

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Professor looks for trend in college age plagiarism

Special to The Observer

Susan D. Blum, associate professor of anthropology at the University of Notre Dame, is the author of a new book titled "My Word! Plagiarism and College Culture," which explores the prevalence of plagiarism among American college students and why it exists.

Blum is a cultural and linguistic anthropologist who has been researching deception, truth, lying and cheating for several years, mostly in the

context of China but also cross-culturally.

In "My Word!" she examines in greater depth the specific area of plagiarism, in which those same accusations are made.

"My goal simply is understanding," Blum said. "The book examines the complexity of student behavior using standard anthropological tools for holistic approach to a problem. I see my role as a translator of students' culture to non-students through analysis of the perspectives of faculty,

administrators and students. I neither excuse nor blame students for the behavior we lump together as 'plagiarism.' Rather than complaining about how 'lazy' or 'distracted' they are, I decided to investigate all the claims on their time, and I offer suggestions to help faculty and administrators better

communicate with them."

Blum, who served for five years as director of Notre Dame's Center for Asian Studies, is also the author of "Lies that Bind: Chinese Truth, Other Truths," which explores the ideology of truth and deception in China and elsewhere, as well as "Making Sense of

Language: Readings in Culture and Communication," and "Portraits of 'Primitives': Ordering Human Kinds in the Chinese Nation."

She is co-editor of "China Off Center: Mapping the Margins of the Middle Kingdom."

A member of the Notre Dame faculty since 2000, Blum was graduated from Stanford University. She earned master's degrees in anthropology and Chinese language and literature and her doctoral degree in anthropology from the University of Michigan.

"My goal simply is understanding."

Susan D. Blum
associate professor
of anthropology

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Senate

continued from page 1

tion they need, he said.

Because this student government administration has focused on off-campus safety, the site will also have a lot of information about safety and good community relations, Gari said.

"There will be resources about being a good neighbor and communicating better with the community," he said.

Gari said he presented this information to the Council of Representatives (COR) Tuesday and received feedback.

"COR mentioned having a 'Your Rights' tab on the site," he said. "We were also told to be stressing stuff from the Eddy Street Commons project."

The 'Your Rights' tab would detail what is expected of students when they move off campus, he said.

COR members also suggested tracking the parts of the site that receive the most hits and then making those tabs more accessible to students, Gari said.

Student body president Bob Reish said the site is for on-campus students as well as students living off campus.

"There will be resources about being a good neighbor and communicating better with the community."

Gus Gari
community relations
committee chair

"I know of students who have gotten kicked out of their houses because they were zoned incorrectly."

Bob Reish
student body president

"I think people get confused because it's called the off-campus Web site," he said.

Continuing the discussion of off-campus living, Reish said he has been approached several times about the University's lack of a list of off-campus student addresses. The University only requires one address from students, and many students give their home address, he said.

Reish asked the senators if they believe the University should require the address of off-campus students.

"I think that's private information," Duncan Hall senator Ben Linskey said.

However, Reish said without the information, neither the University nor student government can stop students from unknowingly breaking zoning laws, and they cannot give information about basic off-campus living trends.

"I know of students who have gotten kicked out of their houses because they were zoned incorrectly," he said. "Right now we don't have that information so if a student rents a house, they could potentially get a house zoned for a single family."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Knights

continued from page 1

reserve in order to feed the lunchtime crowd. One of the big selling points that we advertise is that 100 percent of the profits go to charity."

The four largest charities that receive money from the Notre Dame council are Corvillia, Inc., a South Bend organization that provides homes for mentally and physically handicapped adults; Gibault, a school founded by the Indiana Knights of Columbus for troubled teens; Andean Health and Development, a healthcare society founded in Ecuador by 1984 Notre Dame graduate Dr. David Gaus and University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore M. Hesburgh; and the James Karaffa Business Academy for Women in Nairobi, Kenya, a mini-business school that teaches women to make a living for themselves and their family. Smaller amounts of money are distributed to other charities, Redden said, but those are the top four.

Redden is not sure who first came up with the idea to sell steak sandwiches, but he said

it has become a "staple" of Notre Dame football games. In the morning and afternoon before kick-offs in the fall, lines of people stretch down sidewalks next to the Knights of Columbus building on South Quad to wait for the Knights' signature sandwich.

"We have literally been doing this since the early 1980s," Redden said. "We have pictures and records that go back of a group of kids who basically just thought it would be a good idea to raise money for the Corvillia House."

Over the course of a season, about 100 members of the Knights work the concession stand. They set up at 7:30 a.m. Saturday mornings, light the grills by 8 a.m. and have the first steaks ready for sale by 9 a.m.

For \$6, a person in line can get a sandwich and a drink.

"You get lots of people that say this is their first time and they've heard about the steak sandwiches, and they heard they have to get the steak sandwich, and then you'll get people who have been coming

here for 10 years and always get a steak sandwich and they love it," Redden said.

Since 2003, the Knights have given \$287,844.49 to charity from steak sales. The steak sandwiches have been so popular that this year, the Knights are bringing steak sandwiches to spring semester.

In honor of Valentine's Day, the Knights are selling "steak grams," steak sandwiches that can be purchased in advance at tables in the

dining halls and LaFortune. They will be delivered Sunday from 1-3 p.m.

"What would a guy rather have?" Redden asked. "A steak sandwich or a piece of candy?"

Redden said they will donate money from these sales to charity if they make a profit.

The Knights of Columbus are 200 members-strong at Notre Dame, according to the listserv, Redden said. The requirements to join the society are that the person must be male, Catholic and at least 18 years old.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

"What would a guy rather have? A steak sandwich or a piece of candy?"

Jim Redden
Grand Knight

Hesburgh

continued from page 1

exhibit offers a great opportunity to inspire us to seek to change how we respond to injustice. Given the current relevance of war and the atrocities of war in our 21st century society, I wanted to bring a poetic voice into the discussion."

McChesney also hopes that the exhibit will provide exposure one of Austria's most

renowned poets to students and faculty who are not as familiar with her and the significance of her works.

"I wanted to give students the chance to experience an Austrian writer through her works and through images of her life and the European context in which she wrote."

One of the overall goals of displaying the exhibit at Notre Dame is to strengthen the commitment of students who have resolved to make a difference in the world.

"I hope that as the students read Bachmann's poetry, are moved by the beauty of the language, the pain reflected in the words, but also the light of hope that continually drove her to write, they will reflect on these core missions," said McChesney.

As Bachmann herself focused on needing simple peace as a foundation for far-reaching cultural projects, McChesney hopes that this exhibit can

Contact Liz Lefebvre at lefebvr@nd.edu

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Election brings no peace to Israel

JERUSALEM — Inconclusive election results sent Israel into political limbo Wednesday with both Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni and hard-line leader Benjamin Netanyahu claiming victory and leaving the kingmaker role to a rising political hawk with an anti-Arab platform.

Livni's Kadima Party won 28 seats, just one more than Netanyahu's Likud, in Tuesday's election for the 120-member parliament, according to nearly complete results. With neither party winning a clear majority, neither can govern alone. Gains by right-wing parties give Netanyahu a better chance of forming a coalition with his natural allies.

The results set the stage for what could be weeks of coalition negotiations. Israeli media reported the first meetings were scheduled for Wednesday.

Australia to install fire alert system

KINGLAKE, Australia — The federal government said Thursday it will clear away hurdles that have stalled a nationwide fire alert telephone system, after thousands of people were caught by surprise by the most deadly wildfires in Australia's history.

Privacy laws and bickering between state officials over funding had snarled the plan for years, The Australian newspaper reported Thursday. But there is a new urgency after the weekend blazes in Victoria state killed at least 181 people. Officials said the death toll could exceed 200.

Attorney General Robert McClelland said the plan had been raised in 2004 under the previous government, but state officials had failed to agree on details and no steps have been taken to change privacy laws that bar emergency services from accessing the national telephone number data base.

NATIONAL NEWS

Obama honors Lincoln at gala

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama praised Abraham Lincoln for his conviction that a divided nation could be made whole at a gala Wednesday night celebrating the \$25 million renovation of Ford's Theatre.

The president and first lady Michelle Obama joined a crowd of Hollywood stars and Washington heavy-hitters for the celebration on the eve of Lincoln's 200th birthday. The theater where Lincoln was assassinated is reopening after an 18-month facelift that included new, more comfortable seats, a modern lobby and new dressing rooms.

Calling the theater "hallowed space" where Lincoln's legacy thrives, Obama praised him for restoring a sense of unity to the country.

Van drags body through NYC

NEW YORK — A van traveled for nearly an hour over busy New York City roads before its driver discovered the horrific cargo it had dragged almost 20 miles: the partially scraped-away body of a man who was plowed over by an SUV just before he got caught under the van.

Police said the gruesome episode was accidental and that they have no plans to charge the drivers at this time.

But that did not diminish the shock of seeing a dead man hooked under a van that had just traversed some of the busiest roads in the city. Police said the driver, Manuel Lituma Sanchez, had no idea he hit the victim until the end of his

LOCAL NEWS

Hospital has water supply again

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — The water is running again at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville.

The hospital was without its principal water supply Wednesday after a break to a city water main. Service was restored about 4 p.m., some 15 hours after the water main broke.

Spokesman Sam Rogers says a boil advisory remains in effect for drinking water, so bottled water is being distributed to the hospital's 350 patients. But patients now can take showers and flush their toilets.

NORTH KOREA

N. Korea preps long-range missile test

Country scraps peace agreements, seeks to provoke neighbor and win Obama's attention

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea appears to be gearing up for another long-range missile test, the latest in a series of provocative acts seemingly aimed at stoking tensions with South Korea and winning the attention of the new U.S. president.

In recent weeks, Pyongyang has declared it will scrap peace agreements with Seoul and warned of war on the Korean peninsula. Reports that it could be preparing to test a missile capable of reaching the western United States have added to the anxiety.

South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported Wednesday that a vehicle carrying radar equipment was seen moving to a launch site on the North's eastern coast from a munitions factory near Pyongyang.

"It can be analyzed that the North is proceeding with a missile launch preparation in stages," Yonhap quoted a South Korean government official it did not name as saying.

South Korean and Japanese media said last week that intelligence agents had spotted a train carrying a long, cylinder-shaped object — believed to be a long-range missile — to the launch site at Musudan-ni.

U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates has played down reports of possible North Korean missile launch preparations, noting Tuesday that Pyongyang's last such test in 2006 was a failure and that the U.S. could shoot down a North Korean missile "should we deem it necessary."

Nevertheless, North Korea's saber-rattling has been interpreted as an attempt to grab President Barack Obama's attention; U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton is



A South Korean Army soldier walks by models of mock North Korean Scud-B missile at Korea War Memorial Museum in Seoul, South Korea, Wednesday. AP

scheduled to visit South Korea next week.

The stalled multinational dialogue to disarm North Korea resumed late last year after the U.S. removed the country from its list of nations that sponsor terrorism. Those talks also involved China, Russia, South Korea and Japan.

Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman warned Wednesday that North Korea's actions could disrupt the disarmament process.

"I think activities of this nature, should they be taking place, would be harmful to the ongoing efforts, the diplomatic efforts within the six-party talks," Whitman

said. "Its always been our position that North Korea should refrain from provocative actions that might aggravate tensions in the region."

The foreign ministers of South Korea and Japan said they were mindful about the possibility of another North Korean missile test.

"Both of us shared concerns about North Korea's intentional acts of stoking tension ... and urge North Korea to behave in a way that contributes to regional stability," South Korean Foreign Minister Yu Myung-hwan said at a news conference in Seoul with his Japanese counterpart,

Hirofumi Nakasone.

The National Intelligence Service, South Korea's main spy agency, said it could not comment because the report was related to intelligence matters. The Defense Ministry said it was checking the report.

South Korea's Defense Ministry and the Joint Chiefs of Staff said the military had not upgraded its alert status.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Il meanwhile promoted close aides to key defense posts in a move apparently aimed at shoring up — and proving — his control over the military following a spike in tension on the Korean peninsula.

AFGHANISTAN

Taliban attack gov't building, kill 20

Associated Press

KABUL — Taliban militants killed 20 people in a coordinated attack on three government buildings in Kabul Wednesday, launching the assault after sending text messages to the leader of their terror cell in Pakistan, the head of Afghan intelligence said.

The three-pronged attack on government ministries struck the heart of the heavily fortified capital on the eve of a visit by Richard Holbrooke, President Barack Obama's special envoy to the region. It underscored the reach of the Taliban outside their mountainous strongholds and the challenges Obama faces as he increases America's focus — and troop levels — in Afghanistan.

The morning assault sent workers scrambling for safety as security forces spread out in the streets and searched rooftops for attackers, reinforcing the perception that security in Afghanistan is rapidly deteriorating. Security analysts tracking daily attacks say numbers have spiked this year, and militants now control wide swaths of Afghan countryside.

The assault began about 10 a.m. and was carried out by eight insurgents carrying Kalashnikov rifles, grenades and explosive vests. The Taliban claimed responsibility shortly after the siege began.

All eight attackers died, said Mohammad Hanif Atmar, the interior minister, bringing the death toll to 28. Another 57 people were wound-

ed, he said.

The tactics the militants employed were similar to the Mumbai assault on hotels, markets and a train station last November that killed 164 in India, said Amrullah Saleh, the head of Afghanistan's intelligence service.

Indian officials have blamed the Mumbai attack on the Pakistani-based militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba. Saleh did not blame Pakistan, but said the attackers communicated with a militant leader in Pakistan.

"As they were entering the Ministry of Justice and before starting the indiscriminate killing of the civilians there, they sent three messages to Pakistan, calling for the blessing of their mastermind," Saleh told a news conference.

Debate

continued from page 1

In response to a question from the audience at the end of the meeting about Schmidt's taxi reform plan, he said three out of the eight cab companies in South Bend have agreed to use his program of distributing booklets that would allow students to pay the cab fare with a coupon.

"These [cab companies] have safety and efficiency standards," he said. Burdick countered that many of the eight cab companies that are officially recognized by South Bend have independent drivers that will not accept the coupons.

"Over half the drivers in the cab companies work independently, and you think you can use the ticket, but they'll say 'I work independently,'" she said.

Schmidt also said both he and Weber bring experience to the roles, as Schmidt currently serves as student body vice president and Weber is the sophomore class president.

