

THE OBSERVER

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Facebook use evolves at Notre Dame

Since its founding in 2004, thousands of students join the now ubiquitous networking site

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

This is the second installment of a three-part series that will explore the recent terms of use controversy involving Facebook and delve into the way interaction with and opinion of the site has changed since 2004, when Notre Dame students were first able to become users.

Unlike most Notre Dame students, junior Helen Syski has never been a Facebook user.

Her cousin once tried, unsuccessfully, to create an account for her, but Syski made up her mind years ago that she would not join the popular social networking group.

If the more than 175 million people who actively use Facebook made up a country, that country would be the sixth largest in the world.

Facebook founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg made this observation in a Facebook blog post Feb. 18 when he announced the site was reversing its decision to make changes to its terms of use. The original changes — which deleted language that said Facebook's right to content would expire once a user cancelled his account — caused Facebook members to fear that the site retained a permanent license to their content.

Alarm throughout the Facebook community prompted Zuckerberg to return the terms of use to the lan-

see FACEBOOK/page 6

facebook facts

- Founded by Mark Zuckerberg, with three co-founders, and launched from their Harvard dorm room
- Employees: 700+
- Headquarters: Palo Alto, Calif.
- More than half of Facebook users outside of college
- Fastest growing demographic is those 30 years and older
- Second most-trafficked PHP site in the world

facebook.com
Observer Graphic | Andrea Archer

Tillett, Pulte win run-off elections

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
Assistant News Editor

Chris Tillett was elected to lead the class of 2010 and Caitlin Pulte the class of 2011 in the run-off election Thursday after both tickets failed to receive 50 percent of the vote in Monday's general elections.

Tillett, along with Joy Hwang, Matt Malloy and Ellie Trousdale, beat the Kim Kyrouac Jeff Lakusta, Jordan Schank and Kathleen Donahue ticket.

Tillett's ticket received 55 percent of the vote, or 526 votes, while Kyrouac received 38 percent, or 367 votes. 64 rising seniors voted to abstain. The total vote count used to calculate the percentages include votes to abstain.

Tillett will take office on April 1, and he said the team will start planning for the upcoming year now.

"The [platform idea] that will happen first is the tailgate," he said. "There will be a barbecue cook-off tailgate for the senior class before one football game."

Most importantly, Tillett said he will focus on creating a series of seminars for seniors to aid the transition process after graduation. These seminars will explain how to start a 401(k) plan, take out a loan and pay taxes, he said.

Tillett said the team will also hold a networking conference for seniors in the spring before graduation.

"The networking conference at

see ELECTION/page 4

Dove model: Embrace your real beauty



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Stacy Nadeau, who posed in underwear on a billboard in New York, spoke on campus Thursday.

By LAURA McCRYSTAL
News Writer

Women of all ages must end negative thoughts about their bodies and embrace their real beauty, Stacy Nadeau, one of six Dove models who appeared in her underwear on a billboard in New York's Times Square in 2005, told Notre Dame students in a talk Thursday night.

Nadeau said she travels the country sharing her experience as a Dove model in order to empower women to embrace their real beauty and reject images promoted by the media.

"Beauty is what the media shows us," Nadeau said. "And what does the media show us? Thin models. Airbrushed figures."

She got involved in the Dove

Campaign to promote "real women with real curves" when her friend signed her up for a modeling audition against her will in 2004.

At the time, Nadeau, a size 10, was a student at DePaul University in Chicago. She said after her initial reluctance, she participated in six months of auditions before she was chosen as one of the six Dove girls to for billboards and magazine ads in the Real Beauty Campaign.

The Campaign began when Dove conducted a survey that asked women if they felt comfortable calling themselves beautiful, and found that only two percent responded yes, Nadeau said.

"Dove had the truth and it was their obligation to do something about it,"

see DOVE/page 8

Club Fever opens to over-18 crowd

Green Room of popular nightclub to feature soft drinks, DJ tonight

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
Assistant News Editor

For the first time ever, the popular South Bend nightclub Club Fever will host an event for young adults under 21 tonight, according to club owner Dee Davis.

Anyone with identification proving they are over 18 years of age will be admitted into the Green Room, located in the basement of the club. Alcohol will not be allowed in the Green Room, and the bar at Club Fever will be roped off, Davis said.

Davis said the club has allowed private parties to use the Green Room and admit those underage, but the club itself has never hosted something like this.

"We're going to try it out.

this is the first time," he said. "If this works out and everyone behaves themselves, we could try it out on a regular basis."

Davis said the club's usual Thursday night disc jockey will work in the Green Room, and instead of alcohol, the bar will be stocked with sodas and energy drinks.

Those who are 21 or over can go back and forth between the parties if they wish, he said.

Davis said he believes there is a market for underage students, offering a place to hang out because many are often caught trying to sneak into the club.

"We have so many of them who try to sneak in and use fake IDs, so there's a demand," he said. "I would say about 20 to 25 are usually

caught on a Thursday night."

If all goes well at the event tonight, Davis said the club may try to reach out to those under 21 on a regular basis.

"We can give them a place to dance and make a couple bucks for sodas and food," he said. "But we want to see how this one goes. We are going to play it by ear for now."

Davis said if anyone underage comes to the party and appears intoxicated, the individual will not be admitted into the club.

"We will kick them out for sure," he said. "There will be police there."

Sophomore Carolyn Conley, 19, said she thought it would be a good idea for the club to reach out to underage students.

see FEVER/page 8

Observer chooses next dept. editors

Observer Staff Report

The Observer's recently elected Editor-in-Chief Jenn Metz announced six additional editors that will join the Editorial Board for the 2009-10 year.

Juniors Ian Gavlick and Andrea Archer, as well as sophomores Madeline Buckley, Matt Gamber, Jess Shaffer and Ashley Charnley will join the Editorial Board in their new positions after Spring Break.

Buckley, who currently resides in Breen Philips Hall, will serve as news editor. She has written for the news department since her freshman year, and is a native of Northbrook, Ill. Buckley has covered a variety of stories for The Observer including the Dillon Pep Rally cancellation, development near campus and

student government. She is an American Studies and Spanish major with a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy.

Gamber will become the sports editor. A Finance and American Studies major with a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy, Gamber is a current Sorin Otter, originally from Mt. Prospect, Ill. Having written for the sports department since his freshman year, Gamber has overseen coverage of Bengal Bouts and Bookstore Basketball, as well as developed The Observer's sports blog, The Casual Observer.

Charnley, a sophomore at Saint Mary's, will serve as the next Saint Mary's editor.

see EDITORS/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Thanks for the memories

Today is my last day as Editor-in-Chief of The Observer. I knew this day was fast approaching, but I prevented myself from thinking about it for as long as possible because after this is graduation, and I don't want to leave Notre Dame.

These four years have been the best of my life and I probably won't have another four years like them. They've been so enjoyable thanks in part to my time at The Observer. It was through The Observer that I discovered just how special Notre Dame is.

Last spring, we did a story on George Porter-Young, a former LaFortune employee who was originally from England. George found out he had leukemia and wanted to return home to live in England for the first time in 42 years. But because of his cancer, he couldn't fly home and needed to raise money for an expensive cruise home and to cover other costs along the way.



Chris Hine

Editor-in-Chief

After our story ran, the people of Notre Dame did the rest. Donations came in from staff, alumni and students and George had enough money to go home. And he did return in September to spend a few months with his family before he died in November. I know he and his family were grateful for all Notre Dame did for him. I hear all the time about the good that people at Notre Dame do and George's story is an example of the good Notre Dame can do.

I'll always remember George and I'll always remember the people who have made The Observer such a great place to work the past four years. Thank you to everyone who has worked late nights in our office and this list includes a lot of people.

We have a fantastic staff, filled with people who have sacrificed time, energy and points on their GPA to help us put out the best paper we can.

Some of those 3 a.m., 4 a.m. and even 5 a.m. nights can be frustrating, but I was happy to share them with everyone I worked with, for it was during those long nights that I made some great friends. It amazes me how much everybody at our paper gives everyday to make our paper the best it can be, and I am eternally grateful to everyone on staff. You've given me a lot of great memories that I'll always have. (And thanks for putting up with my love of Carole King's music. I know that wasn't easy).

Thanks to our readers, who pick up our paper everyday and read us despite the occasional typo. You keep us motivated to put out a great paper.

Thanks to Jack Radican, who drives two hours to deliver The Observer to its boxes everyday. No matter the weather, The Observer is always there, and that's because of the dedication and pride Jack brings to his job.

And thanks to Shirley Grauel, our office manager at The Observer and the woman who is the heart of our paper. Shirley has worked at The Observer for over 30 years and after next fall, she will retire.

Shirley will always have a special place in my heart. She is my Notre Dame mother.

When I was sick last winter with a respiratory infection, Shirley made sure I was eating well and taking my medicine. She would even swipe extra food and drinks for me from Grab n' Go so I could get through the day. She helped put my mom's mind at ease back home.

Then when I had mono at the beginning of this year, Shirley made sure I was getting the care I needed to feel better and went shopping for me at Martin's to get Gatorade and Campbell's soup. She was always a phone call away, anytime of the day.

Every morning when I go into The Observer, Shirley's is the first face I see. I'm always greeted with a friendly smile that would brighten my day, no matter how crappy of a mood I'm in. I'll miss that. I'll miss talking about our families, watching "Who Want to Be a Millionaire" with her and talking about Notre Dame sports. Shirley is a true Irish fan, with season tickets to football, hockey, women's basketball and men's basketball — and she goes to every home game, whether the teams are bad or good. (Jack Swarbrick, she deserves your prime seats in the remodeled arena).

Shirley, thank you for being there for me these past few years. You mean so much to me and to everyone who's worked with you at The Observer and I hope you know how much we all appreciate you and love you. Enjoy your retirement, you certainly deserve it.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Chris Hine at chine@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: TELL A STORY IN SIX WORDS.



Ryan Gabriel

junior
Knott

"I despise question of the day."



Andy Hermansen

junior
Keough

"I dreamt a girl liked me."



Johanna Kirsch

junior
McGlenn

"Lost: Hard Drive. Files not recovered."



Mary Lennon

senior
Farley

"Road Trip? This is an island."



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Trumpet player Todd Henkel plays at the 51st annual Collegiate Jazz Festival in the LaFortune Ballroom Thursday night with the University of Notre Dame Jazz Band II.

OFFBEAT

Teenage boys steal jewelry, hide it in Cheetos bag

NEPTUNE, N.J. — Bet you can't steal just one. Three teenage boys from central New Jersey have been charged with breaking into an apartment and stealing \$7,000 worth of jewelry, then hiding the loot in an empty Cheetos bag. The bag was later found inside a swing set in a local park in Freehold.

The boys, ages 15 and 16, have been charged with attempted burglary, burglary and trespassing. Police recovered most of the stolen jewelry.

The boys have been

released to their parents.

Man claims military service allows him to rob candy

FORT PIERCE, Fla. — Authorities arrested a man who claimed he was justified in stealing candy at a truck stop because he had served in the military. Police said an officer confronted a 31-year-old man at the truck stop early Monday morning. The officer reported finding several packages of candy and nuts, two black T-shirts and a 20 oz. bottle of beer in his pockets.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Sexual Assault Awareness Resource Tables will be available in South Dining Hall, North Dining Hall and LaFortune today from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.. Tables are provided by Gender Relations Center.

"Guernica," a play inspired by the true story of a ship that sunk in 1997, will be performed in the Philbin Studio Theatre in DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The play is being performed at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. For more ticket information: performingarts.nd.edu or call the DeBartolo Ticket Office at 574-631-2800.

Bengal Bouts finals take place Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

The Notre Dame German Club is hosting a Sound of Music Sing-A-Long event Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Carey Auditorium of Hesburgh Library. Admission is free, and free food will be served at intermission. A costume contest will also be held.

Saint Mary's College will host the "SMC Monologues 2009: Our Stories, Our Voices" Saturday and Sunday at 4:00 p.m. in the Vander Venet theater.

The Browning Cinema will present the documentary, "America the Beautiful: Is America obsessed with beauty?" Sunday at 3:00 p.m. in the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

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	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER					
	HIGH 32 LOW 16	HIGH 29 LOW 15	HIGH 28 LOW 17	HIGH 29 LOW 15	HIGH 35 LOW 21

Atlanta 65 / 44 Boston 50 / 29 Chicago 33 / 15 Denver 36 / 31 Los Angeles 63 / 50 St. Louis 52/22 New York 47 / 32 Philadelphia 53 / 32 Phoenix 79 / 55 Seattle 48 / 40 St. Louis 52 / 43 Tampa 63 / 54

College hosts Lenten reflections

Bread Bowl discussions to occur every Friday during season

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

With the season of Lent now underway, Campus Ministry, the Office of Civic and Social Engagement and the Mission Council at Saint Mary's College have prepared reflection activities open to all students.

Lenten Bread Bowl Discussions begin today, and will be held each Friday during the Lenten season, except during Spring Break. The discussions will include soup bread bowls for a meal and will allow students, faculty and staff members to discuss topics relating to Lent.

"We will be using stories, prayers and discussion starters that Catholic Relief Services has prepared from their work around the world," Regina Wilson, assistant director of Campus Ministry said.

"By engaging with the stories of contemporary people from various developing countries throughout the world, we are hoping that we will all deepen our understanding of the relationship between communion with God in Christ and

solidarity with all those who struggle around the world," she said.

The discussions, which begin at 12:15 p.m. and will conclude at 12:45 will be held in the West Wing of the Noble Family Dining Hall at the College.

"The [lunches] are meant to provide a way for students to come together once a week during Lent to share their

"We will be using stories prayers and discussion starters that Catholic Relief Services has prepared from their work around the world."

Regina Wilson
assistant director
Campus Ministry

spiritual journey around a simple meal, prayer, and shared conversation," Judy Fean, director of Campus Ministry.

Fean said discussions would center "around a topic which relates to justice and the Lenten themes of simplicity and almsgiving."

Along with the Lenten Bread Bowl Discussions, the College will be hosting a food drive throughout the season of Lent. The drive began Wednesday, and will run through April 8.

"The food drive is a way to connect the simplicity of our Friday lunch to the real needs of the hungry in our own South Bend community and beyond us to parts of the world where people are hun-

gry," Wilson said.

Carrie Call, director of the Office of Civic and Social Engagement told The Observer, that the college is asking "faculty, staff, and students to consider putting aside a can or box of food every week during Lent."

Students, faculty and staff are also encouraged to set aside some money if they cannot set aside food.

"The food and money, then, will be collected on Wednesday, April 8 at 4:00 p.m. At that time all who gather will celebrate a short prayer service blessing the food and money before it is sent off," Fean said.

The food and money will go to Little Flower Parish Food Pantry, CROP and Operation Rice Bowl.

"We hope students will join in the weekly lunches. People are invited to come whenever they can, once, twice, or weekly," Wilson said.

Fean said that she hope the events will provide an opportunity for members of the Saint Mary's community to come together.

"We also hope that people will come together to bless the food and money as a sign of our communal fasting, almsgiving, and prayer in solidarity with the people of our community and the world."

Contact Alicia Smith at
asmith01@saintmarys.edu

Asian Film Fest to premiere at ND

By LAURA McCRYSTAL
News Writer

In order to promote cultural awareness, this weekend's Asian Film Festival at Notre Dame will show four Asian films and will include panel discussions and a student performance-Friday and Saturday evening in the Browning Cinema, student organizer Laura Wilczek said.

"Each culture has its own way of storytelling, and film is just one such way of cultural expression," Wilczek said. "Thus, the film festival provides students with a chance to learn more about Asian cultures and how they are similar to American culture."

Wilczek is a member of the Asian Film Festival Organizing Committee, which is comprised of students and faculty and works with the Kellogg Institute for International Studies.

Senior Brandon Frost also helped plan the festival and choose the films.

"This year's festival is a unique combination of films that no other Asian Film Festivals at other universities have provided," Frost said. "It includes themes such as co-production, the Asian-American experience and cross-cultural appreciation."

One of the films, "First Person Plural," is about an adopted Korean woman's search for her birth family, Wilczek said.

Wilczek said the film has personal importance for her because she is a Korean adoptee. She and senior Kevin Prawdzik will speak on a student panel discussion following the film.

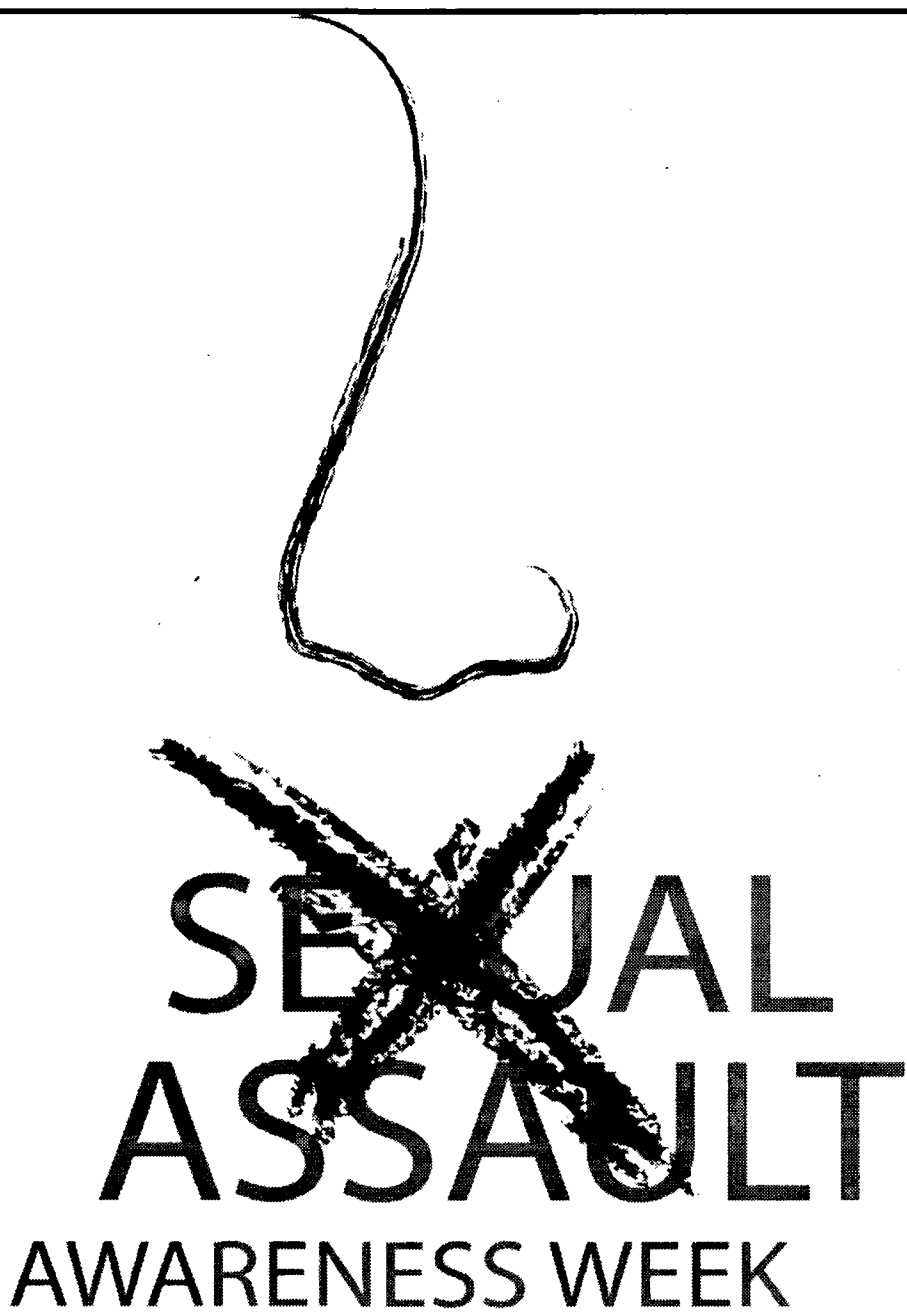
"I think it brings up a lot of pertinent identity issues that surround a Korean adoptee and therefore provides excellent insight for those who aren't aware of such identity issues," she said about the film.

Frost said "Hula Girls," another film premiering at the festival, holds personal significance for Frost, a native of Hawaii. He said he has been hula dancing since he was five years old. Before the film, a student from the Hawaii Club will perform a modern hula dance, Frost said.

"When I was studying in Japan, everyone mentioned the film 'Hula Girls' when I told them I was from Hawaii," he said. "So we truly are showcasing some of the more famous films in Asia today."

The film "West 32nd," about Korean crime in Manhattan, will feature a question and answer session after the film

see ASIAN/page 9



**SEXUAL
ASSAULT
AWARENESS WEEK**

FEBRUARY 22 – MARCH 1

2/22-3/1 "Giving a Voice" Poster Campaign featuring

GRC FIRE Starters

2/23 Take Back the Night

Prayer Service; 7:00 pm at Log Chapel

March around campus

Speak Out at Bonfire; 8:00 pm at Holy Cross Hill

(with hot-chocolate, smores and free t-shirts)

2/24-26 Resource Tables from 11:30 to 1:30pm in LaFortune

and the Dining Halls

2/25 Committee on Sexual Assault Prevention (CSAP) Student Forum

7:00 pm in Reckers Hospitality Room

2/27 "A Time to Heal" Dinner with Faculty and Student Speakers

Carolyn Nordstrom Professor of Anthropology

John Cavadini Department Chair and Professor of Theology

Kyle A.C. Rocca Survivor of sexual assault

Tim Latham President of Men Against Violence

Anonymous Student Survivor of sexual assault

5:00-7:00 pm at Legends. All are welcome and the dinner is free, but

you must RSVP by February 23 to grc@nd.edu or 631-9340

3/1 SAAW Sunday featuring petitions, ribbons and

prayer cards at Masses



Election

continued from page 1

the end of next year will help seniors find faces they recognize in the city they'll work," he said.

Tillett said his team offers a balance of prior experience and freshness in leading the senior class.

"We have the experience necessary to do the job and enough outside perspective as well," he said.

Pulte, along with Henry Shine, Luke Stavole and Tim Castellini, received 51 percent of the vote, or 593 votes, while the ticket of Kevin Kimberly, Alexa Doyle, Dylan Fernandez and Rachel Roseberry received 41 percent, or 471 votes. There were 93 abstaining votes.

Both tickets were accused of election violations after Monday's general election. Pulte's ticket was found innocent, but Kimberly's ticket was charged with two violations. The Judicial Council could not reveal the nature of the violations or accusations based on guidelines set forth in the Student Constitution.

Pulte said she does not believe

this had an effect on the outcome of the election because her ticket had a clear lead after the first round.

"We were in the lead and all we needed was 11 more votes to clinch the election," she said.

But Kimberly said he believes the allegations against his ticket took focus away from the platform.

"In the allegations, the platform got lost," he said. "That's where we lost."

He said if the allegations did not happen, his ticket would have had a chance to campaign for more votes between the general election and the run-off election.

Pulte said the first thing she will do in office is plan the class trip to see a Cubs game. She said the game will take place on a Saturday in the fall that does not conflict with a home football game.

The ticket brings considerable experience to the leadership role, Pulte said.

"We know procedures, we know people to contact," she said. "I am absolutely thrilled to lead the class."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Editors

continued from page 1

Charnley is a Communication Students and English Writing major currently living in Holy Cross Hall. Originally from Angola, Ind., she has written for the news department since her freshman year and covered Hillary Clinton's visit to South Bend last year.

Shaffer, a Program of Liberal Studies and Spanish major from the Washington, D.C. area, will assume the Scene editor position. A resident of Farley Hall, Shaffer has written for the Scene department since her freshman year, interviewing Ben Lee and The Format among others.

Gavlick, a former resident of Knott Hall, will lead the photography department as the incoming photo editor. Gavlick, who currently serves as an associate photo editor, is originally from Vancouver, Wash. and is a computer science major. He has covered football, men's basketball, women's soccer and various campus events.

Archer will become the next graphics editor at The Observer. A native of Redding, Conn., she is a Marketing and Graphic Design major and currently resides in Pasquerilla West Hall.

The other editors previously selected for the Editorial Board include Managing Editor Bill Brink, and Assistant Managing Editors Kara King and Bill Brink, in addition to Metz.

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Sunday, 3/1/09 . . . 1:30 - 3:00

Friday, 3/13/09 . . . 9:30 - 11:00

Kindergarten Information Meeting:

Thursday, 1-22-09 . . . 4:00 - 5:15

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FOR MORE INFORMATION Professor John Roos, Political Science Department, 424 Decio, 1-7556, Roos.1@nd.edu.

FOR AN E-MAIL APPLICATION, simply send a request to Professor Roos. The application deadline is **noon on Friday March 20**. Late applications will be accepted only if openings are still available.

PPE INFORMATION MEETING
Tuesday March 3
117 DeBartolo
7 p.m.



