OBSERVER 1

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 43 : ISSUE 105

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2009

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Group petitions Office of the President

Campaign for Human Dignity asks that sexual orientation be added to nondiscrimination clause

By MADELINE BUCKLEY News Editor

Members of the Campaign for Human Dignity presented the Office of the President a petition asking that sexual orientation be added to the University's nondiscrimination clause Wednesday.

Currently, the clause states the University does not discriminate based on "race/ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, disability, veteran status or age:"

Group members and students gathered outside the Main Building to present a unified front, according to sophomore Mary Dewey, chair of the campaign.

Dewey said the group garnered over 2,300 student signatures supporting the aims of the petition.

"We wanted to show solidarity," said sophomore Bridget Flores, president of the Progressive Student Alliance. "We wanted to show that this is something a lot of students care about."

The group took similar action last spring and received about the same amount of signatures, but did not get a response from the administration. However this time, Flores said Jenkins has agreed to a meeting on March 30.

see PETITION/page 6



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Students present the Office of the President with a petition to add sexual orientation to the University's nondiscrimination clause.

Police raid Lafayette Apartments

Observer Staff Report

Saint Patrick's Day revelry caused University and state law enforcement to crack down on underage drinking Tuesday.

Captain Phil Trent of the South Bend Police Department (SBPD) said the Indiana State Excise Police led a raid at Lafayette Apartments in South Bend Tuesday night.

Trent said he does not know how the Excise Police were made aware of possible underage alcohol consumption in the apartment complex.

He said he does not have details about the outcome of the raid because the SBPD was not involved.

"We were aware of police activity, but didn't go there until after," Trent said. "We were in the area, but we didn't participate."

The Excise Police could not be reached as of press time.

Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) also responded an alcoholrelated disturbance Tuesday, according to Dave Chapman, assistant director of NDSP.

NDSP was received calls that NDSP students were disrupting class with a parade through campus and responded to those calls between 9:30 and 10:00 a.m., Chapman said.

Senior Nick Hittler organized the parade, which he said included over 100 students and began at the intersection of South Bend and Notre Dame Aves. and continued through campus.

College tuition increases

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
Saint Mary's Editor

The Saint Mary's Board of Trustees approved a 5 percent increase in tuition and a 3 percent increase in room and board costs for the 2009-2010 school

year Tuesday.

This will make the average cost \$38,822, including tuition and room and board fees, according to the College's press release.

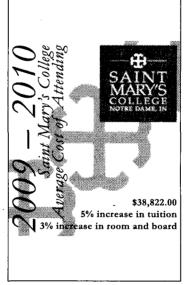
The rise in tuition is a result of the Board evaluating "economic conditions, our current pricing structure and our peer institutions," Daniel Meyer, vice president for Enrollment Management, said.

Due to the College's costs in employee health care, energy and services, in addition to facility depreciation costs, the Board decided on this tuition increase, Meyer said.

According to Meyer, the Board considered the impact this increase would have on families who are already struggling to keep up with costs in the current state of the economy.

"The Board was concerned about the impact any tuition increase will have on families. But they also believe firmly in maintaining the quality of education we provide and determined that this modest increase is necessary to maintain the

see TUITION/page 4



Mary Cecelia Mitsch I THE OBSERVER

Students oppose abortion-rights bill

By AARON STEINER News Writer

In the early stages of the presidential candidate, then-candidate Barack Obama made headlines when he told a pro-choice group that "the first thing" he'd do as president was sign a controversial abortion bill that opponents call a radical attack on the pro-life movement

Responding to a question regarding how he would preserve reproductive rights in a speech given to the Planned Parenthood Action Fund on July 17, 2007, Obama said, "The first thing I'd do, as president, is sign the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA). That's the first thing that I'd do."

The legislation makes the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision federal law, and allows a woman to "terminate a pregnancy prior to fetal viability, or terminate a pregnancy after viability when necessary to protect her life or her health," among other provisions.

While the bill has not been signed, or even reached the floor of Congress for debate during the current session, pro-life advocates have leapt into action since Obama's election, and members of the Notre Dame community have joined the campaign to prevent the passage of the legislation.

Chief among the opposition to the bill at Notre Dame is the University's student Right to Life club, which has organized a postcard campaign as part of a national

see FOCA/page 6

Cycling club to host race this weekend

By JENN METZ

News Writer

This weekend, the Notre Dame Cycling Club — the "Cyclin' Irish" — will be hosting its first ever race in South Bend.