Burdick argued that as athletic co-chairs in the Hall Presidents Council, she and Sanchez have been part of many student groups, so they know what students want their leaders to accomplish.

"Derek and I feel that since we have been a part of all these student groups, we get a lot better feedback," Burdick said.

Sanchez said the biggest strength of the Burdick-Sanchez ticket is originality, and he attacked Schmidt and Weber's platform for "piggy-backing old ideas."

"It's really easy to say you have a lot of research done when the ideas are old," he said.

A question from the Judicial Council asked Burdick and Sanchez about the feasibility of their tuition reform plan.

Sanchez said he and Burdick have discussed tuition with Joseph Russo, director of Financial Aid at Notre Dame and researched a public service loan program. Additionally, he said they want to lower the Student Activities fee.

"Student Activity fees are something we can control," he said. "The more they go up, the more they burden our families."

In response, Schmidt said the Student Activities fee did not rise under his current administration with student body president Bob Reish. It is currently at about \$95 and will not increase, he said.

Weber said she and Schmidt realize tuition is a significant issue for students, so they will push for textbook price reform.

"We can't lower tuition but we can work at textbook prices and prices in the Huddle," she said.

Burdick said textbook price reform was a platform idea presented last year in the Reish-Schmidt campaign, and pointed out that Schmidt and Weber can't decrease prices in the Huddle, they will only be able to display them.

"If someone goes to the Huddle because they need pencils they are going to buy them regardless," she said. "Having the price there doesn't lower the price."

Schmidt expanded on his textbook reform plan, explaining that student government would challenge the monopoly the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore has on the classroom materials by making the ISBN numbers public and presenting a cheaper alternative.

"The bookstore has exclusive rights, but instead of not being able to see the ISBN numbers, we would contact professors [for the numbers] and put them on a Web site," Weber said. "Creating competition does subvert a monopoly."

Sanchez attacked this idea, stating that it is unoriginal, and claiming that the Burdick-Sanchez ticket will bring originality to the office.

"I just want to emphasize that this plan was used last year and it didn't happen," he said. "While we're talking about how easy this is and how feasible this is, you've had a year to do it and it's still not done."

Sanchez later stated only 19 of Schmidt's approximately 55 platform ideas are new.

Responding to the continual attacks of unoriginality in his platform, Schmidt said

continuity with the previous administration is necessary.

"There are a lot of things that will get carried over, and there are a lot of things that still need to get done," he said.

Weber said a campaign platform is basically a plan for the year, so it makes sense to continue with the productive efforts of the old administration.

When asked what the candidates believe are the most

important issues to the students, Schmidt and Weber said off-campus safety, while Burdick and Sanchez said continuing Notre Dame traditions such as the Dillon Pep Rally, Pig Tostal, Alumni Hall's Wake Week and the Fisher Zoo, which are rumored to have been cancelled.

"We want to resurrect old events," Burdick said.

Burdick said her administration will question University authorities about these cancelled traditions.

"As student advocates, we think it is our role to ask those questions and talk to those people," Sanchez said.

Schmidt countered that the Fisher Zoo and Wake Week have not been cancelled, and Pig Tostal is off-campus and is not recognized by the University.

"Student government will never go to the administration saying, 'Can we have an off-campus kegger?'" Weber said. "It's not something we aim to touch."

However, Schmidt said if they do get wind that Wake Week or the Fisher Zoo will be cancelled, they will ask the necessary questions.

"You better believe we will take action," he said.

Schmidt and Weber were asked about the criticism they have received for being unapproachable.

Weber said she hopes they have not come across as unapproachable, but if they seem businesslike, it is because governing the student body is serious business.

However, Schmidt said that while they take the job seriously, they are regular college students too.

"We are normal students," he said. "I'm from Dallas, Texas, she's from Tennessee. I like baseball and she likes guitar."

Students will vote in the run-off election between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

"There are a lot of things that will get carried over, and there are a lot of things that still need to get done."

Grant Schmidt
presidential candidate

CCAC

continued from page 1

ed. The Coalition also discussed zoning regulations that state where students can and cannot live off-campus.

Council attorney Kathy Cekanski-Farrand said there have been two cases this year where students have had to find another residence mid-year because they were living in a house illegally.

This typically doesn't happen, but she is "afraid it's leading towards [becoming] the norm," she said.

Common Council member Ann Puzzello said single-family neighborhoods such as Harter Heights, are not meant for student housing.

"Any student rentals in that neighborhood that involve more than two unrelated students are illegal, to be perfectly honest," Puzzello said.

There are always exceptions, which is why this problem is hard to enforce. For example, a resident in a single-family area is able to rent out his or her house to one student, but is not allowed to rent it out to two unrelated students, Puzzello said.

New laws specifying zoning regulations might help, Kirsits said.

"What we have now is very weak and I think we need to get some stronger base there so we can pursue this," he said.

He also suggested informing students' parents about which areas are legal for their children to live in.

Another problem addressed at the meeting was how to improve relationships between students who live off campus and their neighbors.

"Four doors down, I have some college kids living there ... and it's been a disaster," said Kirsits, who clarified that by disaster, he meant that he had very little relations with them. "It has been difficult to get to know those guys and I've tried reaching out," Kirsits said.

Student body president Bob Reish also saw the lack of relationship between off-campus students and community members.

"There's still a feeling from

students of disconnect from students and neighbors. And I think we still need to work on that," Reish said.

For example, there were some block parties held by community members, which few students attended, and block parties held by students, which few community members attended, he said.

To improve such problems, Reish recommended an event that would push students and community members together in a way that would force them to communicate.

He suggested having a community service day where students and community members would do service together.

This led to a more general discussion about the relationship between South Bend residents and the University.

Marguerite Taylor, a resident of the North East neighborhood, said many South Bend residents feel detached from University life.

"[My father] lived in the same house more than 60 years within walking distance of the campus and he'd never been on ... And I don't think he is unusual," Taylor said.

Puzzello expressed interest in getting a tour of campus, or coming to campus for an event.

"Just once, [I'd like for community members to] come in your area and enjoy something," Puzzello said.

Reish said there are events on campus that invite community members to participate. He pointed out the Keenan Hall Great Pumpkin event around Halloween.

"Tours of campus might be a great start" in making community members feel welcome on campus, he said.

But Reish also pushed for CCAC to take action.

"I think this year has been more ... updates rather than action," he said.

He said he thinks CCAC is a body that can unite the community and the school, and hopes the council will focus on "community building, as opposed to being reactive."

In an effort to open campus up to community members, the next meeting will be held at Notre Dame. It will be held at the end of March, although no date is finalized.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	7,939.53	+50.65	
Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume:
2,169	128	1,560	1,778,171,957
AMEX	1,403.19	+0.48	
NASDAQ	1,530.50	+5.77	
NYSE	5,252.68	+37.97	
S&P 500	833.74	+6.58	
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	7,775.73	-163.38	
FTSE 100 (London)	4,234.26	+21.18	

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
BK OF AMERICA (BAC)	+9.17	+0.51	6.07
SPDR S&P 500 (SPY)	+0.59	+0.49	83.60
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	+4.81	+0.43	9.32
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	-0.46	-0.14	30.20

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	-2.99	-0.085	2.76
13-WEEK BILL	-1.64	0.00	0.30
30-YEAR BOND	-2.21	-0.08	3.45
5-YEAR NOTE	-1.45	-0.026	1.77

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-1.61	35.94	
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+30.30	944.50	
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	0.00	80.98	

Exchange Rates			
YEN		90.2600	
EURO		1.2906	
CANADIAN DOLLAR		1.2416	
BRITISH POUND		1.4391	

IN BRIEF

Madoff wife withdraws \$15 million

BOSTON — The wife of disgraced money manager Bernard Madoff withdrew more than \$15 million from a firm co-owned by her husband — including \$10 million on the day their children turned her husband over to authorities for overseeing an alleged \$50 billion Ponzi scheme, the top securities regulator in Massachusetts said Wednesday.

Secretary of State William Galvin said Ruth Madoff, 67, withdrew \$5.5 million on Nov. 25 and \$10 million on Dec. 10 — the day before Bernard Madoff was arrested — from Cohmad Securities Corp., a New York firm co-owned by her husband.

The secretary cited wire transfer records produced by Cohmad as proof of the withdrawals. They came as Madoff's scheme was unraveling as investors filed \$7 billion worth of redemption requests.

They also appeared to follow what authorities consider a disturbing trend on the part of the Madoffs to hide money that could be used to reimburse burned investors.

Bankers vow finance reform

WASHINGTON — Facing a disgusted public and Congress, bank CEOs agreed with demands for greater accountability Wednesday in the first testimony on how they're spending money from the taxpayer-funded \$700 billion bailout.

"Both our firm and our industry have far to go to regain the trust of taxpayers, investors and public officials," John J. Mack, head of Morgan Stanley, told the House Financial Institutions Committee.

Added JP Morgan Chase & Co.'s Jamie Dimon: "We stand ready to do our part going forward."

The eight top bankers appearing before the panel were generally contrite and conceded they have work to do to win over a bitter public and an exasperated Congress. They had little choice but to acknowledge as much, given intense anger and anxiety as the troubled financial system continues to spiral downward in an ever-worsening recession.

Congress, president pass stimulus bill

Democrats work quickly to clear the way for \$790 billion to help economy

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Moving with lightning speed, the Democratic-controlled Congress and White House agreed Wednesday on a compromise \$790 billion economic stimulus bill designed to create millions of jobs in a nation reeling from recession. President Barack Obama could sign the measure within days.

"More than one-third of this bill is dedicated to providing tax relief for middle-class families, cutting taxes for 95 percent of American workers," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid at a Capitol news conference where he was joined by moderates from both parties whose support is essential for the legislation's final passage.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., Reid's partner in negotiations over more than 24 intense hours, initially withheld her approval in a lingering disagreement over federal funding for school construction. "We had to make sure the investment in education" was in the bill, she said.

Obama, who has campaigned energetically for the legislation, welcomed the agreement in a written statement that said it would "save or create more than 3.5 million jobs and get our economy back on track."

The emerging legislation is at the core of Obama's economic recovery program.

The president's signature tax cut was preserved — a break for millions of lower- and middle-income taxpayers of \$400 per individual and \$800 per couple. That's less than the \$500 and \$1,000 the White House originally sought, although officials said it would mean an estimated \$13 per week extra per paycheck.

Wage-earners who don't earn enough to pay income



Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin is followed by reporters as he returns to the Senate floor during deliberations on the economic stimulus bill at the Capitol in Washington on Friday.

taxes would get a reduction in the Social Security and Medicare taxes they pay.

The bill also includes help for victims of the recession in the form of expanded unemployment benefits, food stamps, health coverage and more, as well as billions for states that face the prospect of making deep cuts in school aid and other programs.

Another provision will mean a one-time payment of \$250 for millions of beneficiaries who receive Social Security, Supplemental Security Income and veterans pensions and disability,

according to officials. They added that the measure will include \$46 billion for transportation projects such as highway, bridge and mass transit construction.

The president also won money for two other administration priorities — information technology in health care, and "green jobs" to make buildings more energy-efficient and reduce the nation's reliance on foreign oil.

The bill "will be the beginning of the turnaround for the American economy," predicted Sen. Joe Lieberman, the independent from Connecticut.

Republicans couldn't have disagreed more.

"It appears that Democrats have made a bad bill worse by reducing the tax relief for working families in order to pay for more wasteful government spending," said Rep. John Boehner of Ohio.

But some prominent Republicans straddled the issue.

Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, last year's Republican running mate and a potential White House contender in 2012, said her state was ready to accept a projected \$1 billion in federal funds if they make sense for the state.

Oil prices fall to \$36 in Asia, rise in US

Associated Press

SINGAPORE — Oil prices lingered near \$36 a barrel Thursday in Asia, following a steep fall overnight, as surging crude inventories in the U.S. stoked investor concern that consumer demand will continue to fall amid a deep recession.

Light, sweet crude for March delivery rose 10 cents to \$36.04 a barrel by mid morning in Singapore on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell \$1.61 overnight to settle at \$35.94.

U.S. crude oil inventories have jumped in recent weeks as rising unemployment erodes spending on gasoline.

A weekly report Wednesday from the Energy Information Administration showed that crude

inventories jumped by 4.7 million barrels for the week ended Feb. 6, more than an increase of 3.4 million barrels expected by analysts surveyed by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos.

Including last week's build up, crude inventories have swelled by more than 30 million barrels in the past six weeks.

"Conditions in the West and globally remain quite weak," said Gerard Burg, minerals and energy economist with National Australia Bank in Melbourne. "Given the economic outlook, there's little to drive prices higher."

Forecasters continue to lower their expectations for crude demand. The Paris-based International Energy Agency said Wednesday that global oil demand in 2009 will likely be

84.7 million barrels per day, 570,000 barrels less than the previous estimate.

"It's still a market that's really focused on demand," Burg said. "I think there's potential for conditions to weaken further."

Investors are also skeptical that a Treasury Department plan announced earlier this week to spend more than \$1 trillion to help remove banks' soured assets from their books and unclog the credit markets will work.

"The bank plan lacked specifics, and the market is quite concerned that it won't kick start the economy," said Christoffer Moltke-Leth, head of sales trading for Saxo Capital Markets in Singapore.

Falling prices may eventually trigger a recovery in the medium-term,

THE OBSERVER

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More information please

Last week the Notre Dame Office of International Studies (OIS) posted its decisions for the current sophomore class regarding their junior year study abroad aspirations. As some of my friends excitedly tore open letters, I began to think back to the application process myself.

By any standard, the OIS is an overwhelming success. They successfully enroll nearly 40 percent of the student population into study abroad programs, and feature a wide range of programs across quite a few countries. U.S. News and World Report has given the Notre Dame OIS top marks for its study abroad. They have programs for students of every school, both undergraduate and graduate.

However, there are a few issues with the process of applying for sophomore undergrads that are overly complicated, confusing and hazy. First, the application process has come to resemble the arduous task that applying to college was in the first place. I have heard the terms "get in" and "have an edge" used far more frequently for the study abroad process than I think is healthy. While the need to evaluate the appropriateness of candidates for a program is necessary for the reputation of the department abroad and even just for space considerations, the confusion and stress inherent in the current process is not.