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[sal-mah-guhn-dee] n, any mixture or miscellany

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Costume Designer: MELISSA B BIALKO

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bishop apologizes for remarks

ROME — A British bishop whose denial of the Holocaust embroiled Pope Benedict XVI in controversy has apologized for his remarks, a Catholic news agency said Thursday.

Bishop Richard Williamson, with the conservative Society of St. Pius X, had faced worldwide criticism over a television interview in which he said no Jews were gassed during the Holocaust.

While Williamson apologized in a statement Thursday to all those who took offense and for the distress he caused, the bishop did not specifically say that his comments were erroneous, or that he no longer believed them. As a result, Jewish leaders said the apology did not go far enough.

"If I had known beforehand the full harm and hurt to which they would give rise, especially to the church, but also to survivors and relatives of victims of injustice under the Third Reich, I would not have made them," Williamson was quoted as saying in the statement carried by the Zenit Catholic news agency.

Iraq welcomes Kuwait's leader

BAGHDAD — Iraq took another step toward healing its rift with Kuwait on Thursday as government leaders welcomed the highest-ranking Kuwaiti envoy since Saddam Hussein's 1990 invasion.

The timing of the visit by Kuwait's deputy prime minister, Sheik Mohammed Al Sabah, was symbolic — it came Kuwaitis celebrated the 18th anniversary of the U.S.-led military campaign that drove out Saddam's forces.

But much of tiny Persian Gulf nation was left looted and devastated by the Iraqi occupation, and Kuwait still claims billions of dollars in war reparations. It has refused appeals by Iraq's government to reduce its demands and forgive about \$15 billion in Iraqi debt.

NATIONAL NEWS

Assisted suicide ring charged

ATLANTA — As authorities try to determine how many deaths nationwide may be linked to an alleged assisted suicide ring, members of the group known as the Final Exit Network are defending a mission they call "self-deliverance."

The network's president, its medical director and two other members were charged Wednesday in the death of John Celmer, a 58-year-old Georgia man who suffered for years from cancer of the throat and mouth. They each face up to five years in prison if convicted on assisted suicide charges.

Woman awarded \$7 million

LOS ANGELES — A jury awarded nearly \$7 million to a 56-year-old woman who said she was unknowingly infected with herpes by the 77-year-old founder of a hair-care company.

The lawsuit alleged that Thomas Redmond knew he had genital herpes for more than 25 years but did not disclose it before his sexual relationship began with Patricia Behr, and did not use a condom.

The Riverside County jury awarded Behr \$4 million in compensatory damages and \$2.75 million in punitive damages. She was also awarded a 2004 BMW car that Redmond had originally given her as a gift.

Redmond, of Las Vegas, is the founder of Redmond Products Inc., which was the maker of the Aussie line of hair-care products.

LOCAL NEWS

Couple wins Hoosier lottery twice

INDIANAPOLIS — An Indianapolis couple beat the odds when they claimed their second \$50,000 Lucky 5 Hoosier lottery prize.

Elinor and John T. Phillips of Indianapolis claimed the prize Thursday, less than five years after Elinor Phillips won \$50,000 on the same game in 2004.

Elinor Phillips said her heart fluttered when she heard the numbers for the Feb. 24 evening draw.

Mexico: Dangerous spring break spot

U.S. State Department issues warning for students traveling across the border

Associated Press

PHOENIX — The U.S. State Department and universities around the country are warning college students headed for Mexico for some spring-break partying of a surge in drug-related murder and mayhem south of the border.

"We're not necessarily telling students not to go, but we're going to certainly alert them," said Tom Dougan, vice president for student affairs at the University of Rhode Island. "There have been Americans kidnapped, and if you go you need to be very aware and very alert to this fact."

More than 100,000 high school- and college-age Americans travel to Mexican resort areas during spring break each year. Much of the drug violence is happening in border towns, and tourists have generally not been targeted, though there have been killings in the big spring-break resorts of Acapulco and Cancun, well away from the border.

The University of Arizona in Tucson is urging its approximately 37,000 students not to go to Mexico. Other universities — in the Southwest and far beyond, including Penn State, Notre Dame, the University of Colorado and the University at Buffalo — said they would call students' attention to the travel warning issued Feb. 20 by the State Department.

The State Department stopped short of warning spring breakers not to go to Mexico, but advised them to avoid areas of prostitution and drug-dealing and take other commonsense precautions.

"Sage advice," said Tom Mangan, a spokesman for the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. "We have had documented violence, attacks, killings, shootouts



American students relax on the beach in Cancun, Mexico during spring break. The State Department is warning students to be careful after a drug-related murder across the border.

with the drug cartels involving not only the military but law enforcement personnel. It is indiscriminate violence, and certainly innocent people have been caught up in that collateral damage."

Mexico's drug cartels are waging a bloody fight among themselves for smuggling routes and against government forces, carrying out massacres and dumping beheaded bodies in the streets. More than 6,000 people were killed in drug violence in Mexico last year.

But Mexican Attorney General Eduardo Medina Mora said in an interview with The Associated Press: "There is no major risk for students coming into Mexico in general terms. It

is always important to advise the youngsters to behave."

Despite the bloodshed, the number of foreign tourists visiting Mexico surged to 23 million in 2008, up 5.9 percent from the year before, spurred in part by the tumbling value of the peso against the dollar, according to the country's Tourism Department. The department estimates 80 percent of tourists in Mexico come from the United States.

"Cancun has always been one of our most popular destinations and that hasn't changed this year," said Patrick Evans of STA Travel, one of the biggest spring-break travel agencies. "Many of the packages we offer include lodging on

the beach and in very nice resorts that take the utmost pride in making sure customers are safe."

Some students said the warnings are unlikely to deter them.

University of Arizona sophomore Daniel Wallace is going to Puerto Penasco, or Rocky Point, for spring break, saying he is not worried about violence there. Besides, the 19-year-old said: "It's relaxing, it's warm, I'm a big fan of the beach and the drinking age is lower. It's a fun place to go."

Amanda Corbett, a sophomore at North Carolina State, said she is going snowboarding in Virginia because she couldn't afford Cancun. But three of her roommates are going there.

BANGLADESH

Mutiny ends after government force

Associated Press

DHAKA — Tanks rolled through the Bangladeshi capital Thursday in a show of force that finally persuaded mutinous border guards to lay down their arms, ending a two-day revolt that threatened to spread across the impoverished South Asian nation.

At least 11 were killed, including three civilians, in the insurrection after the nearly 2,000 guards opened fire on their senior officers and seized their headquarters to protest poor pay and conditions.

Concerned about reports of dozens still missing, firefighters searched the area for bodies into Friday's early hours.

"We'll work here overnight," fire offi-

cial Dilip Kumar Ghosh said by telephone from the scene.

One officer said he saw the killing of the chief of the border security force, Maj. Gen. Shakil Ahmed, immediately after the mutiny began Wednesday.

"I was confronted by the soldiers three times, but I have survived," the officer, Lt. Col. Syed Kamruzzaman, told ATN Bangla television station. "Allah has saved me from the face of death."

Authorities did not make any statement about the chief's whereabouts.

The mutinous guards had agreed to surrender after the government on Wednesday promised them an amnesty and agreed to look into their demands.

But as the process stalled and the revolt appeared to be spreading to

other areas Thursday, recently elected Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina warned the rebels she would "do whatever is needed to end the violence."

Hours later, tanks and armored vehicles with heavy machine guns rolled into the capital, taking up positions in residential neighborhoods around the border guards' compound. An Associated Press reporter saw several tanks stationed in a playground.

Apparently intimidated, the guards hoisted a white flag on Thursday afternoon and resumed laying down arms.

"All the mutinous border guards have surrendered their weapons," government negotiator Mahub Ara Gini told reporters, adding that all military officials with their families trapped inside the headquarters had been evacuated.

Facebook

continued from page 1

guage in place before the Feb. 4 change.

Balancing privacy concerns with use of the Facebook site has never been an issue for Syski, whose older siblings, particularly a sister four years older than her, discouraged her from joining the site.

"I think there's always a tendency to objectify people," Syski said, one of the reasons she decided to stay away from Facebook.com.

Syski said she has talked to peers who also do not have Facebook, but could not immediately think of anyone beside herself who does not use the site.

Since most of her friends are users of the site, it would be easy for her to jump on their account to look around. But Syski said it's something she's probably only done five times.

Syski admitted there are some drawbacks to not being on Facebook.

"Occasionally I have been the last to know about something, but I usually get an e-mail when people include me on the Facebook invite," she said.

But the pros of being off Facebook have outweighed the cons for her, she said.

"I'm developing deeper friendships, and I find better ways to keep in touch with people," she said.

Syski is a rare case, as most Notre Dame students are Facebook users.

The History of Facebook at Notre Dame

Founded by Harvard student Mark Zuckerberg in 2004, the site, then known as theface-

book.com, came to Notre Dame later that year.

On Aug. 22, 2004, people with e-mail addresses ending @nd.edu could join the site. Notre Dame was among the first 60 colleges to join the networking community, and in a little more than a week, over 1,000 people had joined as Notre Dame users.

The Observer described the site as "the dogbook on steroids," a reference to the picture directory of the freshman class students can buy when they arrive on campus.

One female sophomore quoted in the 2004 Observer article loved it.

"It has never been easier to find people that are like you," she said.

Another student did not like it, saying "it stretches even the lowest of lows in wasting time."

But Facebook took off at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's. A search of The Observer's archives for the term "Facebook" yields 170 results.

Some articles about the site reported positive experiences, others negative.

In September 2005, The Observer reported Saint Mary's students were receiving abusive threats on Facebook.

The Keenan Revue the next year featured a skit about Facebook, ending with a face-off against MySpace, another popular social networking site.

A month later, The Observer reported that disciplinary offices at other schools were using

Facebook for punitive actions. Jeff Shoup, the director of the Office of Residence Life and Housing (ORLH), told The Observer then that at least one person in the office had a Facebook account, and they might look at it after a student gets in trouble. Saint Mary's administrators told The Observer then that they have it, but are not using it for punitive reasons.

In September 2006, students voiced their anger about the addition of the Facebook news feed in Letters to the Editor. One inside column called it the "news feed from hell."

A Notre Dame senior wrote a Letter to the Editor shortly after the news feed addition, saying she had quit her account.

"I believe the Facebook was a gigantic roadblock to my journey to become a better person," the senior wrote. "While others may use the Facebook for positive reasons, I, a true Facebook-aholic, allowed it to exploit every jealous and spiteful inclination I might possess in my far from perfect self."

In October 2006, members of student government and other student representatives tried to explain the concept of Facebook to the Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees.

One board member reported he was "shivering" after viewing a detailed profile. Many Trustees were perplexed by the definition of "friends" on Facebook.

Careerbuilder.com unveiled a

survey that same month which revealed that one in 10 employers used social networking sites to acquire personal information while screening job candidates.

The next year, The Observer reported the ORLH had received some phone calls from freshmen who wanted to change roommates after seeing the Facebook profile of their designated roommate.

In four and a half years, Facebook has become integrated into student life at Notre Dame. Student government candidates develop Facebook sites to attract voters. Relationships are announced and events organized on the site. Most recently, Subway enthusiasts have started a Facebook group to gather support for their fight to get \$5 foot-longs at the LaFortune location.

Facebook here to stay?

It's difficult for some to remember that a few years ago, no one was sure how long Facebook would be around, whether it was a passing fad or here to stay.

"Facebook three or four years ago may have been considered possibly something that was temporary..." Brian Fremeau, the assistant director of Student Activities said earlier this week. "It wasn't necessarily something that was treated as, 'this is going to be here forever.' Now I don't think that conversation is happening. Facebook has established itself as being a primary mode of communication, not something that is tacked onto the other ways student communicate."

Many student groups have been using the site to get the word out about events, beyond the traditional avenues of Observer advertisements, posters

and table cards in the dining halls, he said.

Saint Mary's sophomore Liz Brown has embraced the site. She became a Facebook member the summer before she enrolled at the College.

"I thought it would be an easy way to get to know my roommate and a really good way to keep in touch with friends once I came out here, because I'm from Pennsylvania," she said.

Brown described herself as an active user of the site. She updates her "Facebook status," uploads pictures, "tags" friends in pictures, comments on others' statuses, writes on friends' walls and sends messages.

She is on the site daily, about 10 times a day.

"Basically, anytime I get on my computer, that's the first thing I do," she said.

She has 373 Facebook friends, she said, and everyone she knows, both five years older and five years younger than her, is a member.

"E-mail is great," she said, "but it is so much quicker to be on Facebook and write on someone's wall."

Brown does enable privacy settings to limit her information to just friends. And she said she doesn't share much to begin with.

She doesn't plan to cancel her account anytime soon.

The third installment of this series will discuss ways students maintain privacy on Facebook and how use of the site has changed and will change as college users graduate and continue using Facebook.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

"Facebook three or four years ago may have been considered possibly something that was temporary..."

Brian Fremeau
assistant director
Student Activities

LOOKING FOR AN ON-CAMPUS JOB?

OBSERVER

NOW HIRING

The Observer is now accepting applications for 2009-10 for the following positions:

Controller ♦ Viewpoint Copy Editor
Systems Manager ♦ Ad Design Manager

The Controller position, which provides great accounting experience, is open to rising juniors. It is a two-year position; the 2009-10 Controller will become the 2010-11 Business Manager.

The Viewpoint position is open to any student; sophomores are preferred.

Systems Manager applicants should be highly adept at computer troubleshooting.

The Ad Design Manager position is open to all students with graphic design experience and leadership skills.

All positions are paid.

Please contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu if interested.

MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones	7,182.08	-88.81
Up:	Same:	Down:
1,677	100	2,113
Composite Volume: 3,388,679,452		
AMEX	1,329.40	+17.43
NASDAQ	1,391.47	-33.96
NYSE	4,713.02	-40.15
S&P 500	752.83	-12.07
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	7,511.20	+53.27
FTSE 100 (London)	3,915.64	+66.66

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
BK OF AMERICA (BAC)	+3.10	+0.16	5.32
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	-1.63	-1.25	75.62
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	+1.63	+0.13	8.13
CITIGROUP INC (C)	-2.38	-0.06	2.46

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	+1.12	+0.033	2.980
13-WEEK BILL	-10.17	-0.030	0.265
30-YEAR BOND	+1.25	+0.045	3.650
5-YEAR NOTE	+2.78	+0.056	2.070

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+2.72	45.220
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Exchange Rates

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EURO	1.2714
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.2544
BRITISH POUND	1.4260

IN BRIEF

Colorado's oldest newspaper folds

DENVER — The Rocky Mountain News, Colorado's oldest newspaper and a Denver fixture since 1859, will publish its last edition Friday.

Owner E.W. Scripps Co. said Thursday the newspaper lost \$16 million last year and the company was unable to find a buyer.

"Today the Rocky Mountain News, long the leading voice in Denver, becomes a victim of changing times in our industry and huge economic challenges," Scripps CEO Rich Boehne said.

The News is the latest — and largest — newspaper to fail amid a recession that has been especially brutal for the industry. Four owners of 33 U.S. daily newspapers have sought Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in the past 2 1/2 months. A number of other newspapers are up for sale.

Health companies hit on Wall Street

NEW YORK — This time, health care stocks bore the brunt of investors' wrath.

Health insurers and drug companies, some of the better performers on Wall Street lately, led the market lower Thursday after the White House proposed cutting payments to private insurance plans.

The Obama administration's \$3.55 trillion budget plan for 2010 includes cuts to Medicare and Medicaid. Private insurance plans serving Medicare seniors would take the biggest hit, but hospitals, drug manufacturers and home health agencies also face cuts.

As investors became aware of the impact that the budget, if enacted, could have on the companies, they turned against what had been one of the strongest industries in the stock market recently. Market watchers had been looking to health care to help lead the market's recovery along with other recession-resistant industries like consumer staples.

Banking shares initially pulled much of the market higher as investors welcomed plans from Washington for additional bailout measures that could provide up to \$750 billion in support to the struggling banking system.

Proposal shifts more taxes to wealthy

New plan relieves middle- and lower-income families of current tax burden

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's budget proposal would shift much of the tax burden from middle- and lower-income families to the wealthy, while increasing taxes on many businesses.

Oil and gas companies would be hit with big tax increases, as would U.S. companies doing business overseas. Hedge fund and other private equity managers would also see significant tax increases.

Most of the tax increases would be delayed until 2011, when the economy will presumably be improved. Several of the tax cuts would be permanent extensions of those enacted in the economic recovery package this month.

Among them, a new tax credit that provides up to \$400 a year for individuals and \$800 for couples, and an expanded \$2,500 tax credit for college expenses.

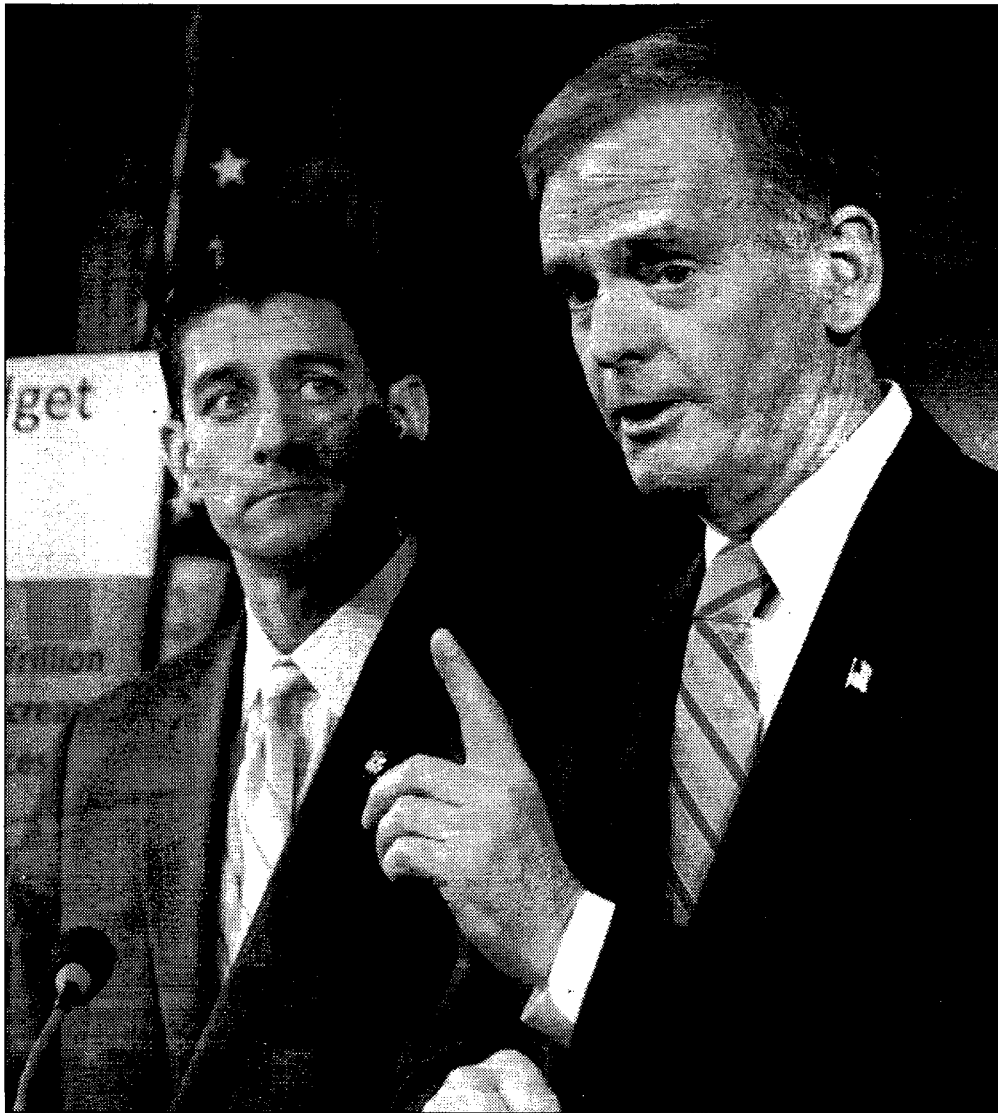
The budget outline released Thursday lacked many details about the tax provisions. But the policies represent a clear ideological break from the Bush administration.

Tax cuts enacted under Bush for families making more than \$250,000 would be allowed to expire in 2011, increasing the top income tax rate from 35 percent to 39.6 percent. The top capital gains tax rate would be increased from 15 percent to 20 percent.

Republicans and business groups said the tax package would delay an economic recovery that has yet to happen, while Democrats hailed the proposal as a break from the policies that caused the recession in the first place.

"This is a budget about a new era of responsibility," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said. "This is about accountability, fiscal discipline, cutting waste, fraud and abuse."

Marty Regalia, the chief economist at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, called Obama's tax proposals "the biggest return to the wel-



Sen. Judd Gregg, right, and Rep. Paul Ryan speak during a press conference on Capitol Hill discussing President Barack Obama's 2010 budget Thursday.

fare state that we've seen in decades."

Couples making more than \$250,000 would face new limits on the amount of deductions they could take on their taxable income, including deductions for mortgage interest, charitable donations and state and local taxes. The change would raise about \$180 billion over 10 years.

Charities, already hit hard by the recession, rely on those deductions as an incentive for people to donate, while the mortgage deduction is popular among homeowners.

"Over the long term it's going to have a negative impact on the high-end housing market," said Bruce Wein,

head of law firm DLA Piper's tax practice.

The provision received a cool reception in Congress. Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said it raises concerns and "will require more study."

Among the other tax provisions:

— The Alternative Minimum Tax would be indexed to inflation, providing a long-term fix that would spare more than 20 million taxpayers from being hit with significant tax increases. The tax was enacted 40 years ago to make sure wealthy taxpayers pay at least some tax.

— A tax provision that

allows money-losing companies to get refunds from taxes paid in previous years — when the companies were profitable — would be expanded, costing \$9.3 billion over 10 years.

— Capital gains taxes on small businesses would be eliminated, saving them \$7 billion over 10 years.

— Oil and gas companies would face a series of tax increases, including an excise tax for drilling in the Gulf of Mexico and elimination of the manufacturing tax credit for oil and gas companies. In all, new taxes on oil and gas companies would raise an additional \$31 billion over 10 years.

Unemployment reaches five million

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As bad as it is already, the economy keeps getting worse — and government figures Thursday provided more evidence that the downward spiral won't end anytime soon.

The number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits topped 5 million for the first time since record-keeping began in 1967. And the number of first-time claims hit 667,000, the highest level in more than a quarter-century. Both figures were worse than experts expected.

Orders for cars, computers, machinery and other durable goods plunged a larger-than-expected 5.2 percent in January as global economic troubles reduced demand from customers at home and abroad.

"We have been looking for signs that the economy's rate of decline might be slowing, but can't find any," said Nigel Gault, chief U.S. economist at the IHS Global Insight consulting firm.

The government reports offered more evidence that consumers are scaling back purchases as jobs vanish, home prices drop and stock portfolios shrink. Those factors fuel more job and spending cuts by profit-starved businesses.

"The hope is that policy efforts by the federal government will be able to break that cycle," said Zach Pandl, an economist at Nomura Securities International. "But it's still going to take some time before that happens."

President Barack Obama's \$787 billion stimulus package, for example, includes billions of dollars of infrastructure spending, but most of the

impact will not be felt until 2010 or later, Pandl said.

The Obama administration forecast Thursday that the budget deficit will hit \$1.75 trillion this year, reflecting the massive spending being undertaken to battle the severe recession and the worst financial crisis in seven decades.

Initial jobless claims jumped to 667,000 last week, the Labor Department said, from the previous week's figure of 631,000. Analysts had expected a slight drop in claims, which are now at the highest level since October 1982, though the work force has grown by about half since then.

The four-week average of initial claims, which smooths out fluctuations, rose to 639,000, the highest in more than 26 years.

Dove

continued from page 1

she said. "Our mission became to make women take care of themselves and aspire to be their absolute best."

Nadeau did not anticipate the outpouring of positive responses she received once the billboard went up in Times Square. Both the models and the Dove representatives were anxious because no company had ever done anything like it, she said.

"We are actually changing women," Nadeau said. "We are actually changing culture. We are actually changing media."

After Dove launched the advertising campaign, Nadeau and the five other models traveled the country and appeared on talk shows, including Oprah, to share their stories and talk about the media's impact on body image.

"We had to be the change we wanted to see," she said.

The Dove Self-Esteem Fund began to promote positive body image in younger girls, Nadeau said. When the models appeared on the Today Show and said one dollar would be given to the fund that for every click on the Dove Web site, the

site crashed 15 minutes later.

Nadeau said she wants to raise awareness about the manipulation of body image through airbrushed and unhealthy models.

"What kind of messages are we sending to women when we say we need to airbrush you so you're good enough?" she said. "The definition of beauty we see everyday is 125 percent fake."

Nadeau understands that it is hard for women to be comfortable in their bodies. She admitted that even she sometimes has negative thoughts about her body.

"I work out. I maintain a healthy diet and a healthy lifestyle and I am a size 10," she said. "Negative thinking needs to stop."