The races — a road race Saturday and a criterium, a short course bike race, Sunday — will take place near campus; the first race, on country roads Northwest of Notre Dame, will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday.

Cyclists will compete in four divisions for men, categories A-D, and two divisions for women, A-B. Each category's race increases in distance.

Whereas cyclists complete a few number of long-distance laps in the road race, the criterium is a "more technical, shorter course," senior Andy Steves

"It's much more spectatorfriendly. We'd love to have a lot of people there," he said.

The criterium's reputation for crashes and "blood and guts" might also make the race more interesting for spectators, Steves, who has competed for Notre Dame since his freshman year, said.

Steves, a senior who has been riding since his senior year in high school, said he became interested in cycling because his grandfather competed in the Ironman.

The club competes in the Midwest Collegiate Cycling Conference, traveling to schools

see CYCLING/page 6



Members of Notre Dame's cycling club, the "Cyclin' Irish," pose for a picture after a race last season.

see RAID/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

NCAA: Day One

No matter what the Super Bowl may claim, the best sports day of the year is really two days. Today and tomorrow. The first round of the NCAA Tournament. Even though Notre Dame didn't get invited to this year's Big Dance, my fridge is stacked and I have enough snacks on hand to last me all 12 hours of college basketball goodness. I know Douglas Farmer did a March Madness rundown yesterday, but let's take a

Sam Werner look at the most

Fantasy Sports

Editor

interesting games of Day One:

♦12:20 p.m. (9) Butler vs. (8)

LSU — Ah, the classic 8/9 matchup to open up the tournament. Bulldogs against Tigers. Midmajor vs. weak major. There's a legitimate chance the Horizon League was almost as good as the SEC this year, and Butler's loss in the conference tournament hurt them more than it should have. Pick: Butler

◆2:30 p.m. (12) Northern Iowa vs. (5) Purdue — All the pieces are in place for the textbook 5/12 upset. The Panthers have come excruciatingly close to pulling a first-round shocker before, losing by five or less each year between 2004 and 2006, all as double-digit seeds. Purdue is good, no doubt, but it remains to be seen how the Big Ten stacks up in the tournament. Pick: Northern Iowa

◆5:00 p.m. (13) Mississippi State vs. (4) Washington — Two schools coming out of week conferences even President Obama said the Pac-10 was down this year. Both teams, though, are coming in red-hot. The Bulldogs are only here because of their run through the SEC tournament, and the Huskies have only lost three games in the past two months. Expect the Bulldogs to make it interesting, but come up just short. Pick: Washington

♦9:50 p.m. (11) VCU vs. (6) UCLA Even President Barack "Chalk" Obama picked this upset (if you don't get that last joke, go check out Obama's picks on ESPN). VCU upset Duke in the first round two years ago, and the Rams might have another one in them this year. The Bruins have to travel across the country, and a sluggish start will cost them. Pick: VCU

◆9:55 p.m. (12) Western Kentucky vs. (5) Illinois — The last game of the day could end up being the best. The Hilltoppers return almost the entire lineup from a team that stunned fifth-seeded Drake in the first round last year on a buzzer-beating Ty Rogers threepointer and advanced to the Sweet Sixteen. And, when in doubt, just remember, the Big Ten is terrible. Pick: Western Kentucky

And that, ladies and gentlemen, is your TV viewing schedule for today's slate. Remember, all the games are on CBS. Games are also available streaming on CBS's Web site, but I'd never endorse neglecting academics and watching games during class.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT'S THE WORST THING ABOUT THE DAY AFTER ST. PATRICK'S DAY?



Carolyn Hersh junior

Welsh Fam

"Living near my roommate."



Mayra del Rio

junior Welsh Fam

"Everything."



Sue Daily

junior PE.

"8:30 a.m. Spanish class."



Chris Vanderhurst

senior off campus

"Having to wait until p.m. to drink acceptably."



Mark Lyons

junior off campus

"St. Patrick's Day's coming up?"



The Notre Dame softball team mobs Christine Lux at the plate after her three-run home run to put the Irish up 15-0 in their game against Toledo Wednesday.

OFFBEAT

Women allegedly punches, bites her son's principal

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — A Rhode Island woman faces charges after allegedly punching and biting her 11-year-old son's school principal after being told the boy was being suspended. Police said 30-year-old Aleyda Uceta also bit an officer trying to arrest her after Friday's incident at Roger Williams Middle School Providence.