If OIS wants the process to be competitive in this way, however, then it should take steps to level the information playing field for applicants. In thinking back to my experiences in applying the college, I can't help but remember the magazines and books that included not only write-ups on the

experiences that different institutions provide, but also the statistical data profiling their students bodies. This included any number of averages, from standardized test score metrics, to acceptance rate, mean GPA, etc. They also would include information concerning the application process and evaluation standards. This set of information was essential in deciding which schools were appropriate for me both personally and academically.

Simply providing this information would be the best way to improve this competitive application process. Right now, most of this information is supplied to prospective applicants through anecdotal situations and hearsay. This sort of information can be highly misleading, and for some students, fatal to their study abroad chances.

While I (unfortunately) cannot document this, I have heard that the popular Dublin, Ireland program is quite competitive. In one case, I heard that a 3.7 was the bare minimum to "get in." In another, I heard it was a 3.2. Regardless, I was able to figure out, generally speaking, that Dublin was tough. A borderline student not privy to any of this information at all, may lead their application with Dublin or even put all of his eggs in just one basket. In my own case, I based my own evaluation of my chances of acceptance on the only student I could even find who had applied to the same program.

Cleverer students who are generally more aware of the gossip surrounding each location's competitiveness maneuver differently, however, and exhibit a sort of flight to safety. With only one application and one chance this is the easiest way to ensure an experience abroad.

To its credit, OIS has attempted to eliminate some of these problems by allowing students to apply to multiple programs and then ranking them in order of preference. The issue, again,

is lack of information concerning the consequences of these decisions. At the first big meeting of my sophomore year, someone asked how a program's rank affects its chances of being accepted. The answer we were given was unclear and we came away with only a vague idea of what the best strategy for applying was.

Posting some measurements and statistics similar to those in a Fiske guide would eliminate many of these problems. Even just a GPA range and acceptance rate would help considerably. With this information, Notre Dame students already savvy in competitive application processes would be more self-selecting in their choices. Borderline students would know which programs offer their best chance of acceptance, and the most qualified applicants would be confident in their decision to compete in one of the tougher programs. This could also expedite the process by eliminating a number of applications for students who are not confident enough to apply to only one or two places, but instead work on five or six applications.

Ultimately, OIS does its best to try and sort everybody out into a predetermined number of spots. The department would help itself immeasurably if it acknowledged the necessary competition that arises from the scarcity of spots more openly, and provided more of the information necessary about the process and competition itself in addition to the great information already provided about the benefits and experience accrued from each program. This would enable students to be more self sorting and cognizant of their chances of success come February.

Jason Coleman is a junior accounting major. He can be contacted at coleman.70@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

What are you doing for Valentine's Day?

Going out with my significant other
Going out with friends
Staying in
Crying myself to sleep

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Happiness in intelligent people is the rarest thing I know."

Ernest Hemingway
U.S. author

Will Jesus show for the Louisville game tonight?

What would be a justifiable spiritual insight from Campus Ministry to get us through our men's basketball team's seven-game losing streak? All of us — fans, players and coaches — have been disappointed and discouraged at how the season has gone. But, if sport is a metaphor for life, then enduring unexpected losing streaks can teach us something about responding to disappointment in our own lives. But what? Or as the old bracelets would say: What Would Jesus Do ... on a seven-game losing streak?

Fr. Lou DelFra

Faithpoint

The easy — but ultimately dis-spiriting — answer is that, when we fail, God doesn't care. God's love is totally unconditional. God's love is constant, and non-dependent on our performance. While these things are certainly true, alone they seem to blaze a spiritually futile path. Because they come dangerously close to suggesting that what we do, and how well we do it, is ultimately meaningless. True enough, God's love for the members of our athletic teams has absolutely nothing to do with whether they win or lose, any more than God's love for us changes according to our GPA. But do we really wish to conclude that our efforts, then,

mean nothing to God?

Several Gospels point to the contrary. Perhaps most famously, the Parable of the Talents suggests that God rewards the efforts of those who invest their talents wisely, while being slightly less enthralled with ones who bury them. True, the Sermon on the Mount lauds the poor and the meek, but stops short of justifying losing on purpose, or not caring about our efforts. After all, Jesus concludes, "You are the light of the world. This light is not to be placed under a bushel basket."

What the people in the Gospels do, and how well they do it, often matters — a ton. Peter and Andrew, James and John, have to make a decision about the use of their gifts when Jesus passes them on the seashore. Their heroic ending is not predetermined; they could be (un)known today as four mildly successful Galilean fishermen. Contrast the woman at the well with the rich young man — both encounter Jesus' invitation to use their gifts in a stunningly converted way. One follows, and thrives. The other departs downcast. Our choices matter.

In fact, it seems fair to say that the Gospels teach us that God cares deeply about our decisions about how to spend our lives and talents, and the energy and exuberance we invest in carrying them out. So, it cannot be the case that,

because God's love is unconditional, therefore, it simply doesn't matter how much energy we spend in sharing our gifts.

Still, before we go too far, we must contend with Jesus' lauding of the poor and mourning in that Sermon on the Mount. We must contend with Jesus' clear preference for sinners, tax collectors, and prostitutes — surely not shining examples of folks maxing out their God-given talents. And we must contend, above all, with the central symbol of our faith — Jesus, miracle-worker and preacher extraordinaire, maxing out gifts like no one before — hanging from a Cross — utterly defeated.

The response of Christianity to human failure is profound, and complex — and fittingly so, for such is our existence. Our faith ought to match our experience in terms of profundity and complexity. Interpretations of Christianity that water down our disappointments and failures to "God will take care of everything in the end" may provide some temporary soothing, but do they really convince and satisfy us?

Gazing at the Cross, it is difficult to think that Christianity is a religion that will claim to defend against losing streaks, preserve us from any and all hurt, or rid the world of suffering anytime soon. What the Cross does teach us is that

some failure and disappointment — even sometimes great, seemingly insurmountable failure and disappointment — is inevitable. If you're going to play the game, you're going to have losing streaks. If you're going to live, you're going to experience frustration and disappointment.

And what the Cross further teaches is that God is deeply present for it all. In fact, this central symbol of our faith contains within it the deepest promise of hope — that where we seem to fail, there God is most intensely present to us, transforming our failures and weaknesses into opportunities for new, resurrected life. As St. Paul wrote so full of hope, so defiant in the face of his weakness: "Where sin abounds, there grace abounds all the more."

Or, as Jesus will gently point out in tonight's pre-game: "Where losing abounds, there you have to rebound all the more."

This week's article is written by Fr. Lou DelFra, CSC, of Campus Ministry Bible Studies and chaplain for the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE). He can be reached at delfra.2@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Genuine beauty and hook-ups

How does beauty play into the hook-up culture? What's the difference between external and internal beauty? What is "internal beauty?" Is there an inherent beauty in all of us? Why do people continue to hook-up? Can hooking-up be a hurtful addiction? Does hooking up validate our self-worth, through a recognition of external or internal beauty?

Chances are, you have your own opinion on some, or all, of the above questions. There is no denying that the hook-up culture is alive and present at Notre Dame, and the underlying issues of beauty and respect deserve to be examined in the context of "why" hook-ups happen. Understanding that there may or may not be a "correct answer" to these questions, the Edith Stein Project, an initiative of the Identity Project of Notre Dame, seeks to answer these questions through a six-student panel on Friday, Feb. 13 at 2:15 p.m. in McKenna Hall, Room 102.

The session will start with a brief presentation on self-image and eating disorders by Caroline Lashutka, followed by a six-student panel that will present on the above questions. The six students are: Nathan Loyd from ND Right to Life and Pure Love Club, Jim Redden and Michael Bohnert from the Knights of Columbus, Mark Skilling from Iron Sharpens Iron, and ND students Melissa Buddie and Katie Michel. While all panelists agree that we are called to live up to the inherent dignity of human beings, their views on internal and external beauty, as well as the hook-up culture, are varied. Each panelist will provide a personal testimony on how they see beauty in our society and how the forces of external or internal beauty play into hooking up, if at all.

Whether you love a good hook-up, or are repulsed by the hook-up culture, this panel is for you. If you've done it a few times and are tempted or disgusted by the idea of doing it again, this panel is also for you.

For more information about the conference, please visit www.nd.edu/~idnd/edithstein.

Sincerely,

Natassia Kwan
Caitlin Podlaski
Joanna Emilian
Theresa Klinkhammer
Edith Stein Project
Feb. 11

Administration kills fun

I am not so much responding to Trey's comments ("Tradition never graduates," Feb. 9) as I am agreeing with them. In terms of society, Notre Dame separates itself from other schools from the start by having things like parietals and no frats or sororities. In our history, we have more than made up for it with dorm life rivaled by no one else. Is it even a question why so few students move off campus?

With that dorm life has come some great dorm traditions. Both of my parents went here, and so for most of my life, I have gotten to listen to them talk about their times here. Now that I am a student I hear even more. Sometimes I go to dinner with my parents and their friends from school and I can tell you this: When they go down memory lane they are not talking about studying for tests and going to mass every Sunday. They tell stories involving alcohol (just a little), about going on panty raids to Saint Mary's, amazing dorm events and sneaking their cars on campus past the security guards. It's these traditions that keep our alumni so tight.

I don't think the administration realizes how good they have it with this student body. In terms of immaturity and

rowdiness we are nothing compared to the students at schools like Michigan, Penn State and USC, whose weekends start on Wednesday nights. We are a different type of student body.

That is why we chose to go here. We study, worship, and do service work, but we want to have fun with that as well. I am not a big partier, but I certainly understand that overstressed young adults need to let go on the weekends and just have fun. Personally, when I get older, I want to be able to tell my kids about all the fun I had at school similar to what my father has told me. It certainly feels like the administration is doing all they can to eliminate that. They need to take a lesson from history and Prohibition. If you try to take away our means of having fun, we will just find somewhere else to do it, and I'm sure the administration would love more off-campus parties.

Matthew McManus
sophomore
Fisher Hall
Feb. 10

An epiphany

Students of Notre Dame, I have seen the light, the beacon of eternal hope that Ms. Michelle Fordice lit for me and my peers in the Inside Column "Fashion at ND. Or Not" (Feb. 10). For so many years I have been marching around this dark cold world dressed no better than a slovenly mountain climbing gardener. In my foolish, self absorbed 19-year-old mind I completely forgot that I am the center of everyone's attention. How could I have been so inconsiderate when I dressed myself in the morning? How dare I offend the eyes of those around me when I walk to class charading as a sherpa with my poor jeans stuffed viscusly into my Ugg boots. What was I thinking wearing those sweatpants? Damn you sweatpants! Damn you and your false promises of comfort and your whispers of warmth. All the long days of my life I have been disgracing myself, my family, and my friends.

Never again shall I dare to join the drones as they walk to DeBartolo in their North Face jackets and their classless boots. What right have I to wear mountainous paraphernalia? South Bend is probably the fifth flattest place on the planet, I say "If you can't see the mountain, don't act like you can." I am trading in my blasphemous fleece for classic camo, with a military flare, and turning in my Uggs for a pointed toe and some extra height and by God if I fall, I will fall in glory!

P.S. I would like to take this time to issue a public apology to my legs. I'm sorry I turned you into stumps, you deserve better.

Joanie Fisher
sophomore
Walsh Hall
Feb. 10

The Manti cometh

On Feb. 4, Hawaiian Linebacker Manti Te'o signed his letter of intent to play football at our beloved Notre Dame. The very next day, Editor-in-Chief Chris Hine claimed that the expectation placed upon his soldiers was "absurd talk" ("Kids are too young to warrant such hype," Feb. 5). Absurd? Is it absurd to assume that Manti will tackle 100 people per game, sack 40 quarterbacks, intercept 21 passes, score 12 defensive touchdowns, beat USC, win the Heisman, crush Tim Tebow, and save the economy, all the while leading us to the first of four consecutive undefeated seasons and national championships?

No.

Pat Hogan
junior
Fisher Hall
Feb. 10

It's far too much effort to fill these.

Why don't you try?

obsviewpoint@gmail.com



MARY JESSE | Observer Graphic

By J.J. REES
Scene Writer

Until three years ago, Macri's Deli, near East Race, was an easy spot for the downtown lunch break crowd during the day, and an ordinary sports bar with sandwiches and beer at night.

In 2006, owners George and Carmela Macri made the excellent decision to remodel and shift the focus towards an Italian bakery, also adding a gorgeous restaurant area (Carmela's) more suitable to dinner crowds. Since then, the appropriately renamed Macri's Italian Bakery has been a starting point for non-chain Italian food in South Bend.

Walking into Macri's, the very first sensation to land is the smell. It seems ludicrous to think of the combined smell of cookies, cheeses, cakes, muffins and Italian meats as appetizing, but by some unique happening, here it works.

One is struck by the atmosphere immediately. Despite its upmarket style, Macri's presents an easygoing atmosphere, probably due to the helpful and interested staff, and the easy booths and tables. Displays of groceries not offered elsewhere, like pizza dough and raw specialty pasta, are surrounded by painted murals of Italian scenes. None of the décor comes off as authentically Italian, but to the Macri family's credit, the restaurant has an undeniable Italian feel, especially when coupled with the food.

The two most popular sandwiches are the Italian Grinder and the Sicilian Turkey, and for good reason. These sandwiches best suit the Macri's style of fresh ingredients paired with ideal preparation, and they are sized to fill — a half sandwich would fill most.

The Sicilian Turkey (turkey, tomato, lettuce, mozzarella, Italian dressing) is mostly

standard, but the ingredients and the exceptional Italian dressing make it just different enough to be worth trying. Although the other sandwiches (ham and swiss, vegetable, grilled tomato and muffalata) offer solid fare, most outstanding is the overall favorite, the Italian Grinder (salami, coppa, mortadella, provolone, roasted red peppers and again, Italian dressing). This gives a rich, almost spicy taste that truly is redolent of Italy. Diners who have room would be well-advised to try a side, such as one of the many pasta salads, or the excellent mozzarella balls with roasted red peppers mixed in with fresh tomatoes that even a tomato-hater can enjoy.