Nadeau also encouraged women to be friends to each other by refusing to discuss body image and by referring friends to professional help at signs of eating disorders or other dangerously obsessive behavior.

"We are our own worst enemy," she said. "Today starts accepting the flaws you think you have."

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccryst@nd.edu

Fever

continued from page 1

"For the most part, Notre Dame doesn't have a lot of options for what to do on weekends, except for dorm parties and parties off campus," she said. "This sounds like a good opportunity for students under 21 to go off campus and meet up with friends."

There is a lack of venues in South Bend where underage students can interact with each other off campus, Conley said.

"If Fever had an under-21 night, you would run into different people than you would normally," Conley said.

Sophomore Gabby Moriel, 20, said she also thinks a regu-

lar event for underage young adults would be popular among students, but she said if the party tonight goes well, the club should consider integrating the underage and underage venues.

"The clubs by my house let you in if you're 18 or over, but you get a wristband if you are 21 and can be served alcohol," she said. "If things go well, maybe they can try the wristband thing."

Moriel said allowing students over 18 into the bar will fill a void in the market for fun weekend events for students between 18 and 20.

"I think they would get a lot of business because there isn't much else to do," she said.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

'Idol' chooses three additional finalists

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Nick Mitchell probably won't be having the last laugh on "American Idol."

The outrageous 27-year-old sketch comedian, who performed as his over-the-top alter ego Norman Gentle, was one of nine semifinalists sent packing Thursday on the popular Fox singing competition.

"I'm looking for employment — always," Mitchell of Brookfield, Conn., told host Ryan Seacrest before his dismissal.

The second group of the eighth season's finalists not headed to the unemployment line are Allison Iraheta, a 16-year-old high school student from Los Angeles; Kris Allen, a 23-year-old University of Central Arkansas student from Conway, Ark.; and Adam Lambert, a 26-year-old theater actor from Los Angeles. The trio received the most viewer votes.

"I thought Nick was hilarious, so I didn't know what

was gonna happen," said Lambert.

While the show's four judges were more than satisfied with Lambert's elastic take on the Rolling Stones' "Satisfaction," they had a mixed reaction to fellow finalist Allen's performance of Michael Jackson "Man in the Mirror."

The panel was also impressed with red-haired Iraheta's red-hot rendition of Heart's "Alone."

"You just blew it out the box!" Randy Jackson exclaimed after Iraheta performed Wednesday.

The three finalists will join 28-year-old church music director Danny Gokey from Milwaukee, 21-year-old musician Alexis Grace from Memphis, Tenn., and 27-year-old oil rig worker Michael Sarver from Jasper, Texas, who were selected as the first three finalists last week.

Next Tuesday, 12 more semifinalists will vie for three spots in the competition's top 12.

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Story Idea? E-mail obsnews@nd.edu

Student Affairs
is now accepting nominations for the
Denny Moore
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Journalism

Candidates must be seniors who exemplify the qualities for which Denny Moore was known, including personal integrity and character, commitment to Notre Dame, and writing ability.

Candidates may be nominated by faculty, staff, or fellow students.

For a nomination form, please visit our website at:
<http://osa.nd.edu/get-involved/student-activities-and-awards/denny-moore-award/>
Nominations are due by Thursday, March 5, 2009.

Asian

continued from page 3

with director Michael Kang and screenwriter Edmund Lee, according to the festival's Web site.

The fourth film, "Last Life in the Universe," is a Japanese-Thai co-production in three different languages, the Web site said.

The festival will also feature academic panels by professors Kathleen Bergquist, an adoption researcher at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Stephanie DeBoer, a film and theater professor at

Indiana University, Bloomington.

Frost said the Browning Cinema is typically full for each film, and he hopes festival attendees will gain an appreciation for Asian film.

"Asian and Asian-American films are quite different than the normal Hollywood films," he said. "It really gives us a deeper insight into the world of film but more importantly, it acts as a medium which we use to stimulate thinking about some of the people and cultures that make up our country and the world."

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccryst@nd.edu

Four arrested for assisted suicide

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Joining the Final Exit Network costs \$50, and the privileges of membership include this: When you're ready to die, the organization will send two "exit guides" to show you how to suffocate yourself using helium tanks and a plastic hood.

The Georgia-based organization says it is providing an invaluable and humane service. Authorities call it a crime.

Four members of the Final Exit Network, including its president and its medical director, were arrested Wednesday and charged with assisted suicide in the death of 58-year-old John Celmer last June at his home near Atlanta. Investigators said the organization may have been involved in as many as 200 other deaths around the country.

"The law is very clear, and they clearly violated it," said Georgia Bureau of Investigation spokesman John Bankhead.

The arrests came after an eight-month investigation in which an undercover agent posing as someone bent on suicide infiltrated the Final Exit Network, which bases its work on "The Final Exit," a best-selling suicide manual by British author Derek Humphry.

Members of the Final Exit Network are instructed to buy two new helium tanks and a hood, known as an "exit bag," according to the GBI. In court papers, investigators said the organization recommends helium because it is undetectable during an autopsy.

The network, which was founded in 2004 and claims 3,000 members, donors and volunteers nationwide, has long operated in the open. It has its own Web site, and its leaders have held news conferences and appeared at paid speaking engagements.

The group's members bristle at the term assisted suicide, saying they don't actively aid suicides but rather support and guide those who decide to end their lives.

"We're just there to help," said Jerry Dincin, the group's vice president, who was not arrested. "People insist upon it. They want to do what they want to do. They're suffering, and if they

have intolerable pain, then they want to sometimes get out of that intolerable pain."

Celmer did not appear to be seriously ill. While his mother said he had suffered for years from throat and mouth cancer, court documents quoted his doctor as saying he had made a "remarkable recovery" and was cancer-free at the time of his suicide. Authorities said he may have been embarrassed about his appearance after jaw surgery.

Also, his doctor told investigators that Celmer was in pain because of arthritis, but that it could have been lessened if he had taken his medication properly and stopped drinking and smoking.

Georgia authorities arrested the group's president, Thomas E. Goodwin, and member Claire Blehr. According to investigators, Goodwin and Blehr were with Celmer when he died, each holding a hand, and the two cleaned up the scene afterward by removing the hood and the helium tanks.

Maryland authorities arrested the organization's medical director, Dr. Lawrence D. Egbert, 81, of Baltimore, and Nicholas Alec Sheridan, a regional coordinator. Investigators said Egbert and Sheridan evaluated Celmer before his death and gave the OK for his suicide.

Those arrested could get up to five years in prison on the assisted-suicide charges. They were also charged with evidence-tampering and racketeering. Oregon and Washington are the only states to legalize assisted suicide.

Authorities in Arizona are also investigating whether the group helped in the 2007 death of a woman who suffered from depression but was not terminally ill. As part of the probe, investigators searched 14 sites in Arizona, Georgia, Florida, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, Missouri, Colorado, and Montana.

Goodwin said in a 2006 interview with The Atlanta Journal-Constitution that the organization had worked with 36 people who wanted to end their lives. In court papers, investigators said Goodwin alone had assisted in 30 deaths.

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Please recycle The Observer.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Friday, February 27, 2009

THE OBSERVER

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Transparency needed in student government

On Monday, Notre Dame held elections for class council. Two of the elections, sophomore and senior class council, had no reported violations, but this wasn't the case in the junior class council race.

Both tickets were accused of at least one election violation. The ticket of Caitlin Pulte, Henry Shine, Luke Stavole and Tim Castellini was found not guilty on their charge, but the ticket of Kevin Kimberly, Alexa Doyle, Dylan Fernandez and Rachel Roseberry was found guilty of two charges brought against them. Since the election resulted in a runoff, the Kimberly ticket was not allowed to spend any additional money on their campaign during the runoff period.

What exactly was this ticket guilty of? The student body doesn't know, because the Judicial Council Elections Committee can't reveal the violations in accordance with guidelines set forth in the Student Constitution.

Judicial Council president George Chamberlain said it was important to protect the integrity of the candidates and that revealing the violations would further damage the campaigns.

This policy should change and student government should amend the Constitution to allow the Judicial Council to disclose election violations.

While class council elections aren't exactly the most pres-

ing issue for the student body, students are still electing a group of their peers to represent them for the coming year and work to better their time at the University. In making that decision, students have a right to know how the tickets have conducted themselves during their campaigns because it might affect how the tickets represent the students while in office. If the tickets are cutting corners in their campaigns, who's to say they won't cut corners once they get in office?

By not revealing the violations, the Judicial Council said it is trying to preserve the integrity of the candidates. If anything, keeping the violations a secret hurts the integrity of the candidates. The violations are hidden from the students, and those unfamiliar with the process of running for class council have no idea what the ticket could have done to deserve this punishment. If the Judicial Council revealed the violations, students can judge how bad the allegations are for themselves, rather than having to speculate what might have happened. Under the current system, students are supposed to simply place their faith in the Judicial Council and take its word that the problem has been resolved.

Instead of containing the damage done by the allegations, the Judicial Council is perpetuating it, and is not helping students make an informed decision about their future leaders.

THE OBSERVER Editorial

EDITORIAL CARTOON



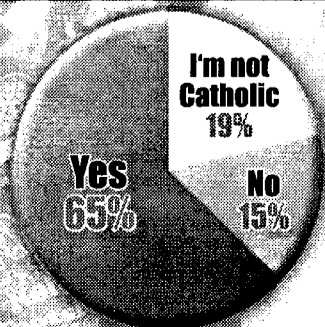
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Observer Poll

Are you giving up anything for Lent?

	Votes	Percentage
Yes	453	65%
I'm not Catholic	135	19%
No	106	15%



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"How am I supposed to make my teammates better by practicing?"

Allen Iverson
NBA player

If you give a columnist a Keystone ...

If you give a columnist a Keystone, he'll probably ask for a key so he can shotgun it.

If you give him a key, he will be reminded of the car he used to own. He'll ask to take your car out for a drive, but you'll say, "No, columnist, you've been drinking, I won't let you take my car out for a spin."

As soon as you say spin, however, he'll want to show you his favorite Web site. You'll give him your laptop and he'll try to set it as your homepage. But before he can, he'll notice your real homepage is ESPN.com. He will read Scoop Jackson and Bill Simmons' columns with an abundance of one-word paragraphs. The columnist wishes he could write like those two.

Then.

He.

Will.

Check the college basketball scores and see that Notre Dame has suffered another embarrassing loss. When he finds out



Bob Kessler

House of Six

about the loss he'll yell: "I'm mad as hell and I'm not gonna take this anymore." He'll ask for some eggs so that you can go egg Mike Brey's house. You won't know where Mike Brey lives, so he will call up a local turtle-neck store and ask where their biggest customer lives.

By the time he makes this call, you will have the eggs in your hands, but as soon as he sees the eggs he'll want you to make him some breakfast. Since you haven't stolen a monogram waffle iron from the dining hall yet, you'll go to the kitchen and scramble some eggs, fry up some crisp bacon and microwave some toast (who owns a toaster anyways). As soon as he sees all of these healthy food options, he'll want you to make him some freshly-squeezed orange juice.

You'll take out your juicer and your oranges and slice them in half and twist them and turn them. As he watches the juice squeeze out he will be reminded of a line from his favorite movie, "The Girl Next Door." He'll want to watch the movie immediately, and you will put it on and watch it in earnest. You'll see the beautiful Elisha Cuthbert, the nefarious Timothy Olyphant, the dorkish Paul Dano and the plainly successful Emile Hirsch.

As soon as the columnist sees Emile Hirsch he'll be reminded of "Into the

Wild," and will want to go camping (Sidebar one: He could be reminded of "Milk," but this direction will be more suitable for Notre Dame readers). You'll get your Wrangler Jeans, ax, dog, white water raft and start to rock out to Thin Lizzy while you put on your hiking boots. As soon as he sees your boots, however, he will want to go outside and play in the snow.

You'll make snow angels, play snow football, go sledding and go ice skating. You will hold hands on the ice rink, practice short track relay exchanges and fall on your face several times. You'll be so happy and merry that time will practically come to a standstill and you will hope that this most romantic day of all days will never end. After a while, however, you'll both get cold; and it will be time to go inside. You will make some hot chocolate to get warm, but he will still have some annoyingly repetitive sniffles.

"I feel sick," he will say, and you will ask him if he has a fever. When you say fever, however, his face will light up and his eyes will sparkle like the top of the Chrysler Building. "Fever," he will say, "We have to go to Club Fever."

"Fever?" You will respond angrily. "We went to Club Fever last week. Remember, the whole true love thing. You lost your

coat. (Sidebar two: If anybody out there has information about a North Face jacket that was removed from the second floor of Club Fever several weeks ago leaving a pool of vomit in its place and the hat that was in the pocket on a nearby chair, a substantial bounty is being offered for it). We should go to Finnegan's tonight. You can wear a T-shirt there!" you will suggest.

"Ok fine" He will say as he just wants to get out of the house and go to some sweet South Bend dive bars that will make his clothing smell like he's a chain smoker. You will leave the apartment after calling your cab driver and take your key out so that you can lock the door. But as soon as he sees your key, he will probably want to shotgun a beer, and if he wants to shotgun a beer, chances are ...

... He'll ask you for another Keystone.

Bob Kessler is a senior majoring in political science and economics. He would like to dedicate this column to the first graders of Mary Frank Elementary School who attentively listened as he read "If You Give A Pig A Pancake." You can contact him at rkessler@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fair weather fans

Where were the screaming thousands who packed the Joyce for College Gameday and the UConn game?

For the Rutgers game, the student section was half empty with open bleachers all around the arena. Thankfully, Coach Mike Brey decided to show up and cheer on the Irish. The usually mild-mannered Brey was waving and screaming at the student section to come to life and lift the team's comeback efforts. In his best coaching move since switching to man-to-man defense against Louisville, Brey willed the Irish and the crowd back into the game.

For a program that only weeks ago boasted the longest home court winning streak in the nation, this was embar-

assing. I understand Rutgers isn't a marquee team, but this is conference play, and our team is fighting for its NCAA-tournament life. Yesterday's attendance and spirit was a shame. What's even a bigger shame is that the Joyce will be packed and loud on Monday for Villanova.

Being a fan is about more than showing up when ESPN comes to town. Coach Brey should never have to beg for our support. It should be given wholeheartedly all season long. Let's make sure this embarrassment never happens again. Go Irish. Beat UConn.

David VanEgmond
 junior
 Stanford Hall
 Feb. 25

Where's the meat?

The Mission Statement of the University of Notre Dame explicitly states that "what the University asks of all its scholars and students [...] is not a particular creedal affiliation, but a respect for the objectives of Notre Dame and a willingness to enter into the conversation that gives it life and character."

Our University prides itself on its Catholic identity — and rightly so. However, as explicitly stated in the Notre Dame Mission Statement, students of the University are not required to accept any Catholic belief or to abide by Catholic practices. The University does encourage "a way of living consonant with a Christian community," but interpreting this suggestion as a request to abide by all Catholic policies is quite a bit of a stretch.

That is why I believe that the University's decision to not serve meat products in the dining halls on Ash Wednesday and on every Friday of Lent is quite senseless. Mind you, my religious feelings and beliefs have nothing to do with my indignation. In fact, having decided to reside off-campus for my senior year, if I really want to consume meat on a Friday all I have to do is go back to my

apartment and grill a burger.

My distress is not about my desire to have meat served in the dining halls — I can fare quite well without it. What is really the issue here is the decision by the University to make the choice for its students. Does the University believe that those students who have the practice of fasting at heart would not be responsible enough to take notice of the day of the week and remember to abstain from consuming meat?

Moreover, Catholic teaching actually requires fasting on Lenten Fridays. Can you imagine how students would react if the University decided to limit the amount of foods available for breakfast/lunch on Fridays? General uproar, right? Well, I think the current policy is just as coercive and paternalistic: it imposes a belief-based decision on all students, in direct contradiction with the Mission of our University.

Davide Lionetti
 senior
 off campus
 Feb. 25

He's just not that into you: Notre Dating

In the real world there is a step between being perfect strangers and being in a relationship. This step is called dating, but Notre Dame guys have convinced us gals that this place is different from the rest of the dating world. If you hang out at least once a week, send texts to each other the rest of the time and have either never hooked-up or do nothing but hook-up, then you are "Notre Dating."

The idea of "Notre Dating" was invented to make us girls accept that a guy won't call, ignores you unless he has an SYR coming up and to pacify us by convincing that we are in a relationship — without the guy having to put in relationship level commitment or effort.

I have amassed a list of the common signals that guys send to girls to convince them that whatever they are doing is a relationship. Here are some signs that you are in fact not in a real relationship:

One: If he doesn't give you at least 12 hours notice. You're telling your friends "he took me to the concert at Legends last night" but what you fail to mention is that he asked you via a text saying "I am walk-

ing by your dorm right now on the way to Legends, come down if you want to join." I hate to tell you but this is not a real invite, nor is it a date.

Two: If you only see him on weekends. Face it ladies, if a guy were really into you, then you would see him Sunday-Wednesday nights. Purposely meeting up with him every Thursday and Friday at Finnies or Feve (21 and over crowd only) does not dating make.

Three: If you only ever go over to his room. Sitting on his futon watching him and his roommates play Halo is not part of a functional relationship. This is a college campus. It is at most a six-minute walk from his dorm to yours (unless he lives in Carroll, in which case you must be a little flexible). If he doesn't want to make the six-minute journey to come see you, it's not worth sitting in his room listening to him and his buddies talk about their fantasy football/dorm co-rec basketball teams just to get some face time.

Four: If he is a member of the football team, basketball team or the Undertones. These three sets of gentlemen are the most

sought-after on campus, so don't even bother.

Five: If he's not hooking-up with you. Many Observer pages have been spent pouring over the idea of the Notre Dame "hook-up" culture. It exists. We acknowledge it. So if you have hung out with him at least five times and there has been no physical contact between your lips and his, then move on.

Six: If he's only hooking-up with you. Just because this is Notre Dame doesn't mean that every hook-up has a deeper connection. A booty call is a booty call. Next time he calls/texts, don't answer. Find yourself someone better — unless you are only looking for a hook-up, in which case no judgment here ... more power to you!

Seven: If you only see him in class. I don't care how often you sit next to each other, if you have delightful little chats before every class, or have really bonded over how horrible the Prof is, if he is not asking to hang out with you outside of class then you are nothing more to him than a fun distraction for 50 to 75 minutes.

Eight: If he's not taking you off campus

This one does have a little wiggle room. Freshmen, I understand that it is very difficult to take your girl out. Sophomores to seniors, there is no excuse. I am not saying you need to be going to The Vine, a simple Chili's or at least dessert at Steak n Shake outing would suffice.

Nine: If he's not putting it on Facebook. Yeah, he has taken over your wall, is poking you incessantly and gave you a "free-gift" on Valentine's Day, but unless it says "in a relationship" — he is just not that into you!

Now, I am sure that there are those girls out there who will look at the list above as say, "well I know this girl and she dated this guy who did whatever and now they are really dating/walk around the lakes/are engaged." But, as they say in the movie, those girls are the exception, and you are the rule. Everyone, say what you mean, mean what you say and lets put an end to "Notre Dating."

Katherine McMackin
 senior
 Cavanaugh Hall
 Feb. 25



THE YOUNG DUBS PERFORM TONIGHT AT LEGENDS

By **PATRICK GRIFFIN**
Scene Writer

Just over two weeks before St. Patrick's Day, Legends of Notre Dame will offer an early indulgence as one of America's foremost Celtic rock bands comes to South Bend. The Young Dubliners, veterans of the hybrid music genre, arrive tonight at Legends for an exclusive performance.

The Young Dubs' latest effort, "Saints and Sinners," was released earlier this month. Following their 2007 release, "With All Due Respect," The Irish Sessions - the Young Dubliners' rendition of a handful of traditional Irish songs - Saints is the band's first batch of original work since 2005. Mixing traditional Celtic melodies with pop hooks, the Dubliners' songs reflect the band's experiences following several intense years of international touring. Tracks such as "Howaya Girls," "Backseat Driver," and "Saints and Sinners" showcase the bands knack for melodic anthems. At the same time, the band displays its socially conscious mindset with tracks such as "This Time" and "My Town," which discuss the political unrest of the past few years and the current economic hopelessness that grips the nation. The acoustic ballad "In the End" even discusses the problem of global poverty and negligence in place such as Darfur.

Though the band has been busy touring with the likes of Johnny Lang, Collective Soul and Jethro Tull, completing anywhere between 180 to 250 shows a year, they understand the importance of providing fans with new original offerings.

"We live on the road, but were aware that if every few years we don't give our fans the highest quality songs we can, that level of excitement and anticipation may not last forever," comments lead guitarist and vocalist Keith Roberts on the Young Dubs (as they are affectionately referred to by fans) Web site, youngdubliners.com.

Hailing from Los Angeles, Calif. the quintet has been active since 1988. In their steady careers, the members of the Young Dubliners have remained true to their musical passions while producing eight full-length albums. "We've never been about hit singles, but we have always been focused on making the 12 tracks per project the

best they could be," Roberts said. While the musical production of the band has been rather consistent, the band's lineup has undergone several rearrangements throughout their 20-plus year reign.

Founded by Dublin natives Roberts and former mandolin and harmonica player Paul O'Toole, the band planted its roots in the formidable pub scene in California. Bassist Brendan Holmes soon joined the duo, and the band's first recorded tracks came from their live performances. Several original cassettes and additional members later, the Young Dubliners jettisoned themselves from the limited pub scene to explore more expansive opportunities.

Today, the Young Dubliners boast a diverse international fan base and a set band roster including Roberts, Holmes, guitarist Bob Boulding, violinist and keyboardist Chas Waltz, and percussionist Dave Ingraham. Additionally, Eric Rigler, a pipe and whistle player famous for his work on the "Titanic" and "Braveheart" soundtracks, has appeared on the band's three latest albums and is a touring stalwart.

Comprised of typical rock instruments such as the guitar, bass and drums, as well as traditional Irish instrument like the violin, harp, mandolin, Uilleann pipe and pennywhistle, the Young Dubliners fuse traditional Irish folk music with contemporary alternative rock and pop. The musical results are quite dynamic. At times, the Young Dubs yank the listener to far-away Ireland with the dancing musicality of the violin and whistle.

Don't label the band as traditional just yet. Their tracks can take the form of gutsy anthemic rock ballads, as well as vivacious pub songs, and anything in between. The Young Dubs seem to perform outside of a strict musical formula. The variety between songs is refreshing and keeps listeners blindly anticipating each track. The band's versatility makes it an act unlike any other that has graced the stage of Legends this year.

Grab your shillelaghs and prepare to rock for Friday night's performance by the Young Dubliners at Legends. The show begins at 10 p.m. and is free to all ND, SMC and HCC students.

Contact Caitlin Ferraro at cferrarl@nd.edu

'SAINTS AND SINNERS' WORTHY OF BOTH

By **ALEXANDRA KILPATRICK**
Scene Writer

If you're looking for upbeat Irish rock with strong Celtic and alternative influences, look no further than the Young Dubliners' newest CD, "Saints and Sinners," released Feb. 2. The Los Angeles-based band's 2009 LP offers an eclectic mix composed of catchy pop tunes that simply make you want to get up and dance, heart-wrenching traditional Irish ballads, traditional Celtic sounds combined with solid rock and roll, and insightful lyrics. The album also features guest bagpipe player Eric Rigler, most known for his work on the soundtracks for "Braveheart," "Titanic," and "Road to Perdition."

The album opens with its title track, "Saints and Sinners," a fast-paced pop-rock melody with danceable Celtic violin and distorted guitar sounds, an extremely catchy chorus, and interesting lyrics. "Oh sweet Jesus / Will heaven save us / Lived it hard but you'd hardly blame us / Broke the mold when we stole the show / No regrets if the truth be told."

"Howaya Girls" is a similarly pop-rockin' anthem perfect for dancing, but has more of a kitschy hoedown vibe to it with fun bagpipe riffs and a "Wipe Out"-like lead in to the chorus' charmingly loud Irish vocals. "Rosie" certainly has more rock influences but seems more like a cliché Celtic rock song, especially with the lyrics on the chorus, "Rosie sweet Rosie / Money don't grow on trees / If I thought for just one sec it did / I'd be down on my bended knee."

A personal favorite, "Buy You a Life,"

has amazing distorted guitar hooks combined with a nostalgic sound on the violins and excellent advice in the chorus' lyrics: "Don't live your life like you're the only one in it / Don't waste another minute / Thinking about yourself / Open up and throw back / All your covers / Your sisters and your brothers / They'll buy you a life."

With a sound akin to a traditional Irish ballad, "In the End" also offers a nostalgic sound with the acoustic guitar as well as very pensive-sounding vocals and poignant lyrics, "Please don't run don't turn away / Children's eyes beg us to stay / This time / No more strangers only a friend / We'll all go together in the end."