She was charged with assault on school officials, assault on police officers and resisting arrest.

Principal Rudolph Moseley Jr. was allegedly assaulted after he told Uceta that her son would be suspended for three days for refusing to go to a room for misbehaving students.

Police said Uceta punched Moseley in the face and bit his left arm.

Attempts to reach Uceta by phone for comment were unsuccessful.

NC woman hopes she can cash in after dog's deposit

APEX, N.C. — A North Carolina family's dog didn't eat the children's homework, he ate mom's money. Kelley Davis said she had an extra \$400 in cash to deposit after working extra hours as a physical therapist. She told the News & Observer of Raleigh that on Friday she planned to deposit the money, but it wasn't in her pocket.

She remembered leaving it in the bedroom and it occurred to her that the family's 2-year-old greater Swiss mountain dog, Augie, might have eaten it.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Efren Rivera Ramos, professor of law at the University of Puerto Rico, will deliver a lectitled "Territory, Citizenship, and Rights: The Challenges of Overcoming American Colonialism in Puerto Rico" today at 4 p.m. The lecture will be given in 200 McKenna Hall and is open to the public. It is part of the Institute for Latino Studies' lecture series titled "Caribbean Flights: From the First Colonial Cities in America to Metropolis U.S.A."

A lecture entitled "The USA and the EU: Two Modern Forms of Empire?" will take place in the C-103 Hesburgh Center for International Studies today at 12:30 p.m. Lunch will be available after the lecture.

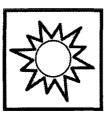
The Arabic Club will be hosting "Arabic Cultural Night" Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Jordan Auditorium in Mendoza Business College. The event will feature performances of numerous traditions, including poetry, skits and Lebanese dance.

Gaelic Storm will be performing a concert at 2 p.m. on Saturday in the DeBartalo Performing Arts Center. Purchase tickets online, visit or call the ticket office at 574-631-

Halftime is performing with the U.S.C. a cappella group SoCal VoCals Saturday at 4 p.m. in the Hesburgh Library Auditorium. Tickets are \$3.

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

LOCAL WEATHER



TODAY

HIGH LOW 29



TONIGHT

HIGH 31

24

LOW

HIGH 46 LOW 30

FRIDAY



SATURDAY

HIGH 51 LOW 33



SUNDAY





MONDAY

HIGH 52 LOW 39

HIGH 53 LOW 43

Atlanta 73 / 44 Boston 45 / 28 Chicago 49 / 27 Denver 62 / 32 Houston 78 / 57 Los Angeles 66 / 55 Minneapolis 47 / 28 New York 50 / 43 Philadelphia 50 / 45 Phoenix 92 / 60 Seattle 53 / 42 St. Louis 57 / 42 Tampa 80 / 61 Washington 58 / 47

MBA fellowships offered

By LIZ O'DONNELL News Writer

The University will offer eight fellowships, ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000, to students entering the Executive MBA (EMBA) program this year.

Barry Van Dyck, the director of degree programs Executive education, said this will open doors for highly qualified applicants who may have trouble financing their educa-

'We always have highly qualified applicants to the EMBA program where funding is a challenge," Van Dyck said. "Our purpose with these fellowships is to provide services to stu-

The fellowships will be awarded based on a combination of merit and need and will function similar to undergraduate awards of the same type.

The awarding of these fellowships has been a few years in the making, Van Dyck said.

"The program is funded by both contributions from EMBA alumni into the John Cardinal O'Hara Society and by the J.A. Bernel Fellowship awards," he said. "We have had the idea for this program for a little while and now have enough saved to

Alumni of the program have donated money to the John Cardinal O'Hara society for this purpose.

In order for a candidate to be considered for one of the fellowships, one must submit a completed application to the EMBA program and then apply for the scholarship.

Winners will be notified anytime between their acceptance into the EMBA program and the first day of class.

"When considering applicants for the program, we are looking for them to have a variety of assets," Van Dyck said. "We want candidates who are experienced, performed well as undergraduates, and who are need based. Basically, similar criteria to what is looked at when applying for scholarships as an undergrad."

After the fellowships are awarded, an allotted amount of the total award will be distributed at the start of each pro-

Recipients of the award must maintain a cumulative 3.25 grade point average to remain eligible for the fellowship.