A visit to the deli is incomplete without a dessert from the bakery. Perhaps most famous for its cakes, they also serve superb pastries, donuts and especially cookies. Pleasantly filled after our sandwiches, my companion and I were reluctantly willing to spring for dessert and we were recommended the highlights of each case. The Morning Glory carrot cake-type muffin was fine, as was the glazed donut, but probably best for, well, morning. The variety of cannoli would be

agreeable especially to those who like them cheesy. The "delights" were slices of swirled cake with creamy filling. The amaretto delight with cherry was wonderful and not too fruity, but was still enough for more than one sitting. Lastly, the well-sized peanut butter and plain chocolate chip cookies were just right — slightly crunchy and chewy in all the right places.

For first-timers, there is an effective process for taking in the entire scene. Park off Hill Street, enter

Park off Hill Street, enter Macri's and take a deep breath. Then, walk by the bakery and pretend to notice only slightly the cases of pastries and desserts as you intelligently size up the groceries to the right.

Macri's and take a deep breath. Then, walk by the bakery and pretend to notice only slightly the cases of pastries and desserts as you intelligently size up the groceries to the right. At the deli counter, order the Italian Grinder and maybe a side, while keeping in mind everything you smelled at the bakery. After your sandwich, take a peek into the Tuscan-decorated Carmela's restaurant as you digest (Valentine's diners take note: the romantic Carmela's is still taking reservations for Friday night, but is all booked Saturday). Lastly, visit the bakery for your choice of a dessert or two, and know that you can't go wrong.

Contact J.J. Rees at jrees@nd.edu

Macri's Italian Bakery

214 N. Niles Ave. (574-282-1010)

Hours: Lunch 11-2 M-F, Dinner 5-9 T-R, 5-10 F-Sa

Prices: Half sandwiches \$5.50, desserts \$3

10 Words or Less: Fantastic Italian taste, first-rate sandwiches and desserts.



MARY JESSE | Observer Graphic

By PATRICK GRIFFIN
Scene Writer

Growing up in the quiet rural community of Anderson, Ind., Jon McLaughlin found an outlet in original music. From his adolescent musical development, through his time at Anderson University, where he studied music, and beyond, McLaughlin honed the skills and creativity necessary to establish a strong grassroots following.

The 26-year-old composer of two full-length albums visits South Bend this weekend for an exclusive Legends of Notre Dame performance, with home state advantage.

McLaughlin was groomed for the music business from an early age, attending piano lessons despite his disdain for formal training. A serious car accident that shattered both of McLaughlin's wrists could only delay the young talent's arrival on the national scene.

McLaughlin released his first album, an

independent effort, entitled "Up Until Now" in 2003. Shortly afterward McLaughlin became one of the first artists to sign with Orangehaus Records, a product of the Anderson, Indiana community. His recording contract afforded touring opportunities and a formidable regional fan base in the Midwest.

Jon McLaughlin
Saturday,
10 p.m.
Tickets are free.
Notre Dame,
Saint Mary's or
Holy Cross
Student ID
required.

movie, "Enchanted," and was performed at the 80th anniversary Academy Awards. Another "Indiana" single "Beautiful Disaster" attracted upwards of 420,000 fans during its tenure as iTunes "Single of the Week." Following these accomplishments,

"Indiana" experienced exponential record sales, furthering McLaughlin's tour-de-force campaign.

McLaughlin's sophomore album, "OK Now," continued the Hoosier's journey into the hearts of listeners. The self-proclaimed "child of the 80s" recorded his latest collection of piano-driven ballads in Los Angeles with producer John Fields (Lifehouse, Jonas Bros. and Switchfoot). Since the album's release in late 2008, "OK Now" has achieved notable success, becoming one of the top 50 most popular albums on U.S. charts. The single "Breaking My Heart" has been listed as high as No. 18 on adult contemporary charts.

McLaughlin follows in the wake of the recent revival in piano driven pop-rock. The piano virtuoso is approaching the popularity of similar artists such as Gavin DeGraw, Keane, The Fray and Daniel Powter. While McLaughlin may still be on the rise, he surely exhibits talent enough to warrant the success of these slightly more prolific artists.

Listening to McLaughlin's work, it is not difficult to catch the Midwestern appreciation apparent in the pianist's songs. McLaughlin's vocals are energetic and

expressive of his small town roots. A twinge of romance is more than apparent as well in the work of the 26-year-old, making him the perfect performer for this weekend's "Killer Love" celebration at Legends. His songs address topics such as adolescence in the Midwest, young love and his own personal coming of age process.

For all of McLaughlin's vocal skill apparent on "Indiana" and "OK Now," it is easily matched, if not surpassed, by his expertise on the piano. McLaughlin displays skill beyond his years when tickling the pearly 88. Consider the evidence in the introduction of McLaughlin's single "Industry." The expression and speed of "Industry's" opening display is a testament to McLaughlin's early formal training as well as his creative genius.

McLaughlin will be returning to his home state this Saturday for an exclusive concert here at Notre Dame. The show begins at 10 p.m. on Saturday evening. Admission is free to Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross students.

Contact Patrick Griffin at pgriff3@nd.edu

WEEKEND EVENTS CALENDAR

THUR.

FRI.

Thursday: Pineapple Express at Midnight, Legends

So, the intro to this column was going to start with a quote from one of the funniest movies you'll ever see, but seeing as a majority of the funny quotes have the f-word in them, you'll just have to look them up on your own time (which, let me tell you, would be time well spent). Don't miss this chance to see Seth Rogen (famous for "Superbad," "Knocked Up" and "The 40 Year Old Virgin") and James Franco ("Spiderman," "Annapolis" and "Tristan and Isolde") embark on a druggie adventure as they run from a cop-and-drug-lord duo to escape the people who want to murder them and achieve justice. Make sure to bring tissues. You'll be laughing so hard, you'll cry.

Saturday: Valentines from Hollywood and Broadway at 8:00 p.m., Morris Performing Arts Center

Broadway stars Anne Runolfsson and Gary Mauer will travel to South Bend on Saturday for a special Valentine's Day performance. Singing the most beautiful love songs from Hollywood and Broadway, their show will make the audience's hearts swell with romance, feeling like Cupid's arrow pieced their hearts. Listen to these two, famous for performance in The Phantom of the Opera and Les Miserables, belt out ballads perfect for you and the one you love. Tickets range from \$24-\$65 for adults and \$5-\$21 for students. Seniors 65 and over receive a \$2 discount.

Friday: The Godfather (1972) at 2:00 p.m., Browning Cinema

ND is making you an offer you can't refuse. As the 80th anniversary of the St. Valentine's Day Massacre rolls around this weekend, celebrate your inner mobster by seeing the biggest mob classic of all time, "The Godfather." When Vito Corleone (Marlon Brando), the leader of one of the most powerful New York Mafia families, suffers an assassination attempt, his black sheep son Michael rejoins the family to put the Corleone family back in its rightful position — leader of the Mob ring. Watch the violence, the passion and the culture that made this film one of the world's greatest hits. Tickets are \$6, \$5 for faculty/staff, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for all students.

Sunday: Turtle Island Quartet with Special Guest Cyrus Chestnut, 2:00 pm, Leighton Concert Hall

On Sunday, see the 2008 Grammy-winning quartet that inaugural cellist Yo-Yo Ma deemed, "a unified voice that truly breaks new ground — authentic and passionate — a reflection of some of the most creative music-making today." Formed over 24 years ago, the Turtle Island String Quartet performs pieces that range in style from Bluegrass to European classical to Indian and more. Not only has this group explored different styles, but it has also covered Jimi Hendrix and Eric Clapton songs proving the quartet's diversity in musical taste. Don't miss the chance to see two violins, a viola and a cello work in harmony to bring you your favorite music. Tickets are \$38, \$30 for faculty/staff, \$29 for seniors and \$15 all students.

Contact Adriana Pratt at apratt@nd.edu

SAT.

SUN.



Dining Hall Dish

By MICHELLE FORDICE
Assistant Scene Editor

Another week another dining hall dish! This week's recipes are a bit varied, but they are all pretty tasty. The microwave has been out of commission at North for about a week, so hopefully it will return soon. In the meantime, all of these dishes can be made without our favorite contraption. And as a special bonus? Look forward to the special Valentine's Day Dining Hall Dish tomorrow.

This week's recipes:

Kicked Up Macaroni and Cheese

Macaroni and cheese is that

great homey meal that only improves with experimentation. There are thousands of recipes out there putting variations on this dish and starting with the basic macaroni and cheese the dining hall offers, you can have your own fun.

Fill a bowl with as much macaroni and cheese as you want.

Top with red pepper flakes and some blue cheese (Be careful not to overdo either. They both pack a pretty good punch, so you don't need a ton to get lots of flavor). The hot macaroni and cheese base should melt the blue cheese.

Add in some steamed broccoli (you will have to cut it up to make it bite-sized).

Mix together. Feel free to try the same idea using different new ingredients.

Mashed Sweet Potato

The dining halls have baked sweet potatoes fairly often, and there is a lot you can do with them. This recipe is one of the easiest places to start. Most people think white when they think mashed potatoes, but using sweet potatoes puts a great twist on the traditional. The pepper and salt help to balance out the sweetness.

Pick up a baked sweet potato.

Remove the potato skins. Add a pat of butter, a lot of pepper and some salt. If you have a sweet tooth you can add

a small dab of maple syrup too.

Mash it up with a fork, like you were making regular mashed potatoes. Enjoy.

Quick Tip

Make chili cheese fries! Take some French fries and top them with chili from the soup area (make sure to get a ladle with as little broth as possible so that the fries don't get soggy) and cheese. You can top it with sour cream and scallions if you like as well. Delicious. Thanks to Charlie Vogelheim for this idea.

Have your own dining hall recipe? We would love to feature it! E-mail mfordice@nd.edu.

MLB

Ex-girlfriend files \$15 million lawsuit against Alomar

Dall alleges that Alomar insisted on having unprotected sex even though he showed symptoms of HIV

Associated Press

NEW YORK — An ex-girlfriend of Roberto Alomar filed an explosive lawsuit alleging the former baseball star insisted on unprotected sex for four years despite having AIDS.

The lawsuit, filed Jan. 30 and transferred to U.S. District Court on Wednesday, contains accusations that could not be corroborated but portray Alomar as someone who demanded sex without a condom despite showing obvious signs of HIV.

Ilya Dall is seeking at least \$15 million in punitive damages from the 41-year-old former infielder. Alomar, who was once engaged to tennis star Mary Pierce, spent 17 years in the majors and was one of the game's great second basemen.

Calls seeking comment to lawyers for Alomar and Dall were not immediately returned. Alomar lawyer Charles Bach told the New York Daily News the allegations are "frivolous and baseless."

News of the lawsuit was "something out of the blue,"

Alomar's father, Sandy Alomar Sr., told El Nuevo Dia newspaper in Puerto Rico. "We've never talked about something like this."

Dall said the two began dating in spring 2002 and had unprotected sex for the next four years. She said that on several occasions during that time, Alomar refused to get tested for HIV, despite severe fatigue, sores on his mouth and throat, a constant cough and an infection of the esophagus that is associated with AIDS.

She said Alomar finally relented and tested positive for HIV in February 2006.

Dall said she was angered by the disclosure and was tested herself; the result was negative. She said follow-up exams determined that Alomar had full-blown AIDS.

By then, she said Alomar had purple skin, was foaming at the mouth and was too sick to walk, forcing him to need a wheelchair to get around at an airport.

Dall said the ordeal caused her severe emotional and mental distress and fear she may

one day test positive for HIV herself.

She called the conduct of Alomar "outrageous with wanton reckless disregard of the health, safety and well-being" of Dall.

The lawsuit does not say why Dall continued to have unprotected sex with Alomar. Dall said the couple lived together until last year.

Alomar was one of baseball's best players in the 1990s, making 12 straight All-Star appearances and winning two World Series with the Toronto Blue Jays.

A career .300 hitter with 10 Gold Gloves, Alomar broke in with the San Diego Padres in 1988 and also played for the Baltimore Orioles, Cleveland Indians, New York Mets, Arizona Diamondbacks and Chicago White Sox. He was out of baseball by 2005.

One of the most memorable moments of Alomar's career came in 1996, when he became enraged after a third strike and spit on umpire John Hirschbeck. He drew a five-game suspension that was later overturned.



Roberto Alomar gestures to the crowd before a Toronto Blue Jays game on April 4, 2008. AP

NCAA FOOTBALL

Panel to discuss harsher penalties for late hits, celebration

Rules committee chairman Bellotti says that if changed, rules may not go into effect until 2011 season

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Oregon coach Mike Bellotti wants college football to have tougher penalties against unsportsmanlike conduct and dangerous hits.

Now it's time to find out whether his coaching colleagues agree with his suggestions.

Bellotti, the NCAA football rules committee chairman, said Wednesday officials should eject more players for flagrant personal fouls, and agreed to seek input on whether some celebration penalties should be live-ball penalties, which could result in losing points.

While the ejections will be a point of emphasis next season, the celebration recommendation is not even a

formal proposal yet.

"We're going to poll the coaches and see if they support that (celebration change)," Bellotti said. "They may not."

Bellotti said the change was not likely to take effect for at least two years, and even if approved would likely apply only to players who begin taunting opponents before crossing the goal line. The penalty would be assessed from the spot of the foul, like offensive holding calls in college football.

Teams would not be penalized, Bellotti said, for a group celebration after the score because the NCAA wants to emphasize the team concept, not individuals.

Then again, the committee may not have to do any-

thing.

"That would be a huge change, so we want to give it time to soak out there," said Rogers Redding, the SEC coordinator of officials. "We may change behaviors just because we're talking about it."

Other proposals include a revised statement on sportsmanship that could lead to harsher penalties.

The edited version would make coaches responsible for player behavior before, during and after games. If there are repeated infractions, a coach and school could be disciplined by conference officials.

None of the proposals will become official until they are passed by the oversight committee next month.

Bellotti also wants officials

to have more leeway in ejecting players for flagrant personal fouls. Those calls would also trigger an automatic review by conference officials.

"We believe, in some cases, that players must be penalized more severely when the contact is clearly flagrant and dangerous," Bellotti said.

Another change would limit the protective area for punters.

That is a reaction to the trendy rugby style kicks, a tactic in which punters move several steps before kicking the ball on the run. If adopted, opponents could not be called for roughing or running into the kicker if the punter is outside the tackle box.

Game clock and time

issues that have dominated rules meetings in recent years were not major topics this week.