"Backseat Driver" adds humor to the mix with its high energy and nonsensical lyrics, "Oh no here we go again / It's the backseat drivers / Going nowhere / Tell you when we're there / We're only mindless / Backseat drivers."

"Saoirse" begins as a traditional Irish dance song with Rigler on bagpipes and upbeat violins, but the well-played electric guitar is quickly thrown into the mix, giving the instrumental more of a rock and roll feel. "(I Don't Think I'll) Love Anymore," like "In the End," is a heart-wrenching ballad with quieter introspective piano and vocals than the louder Celtic rock anthems towards the beginning of the album.

"My Town" offers a refreshingly positive perspective on the difficult economic times beginning with the inspirational piano and building up to an upbeat chorus with loud vocals and percussion, as well as slightly cliché lyrics, "On and on you look for something more / Lose your will at every closing door / Down down into your darkest blue / Rise up until you shine through."

The lyrics may be slightly cliché, and the Celtic influences may make the listener believe that they've certainly heard the songs before, but Keith Roberts and the band put an interesting spin on each rock anthem and ballad, making the songs unique. The Young Dubliners will be playing a Legends tonight.

Saints and Sinners

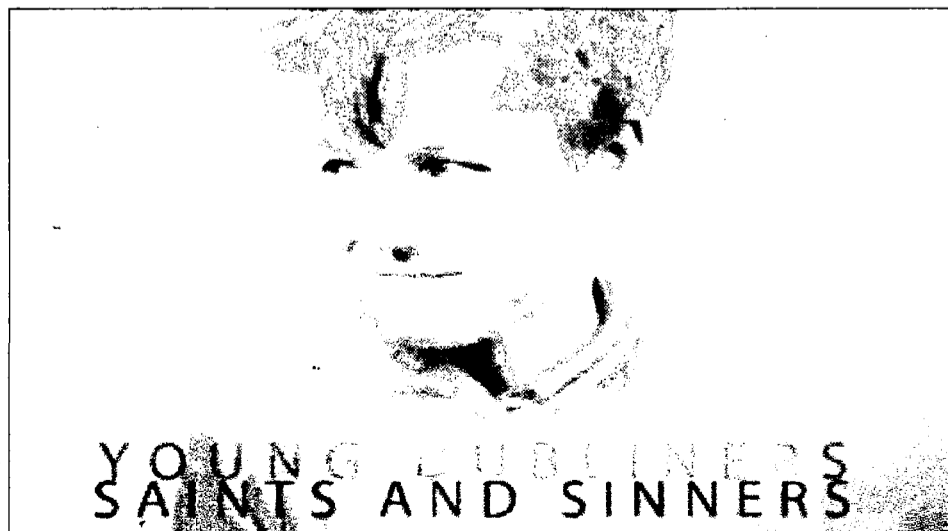
The Young Dubliners

Label: 429 Records

Recommended Tracks: "Saints and Sinners," "Howaya Girls," "Backseat Drivers,"



The Young Dubliners, who have been making music for over 20 years, are veteran performers who will perform at Legends tonight.



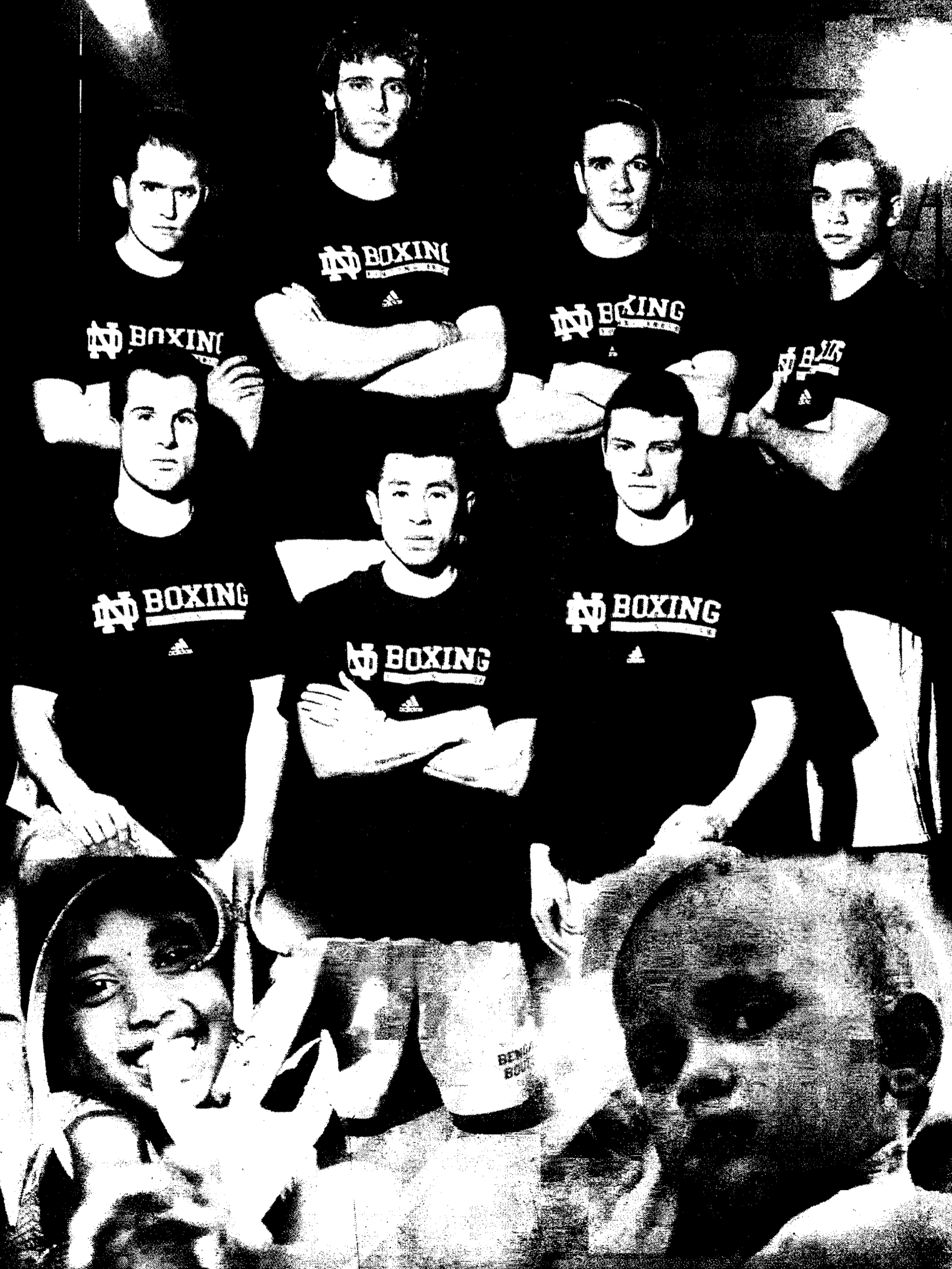
"Saints and Sinners," the Young Dubliners' latest release, is a genre-bending combination of traditional Irish and alternative rock.

BENGAL BOOUTS

Friday, February 27, 2009

THE OBSERVER

Spotlight on service



Boxing coach starting to reach legendary level

Bengal Bouts is a well established institution in South Bend.

By now you've heard about the 79-year-old amateur boxing tournament. You've heard about the lives it changes in Bangladesh and the endless hours each fighter dedicates to training. You may have even heard about

the infamous "1,000 day" — the annual dreaded Friday afternoon when each boxer reps out four digits worth of push-ups in a little more than an hour.

What you may not know is the force that drives each and every one of these things. The force that has remained more or less unchanged for the past 40 years. That force is Tom Suddes.

In a tiny, cramped gym, so humid that you can taste the sweat in the air, a couple hundred young men in peak physical condition lay flat on the floor, exhausted. The Bengal Bout fighters have just finished 1,000 Day. It's no easy task, but Suddes does each one leading the way.

"I decided we were going to do that about 10 or 12 years ago," he said. "That's really one of those days you don't forget."

Suddes will be 60 years old before the snow melts in South Bend this year, but he can still hang with the athletes a third of his age. He was pounding out push-ups long before any of these guys were born.

In 1968 Suddes began his career with Bengal Bouts as a freshman at Notre Dame. He said the workouts haven't really changed since then. He won championships in 1969 and 1970. But it was until '71 that the then-club president began to really make his mark.

In his senior year Suddes became very close to Notre Dame boxing legend Dominic Napolitano. Nappy, as he is lovingly known, had been around since the beginning. He was a close friend of Knute Rockne and the founding father of Bengal Bouts.

"Nappy got really sick my senior year. He had heart problems and really wasn't around very much because he had all these medical things. I ended up getting really into the whole program that year and I just loved it," Suddes said.

Nappy recognized the hard work. Suddes spent the next two years serving in the Army, but after that he was right back in the gym. The legend was aging and wanted to pass his torch to Suddes.

The job was far from glorious. Nappy offered his new assistant a salary of \$300 a year. Luckily, Suddes landed a job in the campus development office and was able to support his family while still finding time to do what he loved.

The Suddes family lived in the area until 1985 when the coach's new job forced him to move to Columbus, Ohio. Suddes still lives in Ohio managing the Suddes Group and Full Impact. Both are companies he started to offer training and coaching to non-profit organizations.

"We try to help people change the world," Suddes said, sum-

ming up his work.

Every winter he carves out six weeks from his work schedule to do a little world-changing of his own. Suddes makes the four-hour commute from Columbus to South Bend every week to teach Notre Dame's fighting Irish about boxing and about life.

Suddes spends Monday through Friday of those weeks in a local hotel room before returning home for the weekends. He spends a lot of that time away from home indulging in his second great passion in life — books.

"Books are just a great place to get ideas," he said. "They have had a huge impact on my life. I probably read a couple every week."

It was a book that first got Suddes interested in boxing as a senior in high school. He uses books to teach fighters in and outside of the ring. Suddes has a personal library of over 3,000 books and thinks he has probably given away another thousand along the way. He has even written a few of his own, many of them in his hotel rooms in South Bend.

Along with the six-week training period, the coach also makes the journey four more times a year to referee on fight nights. Suddes has been donning the bow tie since the '70s. It's just one more thing that he learned from Nappy over the years.

Suddes said the biggest change that he has seen in his time with the Bouts is the connection to the missions in Bangladesh.

"Back then we knew there were missions in Bangladesh, but that's about as far as it went," he said.

This year that connection took a major leap forward. For the



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Longtime Bengal Bouts coach and referee Tom Suddes, right, looks on during a semifinal bout Tuesday.

first time ever boxers made the trip to the Holy Cross missions to see the effects of the money they were raising. Before that trip the only member of the Notre Dame Boxing club to make it to Bangladesh had been Tom Suddes.

Sitting in the back of a Bob Evan's in 1996, Suddes read about a contest for micro entrepreneurs in Success Magazine. He jotted his answer to the question on the back of his placemat and sent it in immediately. In the next month's issue he read that he had won the grand prize, a trip around the world.

The 23-day journey took Suddes all over the globe. When he was in India he managed to sneak into Bangladesh for a couple of days to see these villages he had been helping for three decades.

Before that trip, no one had seen the fruits of the Bengal Bouts labor, not even Nappy.

Despite the decades of hard work and the leaps and bounds he has taken for the program, Suddes shrugs off any comparisons to his predecessor.

"Oh no, I'm not going there," he said with a laugh.

Well then, allow me.

Tom Suddes is the force that powers arguably the best tradition that Notre Dame has to offer. Suddes has changed more lives and done more for the Bengal Bouts than any single person in the past 40 years, and maybe ever.

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

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

Family tradition keeps Desplinter working hard in ring

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

Most 10-year-old boys dream of growing up to be firemen, astronauts, or the next LeBron. Most 10-year-olds look up to their older brothers.

When senior captain Brian Desplinter was 10, he certainly looked up to his older brothers,

and so, he dreamed of the Bengal Bouts.

Desplinter's oldest brother, Tom, graduated from Notre Dame in 2002. Tom participated in the Bengal Bouts his sophomore year, and rubbed off on his younger brothers.

"I learned boxing by holding the bag for him," Desplinter said.

Soon after, middle brother Mark, Notre Dame '05, joined

Bengal Bouts, winning three titles and ending his career as a senior captain. With the three sons of the family all involved in the Bengal Bouts, the event has become a family affair.

"The Bouts are very important to us. It's what we do," Desplinter said. "My oldest brother just started his sophomore year. I don't know where it came from.

"I think it is what brings anybody else to the Bengal Bouts. It is the combination of faith and courage, in an unlikely chance to show faith and courage. You come to Notre Dame to study, and then you get a chance to show yourself in a way you never really would, a way to test yourself."

Those who've been through Bengal Bouts can understand what Desplinter means.

"You can just tell the change that comes over somebody when they have been through the experience," Desplinter said. "There is a kind of quiet confidence that you carry around with you afterwards, and I can see that in my brothers very clearly."

But Desplinter has had his share of struggles to get to this point. He boxed his freshman year, losing in the quarterfinals to the defending champion. After suffering an injury several days before the Bouts started his sophomore year, Desplinter could not fight, and he spent the spring semester of his junior year abroad.

Appropriately enough, Desplinter's favorite moment within the Bengal Bouts program traces back to his very first day, and to the stories he heard from his older brothers.

"I had been hearing about the Bengal Bouts practices my whole life, and hearing about how they are the most difficult

things, impossible to get through," Desplinter said. "When the clock hit seven, I knew I had done it, yet I found myself still down there hitting the bag."

And the feeling at the end of a complete practice reminds Desplinter of why he joined and persevered through Bengal Bouts.

"The reason I stuck with Bengal Bouts was not because I wanted to win and not because I needed to look up to my brothers. It was because I didn't think I could do it, and I needed to prove to myself that I could," Desplinter said. "I wanted to be the example to others that they could do similar things."

"No one thought that I could do this, and myself most of all, but I really thought that if I could make it through one practice, make it through the fights, people who have challenges much greater than I will ever have would look at me and say, 'Well if he could do it, I could do it.'"

This honorable inspiration does trace back, though, to Brian Desplinter's first sources of knowledge of the Bengal Bouts: his brothers.

"I owe whatever I accomplish to the example they set."

He added: "The Bouts are very important to us. It's what we do."



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Senior captain Brian Desplinter defends during his preliminary round bout in the 147-pound weight division against Timothy Gannatti on Feb. 15.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

'Building a bridge'

Boxing club president Mark Weber makes historic trip to Bangladesh, leaves lasting legacy

By MATT GAMBER
Associate Sports Editor

Not many college seniors can pinpoint the day their life's purpose became clear, but Mark Weber can.

It was last summer, halfway around the world in Bangladesh — a place where no Notre Dame student had been before. A place Bengal Bouts participants had for 79 years helped financially but had never actually seen. A place Weber found not weakness, pain and despair, but strength, love and hope.

"We had just visited a school that had been built and was funded by the Bengal Bouts, and these girls had sang for us and almost all of us cried," said Weber, the boxing club president who, along with one former and three current Notre Dame boxers, spent two weeks in Bangladesh last summer.

"We were back in our room, taking it all in, and [former boxer] Pat Ryan turned to me and said, 'Dude, the entire purpose of my existence in this world changed today. That's big.' And I felt the same thing," Weber said. "It's a reorientation of the way you look at life, and that permeates into every day we spend here."

"Having a daily awareness of that helps us not only to be better boxers, but to be better people and better citizens of the global family, rather than just students at the University of Notre Dame who are boxing."

'Strong Bodies Fight'

Notre Dame's Bengal Bouts program, in partnership with the Holy Cross missions, has been making significant financial contributions to the impoverished country of Bangladesh (formerly Bengal) since 1931.

Now, though, the results of those efforts have a face, a heart, a soul.

"I'm most proud of building this bridge to Bangladesh from the Bengal Bouts," said Weber, a Grand Rapids, Mich. native. "Our relationship with Bangladesh is no longer just a check that gets sent over every year. It is a relationship, a friendship and a tie that we want to live on."

The program annually sends upwards of \$50,000 to Bangladesh, primarily to fund educational initiatives — an investment, Weber said, not a donation.

"We're investing in the children there so that they can be empowered to have a better life," Weber said. "We're not just giving them a handout, we're giving them an opportunity to better themselves. Knowing that your time in the Bengal Bouts is an investment both in yourself and in somebody all the way across the world, that's what makes it truly special and truly unique."

As a member of the boxing club, and as a Film, Television and Theatre (FTT) major, Weber said he saw "the opportunity to do something new and special with the Bengal Bouts."

During his sophomore year, he began to envision a documentary detailing the missions in Bangladesh. Acting on the advice of a friend, who told him not to wait but rather to make the idea a reality, Weber stayed on campus over fall break of his junior year to establish contact with several Holy Cross priests about his idea — which was originally to travel alone with a camera, but soon evolved into something much larger.

"I realized this was something so big that I wanted to do justice to this film," Weber said. "I didn't want it to be a student film — I wanted it to be a professional documentary."

Weber, with help from long-time Bengal Bouts coach and



Boxing club president Mark Weber, right, takes on sophomore James Woods during a semifinal bout in the 145-pound weight division Tuesday.

businessman Tom Suddes, used the program's strong alumni base to raise the money necessary to fund the trip.

"I think [the alumni's] generosity says something about the program," Weber said. "That the four years, or even one year, they did Bengal Bouts at Notre Dame was one of the most impactful experiences of their entire life."

So Weber, Ryan and four current Notre Dame boxers — seniors Leo Rubinkowski, Tomas Castillo and Patrick Martin — headed to Bangladesh with FTT professor William Donaruma and a professional film crew to shoot documentary footage and experience first-hand the fruits of the program's labor for the first time.

The film's title, "Strong Bodies Fight", is derived from a quote that defines the Bengal Bouts' mission: "Strong bodies fight, that weak bodies may be nourished."

But Weber said his interpretation of that quote, from director emeritus Dominic "Nappy" Napolitano, was changed after his time in Bangladesh.

"It's easy for us to go into a place like that and think, 'I am the one who has everything to give. I am the strong body fighting for the weak,'" Weber said. "But when you go there, you realize they're strong, too. They have something to offer, and you have to be willing to listen to the people."

Weber said that message is one that can only be conveyed through a continued student presence in Bangladesh.

"There needs to be that connection to Bangladesh that stays with the program, and it can only be through the students," Weber said. "Every year there's got to be boxers coming back saying, 'Look, we've been there, we know what it's like. We've seen how what we do over here has a positive impact over there.'"

Spreading the message

The film will broadcast that positive impact beginning with its premiere on campus next November.

"The film is going to be a tremendous vehicle for positive

change," Weber said. "We see an opportunity to tell a story about people having made a difference in the world, in hopes of inspiring others to make a difference."

The documentary, which is currently in post-production, will be released on DVD and submitted to various film festivals, Weber said.

A current Student International Business Council (SIBC) project is also dedicated to marketing the film. The project's primary goal is to convince the university to run a spot for the film as one of its institutional commercials during an Irish football game on NBC this fall.

The institutionals are typically research-focused, but Weber said the University would show one that portrays "the essential Notre Dame."

"There's very few things, I think, that illustrate 'the essential Notre Dame' more than Bengal Bouts," Weber said. "It's tradition, athletics, service, brotherhood. All those things that we love about Notre Dame the most are really epitomized in the Bengal Bouts, and I think that's why it's so special."

The SIBC team also hopes to convince NBC that airing the full documentary would be profitable for the network. The group is finalizing surveys for Notre Dame alumni and students of other universities to prove there exists a significant potential viewing audience for the documentary.

"Our goal is exposure for the film, and getting that out to millions of people would be great for our program," Weber said. "It's not about any single one of us — it's not about me or the current captains. It's about this brotherhood of people who, for 80 years, have sought to make the world a better place."

Leaving a legacy

Weber's time with the Bengal Bouts, both in the ring and

across the world, have certainly shaped his Notre Dame experience. He's made two trips to Bangladesh — last summer, and in December on a grant for his senior thesis — and has given presentations, written papers and, of course, made a film about those experiences.

But Weber's work as president has, just as greatly, changed the culture of the program.

His work with the missions helped the Center for Social Concerns establish an annual International Summer Service Learning Program that will

send four boxers to Bangladesh each summer for six weeks. That program, along with the film — not the outcome of his title bout Saturday — will be his legacy.

"That's what I wanted to leave this program with," Weber said. "I'm proud of it, but it's also something that our program needed, and something I'm glad I was able to help foster."

One quote from Aristotle, written on a piece of paper his mother gave him after his high school graduation, has defined Weber's time at Notre Dame: "Where your talents and the needs of the world cross, there lies your vocation."

For Weber, that was in Bangladesh.

"If there's one thing I've really tried to do here at Notre Dame, it's to use my talents to whatever I find the needs of the world to be," Weber said. "I certainly don't think I've solved all the world's problems, but I think it's important that Notre Dame, through the Bengal Bouts, offers a way to make the world a better place."

"The small efforts we can make here do have a big impact on somebody else's life."

"Dude, the entire purpose of my existence in this world changed today. That's big."

Pat Ryan
former boxer

"If there's one thing I've really tried to do here at Notre Dame, it's to use my talents to whatever I find the needs of the world to be."

Mark Weber
Bengal Bouts president



Boxing club president Mark Weber, right, battles sophomore James Woods during Tuesday's semifinals in the 145-pound weight class.

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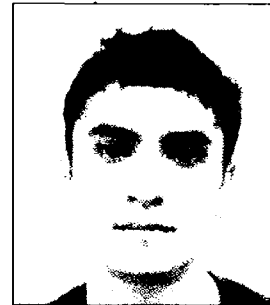
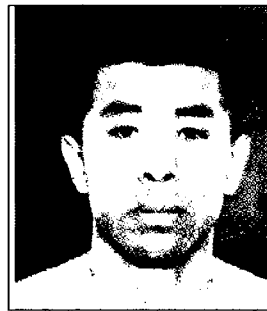
130 pounds

Joe Hof vs. Michael Sayles



140 pounds

Kris Perez vs. Eric Feduska



PREDICTIONS

Murphy: PEREZ

El Azteca makes history becoming only the 10th fighter to win all four years. Perez has shown the ability to devastate an opponent early and stay on them throughout the night, expect to see more of the same Saturday

Simmons: PEREZ

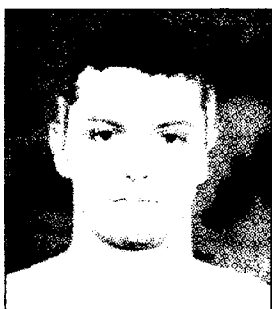
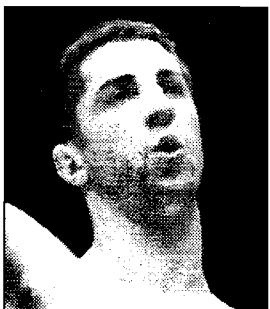
Feduska is an impressive all-around fighter. Unfortunately he's fighting one of the most dominant guys in Notre Dame boxing. His increased intelligence and patience make this a fight worth your attention.

Eric "A Second Reading From the Book of" Feduska has showcased his strength and speed well in his senior campaign. He held off a gutsy Michael Johnston in the semis and will need to continue to show heart in the ring if he is going to walk away a winner.

Kris "El Azteca" Perez is pound-for-pound one of the most exciting boxers in recent Bouts history. Perez overwhelms opponents with speed and has a knack for causing damage with his uppercuts. He has a unique style that has clearly worked well for the undefeated champ.

145 pounds

Bobby Powers vs. Mark Weber



PREDICTIONS

Murphy: POWERS

Weber put in a great fight to get himself into the finals over James Woods, but his style doesn't mesh well with the taller Powers. The junior will be able to keep Weber outside as long as he can stick to his game plan.

Simmons: POWERS

Powers has a distinct awareness of the progression of his fights and makes good adjustments. Weber will need to stay aggressive in trying to penetrate Powers' reach. Powers wins in a split decision.

President Mark Weber has more or less lived in the boxing gym for the past six months. The work has paid off in the ring. Weber won unanimously in both of his first two fights using strong fundamentals and protecting himself well. He'll need to pick his spots well against Powers.

The No. 1-seeded Powers has used his height well in his first two fights. The O'Neill junior throws long, sharp punches to keep opponents at bay. He also shows a clear strategy each time he steps in the ring. He has been a legitimate contender for the title since day one.

147 pounds

Joey Leary vs. Patrick Kibbe



155 pounds

Dan Rodgers vs. John Maier



PREDICTIONS

Murphy: RODGERS

Maier has been surgical with his punches in a couple impressive wins to get to the finals, but Rodgers has been down this road too many times. His patience in the ring will allow him to pick his spots effectively.

Simmons: RODGERS

Rodgers keeps a calm demeanor while throwing good combinations. Maier won't have an overwhelming reach advantage like in past fights so he simply will have to outbox Rodgers, not an easy feat.

John "L.E.R.N." Maier already has beat one defending champ in Alex Gonzalez during the semis this year and is looking to add to the list. Maier has long, smooth punches which he has worked hard to perfect all year long. He will need to continue to use his strong jab to get the win.