The EMBA program has locations in Chicago, Cincinnati and South Bend.

Early application to the pro-

gram is encouraged. The deadline for the Class of 2011 applications for the South Bend and Cincinnati locations is June 1 and Nov. 1 for the Chicago loca-

The average student in the EMBA program is 36 years of age and works full time. Van Dyck also said many enrolled in the program have families.

"It takes a great deal of discipline to complete this program," said Van Dyck. "Not only do these people have full time jobs and families to attend to, but they are also full time students

Van Dyck said he predicts the biggest pool of applicants will come from the South Bend and Chicago locations, the program's two largest sites.

The EMBA program has been around for almost 30 years, graduating its first class at the South Bend site in 1984.

According to its Web site, Notre Dame Executive Education "provides leaders in the executive and management ranks the opportunity to develop and strengthen their leadership abilities and business acumen skills through both degree and non-degree programs.'

Contact Liz O'Donnell at eodonne1@nd.edu

Speakers discuss role of religion in development

By LIZ LEFEBVRE News Writer

Decisions made toward global development must be informed by a religious understanding of human nature, Scott Appleby, the director of the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, who spoke Wednesday on "The Impact of Religion Development," said.

"Development is a far broader and richer category than mere economic and material progress," he said. "A cultural and spiritual dimension must be a basis for informing decisions about development," said.

The Ford Family Program in **Human Development Studies** and Solidarity presented the second part of its lecture series "Discussions on Development" Wednesday evening.

The discussion also featured theology professor Fr. Paul Kollman, who explored the ways in which religion influences that challenge of global development.

Appleby began his portion of the lecture by explaining the term "theological anthropology," which is the view that religions should have an anthropological view of what constitutes human nature.

Appleby said for development to succeed, there needs to be a complete understanding of human nature.

'Religion comprehends the whole human person," Appleby said. "Religion sees a fundamental orientation to each person as a child of God."

Appleby made this point in reference to Roman Catholicism, which holds the view of the human in relation to God, rather than seeing each person as an isolated individ-

In addition, Appleby discussed the ethical orientation of religion to development. He said "religion allows people to ask the question, 'How ought we think about development ethically?"

Kollman echoed Appleby's comments and drew on his own experiences of development while living in Eastern Africa.

"Religion and development is more complex than it initially seems," Kollman stated. "There is no unitary way they intersect."

Kollman emphasized how religion is internally contested and how various religions question different aspects of development.

"Religion can reinforce development priorities in theory and practice, and religion can also challenge and contest these priorities," Kollman said.

The next part of the "Discussions on Development" series will take place April 1. The event will address the topic of "Science, Technology, and Development" and will feature Mary Ann McDowell, professor of biology, and Steve Silliman, professor of engineering.

Contact Liz Lebevre at elefebvr@nd.edu

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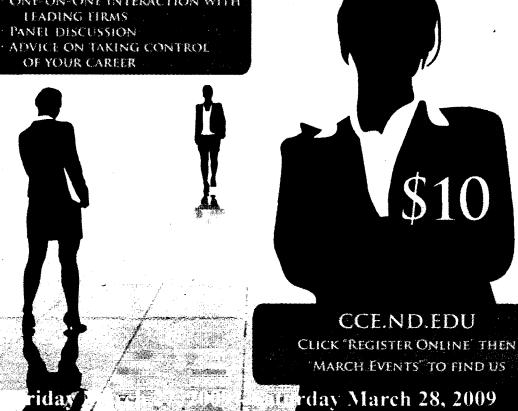


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LDS starts interviews

By LAURA McCRYSTAL News Writer

Loyal Daughters and Sons, the annual play examining gender relations at Notre Dame, does not show again until November, but the writers for the 2009 show have already begun conducting interviews and collecting stories for the production.

Sade Murphy and Kevin Stein, who are both juniors and former cast members of the show, are the writers for the 2009 production.

Content-wise, we are looking for experiences and opinions in the sphere of the following topics: sexual assault, eating disorders, homosexuality, chastity and healthy relationships," Murphy said.

Stein said the show is entirely based on real experiences of students and that the writers are currently looking for students who would like to share their thoughts or stories on the relevant issues.

"We have conducted a few interviews already, but anticipate many more to come in," he said. "We are definitely still looking for students to interview, so anyone should come in and talk to us, even if they don't necessarily think their story or experience is worth hearing - everyone has something worthwhile to offer."