"There was consensus approval by coaches on all levels on the clock discussions," Bellotti said. "I think the clock rules worked out as we thought they would. It may have cost teams four or five plays per game, but that's what we were expecting."

The committee also approved a provision allowing both teams to wear colored jerseys in games when there is a clear contrast in color and only if both teams agree. The agreement is also subject to conference approval.

If there is not an agreement, the visiting team would wear white jerseys.

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

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. We have many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-7819 or Ann Firth at 1-2685.

For more information, visit NDs Assistance for Pregnant Students/Office of Student Affairs website at: osa.nd.edu/health-safety/assistance-for-pregnant-students

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, visit Support Services for Victims of Rape & Assault at: <http://osa.nd.edu/health-safety/assault/>

VALENTINES

Czesc Cuppycake! Jeste w tobie zakochana. Powaznie. Besititos, N-N

Tried to amend my carnivorous habits Made it nearly 70 days Losin' weight without speed, eatin' sunflower seeds Drinkin' lots of carrot juice and soakin' up the rays

But at night I had these wonderful dreams Some kind of sensuous treat Not zucchini, fettucini or Bulgar wheat But a big warm bun and a huge hunk of meat

Cheeseburger in Paradise!

Regina, I will give you \$3 if you hand this to me.

AROUND THE NATION

Thursday, February 12, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 13

NCAA Men's Basketball AP Top 25

	team	points	record
1	Connecticut (67)	1,795	22-1
2	Oklahoma (3)	1,710	23-1
3	North Carolina (2)	1,672	21-2
4	Pittsburgh	1,583	21-2
5	Louisville	1,423	18-4
6	Duke	1,350	20-3
7	Wake Forest	1,242	18-3
8	Memphis	1,237	20-3
9	Michigan State	1,214	19-4
10	Marquette	1,137	20-3
11	UCLA	1,131	19-4
12	Clemson	1,097	19-3
13	Villanova	989	19-4
14	Xavier	893	20-3
15	Butler	762	21-2
16	Kansas	751	19-4
17	Missouri	395	20-4
18	Arizona State	389	18-5
19	Gonzaga	361	17-5
20	Purdue	353	17-6
21	Utah State	317	23-1
22	Illinois	303	19-5
23	Syracuse	280	18-6
24	Ohio State	216	17-5
25	Florida State	182	18-5

NCAA Men's Basketball USA Today Top 25

	team	points	record
1	Connecticut (30)	774	22-1
2	Oklahoma (1)	735	23-1
3	North Carolina	711	21-2
4	Pittsburgh	689	21-2
5	Duke	604	20-3
6	UCLA	554	19-4
7	Louisville	553	18-4
8	Wake Forest	541	18-3
9	Michigan State	521	19-4
10	Memphis	486	20-3
11	Clemson	456	19-3
12	Marquette	446	20-3
13	Villanova	416	19-4
14	Xavier	375	20-3
15	Butler	346	21-2
16	Kansas	300	19-4
17	Utah State	258	23-1
18	Arizona State	214	18-5
19	Missouri	162	20-4
20	Illinois	143	19-5
21	Gonzaga	124	17-5
22	Syracuse	115	18-6
23	Purdue	114	17-6
24	Washington	86	17-6
25	Florida State	62	18-5

Men's Lacrosse Pre-Season Media Poll

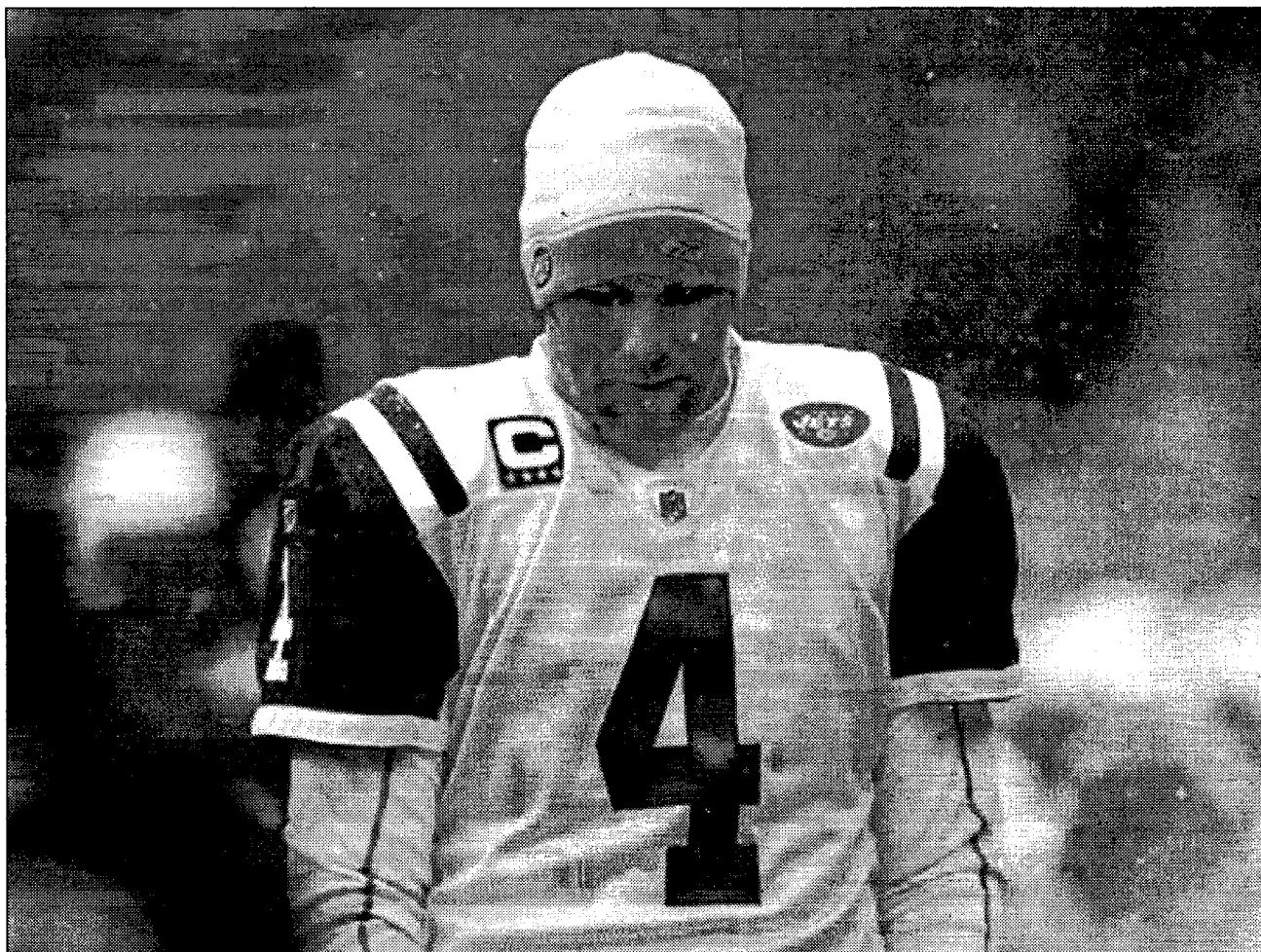
	team	points
1	Virginia (11)	333
2	Syracuse (6)	323
3	Maryland	300
4	Johns Hopkins	284
5	North Carolina	255
6	Cornell	253
7	Duke	228
8	Georgetown	200
9	Navy	190
10	NOTRE DAME	147
10	UMBC	147
12	Princeton	137

around the dial

NCAA Men's Basketball
No. 6 UCLA at No. 18 Arizona State
9:00 p.m., ESPN

NBA
Boston at Dallas
9:30 p.m., TNT

NFL



Jets quarterback Brett Favre informed the team Wednesday that he would retire from football after 18 seasons. Last March, Favre announced his retirement after 17 seasons with the Packers before eventually returning.

Favre informs Jets he's retiring

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Brett Favre's done with football — again.

The 39-year-old quarterback called the New York Jets on Wednesday morning to say he's retiring after 18 seasons, ending a record-setting career in which he became one of the NFL's all-time greats.

"He felt he had given us everything he had," general manager Mike Tannenbaum said, "and it was time for him to move on."

Favre, who retired last March only to return with the Jets, kept this goodbye simple — no tearful farewell or jam-packed news conference.

His decision came six weeks after his only season with the

Jets ended in disappointment as New York failed to make the playoffs. In an e-mail to ESPN, Favre said he had no regrets about finishing his career in New York and praised Tannenbaum, owner Woody Johnson and fired coach Eric Mangini.

"My time with the Jets was short, but I'm honored to be given that chance," Favre wrote in the e-mail.

If this is indeed it for Favre, he leaves the game with a slew of records, including career touchdown passes (464), completions (5,720), yards passing (65,127), regular-season victories (169) and interceptions (310).

"With Brett, there was always the possibility that he

wouldn't play the second year," Johnson said. "We were hoping to get one good year out of Brett Favre. We picked him based on, in our opinion, his giving us the best chance to win last season. We were disappointed not to have made the Super Bowl, but we did some very good things with Brett."

And the team doesn't expect Favre, acquired by New York last August after a bitter breakup with Green Bay, to change his mind.

"He did not ask to be released," Tannenbaum said. "Everything he said was, he is done playing football. We have our plan according to that, and we're going to move forward."

Running back Thomas Jones and safety Kerry Rhodes were critical after the season of Favre and his performance. The Jets went from 8-3 to missing the playoffs. Favre threw nine interceptions as the Jets went 1-4 down the stretch, and a torn right biceps might have contributed.

Still, Favre had nothing but positive things to say about his Jets experience.

"Mike and Woody, as well as the entire organization, have been nothing short of outstanding," Favre said in the e-mail. "My teammates — Thomas (Jones) and Kerry (Rhodes) included — were a pleasure to play with. Eric could not have been any better. I enjoyed playing for him."

IN BRIEF

Tejada enters guilty plea on steroid perjury charges

WASHINGTON — Dressed in a defendant's dark suit instead of an All-Star's crisp uniform, Miguel Tejada became the first high-profile player convicted of a crime stemming from baseball's steroids era, pleading guilty Wednesday in federal court to misleading Congress about the use of performance-enhancing drugs.

Under a plea agreement with the same prosecutors pursuing a perjury indictment against Roger Clemens, Tejada admitted he withheld information about an ex-teammate's use of steroids and human growth hormone when questioned by a House committee's investigators in August 2005.

Tejada — the 2002 American League MVP with the Oakland Athletics and a five-time All-Star shortstop now with the Houston Astros — also acknowledged he bought HGH while playing for the A's, but said he threw the drugs away without using them. Prosecutors said they have no evidence to contradict that.

Beckham ties record for most match appearances

EVILLE, Spain — David Beckham has equaled Bobby Moore's record for most appearances by an England player other than a goalkeeper.

Beckham replaced Stewart Downing in the 46th minute of an exhibition game in Spain on Tuesday. That gave him 108 appearances for his country, second only to goalkeeper Peter Shilton's 125.

The 33-year-old midfielder moved from the Los Angeles Galaxy to AC Milan on loan in January. He wanted to stay in shape in hopes of winning a spot on the national team.

The loan expires March 8 but Beckham hopes for a permanent transfer. He is looking to improve his chances of playing at the 2010 World Cup in South Africa if England qualifies. Major League Soccer set a Friday deadline for an agreement with AC Milan.

Armstrong's personal drug test plan falls through

DENVER — Lance Armstrong scrapped his much-publicized plan to set up an independent drug-testing program on Wednesday because of high costs and nearly impossible logistics.

When Armstrong announced his comeback last year, the seven-time Tour de France winner said he wanted to prove he was clean, and was teaming with anti-doping expert Don Catlin, who would test him and post the results online.

But Catlin told The Associated Press that after months of negotiations, both sides realized the program wasn't workable this year.

"It was going to be difficult," Catlin said. "There were so many issues in trying to get this going — legal issues, financial issues, and we sort of tried every which way. Finally, it made more sense to put it aside for the moment and maybe take it up at another time."

Loss

continued from page 20

used to seeing," Louisville coach Jeff Walz said. "She occupies so many people because she can score so quick. And she found a way to get to the free throw line and hits three big threes."

To get to the charity stripe, McCoughtry heaved a desperation shot with one second remaining on the shot clock and was fouled by Irish point guard Melissa Lechlitner.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw was unsure about whether a foul was the correct call.

"I didn't [think it was a foul], but I'm sitting on the Notre Dame side [of the court]," McGraw said. "It thought it was all-ball. And it was kind of not really even a shot. She barely had control when she shot it, so I thought maybe we'd get lucky there and go get the rebound."

But regardless of whether or not the foul was legitimate, McGraw said that was the most important moment of the game.

"That was key, that put it to a two-possession game," McGraw said. "That really hurt us."

McCoughtry was a little more confident that the officials made the correct decision.

"I just felt her swat down on me," she said. "... I always feel like I am fouled."

McCoughtry finished the game with 20 points and 11 rebounds, one of two Cardinals with double-doubles against Notre Dame. The other, forward Candace Bingham, had 21 points and 12 rebounds.

McGraw said she was disappointed that her team could not complete a comeback late in the game.

"I thought we did some good things to get it close, and then we turned it over or we would just make a critical mistake at the wrong time."

Even more important for the Louisville effort was McCoughtry's defense. The Cardinals forward was the leader of the Louisville press, and provided a constant force in the half-court defense, nab-

bing eight steals in the win.

"She's really athletic but you can't let it get to you, and I think she got a couple of easy steals today, too, because we weren't taking care of the ball," Irish guard Ashley Barlow said.

McGraw said McCoughtry is one of best anticipators in the country in the passing lanes.

"It's hard to prepare [for playing McCoughtry] because she's everywhere defensively and she plays the passing lane so well. We were trying not to throw it near her and we didn't execute that very well," McGraw said.

Earlier in the second half the Irish had a chance to pull ahead of Louisville. Notre Dame fell behind by 10 points going into halftime, but a 13-4 run capped by a Barlow layup brought the score to 42-41 Louisville. Cardinals forward Keisha Hines responded 10 seconds later with a layup of her own, sparking a 13-0 run. The Irish did not score again until freshman guard Natalie Novosel made a layup with 5:20 later.

"There were a few turnovers and layups in there and that just hurt us. We just didn't handle the press well, missed some shots, they got some easy ones," McGraw said. "I thought they beat our zone inside a lot, which was disappointing."