Rodgers steps in to the Lions' Den one last time in hopes of wrapping up his third championship. The senior from Siegfried Hall is as technically sound of a fighter as you will see in the Bouts. He also holds the clear experience advantage which means a lot in these fights.

150 pounds

Tim Thayer vs. Matt Posluszny



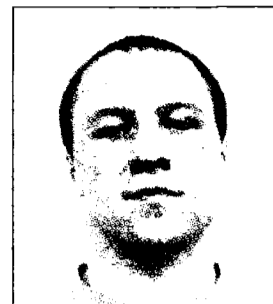
160 pounds

Jim Deveraux vs. Jordan Bucci



165 pounds

Daniel Brennan vs. Alex Duffy



PREDICTIONS

Murphy: DUFFY

Duffy has been around for four years and seems to get stronger each season. He coasted through his first couple of fights and should be able to use his size and experience to take home a championship.

Simmons: DUFFY

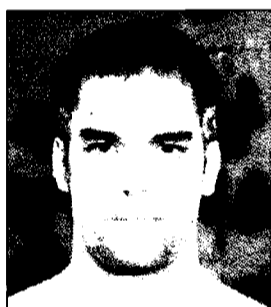
Brennan will have to get his punches off quicker than he's done in previous fights and prepare for flurries of hard hooks. If Duffy maintains good speed coming in on Brennan and coming out, he can take the fight.

Alex "Check Out These Chicken Legs" Duffy is a wrecking ball in the ring. Duffy gets inside on his opponents and uses short, strong hooks to punish them. Despite the chicken legs, Duffy gets plenty of power behind each punch he throws and is an experienced senior in the ring.

"It's Showertime" Brennan has won a pair of very close fights to land himself in the finals. After upsetting top-seeded Andrew Massari, Brennan's confidence continued to grow in a win over Jack Peterson. The sophomore has turned heads so far this year.

170 pound

Andres Villalba vs. Bernardo Garcia



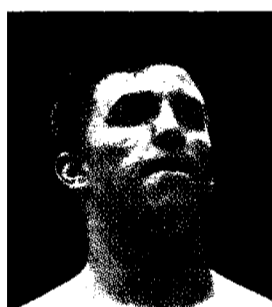
PREDICTIONS

Murphy: VILLALBA

Garcia worked the body well in his semifinal fight, but will have trouble getting inside against the lightning quick Villalba. The captain will pace himself well while throwing strong punches to win this one.

Simmons: VILLALBA

Villalba has been as tenacious and dangerous as last year. He relies on head movement and quick flurries to punish fighters. Garcia will need to use his reach to disrupt Villalba and bring back his infamous uppercut.



Bernardo "Blue" Garcia surprised a lot of people last year as a freshman and earned the respect he has gotten so far in his sophomore season. Garcia has a decided reach advantage in this fight and will look to use his powerful jab to set up some bigger power punches.

Villalba has made it through the 170 pound bracket effectively so far this year. The senior captain does a great job of varying his punches during long combinations. He brings a unique style to his fights that most guys aren't used to seeing. So far it has worked well for him.

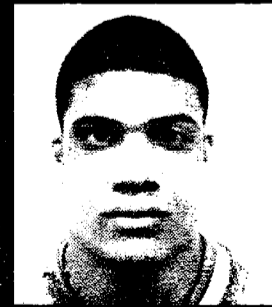
175 pounds

Mike Lee vs. Mike Doran



185 pounds

Leo Rubinkowski vs. John Tchoula



200 pounds

Benford Begay vs. Pat Burns



PREDICTIONS

Murphy: BEGAY

Burns has proved that he is a hard worker in the ring, but Begay looked much quicker in his earlier fights. The senior should be able to avoid a lot of Burns punches. The question will be in he can score his own.

Simmons: BEGAY

Begay has pushed himself to the edge this year working on speed and agility. Burns remains icily calm, exploding with hooks and uppercuts. This will be a match of lucid footwork vs. concentrated power.

Benford Begay looked impressive in his semifinal upset of former champ Andrew Lorenz. Begay used his very deceptive speed to end his first fight in two rounds and did the same to win a split decision over Lorenz. Begay does a good job of countering off of good slips.

Pat "Third Degree" Burns is another fighter with a boatload of experience. He throws accurate punches to the body and head and throws his opponents off of their games early in fights. He won a very close split decision over Bart Dear on Tuesday by fighting off long flurries of punches.

Love of boxing draws Lee to Notre Dame

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

Mike Lee wanted to be a part of Bengal Bouts so much that he transferred to Notre Dame to do it.

The senior captain and two-time Bouts champion spent his freshman year at the University of Missouri before coming to Notre Dame.

"I came here my senior year [of high school] to watch the 75th anniversary for Bengal Bouts, and that was probably the moment that I realized I wanted to box and I wanted to fight at Notre Dame," Lee said. "That was one of the main things that made me want to transfer.

"At that point, I'd already gotten into Mizzou and was thinking about Notre Dame, not really sure, and then I saw Bengal Bouts Championship night, with the ring in the middle of the JACC, and that kind of just sold it for me."

With the help of his cousin, Lou Hall, Lee wasted no time getting involved with the program.

"He was a captain in 1992, and he works in my corner," Lee said. "He kind of started me off the summer I found out I got into Notre Dame. I told him I got in, and he started teaching me. I had the basics coming in, and I really fell in love with the program and the sport."

Lee found immediate suc-

cess in the ring, winning the 175-pound crown in his sophomore year in a technical knockout that was called in the third round. His junior year, he successfully defended his title.

"I fought a very good friend of mine, [fellow captain] Andres [Villalba], and we just went toe-to-toe for three rounds," Lee said. "I think it was the best fight of our lives. When we were done, we hugged and everything was great."

Lee also got more involved in leadership each year. In 2008, he served as a junior captain before becoming a senior captain this year.

"When I came in sophomore year, I really had no idea what the program was," Lee said. "I had the opportunity of being captain junior year, and it really taught me a lot about the program."

That year, Lee traveled to Bangladesh with senior Mark Weber, who is president of Bengal Bouts. Weber was there to film a documentary about the Holy Cross Mission that Bengal Bouts supports.

"I went over there, helped out, saw where all the money's going, what all the proceeds are doing in terms of building schools, helping the missions," Lee said. "It was really an unbelievable experience."

Lee said senior captains have a lot of behind-the-scenes responsibilities, including raising money, designing



Senior captain Mike Lee, left, eyes his opponent, Pat Jackson, during the semifinals of the 176-pound weight division of last year's Bengal Bouts.

tickets and posters and procuring advertisers for the program.

"Mark and I had a goal of trying to raise a lot of money this year despite the recession right now," he said. "We just had a ton of ideas, a lot of things we could improve on. I think in the end we'll meet those goals. We're just really excited about making the program bigger, helping out even more."

Lee, a finance major, said he hopes his experience in

Bengal Bouts can help him in the business world.

"It's definitely a nerve-racking experience to jump into that ring in front of a thousand people," he said. "I hope that when I have a board meeting or whatever and I'm nervous about it, I can think back to when I was fighting and get some courage from that."

Heading into the last week of Bouts, Lee said he feels pressure to win his third straight title, but that winning

is not everything.

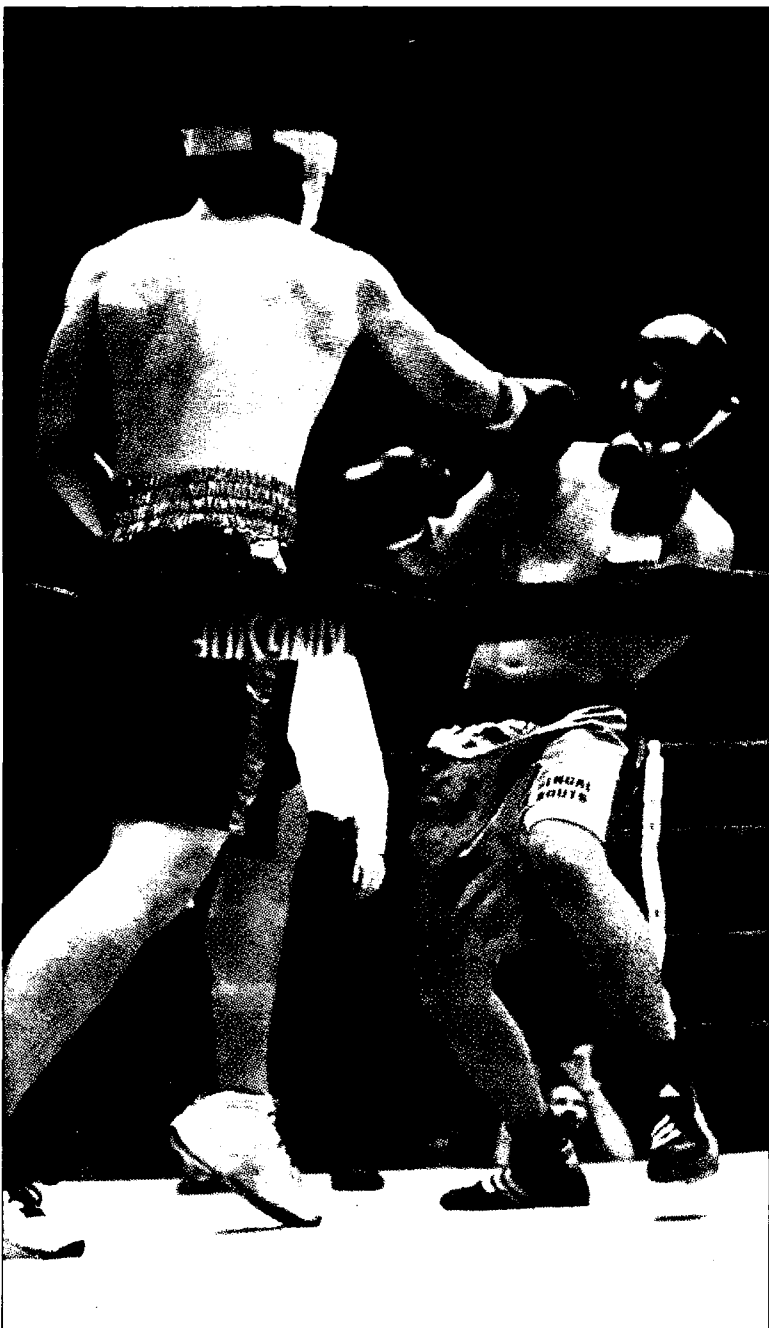
"Finals night is three rounds, two minutes each," Lee said. "You train for months, think about it every day, and basically you have six minutes to do what you want to do. But when I'm done with it, no matter what, I know I'm going to be so happy I did it."

After all, that feeling is why he transferred from Missouri.

"When you get done, and they raise your hand it's defi-

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Villalba refocuses on training after championship loss



Senior captain Andres Villalba, right, avoids a punch from Dominic Golab in last year's 176-pound semifinals.

By MATT GAMBER
Associate Sports Editor

So much for summer break.

After losing to his now-fellow senior captain Mike Lee in the 176-pound division title fight last year, Andres Villalba rededicated himself to perfecting his technique during the summer months back home in New Mexico.

"I just tried to fine-tune everything I'd learned in years past," said Villalba, who will face Bernardo Garcia in the 170-pound final Saturday. "It doesn't take that long to learn the basics — hands up, knees bent, stuff like that — but it really takes a long time to find your niche, to define the style of boxing you're going to do."

Villalba even went toe-to-toe with a professional, sparring in an Albuquerque gym with a boxer who had delivered three knockouts in three career fights.

"That helped a lot because it's not the same when you're not actually getting punches thrown at you," Villalba said.

Villalba's training program included morning runs and mid-afternoon lifts designed, he said, to add weight for interhall football. He had never received any boxing training outside of that provided in Bengal Bouts practice, and Villalba said the

strict regimen improved his footwork, head movement and endurance.

"I think it's safe to say that last year I was a little bit more raw. I threw a lot of big punches and didn't pick my spots," Villalba said. "I think I do a much better job this year of keeping my eyes up and seeing the punches come and doing a lot of place with my punches. I try to be more effective and waste less energy so I can step it up each round instead of tapering down."

Villalba's development in the ring from last year to this year mirrored that he made in wrestling in high school.

"The same thing happened with that — the transition from junior to senior year was a big step for me," said Villalba, who finished seventh in the state as a senior. "I was really raw my junior year, really trying to over-

power people, and my senior year I transitioned into more of a technical wrestler, kind of the same thing I did with boxing."

His father was a two-time state champion wrestler in Arizona, so Villalba had been around that sport from a young age. His experience on the mat helped him make the switch into the ring.

"I've been a competitor my whole life starting probably with tee-ball and Pop Warner [football], so I don't know what I'll do after I graduate. I'm going to have to get hit somehow."

Andres Villalba
senior captain

"With wrestling it's a lot of balance, so I had a lot of the footwork when I transitioned over to boxing," Villalba said.

Though he'd never done any organized boxing before arriving at Notre Dame, Villalba had put on the gloves and thrown some punches at least once before.

"At home in my room, I have a picture when I'm about six years old," Villalba said. "Me and my cousin are in my backyard with boxing gloves on and we're hitting each other."

Villalba hopes he'll leave the ring Saturday night with a Bengal Bouts title, but either way, he said boxing will be one thing he carries with him when he leaves.

"I think it's something I can do as long as I have a punching bag at home," Villalba said. "I've been a competitor my whole life starting probably with tee-ball and Pop Warner [football], so I don't know what I'll do after I graduate. I'm going to have to get hit somehow."

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Trip to Bangladesh helps define Rubinkowski

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

Leo Rubinkowski always knew about the charity aspect of Bengal Bouts. The senior captain sold his ads and worked to promote the cause of Holy Cross missions in Bangladesh, but it wasn't until he actually visited Bangladesh in June of 2008 that he fully understood how much his work meant.

"Being there and seeing what

Holy Cross does with the money we send, it really, really sunk in just how important the charity aspect is," Rubinkowski said.

Senior boxer Mark Weber was responsible for organizing the trip, and Weber, Rubinkowski, senior Tomas Castillo, senior Pat Martin and 2008 graduate Pat Ryan were the first Bengal Bouts boxers to visit Bangladesh in the 79-year history of the tournament.

"We were really trying to create a stronger connection between these two sides of the

world that are working together," Rubinkowski said.

Rubinkowski said the trip to Bangladesh was easily the most memorable experience from his time in Bengal Bouts.

A trained fighter, Rubinkowski had been involved in martial arts, primarily traditional Japanese karate since he was five. When he decided to attend Notre Dame, his father mentioned that he should try Bengal Bouts.

"The more I thought about it, it just seemed like a natural

thing to do considering my history with sport fighting," Rubinkowski said.

His freshman year, the Illinois native was knocked out in the first round, and said the experience was much different from his past fighting practice.

"Contact in sport karate is not real prevalent, so I guess that would be the biggest difference," Rubinkowski said. "It's a good difference, though."

Over the past four years, he developed his boxing ability and said he was confident in his abilities in both areas.

"I think of it from a self-defense point of view, and it just depends on the situation," he said. "I almost feel like I'm more comfortable with boxing now."

Since that one-and-done his freshman year, Rubinkowski has reached the finals in each of the past two tournaments. Both times, though, he walked away without the title, losing to Dan Ward in 2007 and Alex Lough in 2008.

"It sucked," he said. "It definitely sucked. I remember after my sophomore year I almost started crying right in the ring."

This year, in his quest for that elusive title, Rubinkowski will fight as a senior captain. The honor is the culmination of a journey that started two years ago when he was named a junior captain.

"I feel like it really has been a meaningful experience," he

said. "Because I feel like I've had a closer relationship with the Bouts."

As a senior captain, it is Rubinkowski's responsibility to train the younger fighters, most of whom have little to no boxing experience.

"I feel like it's a lead-by-example kind of thing," he said. "We show up everyday, we work hard everyday, and we do it with a smile on our faces."

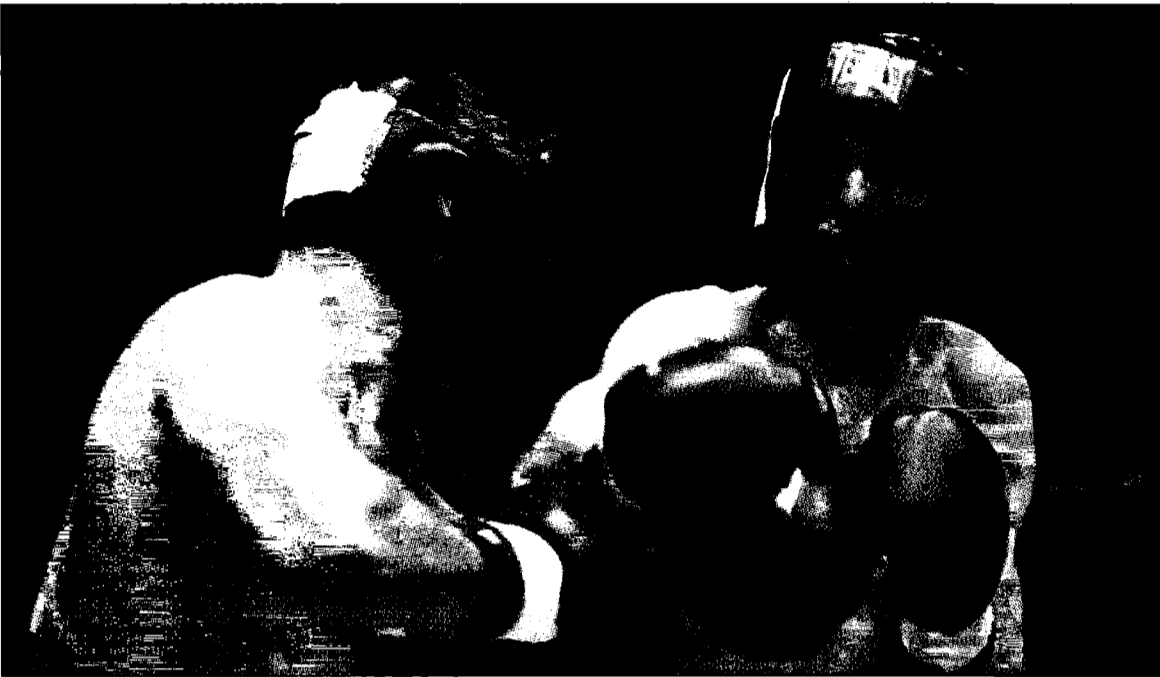
Rubinkowski said one of the best feelings he's experienced from Bengal Bouts is witnessing a boxer with little experience coming in learn to fight and succeed in the tournament.

"It is a good feeling to see someone really grab onto it," he said. "I'm not even proud because I know that I helped them, but I'm just proud to see that they really found something that speaks to them and that they can call their own."

Even if he doesn't capture the title, Rubinkowski will always remember his time in Bangladesh, half a world away.

"I'd be super, super excited about [winning]. But I guess over the course of four years, it's really sunk in how big the Bengal Bouts is," Rubinkowski said. "The real thing that people remember is the charity aspect of the Bouts. If I win, that would be phenomenal, I would love it, but, win or lose, I'm fine."

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu



Observer File Photo

Senior captain Leo Rubinkowski, right, tries to get off the ropes during his fight against Alex Lough in the finals of the 189-pound weight class last year.

Service, med school await two-time champ Rodgers

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

After four years of fights and two championships, senior captain Dan Rodgers has learned what it means to give himself selflessly and completely to something, and, in that process, be transformed.

"Every year, the Bengal Bouts, to me, mean less about what happens in the JACC and more about the Holy Cross priests in Bangladesh and the people they serve," Rodgers said.

Rodgers, a senior theology and science pre-professional major, became a captain this year after winning championships in 2007 and 2008, in the 155-pound and 161-pound weight classes, respectively.

Like most boxers participating in the Bouts, the knowledge that his efforts are instrumental in addressing the plight of tribal villagers in Bangladesh drives Rodgers.

"When Mark [Weber] and the others who went to Bangladesh came back and shared their experiences with me and the team, the work of the missionaries and the help we give them became more real to me," Rodgers said. "The work we do here to raise money and awareness has a tangible benefit for the Holy Cross mission."

Rodgers, a resident of

Phoenix, Md., hopes to serve as a volunteer for a year before going to medical school.

While the mission behind the Bouts fuels his passion, Rodgers' day-to-day role in the fights revolves around his duties as a captain. Stepping into a leadership role, Rodgers had to adjust his own expectations of his newfound responsibilities.

"I had a preconceived idea of what a captain was supposed to be and thought that I needed to change in order to fit into the role," Rodgers said. "It was

only after I realized that I was picked to be a captain because of who I was — not who someone thought I could be — that I became the leader I wanted to be."

Taking that perspective and then using it to teach the hun-

dreds of eager boxers that tape up was an obstacle in itself. Rodgers quickly learned that he could not be there for every fighter, regardless of his effort.

"As a captain at practice, you stare at 200 guys all looking back at you, looking for directions, help, or a sparring partner," Rodgers said. "It can be overwhelming to think that you need to help all of them fix their jab or teach them a hook. I learned that I can't help everyone, but I can find a few guys and give them everything I have to offer."

Although he realized he can-

not "be everything to everyone," Rodgers, a resident assistant in Siegfried Hall, gives all he can to each fighter that he coaches.

"I love to teach others what I know, what I have learned from others and what I have gained from my own experience," Rodgers said. "Being a captain put me in a position where I can help others grow stronger and be better boxers. It's a very rewarding position to be in."

That training shaped Rodgers into a top fighter with a 12-1 record over three years of competition. Every one of the 180 fighters who will step into the ring this spring acknowledges the formative influence of the grueling training process.

"Training for me is everything," Rodgers said. "The fights are only put on because of our training. Both physical and mental discipline is required of a fighter in the ring, and it is only outside of the ring, on those days that you don't want to come or don't want to do that last set of push-ups, that you learn what it means to be disciplined."

This year, Rodgers is competing for his third consecutive championship. As much as he relishes training other fighters, there's nothing like stepping into the ring and practicing the Sweet Science himself.

"I like to fight because it is a challenge each time I step in the ring," Rodgers said. "It's as much a mental battle as it is a physical one."

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Senior captain Dan Rodgers keeps his hands up during his quarterfinal bout against Daniel McGill on Feb. 17.

Perez goes for historic fourth consecutive championship

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

The name Kris Perez elicits different responses depending on who you talk to.

The kid who knocks people out. The YouTube kid. The best pound-for-pound boxer in Bengal Bouts. The undefeated three-time champion.

But to those that train with him, Perez, a senior captain, personifies dedication, work ethic, leadership by example and willingness to help others at all costs.

"I don't know any other boxer on the team that works as hard as he does or brings his focus and work ethic every day, day in and day out to practice," senior Bengal Bouts captain Mark Weber said. "That's what makes him a leader."

Perez' leadership started when he played soccer in high school. A four-year varsity player in Corsicana, Tex., Perez was a captain his junior and senior years. He also kicked for his football team. He always liked boxing, but there were no gyms nearby, so he started when he arrived at Notre Dame to stay in shape.

"It was a different experience," Perez said. "This is not like anything I've experienced before. It tested me at a different level."

Before his first fight, Perez was scared, but he said the training kicked in once he entered the ring and shoved all apprehension aside.

"Basically just muscle memory took over," he said.

As Perez worked his way to a championship freshman year, his ring antics caught other people's attention. Senior captain Mike Lee, a two-time champion who transferred to Notre Dame before his sophomore year, heard about Perez when he joined Bengal Bouts because of

Perez's power in the ring. Law student Will Burroughs, the heavy-weight champion the past two years, had a similar experience.

"There's a rumor, that's the kid from YouTube," Burroughs said. "I had no idea what that meant."

It meant that his sophomore year Perez threw an overhand right that knocked his opponent unconscious before he hit the canvas and that a video of the fight (the first result when you search "Bengal Bouts") had been watched 8,500 times.

Perez downplays the knockout. "I just caught him with a good punch, and he went down," he said. "I like that people like to see my fights but I don't like that it's at the expense of someone else."

Weber said that attitude defines Perez.

"He's humble. You never see him running his mouth despite the fact that he's one of the best boxers on the team, if not the best," Weber said.

All three of them point to Perez's willingness to work with other boxers as what makes him captain material. He'll stay after workouts to practice with another boxer, offer advice when they spar and lead by example with his unshakeable work ethic.

"I never felt that I know more than someone else or the things I do know are enough to make a person better," he said. "If someone's willing to ask me a question I feel obligated to tell them what I do know."

He won again in his sophomore year, beating Chris Hartstein in the finals of the 140-pound weight class. Junior year, he wanted a challenge. So he and Lawrence "Sully" Sullivan, a senior Marine ROTC member and former champion, decided to arrange a fight. Sully would cut weight, Perez would pack it on and they would meet in the middle.