After the writers listen to stories from students this semester, they will spend the summer transforming the collected interviews into scenes that preserve the truth behind the experiences, Murphy

"All of the stories we tell are based on testimony from members of the community here," he said. While we may change some minor facts and names, we do not change what people are saying to us.'

Approximately half of the 2009 show will be based on the interviews, while the other half will be come from previous productions of the show, Stein said.

The Department of Film, Television, and Theatre will help the writers refine the scenes into a final script, which will be finished by the end of the summer. Auditions and casting for the show will take place in September for the November

Stein said he became involved with Loyal Daughters and Sons because it was an opportunity to make a difference.

We are giving voice to the students' thoughts and experiences," he said. "It is important to help make this campus a more open place and to get conversation started on sexuality.'

In addition to generating conversation, Murphy also said the show promotes a stronger, healthier community.

"I really hope that people take advantage of this show," she said. "Because it's not just some other play, this show is communal, it requires the participation of the community to survive and be suc-

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccryst@nd.edu

DSLC begins at SMC

By EMILY DABISH News Writer

SMC's fourth annual Diverse Student's Leadership Conference (DSLC) kicked off Wednesday to address issues of diversity in poverty, education, and leadership.

Senior Sarah Barnes, Vice President of the Student Diversity Board, helped to explain the important of understanding diversity in today's world.

"With globalization, the interconnectedness among different ethnicities and cultures will increase in the future," she said. "There is a need to improve the art of thinking independently together, and the need to work for social justice to become fully human."

A more complete understanding of diversity is important because "the more perspectives that are brought to bear, the better the preparation for your future," according to College President Carol Ann Mooney.

Dr. Jeniffer Fluri, faculty member at Dartmouth's women's studies department, introduced the topic of "everyday leaders."

Fluri discussed how important it is to critique world leaders. She said these leaders have to question the conventional wisdom about what groups of people are accepted according to political structures and cultural norms.

"It is important to reevaluate what a leader is not," Fluri said, "Leadership is not about destructive and abusive power."

In such a circumstance, she said it is necessary for individuals to summon the courage to accomplish "uncommon acts" to overcome society's power structures.

Fluri explained that the prefix "un" is typically considered negative

"Reconsider the un," she said.
"'Un' presents an alternative to the status quo, moments that require and inspire new thinking."

In daily life, both leaders and followers are ready for a change and strive for equality through collective action, Fluri said. She explained that effective leaders are able to articulate the needs of their people, rather than trying to impose goals that are out of touch with social problems.

It is important to remain critical of conventional wisdom and to "reach across the margin of understanding," Fluri said.

Fluri urged people to rethink the Golden Rule. Rather than "do unto others as you would have them do unto you" she said it is better to "do or not do unto others as they would have you do or not do unto them."

Contact Emily Dabish at edabis01@saintmarys.edu

STUDENT SENATE

Senate discusses iTunes U

By MADELINE BUCKLEY News Editor

Manager for academic technologies Paul Turner presented at Wednesday's Student Senate meeting about using iTunes U — an offshoot of Apple's iTunes that publishes materials from top universities — to distribute campus lectures, sporting events and more for free online.

Turner said many prominent universities such as Vanderbilt, Duke and Stanford publish content on iTunes U.

Student government has been working with the administration to create a Notre Dame iTunes U site.

Although there is no official launch date for the site, Turner said the University has a contract with Apple and material lined up to be published. There is already a Web site, itunes.nd.edu, but the links will not be activated until everything is finalized with the Office of the Provost and the Office of Public Affairs.

"ITunes U works like the iTunes store, but the main difference is that we have complete control over brand, content and descriptions," Turner said. "It's our content, our brand."

Turner said the University chose to have a branch of iTunes U available to the public and a branch that is only accessible to students and faculty. The bulk of the material will be in the private sector of the site, he said.

"In my mind, the private site is the students' site," he said. "It will be a faculty site, but I want students to have a major impact on what the site looks like and what goes out there."

The site will feature two buttons, one accessible to the public and one that will require a Notre Dame net ID for access, he said.

Turner said it will be up to faculty to post lecture materials if they choose.

"Our job is to make it easy for those faculty members to record that content," he said.

Turner said the material in iTunes U will be organized by College, subject matter, semester and topic to make it easier for people to navigate. He said students will have the option of subscribing to topics that interest them.