In the loss, the Irish had three players score in double figures: forward Becca Bruszewski (18), Natalie Novosel (17) and Barlow (16).

Note:

◆ When Irish guard Ashley Barlow sank a free throw with 37 seconds left to make the score 66-63, she had also just scored her 1,000th career point at Notre Dame.

"I think in the junior year, it's an outstanding accomplishment and Ashley has always been an incredibly hard-worker," McGraw said. "She's always inside trying to help the team win in any way she can; she's unselfish. So it's a great accomplishment for her."

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

Adrian

continued from page 20

need help from Hope in order to win the MIAA regular season championship, they also need to make sure they don't slip up when they travel to Albion this Saturday. Earlier

this season, Albion snapped the Belles' six-game conference win streak, so Saint Mary's will be looking to reverse fortune this time around as the team still has a shot at first place in the conference.

Contact Robert Graham at rgraham@nd.edu

NCAA BASKETBALL

Heels, Huskies beat rivals

Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — Ty Lawson helped Tyler Hansbrough make it four in a row at Cameron Indoor Stadium, while keeping himself perfect against North Carolina's most despised rival.

Lawson scored 21 of his 25 points in the second half, and No. 3 North Carolina rallied past No. 6 Duke 101-87 on Wednesday night.

Hansbrough scored 17 points — and hit another late 3-pointer — for the Tar Heels (22-2, 8-2), who became the first team in nine seasons to hit triple digits against Duke.

They came on strong down the stretch, using late runs of 25-11 and 14-0 to first take the lead for good and then stretch it to 17. In the process, they snapped the Blue Devils' 14-game home court winning streak while claiming first place in the Atlantic Coast Conference standings.

Wayne Ellington and Danny Green added 15 points apiece. Green and Hansbrough joined former Wake Forest standouts Tim Duncan and Rusty LaRue as the only players to beat Mike Krzyzewski four straight times on the Cameron court that now bears his name.

Kyle Singler scored 22 points and Jon Scheyer added 20 to lead Duke (20-4, 7-3), which kept up with the uptempo Tar Heels for about 30 minutes before spiraling to its fifth loss in six meetings with its hated rival located 8 miles down Tobacco Road.

Gerald Henderson finished with 17 points — but was just 1-for 9 in the second half for the Blue Devils, and that's when they let this one get away.

Duke led 56-48 in the early moments of the half before North Carolina took command, with Hansbrough hitting a short jumper with just under 18 minutes remaining. That started the Lawson-led 25-11 burst in which the efficient Tar Heels took the lead for good, coming away with points on 12 of 15 trips downcourt.

Then, Lawson gave North Carolina all the separation it needed a short while later, when he scored nine of the 12 straight points reeled off by the Tar Heels. His three-point play with 3:42 remaining put them up 88-71.

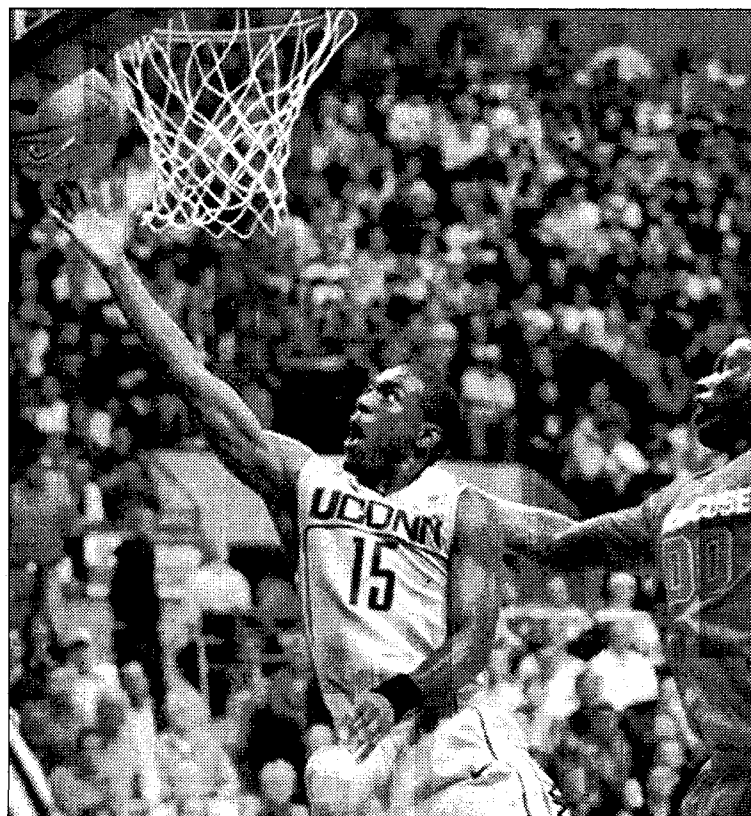
That came two possessions after Hansbrough pulled up over David McClure and knocked down a 3-pointer; three seasons ago, Hansbrough hit a 3 at Cameron that he still insists is his favorite shot.

That put the Tar Heels well on their way to their first 100-point performance in the rivalry since their thrilling double-overtime 102-100 victory in 1995, and made them the first visiting team to win here since they did it last March.

Nolan Smith added 11 points for Duke, which allowed 100 points for the first time since a 109-100 victory over Virginia in January 2000.

But for a while, it looked like the Blue Devils might be the first team to 100.

Duke shot 62 percent while coming on strong late during a first half that was rather miserable for the Tar Heels' top three players. Hansbrough, Lawson and Ellington were a combined 3-for-12 from the



Connecticut guard Kemba Walker releases a layup during the Huskies' 63-49 win over Syracuse Wednesday.

field, and Hansbrough, saddled with two fouls, was benched for the final 4:11.

Duke used a 22-5 run in which they hit 9-of-11 shots over a 5 1/2-minute span late in the first half — a run capped by Singler's baseline jumper with 4:55 remaining — to take a 40-34 lead.

The Blue Devils held North Carolina to two field goals over the half's final 7 1/2 minutes, then pushed their lead to 50-41 on Scheyer's free throw with 46.4 seconds left — the first time the Tar Heels allowed a team to score 50 in a half since December.

But that was well before they got back to the fast tempo that helped them take an early double-figure lead. North Carolina jumped out to a 20-10 lead roughly 5 1/2 minutes in after some remarkably efficient play in which it scored on 10 of 11 possessions.

Connecticut 63, Syracuse 49

STORRS, Conn. — Jim Calhoun and Jim Boeheim have both coached for more than three decades and the battles between their teams have created one of college basketball's top rivalries.

The two were in total agreement after Calhoun's top-ranked Connecticut Huskies won their 12th straight game, 63-49 over Boeheim's 23rd-ranked Syracuse Orange on Wednesday night: Hasheem Thabeet is one of the best defensive big men to play in the Big East.

The 7-foot-3 Thabeet had eight points, 16 rebounds and seven blocks and affected even more shots as the Huskies sent the Orange to their fifth loss in six games.

"We're not the best offensive team in the league but we're a pretty good defensive team with Hasheem in the middle," Calhoun said. "He affected 20 penetrations in the lane. Don't get caught up in stats with him, even as good as they are, because he is one of the most amazing forces in basketball in America."

Boeheim called Thabeet a "tremendous defensive player."

"I've said it before and I still believe he's the best we've had in this league. We're an inside

team and takes that away from you."

The Orange came in averaging 80 points per game, second-best in the league.

"Holding them to 49, that was the most impressive thing to me," said A.J. Price, who had 17 points for the Huskies (23-1, 11-1 Big East), who have won three games since assuming the No. 1 spot in The Associated Press' poll last week.

They overcame a sloppy first half by cutting down the turnovers and hitting 3-pointers, pulling away with a 12-0 run that gave Connecticut a 56-40 lead midway through the second half.

The Huskies had to play almost the entire game without second-leading scorer Jerome Dyson who injured his knee just over 4 minutes in and didn't return.

Dyson banged knees with a Syracuse player as he fought through a screen with 15:44 to play in the first half and remained on the court for several minutes before being helped to the locker room by two teammates. Dyson, who averages 13.7 points, never returned to the game. School officials said he would be taken for an MRI and X-rays on Thursday but that there was no structural damage, just a severely bruised right knee.

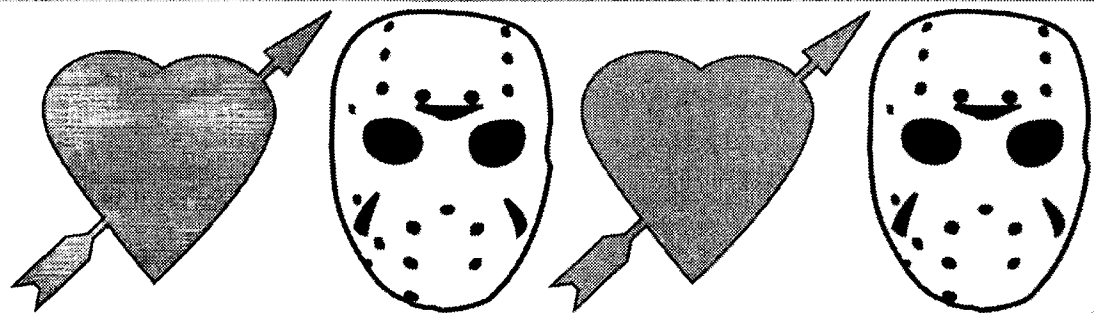
Jonny Flynn had 16 points for Syracuse (18-7, 6-6), which was ranked as high as No. 8 before the skid that may now see the Orange drop out of the national rankings.

"We had some really good opportunities early and didn't take advantage of them," Boeheim said. "That first half we played as good as we are capable of defensively but we just couldn't do anything offensively and he had a lot to do with that."

Connecticut managed to take a 30-27 halftime lead despite committing 14 turnovers — two more than its season average for a game — and going 2-for-8 from 3-point range.

The Huskies had six turnovers in the second half and they hit three of their first attempts from 3-point range, the last of those by Craig Austrie during the big run.

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Cardinals

continued from page 20

ets for the opposition.

"When [bad possessions] get ingrained into a game, it kind of snowballs on you and teams get easy buckets," Hillesland said. "Before you know it, they're putting up 90 on you."

During their current seven-game losing streak, Notre Dame has given up an average of 85 points per game. The Irish have allowed their opponents to crack the 90-point plateau three times over the stretch.

The team's all-around struggles have caused Brey to increasingly reevaluate who gets the majority of playing time. At the beginning of the season, Brey almost exclusively used a seven-man rotation. A few games into the losing streak, Brey tinkered with the starting lineup and began giving increased playing time to sophomores Tyrone Nash and Carleton Scott.

After the Irish hit rock bottom last Saturday in Pauley Pavilion, Brey took his most drastic measure yet by declaring that all positions are now subject to open competition. The move got the attention of his players.

"Nobody took it as offense," guard Tory Jackson said. "We need it. There's a competition

amongst ourselves, and it helps us work even harder."

For players like Nash, the move represents an opportunity — his best shot at playing time yet this season.

"We're all hungry now," Nash said. "It's really a wake-up call for all of us. Every day in practice we're really going to compete against one another because we know there are spots open. We're all looking to take advantage."

As of Tuesday's practice, Brey still hadn't declared starters for tonight's game.

With an uncertain starting lineup and a laundry list of improvements on both offense and defense, things are in flux for Notre Dame, but Nash knows the best way to put an end to the cycle.

"Right now, we just need to get a win," he said. "Then everybody will be off our back with the offense and everything."

Exactly one month ago, Louisville beat the Irish 87-73 at Freedom Hall in what was the beginning of Notre Dame's seven-game losing streak. The Cardinals needed overtime to dispatch the Irish but had little trouble in the extra period. The Irish managed just two points after regulation as the home team ran them off the court.

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogas@nd.edu

Size

continued from page 20

to not notice the wingspan and sheer athleticism advantages most Big East teams seem to hold over the Irish.

And that's been a problem all season. Falling to both Pittsburgh and Rutgers within the past month, it looked like Notre Dame might not be able to play with the big kids on the playground.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw said: "Coming out of the Pitt and Rutgers games we were worried."

And rightfully so. Even in a 62-59 win over DePaul Sunday afternoon, Notre Dame looked like it might not have the size to fight far into the postseason.

And when Louisville showed up last night, I'm sure some of those questions began racing through Irish fans' heads again. Just glancing at All-American forward Angel McCoughtry — with biceps any college age male would be jealous of — likely sent shivers down many spines.

But this time the Irish stood a little taller and a little bigger, just not quite enough. And Louisville's advantage in size showed itself on the boards. Louisville had the Irish beat 26-21 in defensive rebounds. Perhaps the most surprising side of the Irish defense came from guard Melissa Lechlitner who, standing at only 5-foot-7, grabbed the most defensive boards for the Irish with five. And that's certainly a sign that the Irish have learned from their past.

"They're incredibly athletic, we've seen a lot of that in the Big East — Rutgers, Pitt — and I thought we played better than

we did against both those teams. So I think we're improving," McGraw said.

But the Irish have a long way to go before they're at the athletic level of McCoughtry and Louisville. And it's not even about height. I'd put my money any day on a boxing match featuring Deseree Byrd, who's only 5-foot-9, Lechlitner and Ashley Barlow.

Teams as athletic as Louisville utilize the press and don't let up. It doesn't help that McCoughtry is one of the best pass readers in the country and grabbed eight steals.

"McCoughtry with the steals, she kind of wreaked havoc on us," McGraw said.

But what the Irish lack in height seems to be becoming less and less of an issue. That was clear last night. Even when Louisville went on a 13-point run, Notre Dame fought back. Freshman Natalie Novosel had two offensive rebounds that she converted into baskets in a crucial three minutes midway through the second half. Barlow and Erica Solomon had five offensive boards apiece. The Irish can get tough, but so can their opponents.

"We've got to be tougher than the teams we play," Cardinals coach Jeff Walz said.

And they were tougher than the Irish. Even if it was by a small margin, it was enough for a win. That's not to say the physical side of the Irish game isn't there, it could just use a little fine-tuning. A protein-carb shake here and there might not hurt either.

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

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Injuries

continued from page 20

down in the third period of Notre Dame's eventual 4-3 win. While pursuing a loose puck along the boards, Thang was hit by a Buckeyes player and went down awkwardly.