"He could have stuck to his weight in the low 130s and won a championship," Lee said. "The night before weigh-ins he was at Subway eating a foot-long sub. He decided to move up a weight class to fight a past champion and a senior and one of the best fighters in the program hands down."

Sully and Perez worked their way through the 149-pound weight class. When they met in the finals, the lights in the Joyce Center dimmed and the crowd went bonkers. The two of them let each other have it. Perez came out on top.

"Fortunately it was my night and I got the victory, but you fight any other night and Sully could have won it," he said. "It's definitely going to be one of the memories I take from the Bengal Bouts experience."

Ask why Perez mows down opponents and you get a variety of answers, all of them dangerous enough in themselves but deadly when combined. Quickness, footwork, power, vision, defense, everything you don't want to face in a boxing opponent. Take it from Burroughs, a 6-foot-2, 230-plus pound former football player for Brown as an undergraduate, who sometimes practices with Perez: when Perez hits you, it hurts.

"I told him the other day, he may be tiny, smaller than some of the guys that I fight, but he's hitting me harder than some of the guys I spar against who are 200 pounds," Burroughs said. "It hurts. He can throw a punch, that's for sure."

Weber, who has sparred Perez, said Perez can hit opponents from anywhere and slips away before his opponents can retaliate. But all three agreed on two aspects of Perez' fighting style that makes him so tough to fight: his amazing vision, and the fact that you can't see his punches.

"You don't see it coming,"



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Senior captain Kris Perez waits to attack during his semifinal bout in the 140-pound weight division Tuesday.

Burroughs said. "It's annoying to practice with him because I think there's no way he can hit me from where he's at, and he still lands ridiculous punches."

Perez agrees and said his ability to read opponents and stay focused in the ring helps him attack.

"I find I'm always thinking," he said. "I'm always trying to see what my opponent's doing so I can capitalize on that."

Since he's undefeated, Perez admitted that staying motivated to work hard became a challenge at times. But, he said, that's not an excuse to slack off, especially if he wants to follow through with his plans to box after graduation.

He wants to fight as a pro, he said, but first will try to fight as an amateur in the Golden Gloves program

for six months to a year. He said he has to drop to the 122-pound weight class (he's currently fighting 140). But before he can worry about that, he has to focus on winning the tournament.

"If I lose in the tournament, my chances of having a successful career outside of Bengal Bouts do not seem too promising," he said.

Whether he goes on to fight or not, Perez said Bengal Bouts will stick with him after graduation.

"The workouts in general are different compared to any other sport I've been involved in," Perez said. "And I'm really going to miss that bond, that brotherhood that you develop through all the workouts."

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IAN GAVLICK/The Observer



ANDREA ARCHER / Observer Graphic

By MARK WITTE

Assistant Scene Editor

This weekend, the renowned Spectrum Dance Theater will perform "The Theater of Needless Talents," a dance piece inspired by the Jewish artists who managed find to some light during the dark times of the Holocaust.

Since their founding in 1982, the Spectrum Dance Theater (SDT) has been a pioneer in popularizing contemporary dance, as well as a leader in dance instruction by encouraging the precision and growth in quality of many other forms of dance. The dance group hails from Seattle, Wash., yet they have recently spent much time touring the U.S. and Europe.

Over 500 students participate in one or more of the 64 classes offered to people of all ages, under the direction of professional SDT members. In fact, the youngest member of the SDT is one year old, while the oldest is 80 years old. On average, 40 students are given some form of scholarships to attend the Spectrum Dance Company School.

By way of dance, the SDT has given back to their local Seattle community in numerous ways. The STD provides over 120 hours of dance education to local schools in the Seattle metropolitan area. The Theater has embraced its Washington roots by teaming up with local arts organizations. In 2007, the group collaborated with local Seattle venues, such as the 5th Avenue Theater and Seattle Opera.

Supported by the Performing Arts Fund, the SDT is an avid supporter of the right for all children to have fair access to perform, learn about and appreciate all forms of art. The Fund works in conjunction with the National Endowment for the Arts, an independent agency that strongly believes that believes, "A great nation deserves great art."

Since in role in the SDT since 2002, Donald Byrd has led the dance group

to immense success. In 2006, the SDT premiered the first of its Studio Series at the Madrona Dance Studios in Seattle. Byrd has also been an invaluable component in transforming the dance repertoire of the SDT; the ingeniousness of the avant-garde dance pieces under his direction has attracted the attention of numerous world-class dancers, both at home and overseas.

The group is currently on a four month-long tour across the United States. Collegiate stops along the way include Duke University, The University of Virginia and Notre Dame.

The Theater of Needless Talents is a dance act in memory of Jewish artists who, while prisoners in Nazi death camps, sought to give hope to those with little spirits during the Holocaust. Through their respective arts, these brave men and women managed to give optimism and strength to those who were surrounded by pain, misery, and suffering. Since the event was first showcased in February 2008, the SDT has received immense praise from critics and audience members alike for their emotional presentation.

The program is composed of dance numbers and theatrical vignettes performed in combination with the music of Erwin Schullhoff, an exceptional Jewish composer who lost his life during the Holocaust. The title of the program in honor of Karel Svenk; in the 1930's, his perform troupe was known as "The Theater of Needless Talents." Svenk lost his life in 1945 while in one of the many movements of the Jewish prisoners from Auschwitz to Mauthausen.

Beginning Thursday night, the Spectrum Dance Theater offers four performances running through Saturday night. For show times, pricing, and more information, please visit performingarts.nd.edu

Contact Mark Witte at mwitte@nd.edu



Image courtesy of seattlepi.nwsourc.com

The Spectrun Dance Theater performs 'A Chekhovian Revolution,' a reaction to the Israeli-Palstinian conflict.



Image courtesy of seattletimes.nwsourc.com

SDT is not afraid to try new things or new genres of dance, including this modern piece with hip hop music.



Image courtesy of seattlepi.nwsourc.com

Artistic Director Donald Byrd, center, has choreographed the Spectrum Dance Theater's current piece, 'The Theater of Needless Talents.'



Image courtesy of seattletimes.nwsourc.com

This weekend the Spectrum Dance Theater will perform 'The Theater of Needless Talents' at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

NHL

Panthers beat Rangers for Tortorella's second loss

Sharks rebound from loss to Red Wings with win over Senators to win fifth game in last six tries

Associated Press

NEW YORK — John Tortorella took back-to-back doses of what got former New York Rangers coach Tom Renney fired.

A painful and frustrating lack of offense has left the Rangers with little room for error over the past two months.

Tortorella's home opener as the Rangers' new coach Thursday night looked similar to his first game a day earlier as New York failed to hold a one-goal lead in the third period of a 2-1 loss.

The latest version against the Florida Panthers was worse than the previous because the defeat came in regulation and left the Rangers pointless despite a 41-22 shots advantage.

David Booth and Nathan Horton scored on consecutive shots a minute apart in the third period to rally the Panthers.

"We can't cut the line so fine here in being 1-0 again," said Tortorella, sounding like Renney. "We have to try to get that second goal so that type of situation doesn't hurt you."

The Rangers also led 1-0 after two periods Wednesday in Toronto before falling in a shootout. New York has scored fewer than three goals in 14 straight losses.

Tortorella, who served a four-game winless interim stint as Rangers coach at the end of the 1999-2000 season, replaced the fired Renney on Monday.

After saying some players seemed to tire in the third period at Toronto due to a lack of condition, Tortorella had no issue with his team's stamina or effort one night later. New York just can't break out of the slide in which it has dropped 12 of 14 (2-8-4), a skid that cost Renney his job.

"I'm not upset with them ... we just are struggling to score a goal," Tortorella said. "I'm looking forward to keep growing with the team, because I think they have picked up how we want to play very well. We just can't finish."

Florida and the Rangers are tied for sixth place in the Eastern Conference with 70 points. They are one point ahead of Buffalo and Carolina.

"The Rangers played a great hockey game," Panthers coach Peter DeBoer said. "We're fortunate to get out of here with two points, but we'll take it."

"We're all in such a close battle. That's a four-point game and everybody on both sides knows it."

The Panthers bounced back from a 6-1 loss at Boston on Tuesday at the start of a five-game trip that still has stops at powerhouses New Jersey and

Washington to come.

Craig Anderson, subbing for Tomas Vokoun (ear infection), was sharp in making 40 saves. He stopped defenseman Paul Mara at the right post in the third as New York pushed for a 2-0 lead and earned his first win since Dec. 11 — a 10-game span.

Anderson also withstood the Rangers' 5-on-3 power play that lasted 49 seconds in the third.

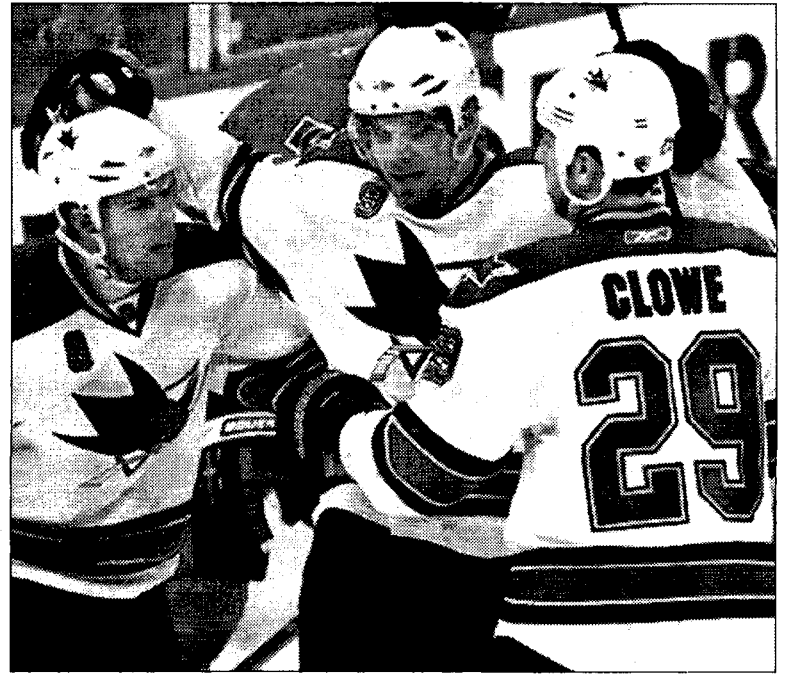
"It is a huge momentum boost for us," Anderson said. "We had the wind taken out of our sails the other night. It was good for us to get back on track and find a way to win."

Henrik Lundqvist was victimized by Booth's backhander from the right circle that beat him between the pads with 8:10 left. Horton struck at 12:50 after Richard Zednik found him in front with a pass.

"We know we can come from behind and win," Horton said. "We're not out until the buzzer sounds. That's the way we kind of played."

Markus Naslund had the Rangers' lone goal, connecting 7:34 into the game.

New York nearly jumped in front just 17 seconds after the opening faceoff when Mara, making a surprisingly early return to the lineup following a shoulder injury, fired a puck from the right point. Brandon



Sharks forward Milan Michalek celebrates his second-period goal during San Jose's 2-1 victory over Ottawa.

Dubinsky tipped the shot past Anderson, with his stick appearing to be below the crossbar, but referee Bill McCreary said the goal was disallowed by the league office in Toronto.

The Rangers grabbed the lead at 7:34 with a goal that stood up to video review.

Scott Gomez raced down the middle of the Florida zone and got off a shot. Anderson made the save, but Naslund knocked the rebound with his stick off his driving left skate and into the net.

New York recorded 30 shots to Florida's 16 in the first two periods, but again had one goal to show for it in the new up-tempo, pressing attack employed by Tortorella.

"Certainly playing with a cushion and getting that second goal changes the dynamic of both of these games," captain Chris Drury said. "We weren't able to get it, so it is not good."

San Jose 2, Ottawa 1

The San Jose Sharks' power-play unit took full advantage of a rookie's mistake.

Milan Michalek and Patrick Marleau scored power-play goals 1:18 apart in the second period to lead San Jose to victory over the Ottawa Senators on Thursday night.

Michalek scored his 17th goal 11:26 into the second, and Marleau got his 34th goal at 12:44 as the Sharks made the most of consecutive power plays after Ottawa defenseman Brian Lee had an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty added to his holding minor.

"On the bench we felt the momentum was kind of changed when that happened and then we really wanted to bear down and make them pay," said San Jose center Joe Thornton, who got his 54th assist on Marleau's goal. "We did that and that was the reason we won."

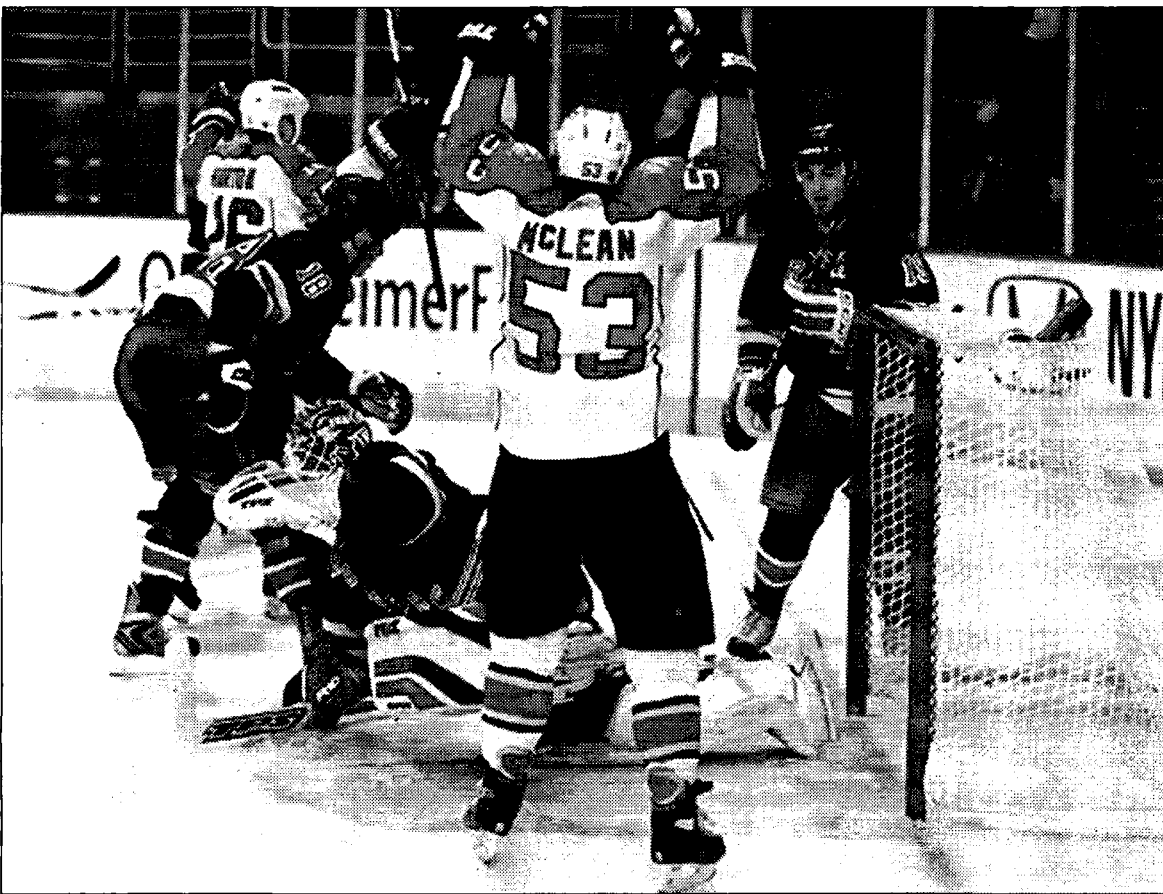
Brian Boucher made 23 saves for the NHL-leading Sharks, who ended a four-game winning streak one night earlier with a 4-1 loss in Detroit.

"Special teams are huge," Boucher said. "If you can win the special-teams game, you're going to win a lot of hockey games and it seems like we've done that this year. It was probably not a good play by Lee — I'm sure they're not happy about it — but good for us to capitalize on it."

Mike Fisher scored a power-play goal in the first for Ottawa, which has lost four of five (1-3-1) following a season-high five-game winning streak.

"For the most part we played pretty well," Fisher said. "We created some chances and even late, we had some point-blank chances and Boucher played really well. It was just in the second period, with some discipline. Everyone knows that they have a great power play and that was the game."

Alex Auld stopped 22 shots. Lee had finished serving a hooking minor moments earlier when he was sent off again for holding Mike Grier at 9:39. The rookie defenseman put his team in an even deeper hole when an unsportsmanlike conduct minor was tacked on.



Panthers' center Brett McLean celebrates teammate Nathan Horton's game-winning goal during Florida's 2-1 win over the New York Rangers. The Rangers are 0-2 since firing coach Tom Renney.

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PERSONAL

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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/

The Observer would like to wish a happy 21st birthday to the one and only:

Alexander Benard Dilorio

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 day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, February 27, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NCAA Men's Basketball AP Top 25

team	points	record
1 Pittsburgh	1797	25-2
2 Connecticut	1692	25-2
3 Oklahoma	1643	25-2
4 North Carolina	1556	24-3
5 Memphis	1543	24-3
6 Louisville	1403	21-5
7 Duke	1228	22-5
8 Marquette	1169	23-4
9 Michigan St.	1136	21-5
9 Villanova	1125	22-5
11 Missouri	1094	23-4
12 Clemson	1050	22-4
13 Wake Forest	992	20-5
14 Arizona St.	869	21-5
15 Kansas	812	22-5
16 Purdue	765	21-6
17 Gonzaga	661	21-5
18 LSU	541	23-4
19 Xavier	413	22-5
20 Illinois	364	22-6
21 Washington	291	20-7
22 UCLA	268	20-7
23 Florida St.	217	21-6
24 Butler	192	23-4
25 Texas	162	18-8

NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rankings

team	points	record
1 Northwestern	400	1-0
2 Duke	363	2-0
3 Syracuse	352	1-0
4 Virginia	319	0-0
5 Penn	301	0-0
6 Maryland	298	1-0
7 Princeton	279	0-0
8 Georgetown	252	0-0
9 North Carolina	249	1-0
10 Boston U	240	0-0
11 NOTRE DAME	189	1-0
12 Vanderbilt	181	0-1
13 Dartmouth	125	0-0
14 New Hampshire	106	0-0
15 Johns Hopkins	103	0-0
16 Cornell	101	0-0
17 Stanford	77	2-0
18 Towson	66	0-0
19 James Madison	65	0-0
20 Denver	57	1-2

MIAA Women's Basketball Rankings

team	record
1 Hope	15-1
2 SAINT MARY'S	13-3
3 Calvin	9-7
4 Trine	9-7
5 Albion	9-7
6 Alma	7-9
7 Adrian	7-9
8 Olivet	3-13
9 Kalamazoo	0-16

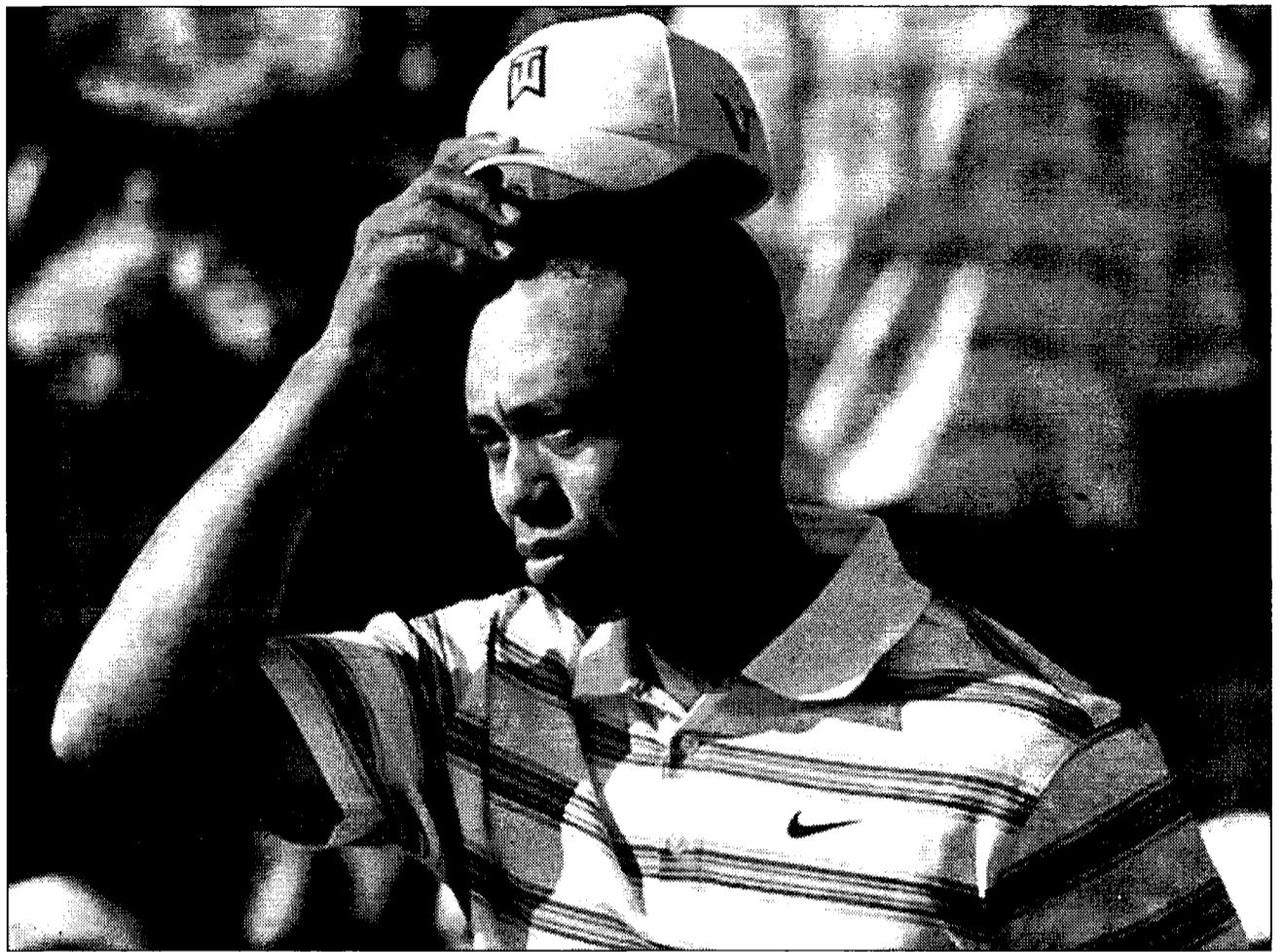
around the dial

NBA

Pistons at Magic
7 p.m., ESPN

Cavaliers at Spurs
9:30 p.m., ESPN

PGA



Tiger Woods removes his hat as he approaches Tim Clark, of South Africa, after Clark's 4 and 2 victory in their second-round match at the World Golf Championships Accenture Match Play Championship Thursday.

Tiger comeback falls short

Associated Press

MARANA, Ariz. — Just about everything went according to plan for Tiger Woods in his celebrated return to golf.

Except he didn't plan on leaving this early.

Woods had no complaints with his game or his knee, but he had no answer Thursday for Tim Clark of South Africa, who played 16 holes without a bogey and knocked the world's No. 1 player out of the Accenture Match Play Championship.

So where does Woods go from here?

"I go to the airport," he said. His swing looked as good as it did eight months ago

when he won the U.S. Open. His knee felt so strong that when Woods discovered his tee shot into the desert on the 15th hole hit a cart path and went out of bounds — a shot that ended any hope of a rally — he chose to walk 350 yards back to the tee instead of accepting a ride in the cart.

"I knew I had to play out of my mind to beat him," Clark said.

And he did, pouring in six birdies and constantly putting the pressure on Woods throughout a sunny day in the high desert. Clark won, 4 and 2, when he hit his tee shot to 4 feet that Woods conceded for birdie after failing to chip in from off the green.

"I hit it really good today,"

Woods said. "I just didn't make enough birdies. Tim made some birdies there, and I didn't answer him in the middle part of the round, and consequently I got behind."

Only about 100 fans remained late in the afternoon at Dove Mountain, which surely will lack the energy it had the first two days to welcome back golf's biggest star. Phil Mickelson, the No. 5 seed who survived another scare, is the highest-rated player left in a tournament that is now down to 16 players.

The good news for golf is that it probably won't have to wait eight months to see him again.

Woods likely will play in two weeks at Doral in the CA Championship, although he said he would wait to see how his left knee felt. This was his first tournament since reconstructive surgery on the knee one week after he won the U.S. Open at Torrey Pines in June.

Clark, a pesky opponent with a sharp short game, didn't give him much of a chance.

"I was really working hard to keep myself calm and try to play my own game," Clark said. "I put a lot of iron shots pretty close, and I think perhaps he wasn't expecting that or not. But I don't think I'm ever going to intimidate Tiger Woods, let's put it that way."

IN BRIEF

Mets Santana scratched due to sore elbow

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. — New York Mets ace Johan Santana was scratched from Friday morning's "B" game start against Italy because of tenderness in his pitching elbow.