"You can subscribe to individual Colleges, like Business or Arts and Letters, or even individual sections within the College," he said.

Student Senator Lauren Cummings asked Turner how students would go about posting content on iTunes U.

Turner said this is a process his team is still examining.

"There's got to be some level of review. The question is, what's that level and who does it," he said. "We really don't want to be in the content-policing business, but we are worried about copyright infringement."

The University's contract with Apple states that all material published on iTunes U must adhere to copyright laws, Turner said.

In other Senate news:

- ◆ Student body vice president Grant Schmidt announced both of the Last Lectures, delivered by Professors James McKenna and Carl Ackermann, are available online at the student government Web site.
- ♦Student Outreach Committee chair Sarah Rodts said the student survey, set to close Wednesday, garnered about 3,500 responses from students. Rodts said the number is down from the last survey student government conducted, so the survey will remain opened until Friday to receive more input.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Tuition

continued from page 1

quality of education at Saint Mary's," Meyer said.

In a letter to students' families, Saint Mary's President Carol Ann Mooney informed parents that she recognizes the many family currently struggle to pay tuition.

"We are aware of the financial hardships faced by many of our students' families. We realize that many of you make significant sacrifices in order to allow your daughter to attend Saint Mary's. You can give her no finer gift, nor can you make any better investment in her future," Mooney wrote.

Raising tuition as well as room and board fees is not the only way Saint Mary's is trying to increase revenues for the College.

In a press release earlier this week, the College said it is also working to cut expenses in areas that do not affect the classroom experience or student services. They have asked many departments to lower expenses by eliminating funding for administrative

travel, cutting positions and capping salaries, Meyer said.

The savings will go toward making tuition more affordable for students, Meyer said.

"All money saved from the budgetary restraints will be put toward financial aid. The college will do everything possible to assist our current and future students in these difficult times," Meyer said.

The Board would like for parents to view the tuition increase as a long-term investment that will benefit their daughters for years to come.

"In trying economic times we want families to understand that this economy will improve and the investment in their daughter's education will pay off," Meyer said.

Mooney also expressed confidence that the College will continue to work to provide a good education for students in her letter to parents this week.

"Thank you for the trust you place in us. We do, and will continue to, work hard to merit that trust," she wrote.

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@saintmarys.edu

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Raid

continued from page 1

"Everybody was delighted to see us," Hittler said. "The professors were smiling, the Huddle workers were cheering us on."

But Hittler conceded that NDSP reacted negatively to the parade.

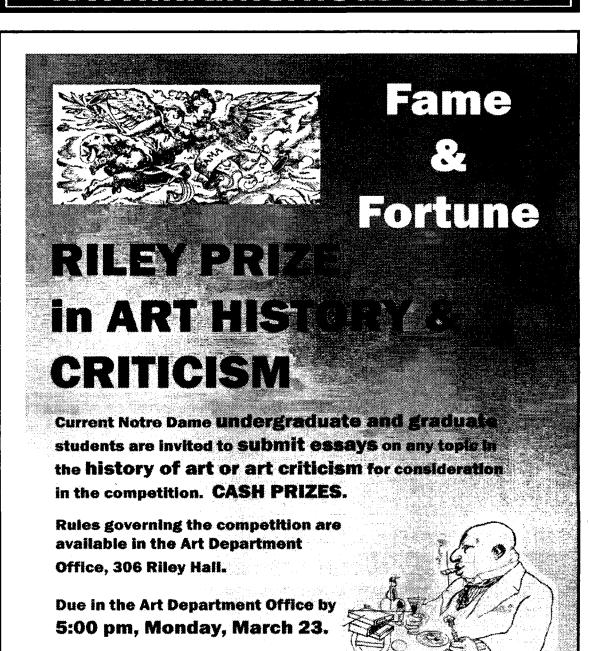
"We were spreading merriment on St. Patrick's Day," he said. "Everybody except NDSP loved us." Chapman said NDSP did not make any arrests when breaking up the parade.

"All we did was talk to them and tell them ... what you need if you parade through campus," he said.

NDSP got involved because the parade was disruptive to students and faculty studying in DeBartolo Hall, Chapman said.

"They were impeding the freedom of the community," Chapman said. "There were people inside [DeBartolo] trying to study and do research."

Please recycle The Observer.