"It was just a fluke deal," he said. "I was battling for a puck along the boards. I got hit on my side, my leg kind of buckled, and it bent in ways it wasn't supposed to go."

Initially, Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson said he thought Thang, who had to be helped off the ice by the Irish training staff, had broken his leg or blown out his knee.

"If that's a kid that doesn't have the kind of physical attributes that Ryan has, that's a broken leg," Jackson said.

Thang, who has scored nine goals this season, sat out of Sunday's game against Ohio State for the first time in his collegiate career. The Edina, Minn., native said this is the first significant injury of his hockey career.

"It's going to be weird," he said. "It's tough not being able to come to the rink and skate, but hopefully I'll be able to get back into the lineup as soon as possible."

The estimated recovery window places Thang's return at some point during the CCHA playoffs. While he said he would obviously like to return then, he has to take his rehab one step at a time.

"These things are really funny," he said. "For some people you can heal pretty fast, but for some people it

can take up to eight weeks. Time will tell."

The injury may remind some Irish fans of when Erik Condra was lost for the season in the second round of least year's CCHA playoffs. Thang said he talked to Condra about what it was like to miss significant time during the final stretch of the season, but that he is more than confident in his teammates' ability to make up for his absence.

Jackson also said players such as Justin White and Dan Kissel will have to step up their offensive production in Thang's absence.

"Guys like Kissel and White are just going to have to elevate their games," Jackson said. "And contribute not just defensively, but offensively as well."

Their impacts could be even more important this weekend if Hanson, who leads the team with 14 goals, is forced to sit as well. The senior center was hit hard twice at different points Friday night, but don't expect him to divulge any details.

"I remember bits and pieces," Hanson said. "But to be honest I don't really have a recollection of what happened. I just know I got hit twice pretty hard."

After skating Wednesday morning, Hanson said his head felt fine, but his shoulder was still a little sore.

"We'll see how practice goes [Thursday] and make a decision about Friday," he said.

Jackson and Hanson both said the deciding factor as to whether Hanson plays against the Wildcats is whether or not he could possibly suffer further injury.

"It's going to be a matter of seeing how it feels and

making sure I won't get hurt worse," Hanson said. "I can play through the pain, but I don't want to be put in a situation where I could possibly get hurt worse."

Jackson was more blunt with his assessment.

"I'm not going to play him if he's in any risk," he said.

As far as lineup adjustments go, Jackson said that freshman Patrick Gaul, who played Saturday in Thang and Hanson's absence, will definitely see ice time this weekend, but that a second substitute won't be determined until an official decision is made on Hanson's status.

"You don't replace guys like that," Jackson said. "You just make sure that guys who step in there contribute."

Junior Christiaan Minella and senior Garrett Regan will see more action on the power play while Thang and Hanson are out.

"We've bragged about our depth all year long," Jackson said. "Now it's going to show up even more."

Note:

◆Notre Dame senior center Erik Condra and senior goalie Jordan Pearce were named finalists for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award Wednesday. They are among 10 Div. I hockey players to make the cut for the honor, which recognizes success on the ice, as well as achievements in the classroom and community. Fans can vote for the winner at www.seniorclassaward.com, and the winner will be announced at the 2009 Frozen Four in Washington, D.C.

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

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ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Park leads Irish squad to twelfth-place finish

Sophomore finishes in four-way tie for 20th

By NATHANIEL LEE
Sports Writer

Notre Dame finished 12th at the Northrop Grumman Regional in a field full of top-ranked teams in Palos Verdes, Calif.

No. 3 Arizona State came into the day leading the field, and combined for a 15-over par total to hold on for the win. Sundevils golfer Juliana Murcia turned in yet another solid performance, shooting 2-over par to bring her total for the tournament to a 1-over 214, eight strokes ahead of second-place finisher Carlota Ciganda, also of Arizona State.

After Wednesday's final round, the Irish came out in 12th place, with a 104-over par 956. Leading the Irish for the third day was sophomore All-American So-Hyun Park, who finished in a four-way tie for 20th place. She turned in a final-round 6-over 77, finishing 20-over for the three rounds.

Freshman Becca Huffer finished behind Park in a tie

for 41st. Her 6-over performance was her best of the tournament and brought her stroke total to 237, 24-over par.

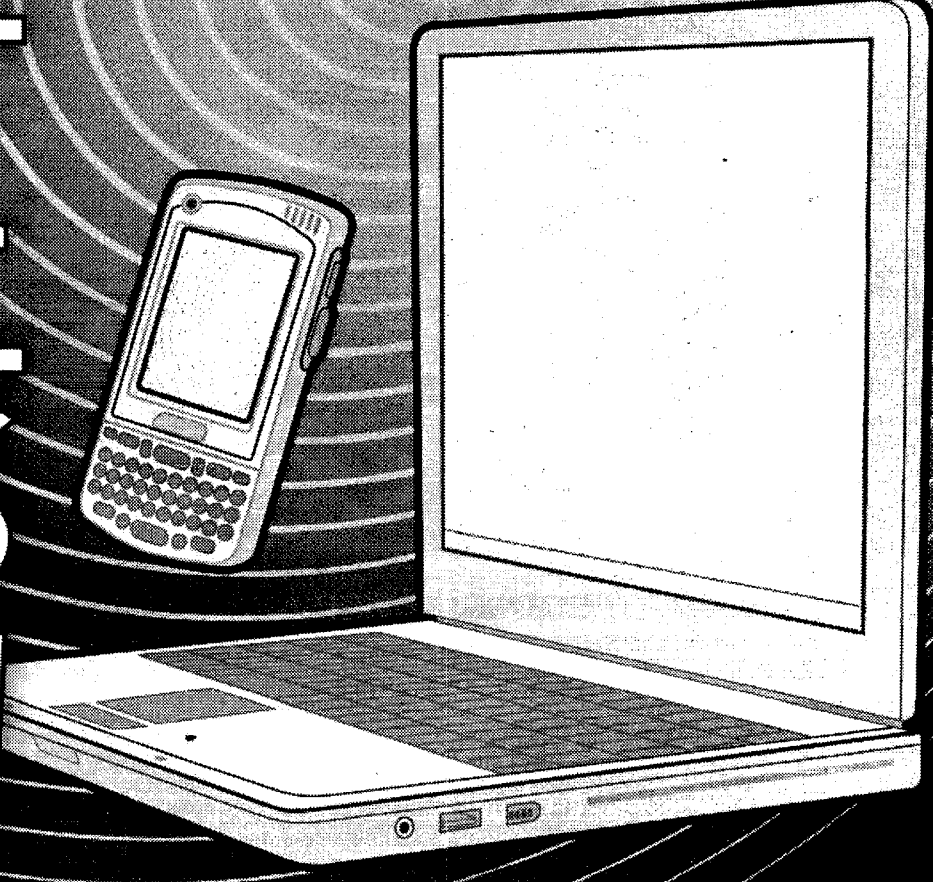
Rounding out the squad were the solid performances from Junior Annie Brophy, senior captain Lisa Maunu and sophomore Katie Conway. Brophy shot a 1-over par for the day, the best performance by an Irish golfer at the tournament, and finished tied for 44th place at 240 strokes.

Maunu's 8-over final-round score of 79 brought her to a total of 247, 34 strokes over par for all three rounds, causing her to drop seven places down to 65th in the field. Conway capped off the Irish with her own 8-over performance on the day. She finished in 73rd place, shooting 37-over par on a 250-stroke effort.


The Irish will now have a long break before traveling to Baton Rouge, La., for the Cleveland/LSU Classic on March 13th.

Contact Nathaniel Lee at nlee5@nd.edu

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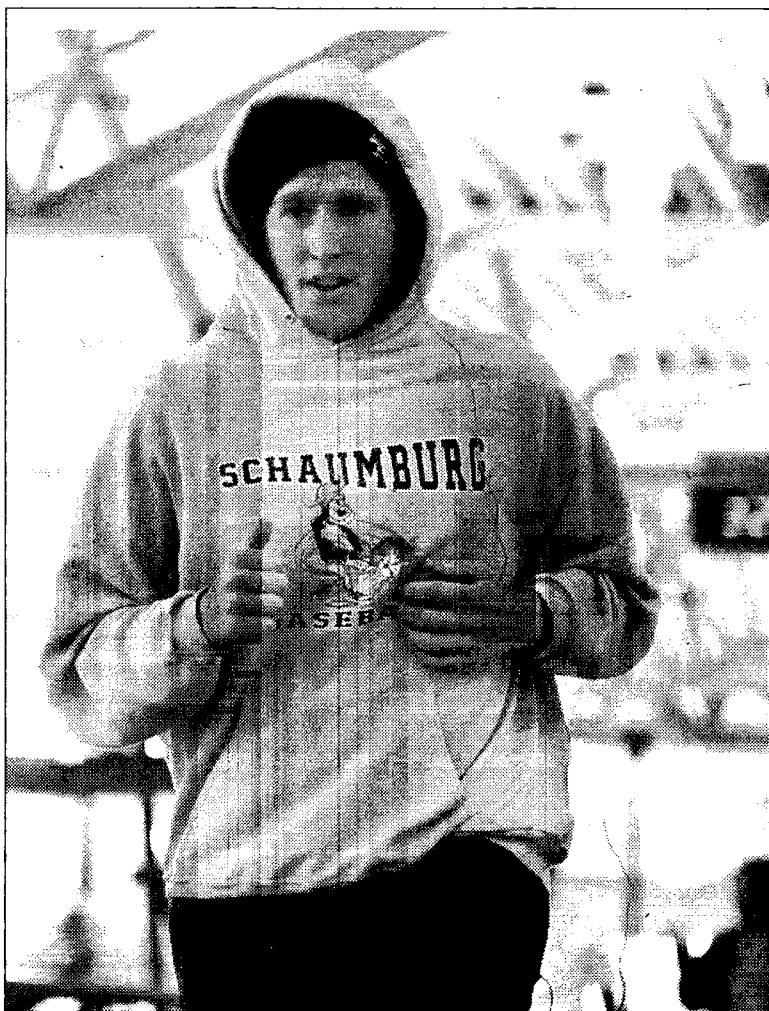


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Weighting it out



Weeks before the opening bell sounds this Sunday, boxers began their fight to get in shape. This week is crunch time for the fighters working to cut weight and make their final preparations. Senior Matt Posluszny, above, knows the ropes after three years in the Bouts. He said his final week is about mentally preparing, but that didn't keep him from bundling up to break a good sweat. Knott junior Adam Steinbach, below, will make his boxing debut Sunday night. Steinbach has been training since last May and has lost over 30 pounds in the process. After two final days of pushing himself to the limit, he tipped the scales at 160 pounds Tuesday night, his lightest since junior high.

- Photos by Ian Gavlick



CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across
- 1 Weakens

6 Chink in the armor, say

10 Book after Joel

14 The Sorbonne, for one

15 Jot

16 It's in a pickle

17 Supermodels?

19 Just

20 Continued drama

21 Caboose, e.g.

23 Make one to one, perhaps

24 One who fattens up cattle?

28 Razz

31 Jot

32 Flapper accessory

33 Legal org.

34 Narnia's Aslan, e.g.

35 Duke's quarters?

37 Bit of advice from a tennis coach?

41 Bridge supports

42 Work on the street

43 Be prostrate

44 Bad-mouth

45 Monet's "Done!"

46 Nabors role

47 45s from Count Basie and Benny Goodman?

51 ____ trick

52 Monet work

53 Congregation member

57 Final ____

59 From gentle to steep for some playground equipment?

62 Move, in Realtor-speak

63 Pounds, informally

64 Spasm

65 Run in place

66 Pupil of Miss Crump, on TV

67 Much-debated school subject, for short
- Down
- 1 Come clean, with "up"

2 Hurt

3 One can be shown to you

4 Nancy's aunt in Nancy Drew mysteries

5 Go after

6 Working out just fine?

7 Mauna ____

8 Still

9 "That ____ so bad"

10 Fuss

11 Sage and thyme are in it

12 N.F.L. Hall-of-Famer Matson

13 More devious

18 Not too quick

22 "Porgy" novelist ____ Heyward

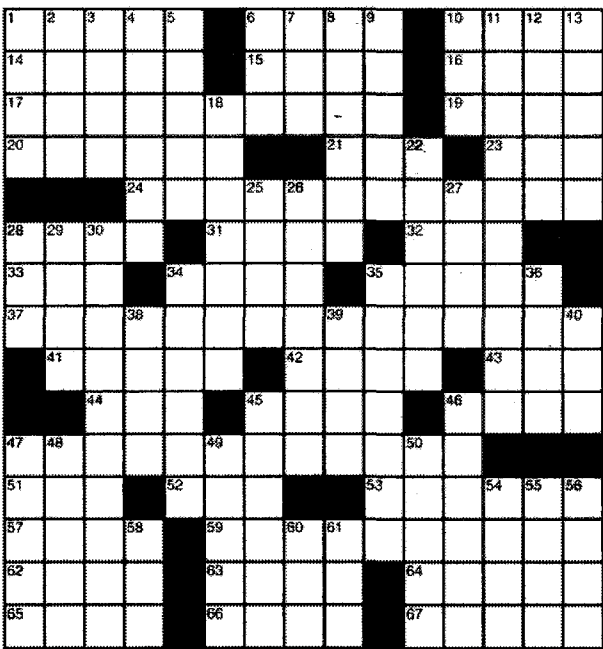
25 Chinese dynasty lasting eight centuries

26 Cartel leader

27 Kids' snow construction

28 See 45-Down

29 Disbeliever's comment

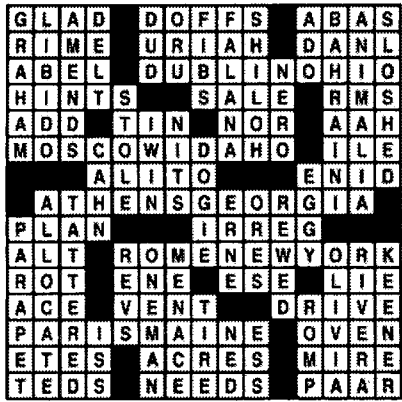


Puzzle by Joe DiPietro

- 30 Stripped
- 34 "Come on!"
- 35 Coupe ____
- 36 Potter's purchase
- 38 Target for Dracula
- 39 The Jets, e.g.
- 40 Once called
- 45 Standard 28-Down purchase
- 46 The id is in it
- 47 Sci-fi novelist ____ S. Tepper
- 48 Like some floors and legs
- 49 R&B singer with the hit "Thong Song"
- 50 Bridge positions
- 54 Last name in comedy
- 55 Healing balm
- 56 Exigency
- 58 Curly whacker
- 60 Only Super Bowl won by the Jets
- 61 34th U.S. pres.