Mets manager Jerry Manuel said the decision was precautionary because Santana has a history of feeling elbow soreness this time of the year. Santana remains on track to make his regular exhibition game debut Tuesday.

"I am not trying to do anything crazy out there," Santana said. "I am going to take a couple days and relax and get ready for Tuesday."

The left-hander said his elbow felt stiff after a bullpen session Wednesday, and he told pitching coach Dan Warthen he wanted to take some time off from throwing before preparing for his first game.

Santana had been slated to pitch one inning Friday, added to help Italy prepare for the World Baseball Classic.

Griffin out indefinitely because of concussion

NORMAN, Okla. — Oklahoma standout Blake Griffin is still recovering from a concussion and Sooners coach Jeff Capel said Thursday he isn't sure when the preseason All-American will be healthy enough to play.

Griffin has been out since sustaining the concussion during the first half of a loss at Texas on Saturday. The 6-foot-10 sophomore sat out as No. 3 Oklahoma (25-3, 11-2 Big 12) lost 87-78 at home to No. 15 Kansas on Monday.

The Sooners visit Texas Tech on Saturday. Griffin will not be allowed to play unless he clears a battery of medical tests.

"He has to be able to do things," Capel said. "First of all, he's got to be able to not have headaches, not have nausea. We aren't going to do anything until we know he's fine and those symptoms have cleared. Then we'll be able to determine better whether he'll be available to play on Saturday."

Colletti unsure if Dodgers are close to Manny deal

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — General manager Ned Colletti called the Los Angeles Dodgers' latest offer to Manny Ramirez a "significant concession" by the team but said he's not sure how close the sides might be to a deal.

Colletti and owner Frank McCourt met Wednesday in Los Angeles with Ramirez's agent, Scott Boras, and offered the free-agent slugger a \$25 million, one-year contract with a \$20 million player option for 2010.

"It obviously gives Manny a lot of flexibility. If he were to agree to something like that, then nine, 10 months from now he is free to try the market again," Colletti said Thursday. "So if you have the chance to be guaranteed or the chance to do something else, it's a pretty good spot to be in."

The offer is similar to the two-year, \$45 million deal with a buyout or club option that the Dodgers put on the table in November.

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish set for tough weekend

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

When you are ranked as the fifth-best team in the country, most teams will see you with a target on your back. As Notre Dame has steadily risen up the rankings this season, the Irish are used to the feeling. This weekend will simply be more of the same.

Notre Dame (9-1) hosts two top-25 teams in three days. On Friday at 3 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion, No. 12 North Carolina (9-2) faces the Irish, and on Sunday at noon the Irish host No. 23 Wake Forest (8-1).

Notre Dame has faced quite a

bit of top competition this season, defeating No. 5 Stanford and No. 4 Baylor at the ITA Indoor Team National Championships before losing to No. 1, and eventual national champion, Northwestern. This past weekend the Irish defeated two more top-50 teams in BYU and Utah, both on the road. Three more Irish victories this season have also been against top-50 opponents, two of which were in the top-25.

The benefits of such a strong schedule are obvious, especially with seven of the team's nine victories coming against such stiff competition.

"Almost every match we play for the next two or three weeks is

just going to be a tough match. But that is good for us. Our kids want to play better teams," Irish coach Jay Louderback said.

"Every match we play we know as we go out we have to be ready because it is going to be a tough one. Because of that, our team knows that there really can't be a let-up as we go out," he said.

Notre Dame shares one interesting characteristic with North Carolina: both teams faced both Stanford and Baylor at the National Championships. The difference between the Irish and the Tar Heels though, is that Notre Dame defeated both Stanford and Baylor, while North Carolina suffered its only losses on the season against the two teams.

"We always have really tight, good matches with North Carolina," Louderback said. "They lost a couple of really close ones at the National Indoor, 5-2 and 4-3. So they are good; they are one of the teams that will be battling for the NCAAs this year."

The Irish success at the National Championships, playing three matches in three days and winning two of them, bodes well for this weekend. The quick turnaround between Friday and Sunday should have little unforeseen effect on the team.

"We do it every year," Louderback said. "We have a few stretches like that during the year, but it helps us get used to the end of the year. When you get to the final 16 teams at the NCAAs, you could have to play four top-15 matches in five days."

Two matches in three days against top-25 competition would faze most teams, but to Notre Dame, this is just another average weekend of tennis.

Contact Douglas Farmer at
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NFL

Officials OK Vick for home confinement

Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Imprisoned NFL star Michael Vick will be allowed to serve the last two months of his sentence under home confinement because there is no room at a halfway house for him, a government official told The Associated Press Thursday.

Vick is serving a 23-month sentence at the federal penitentiary in Leavenworth, Kan., after pleading guilty to bankrolling a dogfighting operation at a home he owned in eastern Virginia's Surry County. He also admitted to participating in the killing of several underperforming dogs.

Vick's lawyers have said they expected him to be moved any day into a halfway house in Newport News. But because of a lack of space, Vick will be released instead to his home in nearby Hampton at some point on or after May 21, said the official, who has knowledge of the case but requested anonymity because the individual was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly.

"We are aware of reports regarding the release of Michael Vick," Vick attorneys Billy Martin and Lawrence Woodward said in a written statement. "As his attorneys we understand and respect that there is a process that the Bureau of Prisons follows therefore it is not appropriate for us comment at this time."

Vick's agent, Joel Segal, did not return messages seeking comment. Vick's mother, Brenda Boddie, said in a telephone interview that she knew nothing about the arrangements.

The Hampton house is one of four Vick still owns, according

to bankruptcy court papers. He sold the Surry County property that served as headquarters for his BadNewz Kennels soon after his July 2007 indictment.

The five-bedroom, 3,538-square-foot brick home with an in-ground pool in Hampton is assessed at \$748,100, according to city tax records. Vick also owns an interest in a \$2 million home being built in Suffolk, bankruptcy court papers show. His eight-bedroom home in suburban Atlanta is scheduled to be sold at auction March 10, with a minimum opening bid of \$3.2 million.

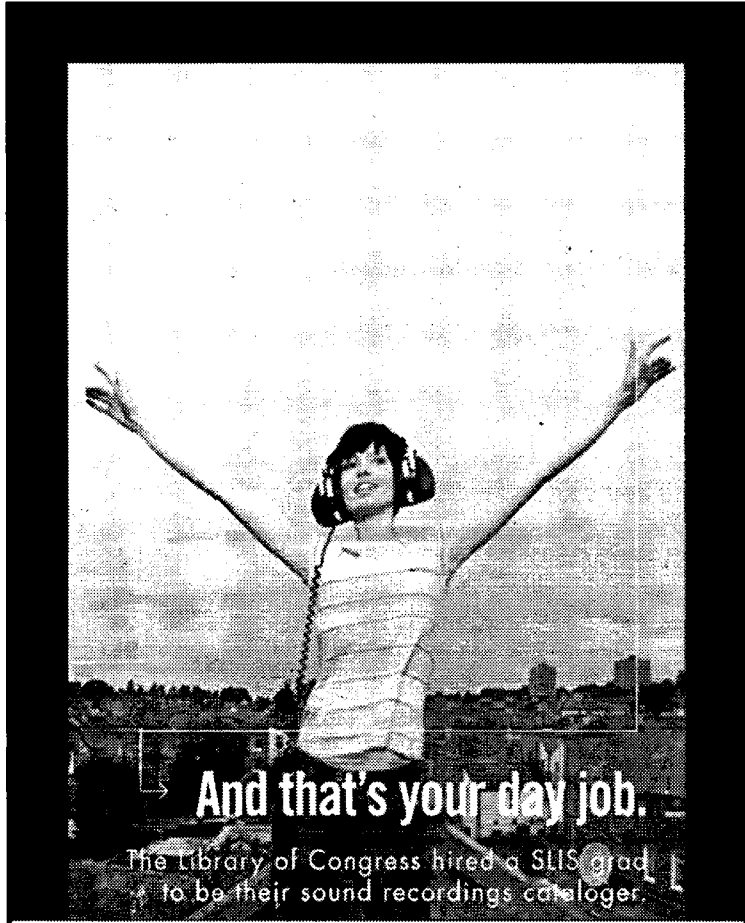
Vick will be on electronic monitoring and will only be allowed to leave home for activities approved by his probation officer, the official said. He is eligible for release in July.

According to Vick's lawyers, the former Virginia Tech standout plans to resume his pro football career. NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, who suspended Vick without pay, has repeatedly said he will review Vick's status after the legal proceedings are completed.

Falcons general manager Thomas Dimitroff said earlier this month that the Falcons will try to trade the contract rights on Vick to another team. Vick, once the highest-paid player in the NFL and among its most popular, has a contract that runs to 2013 and calls for him to receive a base salary of \$9 million and a bonus of \$6.43 million in 2009. The remainder of the contract is worth \$45.11 million, with an additional possible \$3 million in Pro Bowl bonuses.

Officials of some other NFL teams have said they are not interested in Vick because they would rather not face the wrath of pet lovers and groups such as PETA, which has been a constant fixture at Vick's hearings.

Vick also earned substantial sums from endorsement deals with Nike and other companies, but that income vanished after the dogfighting revelations virtually destroyed his image as well as his finances. Vick filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in July, claiming assets of \$16 million and liabilities of \$20.4 million.



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ND WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Irish ready to take on Cardinal

By NATHANIEL LEE
Sports Writer

Coming off a solid victory over Ohio State, Notre Dame looks to continue its winning ways against visiting Stanford.

The No. 11 Irish (2-1) sustained their only loss of the season to national No. 1 Northwestern last weekend at home.

"We rely on a tough, tight schedule now to prepare us for the postseason" Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. "Competition is tough, so big games are important for us."

Junior attacker Gina Scioscia is pacing the team's offense with six goals and

four assists. The sophomore scoring trio of Kailene Abt, Jillian Byers and Shaylyn Blaney have all scored eight goals each in their three games.

Senior Erin Goodman will likely get her 39th career start at goal for the Irish.

The Irish will try to avenge a tough 13-9 loss to Stanford on the road last season.

"Stanford is always a good team," Coyne said. "It was a difficult loss to them last season, and now that they are here we really want to make up for that."

The matchup will take place at the Loftus Sports Center, 2 pm.

Contact Nathaniel Lee at nlee5@nd.edu

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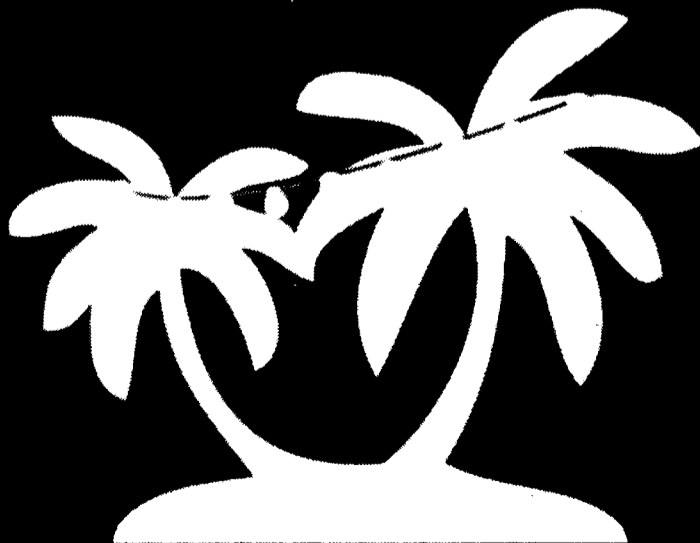

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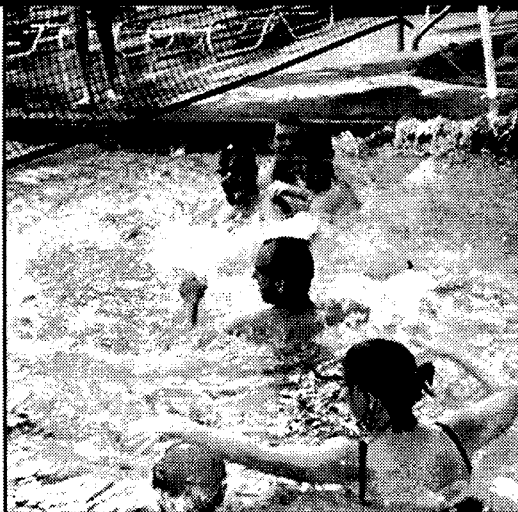
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FENCING

Irish set to host Midwest tourney

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will host the 11th Midwest Conference Championships this weekend at the Joyce Center, featuring both individual and team matches throughout the event. Both the men's and women's Irish squads come into the tournament ranked first in the latest USFCA poll.

"I feel very positive for [the team], and I know they will continue to remind the country why Notre Dame's fencing program is truly world class," assistant coach Marek Stepien said. "They have been training extremely hard and I'm certain that at the [Midwest Conference] Championships and on into next season you will see some very impressive results."

The Irish head into this weekend at the top of the college fencing world after a set of remarkable regular seasons in which the men's team posted a perfect 33-0 mark and the women's squad finished 32-2. Both win totals are records in a program that has produced two national championships and dozens of All-Americans since the arrival of head coach Janusz Bednarski seven years ago.

Despite being a young and

relatively inexperienced group, the Notre Dame fencers have placed themselves in a prime position to compete for a national championship after posting wins over so many ranked teams this spring.

"It's very hard for coaches to predict [results]," Bednarski said. "I've been in this business for so long. There are so many factors we can't control, especially on such a young team. But anything can happen if we make it to the Bloody Four."

The Midwest Conference Championships are one of the first steps on that road. Individual play begins Saturday in a pool format, and eliminations are expected to begin by the early afternoon. Sunday features team play throughout the day.

The biggest obstacle for the Irish this weekend is last year's winner, No. 3 Ohio State. The Buckeyes edged out the Irish by 70 points total to earn the victory. Unlike the Irish, Ohio State returns much of its talent from last year.

Competition will begin at 8 a.m. at the Joyce Center. The tournament marks the final event for Notre Dame before the NCAA Regional Qualifiers in mid-March.

Contact Michael Blasco at
mblasco@nd.edu

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NFL

Holmes scheduled for marijuana hearing

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Pittsburgh Steelers receiver and Super Bowl MVP Santonio Holmes waived his right to a preliminary hearing Thursday on a misdemeanor marijuana charge stemming from an October traffic stop.

Holmes' attorney, Robert DelGreco Jr., said he waived the hearing because district judges cannot assess witness credibility or constitutional challenges.

District Judge Gerte Ricciardi commended Holmes for donating the gloves he wore when he caught the Super Bowl-winning touchdown pass for charity, saying it showed fine character.

The auction raised \$70,200 for the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America Inc. Holmes' 6-year-old son, Santonio III, has the blood disease.

Holmes did not speak to reporters.

Pittsburgh police said they found three marijuana-filled cigars in Holmes' car when he was pulled over Oct. 23. Holmes was stopped because his car was similar to one they were looking for in a drug sting, police said.

Holmes was cooperative and alerted officers to the drugs, police said.

DelGreco characterized the

charge "as low as a grade a misdemeanor you can get." The penalty is up to 30 days probation and a \$500 fine, he said.

Coach Mike Tomlin deactivated Holmes for a game following the traffic stop. He was not arrested and received a court summons, which is common with misdemeanor charges in Pennsylvania.

Holmes said he "learned a lot" from missing a game following the traffic stop. Before the Super Bowl, Holmes told the media that he had dealt drugs for a year in his hometown of Belle Glade, Fla.

A first-round draft pick out of Ohio State in 2006, Holmes has had two other run-ins with the law since the Steelers drafted him. In June 2006, he was charged with domestic violence in Columbus, Ohio. Those charges were dropped when the mother of one of his three children declined to help prosecute the case and prosecutors were assured that Holmes received anger management and domestic violence counseling through the NFL.

In May 2006, Holmes was arrested for disorderly conduct by police in Miami, who later dropped the charges.

No trial date has been set on the marijuana charge. A formal arraignment was scheduled for April 29.

Please recycle The Observer.

MEN'S TENNIS

Irish host A&M, travel to Madison

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame fell to Kentucky Monday but will have a busy weekend to try and forget about.

The No. 25 Irish (6-6) host No. 13 Texas A&M tonight before traveling to Wisconsin Sunday.

Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said the Aggies may boast the nation's best top-three lineup with senior Conor Pollock and sophomore Austin Krajicek and Wil Spencer.

"After that they are pretty solid, but they count on dominating you at the top," Bayliss said. "They are outstanding at No. 1 doubles as well ... Their coaches, Steve Denton and Bobby McKinley, are truly outstanding and will have the Aggies prepared."

Wisconsin will also prove to be a tough foe for the young Irish lineup with strong players at the top.

Wisconsin is coming off a win over No. 21 Wake Forest Saturday. Notre Dame edged the Badgers last season, 4-3, when the last match went to a tiebreaker.

Despite the loss to the Wildcats Monday, the Irish did receive some strong individual performances.

Freshman Casey Watt and

sophomore Stephen Havens were able to come up with a big doubles win over Kentucky's Graerne Dyce and Eric Quigley.

"It was gratifying to see Casey and Stephen come out of the blocks so quickly and play well against Kentucky," Bayliss said. "In particular Casey's level was very high. When they are fully engaged they can be pretty difficult to play, as each returns serve well and they hurt you in different ways."

"Stephen is more of a classic doubles player while Casey is such a great athlete that he can go outside the norm that most opponents expect in his shot selection."

Notre Dame's top singles player, senior Brett Helgeson, suffered a foot injury Feb. 19 against Northwestern, but he played against Kentucky and should be good to go this weekend, Bayliss said.

"Brett's injury held up well against Kentucky," Bayliss said. "He was close to 100 percent and is better today than he has been after competing, so we hope to have him for A&M."

Notre Dame will return home after Sunday's contest to host Michigan on Wednesday.

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NFL

Colt players to test free agency

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts knew the salary cap would put them in a pinch. They were hoping it wouldn't hurt too much.

No such luck.

The team, already prepared for Marvin Harrison, Jeff Saturday and Hunter Smith to become free agents Friday, now must add Josh Thomas and Dominic Rhodes to the list.

Thomas' agent, Craig Domann, told The Associated Press Thursday the backup defensive end and sometimes starter plans to test the market. Rhodes' agent, Todd France, told The Indianapolis Star that the team's second-leading rusher last season would do the same.

Calls to France Thursday afternoon by The Associated Press weren't immediately returned.

The news came a day after the Colts officially released the record-setting Harrison to free up \$6 million under the salary cap. Saturday, a three-time Pro Bowl center, turned down Indy's most recent offer even though he said he wanted to stay in Indianapolis. Last week, Smith's agent, Thomas Mills, acknowledged the longtime punter also would not be re-signed before the free agent market opened. Team president Bill Polian had warned this could be a

tough offseason.

"We are being impacted by the salary cap for the first time in 11 years because of the new cap rules, and that's not something we, quite frankly, planned for," Polian said Sunday during the NFL's annual scouting combine. "As a result, we've got some issues with veterans."

Thursday's negotiations could dictate how much things will change next season, which will open with Jim Caldwell taking over the coaching reins from Tony Dungy, who retired in January.

Caldwell has already replaced the defensive coordinator and special teams coach. Who he'll have on the field is still up in the air.

Harrison, Saturday and Smith were three of the longest-tenured Colts on the 2008 roster. All could be with new teams within days or weeks.

Rhodes' best season was his rookie year of 2001, when he rushed for 1,104 yards after he became the starter when Edgerrin James suffered a season-ending knee injury. He spent 2007 with the Raiders before returning to the Colts, where he had 538 yards and six touchdowns last season. He also caught 45 passes, including three TDs.

Thomas, who replaced the injured Dwight Freeney in the starting lineup during the second half of the 2007 season, had a career-high three sacks in 2005 and a career-high 55 tackles in 2007.

Others who are unsigned include linebackers Tyjuan Hagler and Freddy Keiaho, cornerback Keiwan Ratliff, safety Matt Giordano and offensive lineman Dan Federkeil. All have started at least once over the past two seasons.

The Colts did take care of two other players Thursday.

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Creighton

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and you can't let Darin [Ruf] beat you," Schrage said of the Jayhawks' slugging first baseman. "You've got to be sure you get the guys out around them. They try to play a real fast game, and Gonzaga is the opposite — they'll take a lot of pitches and try to play a longer game."

After being shut out in their season opener by Ohio State last Friday, the Irish topped Illinois and Purdue in successive days to complete their opening weekend in Florida.

This weekend marks the second of four tournaments Notre Dame will play to open its season. The Irish will play nine games March 6-15 in either Houston or San Antonio as part of the Rice Classic and the Irish Baseball Classic.

"Especially the first three weeks when you're getting down and playing in warm weather, you want to get better each weekend and minimize your mistakes," Irish coach Dave Schrage said. "Our first nine games are all against great competition, so we'll find out a lot about our team and what we need to work on. At the same time, we're trying to look at line-up combinations, guys' roles

out of the bullpen, things like that."

One who began to solidify his spot in the Irish pen last weekend was Steven Mazur, Schrage said.

The junior right-hander threw three innings of no-hit ball over two appearances last weekend, striking out three and walking one. He appears to be the frontrunner for the closer's role, which was left empty when would-be senior Kyle Weiland chose to sign with the Boston Red Sox.

"Steven Mazur did a nice job closing out two out of three games there," Schrage said. "That's an area, losing Kyle Weiland, we weren't quite sure who'd be in that role. We're going to give Steven [an opportunity]."

Sophomore left fielder Golden Tate started and led off all three contests for the Irish and had at least two hits in each game. His seven hits, four runs and two doubles are all team-highs for Notre Dame.

"You've got to be real happy with how Golden Tate played," Schrage said. "He got an opportunity to play out in left field, and he made some nice defensive catches out there. That was a nice, not surprise, but a nice start for him."

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish want more D vs. Friars

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

Defense defense defense defense.

That's not a chant. It's Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw's mantra.

She said after No. 23 Notre Dame's 90-79 win over Syracuse Tuesday she wanted to see better defense and was comfortable playing a game with the score in the 60s. This after a game where senior guard Lindsay Schrader scored 23 points, and all five starters scored in double figures.

But the team is on board. McGraw said the players realize the defense needs to improve.

"I think they're a little disappointed at what's been going on also," McGraw said.

Notre Dame (19-7, 8-6 Big East) will have a chance to improve Saturday when it travels to play Providence at 2 p.m. The Friars (10-17, 4-10) only score 58.1 points per game, which gives the Irish defense a chance to make a statement.

"We'd sure like to," McGraw said. "That's our goal is to hold

them under their average. If we can do that, especially on their home court, that would be a good sign for our defense."

A large part of McGraw's defensive focus this season has been on guarding the perimeter, and the Irish will have a chance to put it to use against Providence. Senior guard Catherine Bove has made 33.7 percent of her 3-point attempts and junior guard/forward Brittany Dorsey has sank 32.9 percent of hers.

McGraw said she continues to work on perimeter defense and search for the definitive answer.

"We pretty much try to do the same thing and sometimes we're more effective than others," she said. "I wish I knew what the answer was for when we've played it well."

To play strong defense, Notre Dame will have to neutralize senior guard Chelsea Marandola. She leads the team in points per game (11.5) and free throw percentage (85.1) and can also shoot the three. McGraw said she sat out last season because of an injury, so the Irish haven't seen her in a while.

"She's their best player, she led their team all year long, she can handle the ball [and] shoot the ball," McGraw said.

The Irish have gotten good production out of Schrader and sophomore forward Becca Bruszewski for the past few games. Against Syracuse, however, junior center Erica Williamson took full advantage of her 29 minutes and had 18 points, 11 rebounds and five blocks.

"We expect that she's going to continue to rebound well and score around the basket," McGraw said. "That's what she's working on. We also need to give her more opportunities."

Williamson's blocks, combined with her willingness to take a charge, McGraw said, make her a tough defender in the paint.

"The great thing about Erica is I don't know whether she'll take the charge or block the shot," McGraw said. "If someone comes in there out of control she's going to take the charge. She can be really difficult to score on."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

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Belles

continued from page 24

with just over six and a half minutes to play, holding a 31-23 halftime lead.

Most of the Belles success in the first half came from points in the paint by senior forwards Erin Newsom and Anna Kammrath.

The Belles played well defensively against the Knights in the first half. Newsom and Kammrath dominated the defensive glass, preventing the Knights from having many second-chance opportunities.

After halftime, it seemed that the Knights had made some second-half adjustments, playing the Belles much closer on defense and preventing Kammrath and Newsom from getting rebounds off missed shots.

The Belles held a 49-32 lead about halfway through the second half until the Knights had two consecutive three-point plays that sparked a Calvin rally. The Knights cut the Belle lead to just 11 points with eight minutes remaining in the contest.

The determined Knights continued the chip away at the Belle lead, cutting the deficit to as low as eight points with 2:15 remaining. With under a minute to play, Newsom hit four free throws that sealed the game for the Belles and put the Knights away for good.