International News

Incestuous father pleads guilty ST. POELTEN, Austria — Josef Fritzl

abruptly pleaded guilty to all of the charges against him Wednesday — a surprising twist amid disclosures that the daughter he imprisoned for 24 years in a dungeon where she bore him seven children secretly sat in on the trial.

Adding intrigue to a case that has drawn worldwide attention, Fritzl calmly acknowledged his guilt, including to homicide, and said his change of heart came after hearing his daughter's heart-wrenching videotaped

"I declare myself guilty to the charges in the indictment," Fritzl, 73, told a panel of judges, referring to what he called "my sick

Filipino woman alters testimony

MANILA, Philippines — A Filipino woman whose accusations of rape led to the highprofile conviction of a U.S. Marine has altered her testimony, saying in an affidavit that she may have led him to believe she

The woman moved to the U.S. this week and is no longer willing to talk about the case, her lawyer said Wednesday. Lance Cpl. Daniel Smith, convicted in 2006 of raping the woman and sentenced to 40 years in prison, remains detained at the U.S. Embassy while he pursues an appeal.

The case strained U.S.-Philippine military relations and became a rallying point for anti-American protesters who have called for the scrapping of a pact that allows U.S. troops to train Filipino soldiers.

Smith's accuser submitted a five-page affidavit to an appeals court Tuesday saying she now doubts her own version of events.

NATIONAL NEWS

Dreyfuss calls attention to battlefields

WASHINGTON — Oscar-winner Richard Dreyfuss visited the nation's capital on Wednesday to call attention to the most endangered Civil War battlefields.

The actor joined the Civil War Preservation Trust as the group released its annual report on 10 battlefields that it says are deteriorating due to neglect, land development and other

At a news conference, Dreyfuss said his interest in preserving Civil War battlefields grew out of his love for history and the significance of the war.

Suspect of N.C. family slaying dead RALEIGH, N.C. — A suspected opium trafficker wanted in the slaying of four North Carolina family members shot himself to death after a police chase in Utah and investigators said Wednesday they believe the family killing was related to drug trafficking.

Authorities also said the surviving husband and father of the slain family may face charges of trafficking drugs, although he is not implicatea in the deaths of his whe and three children.

Authorities named the suspect as Chiew Chan Saevang, 37. They said he killed himself and his girlfriend, Yer Yang, 40, after sheriff's deputies spotted their BMW 325 and gave chase late Tuesday on an interstate highway in Utah. The car crashed and caught fire and deputies who pulled them from the wreckage found them

LOCAL NEWS

Sen. Lugar on all-time voting list

INDIANAPOLIS — Sen. Dick Lugar has cast his 12,000th vote, moving him to 13th place on the all-time Senate voting

Lugar, the longest serving U.S. Senator in Indiana history, cast the vote Wednesday during debate on a bill governing acquisition of public land.

The six-term senator voted against a motion to table an amendment that would have directed purchases from willing sellers instead of eminent domain. The motion was defeated 63-35.

IRAQ

War end in sight, Iraq's future shaky

Violence down, but still prevalent; power struggles abundant among sects

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Six years after the U.S. invaded Iraq. the end of America's costly mission is in sight, but the future of this tortured country is much less clear.

With violence down sharply, most Iragis feel more secure than at nearly any time since the war began March 20, 2003 -March 19 in the United

But violence still continues at levels that most other countries would find alarming. Last week, suicide bombers killed a total of 60 people in two separate attacks in the Baghdad area, and an American soldier was fatally injured Monday on a combat mission in the capital.

Fighting still rages in Mosul and other areas of the mostly Sunni north. Competition for power and resources among rival religious and ethnic groups is gearing up, even as the U.S. military's role winds down.

Both the Sunni and Shiite communities face internal power struggles that are likely to intensify ahead of national elections late this year. Sunni-Shiite slaughter has abated, but genuine reconciliation remains elu-

"If Iraqi leaders don't reconcile and work together, the situation will deteriorate," veteran Kurdish lawmaker Mahmoud Othman said. "There is no harmony among Iraqi leaders. Their work depends on their mood."

At the same time, U.S. combat troops are due to leave by September 2010, with all American soldiers gone by the end of the following year.

In the final stage of the war, America's challenge will be to prevent ethnic and sectarian competition from exploding into violence on the scale that plunged the nation to the failed attempt brink of all-out civil war Saddam Hussein.