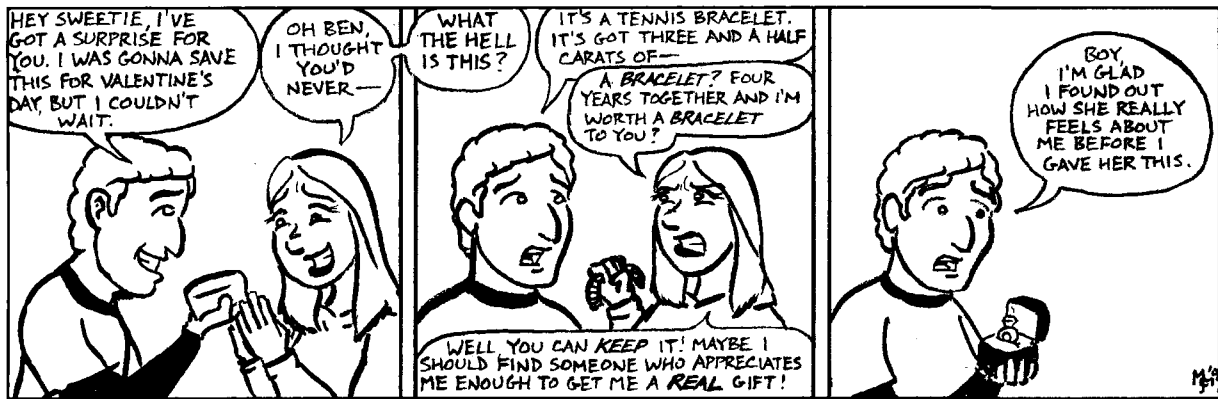
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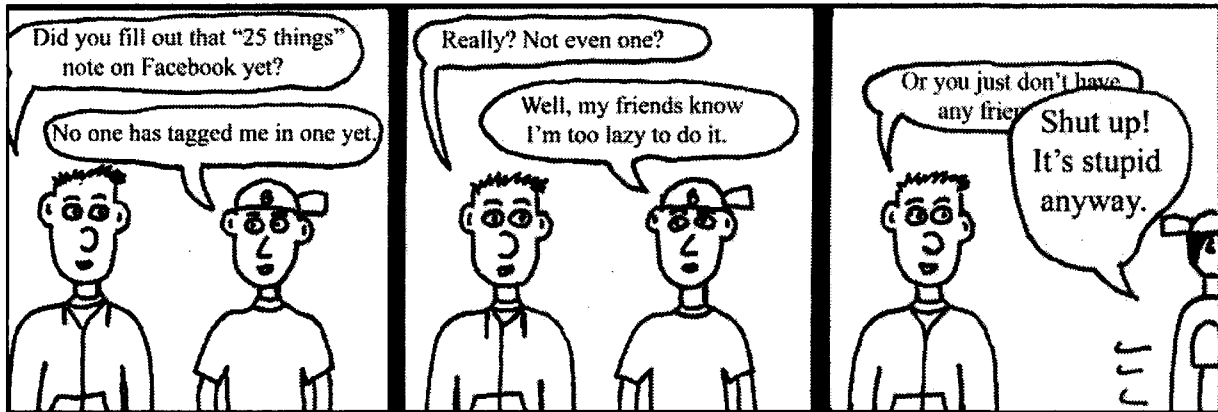
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EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kelly Rowland, 28; Mike Shinoda, 32; Jennifer Aniston, 40; Sheryl Crow, 47

Happy Birthday: There is so much hidden that must be brought out into the open before you can move on. You have the power, the dedication and the heart and soul to give your all. Your numbers are 8, 19, 23, 26, 35, 38, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): An innovative approach to life and friendships will spice things up. Set the pace and your own rules and you will find the happiness you are searching for. Stand up for what you want and speak your mind. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): It may seem as if everyone is working against you but, as long as you keep moving forward, you will accomplish what you need to do. Avoid meddling and meddlers and everything else will fall into place. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Nothing is likely to go according to plan but you will act fast and efficiently. Emotions will get you into trouble, so avoid letting people set you off. Act on facts, not personal feelings. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The tables are turning and it's time for you to make some adjustments to your living arrangements. Once you feel comfortable with the way things operate, you will ease your stress and eliminate the possibility of letting things spin out of control. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take it easy, relax and stay calm. Aggressive behavior will lead to trouble or cause someone to play with your emotions. Overdoing it in any manner will come back to haunt you. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Talk to people who can help and encourage you. A little extra work will pay off but don't jeopardize your health by overdoing it. A change of plans will result in a better connection with someone in whom you are interested. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Not everything is as it appears. Someone is working against you, so take extra precautions. Insincere gestures of friendliness or someone offering you too good a deal should be handled with care. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Stop standing still waiting for someone else to pick up the slack or show you the way. You have to be in the lead if you want to be successful. Your willingness to take a chance or to try something new or different will set you apart. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Weigh the pros and cons before you make a life-altering decision. Chances are good that the dynamics of whatever is going on around you are changing too rapidly to make a good assessment. You are better off doing as directed and playing it safe. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep your wits about you. With so much to juggle, you must keep a clear head and be ready to take action immediately. Stay in the loop at all times. Greater profits and advancement can be yours. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't give in to what others want if it isn't what you want. Be honest about your intentions. Don't let confusion cause you to stand still when the answer is to simply follow your heart. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Avoid putting too many demands on others. You will get the most for your money if you do the work yourself without being dependent on anyone. You can sort through any problems you have by taking a serious look at how they started. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are powerful, dedicated and a reformer. You are serious, compassionate and relentless in your search for justice and beneficial change. You are a great friend, companion and leader.

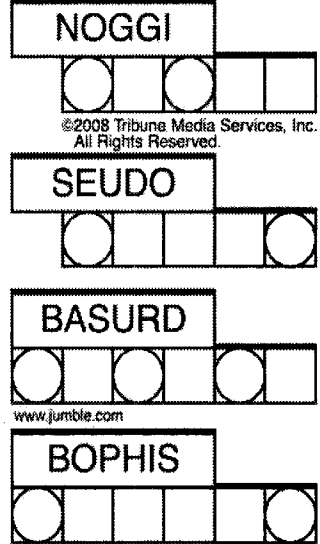
Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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



Ans: A " " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MOTIF TANGY IMBUE SATIRE
Answer: When she refused to pay for her portrait, he turned into a — "MAD" ARTIST

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



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

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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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

House of Cards

Louisville picks up win at Joyce Center

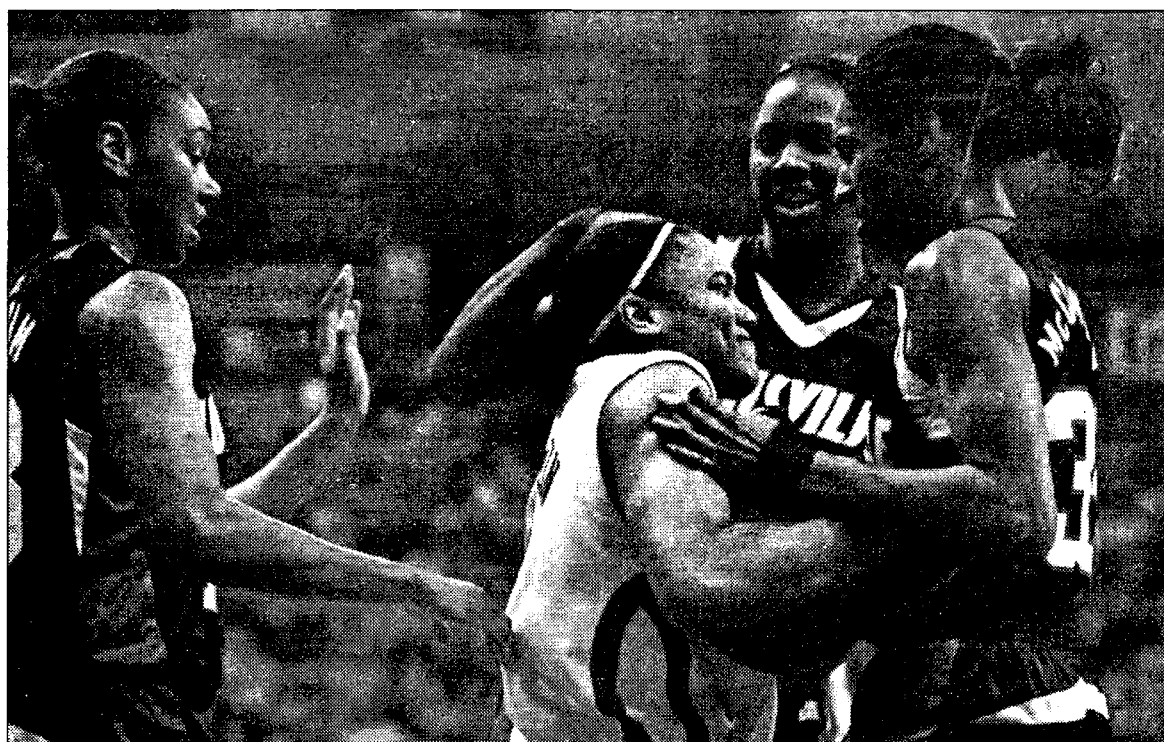
By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

Despite giving up a 13-0 run, having two Louisville players register double-doubles, and shooting only 37.9 percent from the floor, No. 22 Notre Dame still had a chance to win at the end of Wednesday night's game. Angel McCoughtry made sure they didn't.

The 6-foot-1 Louisville senior forward nailed three free throws with 1:16 remaining in the game to push the score to 66-61, which all but crushed any attempt at an Irish comeback. The No. 12 Cardinals went on to win 71-65.

"This is the Angel that I'm

see LOSS/page 14



Irish junior guard Ashley Barlow fights to retain possession amidst three Louisville defenders during Notre Dame's 71-65 loss to the Cardinals at the Joyce Center Wednesday.

GRACE KENESEY/The Observer

Team must toughen up in coming games

Louisville came into the Joyce Center looking to knock the Irish around, and well, can you blame them? Notre Dame hasn't exactly made a name for itself as one of the more physical teams in the Big East.

Just take a look at the Irish roster and you'll see that junior center Erica Williamson is the tallest they've got, measuring at 6-foot-4. And even just watching Notre Dame next to another team during the national anthem, you'd have to be blind



Deirdre Krasula
Sports Writer

see SIZE/page 16

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish look to dig themselves out of hole against Cardinals

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's four senior captains are no strangers to adversity. During their freshmen season, Kyle McAlarney, Ryan Ayers, Zach Hillesland and Luke Zeller endured a 1-8 start in Big East play, bottoming out after an overtime loss to Louisville on Feb. 4.

As the Irish prepare to face that same Louisville program tonight at 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center, they find themselves in the midst of an arguably more brutal stretch, a stretch in which the team has lost seven consecutive games by an average of just about 14 points per contest. Those four captains know it's up to them to prevent a sinking season from becoming a total wash.

"I think our seniors have

drawn on their freshman year and have said we're going to be really good captains through this," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "[They] remember as freshmen that leadership was the key."

There's no denying that Notre Dame needs good leadership now as the team continues to deal with issues on both the offensive and defensive ends of the floor. On the offensive end, the key term is efficiency.

"The most frustrating thing for me is we're not playing the way we know how to play," Hillesland said. "We're playing against too good competition to have two good possessions then come down and take a quick shot that leads to a transition opportunity for these talented teams."

"When you get out of character and take bad shots, you try to do too much and you try to go out of your comfort zone, and teams

make you pay for it."

Those poor possessions have not only caused the Irish to shoot an uncharacteristic 41.5 percent from the field in Big East games, but also are hurting the team on the defensive end of the court. One only needs to remember the Josh Shipp ESPN alley-oop slam from last Saturday to see how a turnover can lead to easy buck-

see CARDINALS/page 16

HOCKEY

Hanson, Thang sidelined

Coach Jackson says others must step up to ease pain of losses

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

After a virtually injury-free season to date, the Irish saw two of their top forwards, Christian Hanson and Ryan Thang, go down in Friday's win over Ohio State. Thang is expected to miss four to six weeks with a high ankle sprain, while Hanson is week-to-week after suffering a slight concussion.

While there is a chance that Hanson could play this weekend against Northern Michigan, the earliest Thang could see the ice again is the second round of the CCHA playoffs.

The junior right wing went

see INJURIES/page 16



Irish junior right wing Ryan Thang handles the puck during Notre Dame's 5-1 win over Bowling Green on Nov. 21.

WU YUE/The Observer

SMC BASKETBALL

Hoopsters slam dunk Adrian on home floor

By ROBERT GRAHAM
Sports Writer

After losing to Hope a week and a half ago, the Belles knew the only way they would have a shot at the conference title would be if they won all of their remaining five games. After a scrappy, hard-fought win against Adrian last night at the Angela Athletic Complex, Saint Mary's is more than halfway there in terms of accomplishing that goal.

Saint Mary's (14-8, 12-2) pulled ahead early in the second half to defeat the visiting Bulldogs 77-71 after only being ahead 42-41 at half-time.

The game was a change of pace for the Belles, who have been on both sides of blowouts in three of their last four games, the most recent

of which was a 66-39 win against Alma.

After leading by one at the half, Saint Mary's fell behind by five to Adrian until there were about 10 minutes remaining. After a 9-0 rally, the Belles jumped ahead 65-59 and lead the rest of the way.

The win extended the school record for most MIAA conference wins in a season to 12 and the team's 14 wins overall are the most since 1993.

Senior forward Erin Newsom recorded her sixth double-double of the season, scoring 22 points and grabbing 11 rebounds. Freshman guard Patsy Mahoney also contributed 22 points and freshman forward Kelley Murphy contributed 14 points to the winning effort.

While the Belles will still

see ADRIAN/page 14