Saturday's finals match up is a rematch against Hope College. The season series is tied, with the Belles giving Hope their only loss of the season. The game will be played at Hope Saturday at 3 p.m.

Contact Alex West at awest@hcc-nd.edu

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Revenge

continued from page 24

"We have to just concentrate on getting up there to New England and getting back Saturday and letting it rip up there against a great team," Irish coach Mike Brey said.

Irish senior guard Kyle McAlarney added: "This is a huge opportunity and we know it's a great opportunity for us to go out and just let it rip."

And Irish junior Luke Harangody agreed with Brey and McAlarney.

"Saturday's a big game but we've got nothing to lose; we're just gonna go out and let it rip," Harangody said.

See a common thread in all those responses?

Harangody said the "let-it-rip" mindset stems from Notre

Dame's underdog status heading into the Connecticut game. The Huskies are 26-2 overall and 14-2 in Big East play while the Irish are 16-11 and 7-8 against conference foes.

"Saturday's gonna be a lot of fun. Everyone's gonna count us out in that game so that's why we're just gonna go in there and go for it," Harangody said.

The reigning Big East player of the year also said he and his teammates are looking forward to playing in front of a raucous Connecticut crowd.

"I hope to see some Notre Dame fans out there behind us. Probably not a lot because that's a tough place to play," Harangody said. "But I'm excited to go there ... I love being the underdog, especially in an environment like that."

The Huskies sit in first place in the Big East while Notre

Dame is looking to climb closer to a top-8 seed for the conference tournament. The Irish are in tenth place but a win over Connecticut would go a long way toward improving the team's resume. The Irish are 1-7 against opponents currently in the top 25.

"This group is pretty level-headed, they know it's a great opportunity. It's a big game. It's not like we haven't been in any big games this year..." Brey said. "But it's not lost on us that it's a great opportunity."

The last time the Irish squared off against the Huskies, Notre Dame played them close but could not take a lead late in the game. The Irish shot 35 percent from the field in the second half, including just 20 percent from behind the 3-point line.

"We played those guys well

last time. I'd like to have a couple of those looks we had here, in Storrs," Brey said. "We had some clean looks from outside."

Harangody poured in 24 points in that contest but he was the only Irish player to score in double figures. Brey said he hopes Notre Dame's supporting cast, especially point guard Tory Jackson, continues to play well on Saturday. Jackson had 13 second-half points to lead the Irish over Rutgers.

"I think he needs to score for us, there's no question about it," Brey said. "He's gotta score the basketball for us. His first [job is] setting the table for our guys and getting us in transition."

As Notre Dame prepares to take on Connecticut's big, physical frontcourt, the team's outside shooting against

Rutgers may be a good omen. Jackson and McAlarney, the starting backcourt, combined to hit 5-of-9 3-point attempts.

"I can't remember the last time I hit a three in a game, it has been a while," Jackson said. "I felt loose and confident in my game and in my shot and it definitely helped me [against Rutgers]."

McAlarney said the Irish will be loose before taking on Connecticut, repeating the team's apparent new slogan when asked how big Saturday's game is.

"It's not like our lives are on the line," he said. "It's obviously a huge game for us, huge opportunity. We just wanna let it rip."

The game tips off at 2 p.m. and will air live on CBS.

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

Seniors

continued from page 24

top seed in the conference tournament. The Irish are guaranteed to host a best-of-three series March 13-15 after receiving a bye in the CCHA tournament, which begins next weekend.

The Spartans (10-19-5, 7-15-4-3), perennially one of the conference's top squads, has gone through some growing pains this season. Michigan State is tied for 10th in the CCHA standings with 21 points, ahead of only Bowling Green (17 pts.).

With a big weekend, though, the Spartans could surpass Lake Superior (21 pts.) and Western Michigan (22 pts.) to climb up to No. 9 in the final CCHA standings.

"They're going to play to win, and they're going to compete hard," Jackson said. "They're a tough team to play against, and Ohio State found that out two weeks ago."

Despite the Spartans' struggles, they still boast one of the nation's top goaltenders in Jeff Lerg. That alone makes them a formidable opponent, Jackson said.

"Sometimes the wounded animal is the most dangerous," he said. "As long as they have a superstar in net, that makes them a difficult team to play. They have one of the best goaltenders in the country, and I think they rally around him."

The home-and-home series with the Spartans, which will move to East Lansing, Mich., Saturday night, isn't entirely meaningless for the Irish. Notre Dame must finish strong to make sure it secures a top-four seed in the 16-team NCAA Tournament.

And, Jackson said, playing well this weekend will go a long way in ensuring the Irish are prepared headed into a bye week, and then the CCHA tournament.

"Having a bye is a good thing, but it's also a bad thing," Jackson said. "We have to be sure we play at a high intensity level this weekend, and then do the same in practice this next week to simulate the intensity our [playoff] opponent would have played in."

"It's a mental thing, and we have to make sure we're sharp."

Senior netminder Jordan Pearce is one of six seniors who will be honored following the game, and he could tie '07 grad David Brown for second on the school's all-time win list with a victory tonight. Pearce has 53 career wins and trails only Brown (54) and '90 grad Lance Madson (55).

Captain Erik Condra (team-high 22 assists, 32 points), Christian Hanson (team-high 15 goals), Luke Lucyk, Garret Regan and Justin White will also be honored on senior night. Those six players

make up Notre Dame's all-time winningest class, as they head into the weekend 97-47-14.

"I'll always remember this group as being the young guys that helped make a difference and set a culture that others will be able to follow for many years to come," Jackson said. "Their legacy will be well known. It'll be hanging in the rafters in that new building."

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

Hicks

continued from page 24

and they execute their game-plan game in and game out."

Corrigan said Dartmouth's early-season record is slightly misleading, and that the Big Green are much better than a .500 team.

"They've had some problems with injuries and they've had to adjust to playing without those guys for the time being," he said. "I think that they're just going to continue to get better as the guys that they've had step in get more experi-

ence and confidence."

Senior midfielder Jimmy Mullen leads the Big Green with six points on the season, all goals. In order to keep their perfect record, Corrigan said playing tough defense is key.

"The biggest thing we have to do is match their discipline," he said. "We have to play very diligently at our end to make sure that we're matching up with the things that they do so well."

Hicks and company will hope to counter that defensive discipline with some goals on the other end. The Atlanta native leads the team

with 11 points, including a career-high eight in last week's 13-8 win over Penn State.

"He's playing great and he's executing well but he's not forcing things and he's not going outside of our offense to do it," Corrigan said.

Hicks was the second Irish player in a row to claim conference player of the week honors. Junior midfielder Grant Krebs took home the award on Feb. 17. Krebs currently ranks second on the team with seven points.

Both players will be hoping to keep up the scoring in the Irish home opener. The home-opening faceoff is set for 11:30 a.m. in the Loftus Sports Center.

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

"Sometimes the wounded animal is the most dangerous."

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach

"The biggest thing we have to do is match their discipline."

Kevin Corrigan
Irish coach

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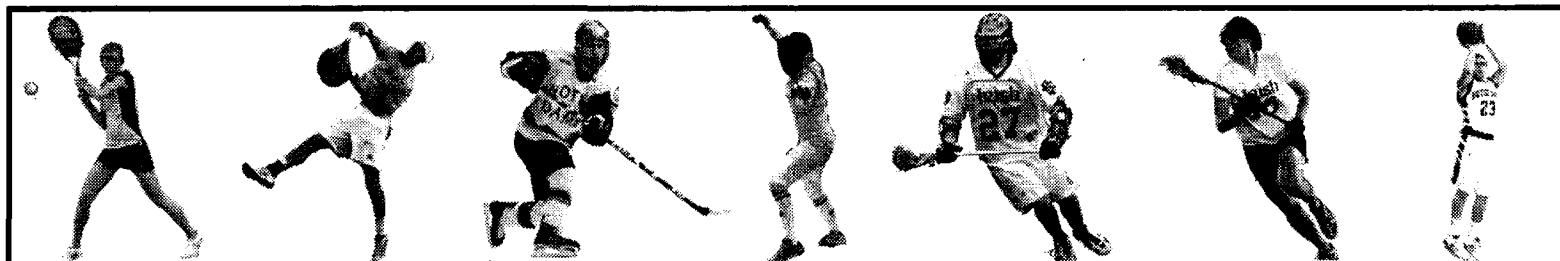
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vs. #13 UNC @ 3 pm

#25 Men's Tennis
vs. #13 Texas A&M @ 7 pm

#2 Hockey

vs. MSU @ 7:05 pm
Win pairs of Free airfare tickets!

Saturday

#1 Fencing
Conference Championships
All Day

#8 Men's Lacrosse
vs. Dartmouth @ 11:30 am
*Early fans- Free Knit Hats

#12 Women's Lacrosse
vs. #17 Stanford @ 2:00 pm
*Early fans - Free Crocs

Sunday

#5 Women's Tennis
vs. Wake Forest @ 12 pm

#1 Fencing
All Day

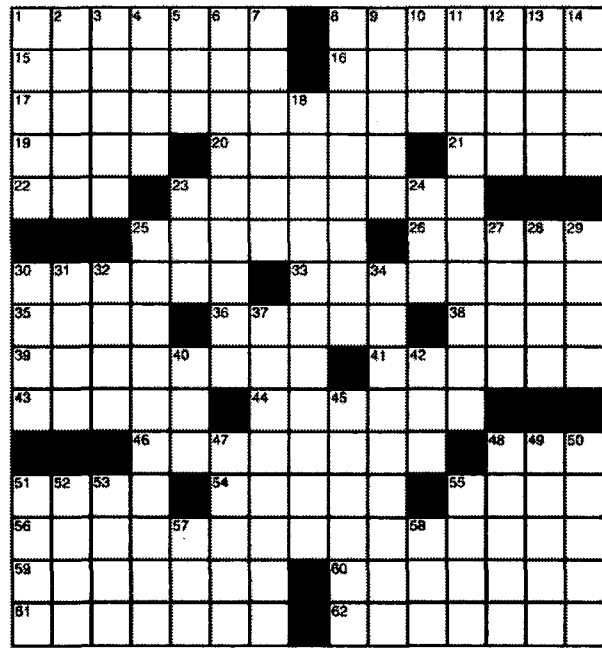
Monday

Men's Basketball
vs. #10 Villanova
@ 7:00 pm

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Creek Confederacy tribe
 - 8 "The Appeal" novelist
 - 15 Two-time foreign minister of the U.S.S.R.
 - 16 Clio maker
 - 17 Film with the line "By the authority vested in me by Kaiser William II, I pronounce you man and wife. Proceed with the execution"
 - 19 Equipment for strokes
 - 20 ___ lot (was telling)
 - 21 Observing things
 - 22 Home of Sault Ste. Marie: Abbr.
 - 23 Recipient of a trade discount
 - 25 Withdraw
 - 26 Not be generous
 - 30 King of Naples in "The Tempest"
 - 33 One way to recoil
 - 35 Sported
 - 36 Ill-gotten
 - 38 Prefix with marine
 - 39 Jesús, Mary or Joseph
 - 41 Like some DVDs in DVD players
 - 43 Burning evidence
 - 44 Evidence that one is an alien
 - 46 Opening for an anchor
 - 48 Toy store inits.
 - 51 Asian au pair
 - 54 Have ___ (not be trapped)
 - 55 U.S. org. with over 39 million members
 - 56 Fantastic flight
 - 59 Cheat
 - 60 August
- Down**
- 1 Childish comeback
 - 2 "I Know Who Killed Me" actress, 2007
 - 3 Word often preceded by a color
 - 4 Givers of unfriendly hugs
 - 5 Justice Dept. division
 - 6 A harm might use it
 - 7 Focus on one's approach, say
 - 8 Inclination
 - 9 Kind of artery
 - 10 Govt. probe
 - 11 Frank request
 - 12 U.S. military chopper
 - 13 One way to turn a ship
 - 14 Chain links?: Abbr.
 - 18 George H. W. Bush, once
 - 23 Apt., e.g.
 - 24 Panamanian pronoun
 - 25 Lifter
 - 27 Ticks off
 - 28 Glutton's desire
 - 29 Driving tool
 - 30 Beards
 - 31 The good earth?

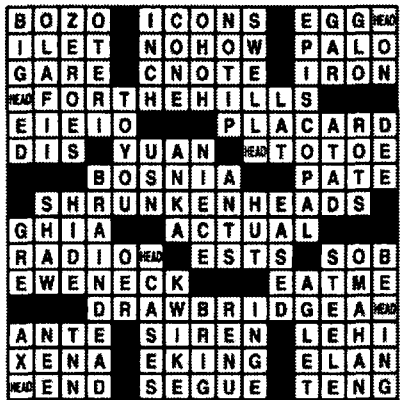


Puzzle by Barry C. Silk

- 32 Pasta eaten with a spoon
- 34 Web connection means
- 37 Trapped
- 40 Franklin contemporary
- 42 Word with longer or minute
- 45 Body types
- 47 Apparently anxious person
- 48 Hill in Nashville
- 49 "As You Like It" setting
- 50 Subjective pieces
- 51 Switch letters
- 52 Where Bambara is spoken
- 53 All ___ (words on a game box)
- 55 One of a comic-strip married couple
- 57 Third-century year
- 58 Atlantic City hot spot, with "the"

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Orlando Bloom, 32; Stephen Hendry, 40; Julia Louis-Dreyfus, 48; Richard Moll, 66

Happy Birthday: You must be strong this year, if you want to maintain your status quo. Unusual changes regarding work will take you on an adventure that, in the end, will have positive results. Keep your ideas and your plans on a small scale for now; there will be time to expand when the economy is better. Your numbers are 9, 13, 18, 28, 34, 39, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't spare any expense when it comes to what you really want. You can budget elsewhere. You can make a great impression by doing a first-class job in both your personal and professional life. 5 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Do things you enjoy instead of taking on what others request you to do. You will meet people who interest you and who make better friends and companions. Physical activity may not be your first choice but it will get you moving and stimulate your senses. 2 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): It's time to reevaluate your situation and do something about it. If your relationships are dragging you down, discuss the problems you are experiencing and, if you do not get any cooperation, it is probably time to move on. 4 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't be shy when there is so much to be done. A change at work will be to your benefit in the end, so don't make a fuss. Getting involved with someone unusual will give you a new lease on life. 4 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take care of responsibilities and you will be praised for your ability to get things done. Once you put your duties behind you, you can enjoy a pastime that will allow you to feel free and easy about your life and your future. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A personal message can be sent if you are prompt and focused on getting what you want. Honesty and sincerity will be what count in the end. Love is in the picture and a social evening will pay off emotionally. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): If you mix business with pleasure or share your thoughts, you may be taken advantage of or used for someone else's benefit. Focus quietly on your work until you are in a position to take a piece of the action. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Be very secretive about your plans. If someone gets wind of what you are doing, he or she will steal your ideas and run with them. Protect your interests and your future. 2 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll have to draw the line between thrill-seeking and experiencing a little adventure. Don't take a risk or you may end up in a very uncertain position. Travel can be interesting but is not necessary this time around. 5 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't rely on what you are told. Dishonesty is prevalent. Do your own research and you will avoid an unsavory situation. It's best not to take on a partner if you can get a job done on your own. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Do not overdo it in any way. You'll be tempted to overspend, overindulge and make unrealistic promises. Back off before you let your emotions take over and lead you into difficult situations. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't get dragged into something you aren't ready to deal with yet. You don't want to be put in a position where you have to make a decision you are not prepared to make. Someone isn't likely to be honest with you. 3 stars

Birthday Baby: You are strong, steadfast and attracted to the unusual. You are compassionate and work for reform. You are a strong leader.

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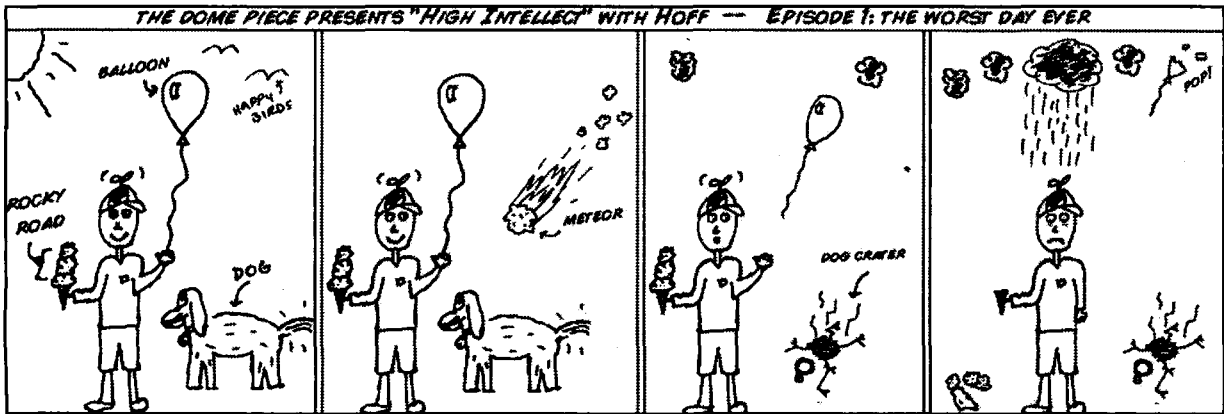
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DRIZAL

ROWMAR

Answer: " "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PAUSE BORAX MYSTIC CODGER
Answer: A judge will do this when he has a tennis match — GO TO "COURT"

THE OBSERVER

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Revenge factor

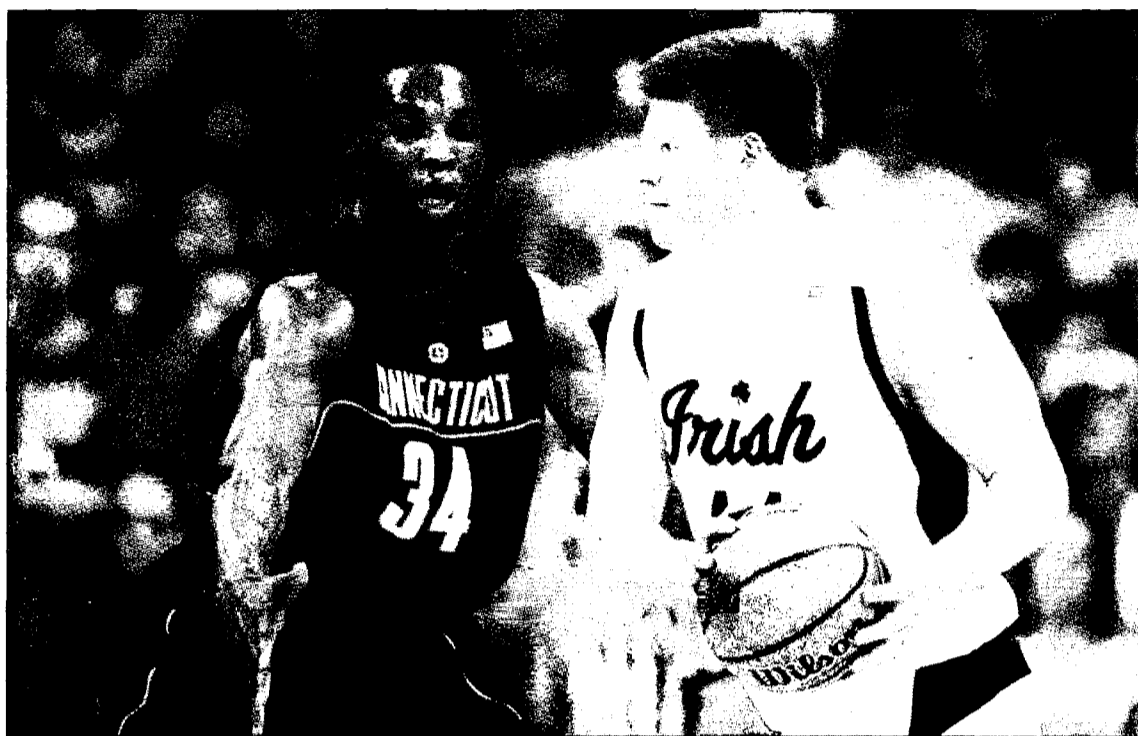
Irish hope to avenge loss, boost NCAA tournament resume

By **FRAN TOLAN**
Associate Sports Editor

On Wednesday, Notre Dame narrowly escaped with a win over lowly Rutgers for the second year in a row. Now, the Irish will try to salvage a season split against mighty Connecticut for the second year in a row.

Notre Dame has won four out of its last five games and, after dispatching the Scarlet Knights, the Irish are concentrating on the No. 2 Huskies.

Connecticut snapped Notre Dame's 45-game home winning streak on Jan. 24, but on Saturday the Irish will get a chance for revenge in Storrs.



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish forward Luke Harangody, right, looks to move the ball against Connecticut center Hasheem Thabeet during the Huskies' 69-61 win on Jan. 24.

see REVENGE/page 22

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles on to MIAA title game

By **ALEX WEST**
Sports Writer

With a win over Calvin on Thursday night, Saint Mary's has punched their first ever ticket to the MIAA Championship.

The Belles defeated the Knights 67-58 at the Angela Athletic Complex to add one more chapter to their already successful season.

In the first half, the Knights (16-10) took an early 7-2 advantage. The Belles (17-9) were able to respond with an eight-point run, primarily from taking advantage of second chance opportunities.

The Belles continued to lead for the rest of the first half, leading by much as 11 points

see BELLES/page 21

BASEBALL

Team heads to the desert for three games down south

By **MATT GAMBER**
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame will again escape the dreary conditions of the Midwest this weekend as the Irish head west to Arizona for the inaugural Phoenix College Classic.

Notre Dame (2-1) will play three games — against Gonzaga Friday, Dayton Saturday and

Creighton Sunday — in the tournament, which Dayton is hosting. Friday and Saturday's games will be at Diablo Stadium in Tempe, Ariz., and Sunday's contest will be played at Marich Field in Phoenix.

Sophomore right-hander Cole Johnson (1-0, 3.00) will take the ball tonight against the Bulldogs' (3-1) right-hander Matt Fields (0-0, 0.00), who threw seven shutout innings in

his first start of the year.

Schrage said Johnson is still recovering from a shoulder injury but should be fine after allowing one run in three innings in his first outing.

"We've been bringing him back slowly, but he'll get the star Friday night on a pitch count," Schrage said. "It's important we get him out there."

Brian Dupra (0-1, 2.84),

another sophomore righty, will get the nod Saturday against the Flyers (1-2). Dupra surrendered two earned runs in 6 1/3 innings in Notre Dame's opener against Ohio State on Feb. 20 and was charged with the loss.

Dayton will send left-hander Quinn Haselhorst (0-1, 12.46) to the mound.

"They have a little bit of power, and they'll be scrappy," Schrage said.

Notre Dame will close its weekend Sunday against Creighton (0-4), who lost four games at Sam Houston State last weekend by a combined six runs. Junior right-hander Eric Maust (0-0, 5.40) will get the start after he allowed three runs in five innings in his first start.

"[Creighton is] real scrappy,

see CREIGHTON/page 21

HOCKEY

ND ready for two vs. MSU

Seniors to be honored during Friday night's game at Joyce Center

By **MATT GAMBER**
Associate Sports Editor

Tonight's home game against Michigan State may be senior night, but Irish coach Jeff Jackson knows that this senior class still has to take care of some business in the Joyce Center.

"For me personally it'll be a bittersweet moment," Jackson said. "It'll be bitter to see them play their last home regular season game, but it's also sweet to know their work is not yet complete."

No. 2 Notre Dame (25-5-3, 19-4-3-3 CCHA) has already wrapped up the league's regular season crown and the

see SENIORS/page 22



WU YUE/The Observer

Irish sophomore Calle Ridderwall carries the puck past a Northern Michigan defender during Notre Dame's 5-2 win on Feb. 14.

MEN'S LACROSSE

Squad opens home season with Dartmouth

Hicks leads red-hot offense in matchup against Big Green

By **SAM WERNER**
Sports Writer

Even though junior attack Neal Hicks is coming into the weekend as the reigning Great Western Lacrosse League (GWL) player of the year, Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said it would take a balanced effort across the board for Notre Dame to run its record to 3-0 this weekend against Dartmouth.

"If teams adjust defensively and take him away, we're not concerned with how many points Neal Hicks has, but how many points we have," Corrigan said.

Corrigan specifically pointed to senior attacks Ryan Hoff and Duncan Swezey as players who could put the ball in the back of the net, but added that his entire attack and midfield lineup was capable of picking up any scoring slack.

"We don't see any reason why all of those guys shouldn't be contributors," he said. "If we can attack people from that many different directions, I think we become a very tough team to play against."

The No. 8 Irish (2-0) will be put to the test this Saturday against the Big Green (1-1), who won 11-10 in overtime against Hartford on Feb. 21.

"They play with a great sense of themselves," Corrigan said. "They're very disciplined, they have a plan,

see HICKS/page 22