In this March 10, 2009 photo, eight-year-old Hiba Mohammed is being treated in a Baghdad hospital after an attack in Abu Ghraib, Baghdad.

two years ago.

U.S. commanders successfully lobbied President Barack Obama to maintain a substantial combat force in Iraq through parliamentary elections at the end of the year in hopes of curbing violence as the country's religious and ethnically based parties compete for power in the national balloting.

Damage control is a far less ambitious goal than the Bush administration foresaw when the U.S. launched the invasion with an airstrike on Dora Farms in southern Baghdad in a to KIII

Missing Saddam in the opening moments of the conflict set the tone for what became a war of missteps and disappointments before the tide turned in

The war was launched to deny Saddam weapons of mass destruction and when events proved he had none, the goal shifted — to establish a Western-style democracy in the heart of the Middle East. That goal was only partially achieved.

Now, the U.S. hopes that it can leave without the country disintegrating into chaos. The Americans hope to fend off interference by spokesman.

neighboring countries notably Iran — and protect itself from a resurgent al-Qaida.

Prospects for a reasonably stable Iraq are certainly brighter than they were before the U.S. troop surge of 2007, when car bombs shook Baghdad daily and gangs of Sunni and Shiite gunmen ruled the streets.

Violence is down 90 percent since early 2007. In February, the U.S. military recorded 367 attacks nationwide, compared with 1.286 for the same month last year, according to Lt. iraq will be strong enough Col. Brian Iribus, a U.S.

Shuttle crew commences construction

Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — The astronauts aboard the linked space shuttle and space station began their high-priority girder work Wednesday, a two-day job that will culminate with the installation of two new solar wings at the orbiting outpost.

They cranked up the robot arm on the international space station and used it to latch onto the 45-foot-long, 31,000-pound frame structure that flew up aboard shuttle Discovery. The framework, which holds the folded-up wings, was then hoisted out of the shuttle payload bay.

Discovery's robot arm assisted with the work.

The \$300 million girder — which has a radiator along with the solar wings — is the last major Americanmade piece of the space station. And the pair of wings are the station's last.

The new wings will bring the 10year-old space station to full power, which is critical for boosting science research and allowing the crew to

In between chores, station skipper Mike Fincke, shuttle commander Lee Archambault and the two former schoolteachers on board, Joseph

Acaba and Richard Arnold II, shared their space experiences with Channel One, a newscast for teenagers.

Arnold and Acaba, who are making the first double educator-astronaut flight, fielded the food and toilet questions. Arnold held up a bag of candy -"never go anywhere without a little bit of chocolate" - pulled a piece out and let it float. Acaba grabbed and ate it.

As for using the bathroom in orbit, Acaba said it's like camping but takes more effort, and stressed the importance of a good seal on the commode.

"The last thing we want to have is our commander seeing something floating around the cabin," Acaba said.

Cycling

continued from page 1

in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana to

Steves, who will race in the Men's B, is set to complete a 50-mile road race Saturday and a 40-minute criterium Sunday. He has eight individual victories under his spandex belt, and traveled to Nationals his sophomore year.

He is one of the dozen or so serious riders for Notre Dame who dedicate hours each day to training.

Senior captain Tim Campbell, an A cyclist, has been racing for Notre Dame since his freshman year. He said he and his teammates will compete in both of the weekend's events.

"I ride pretty much everyday," he said. "To be at the top level, you need to ride everyday."

Campbell's two-day program of a 70-mile road race and a 65minute criterium is standard for a competition weekend, he said.

The cyclists, Campbell included, are excited for their first race at home.

"This is something I've wanted to do since my sophomore year, when I figured out how to go about having a race at your school," he said.

Figuring out how to "go through all the hoops" at the University took a while, he said. "Now it's finally happening."

Notre Dame cyclists typically compete about seven weekends, or in 14 races, a year in their conference, Campbell said.

"There are also non-collegiate races people at the top end up doing," he said. "We can race anywhere between 12 and 13 weekends a year."

Individual cyclists and the team as a whole can earn points in the A division through the season to qualify for Nationals, which will be held in Colorado.

Campbell has been to Nationals twice, but said he's not sure if the team will make the trip this year.

Because of the team's club status at the University, they are not permitted to take part in activities after study days.

"It's hard to have teachers move your tests," he said.

Another big race for cyclists all across the nation takes place in Arkansas early in May, Campbell

"It's kind of like the Tour de France, but 18 days shorter," he said. "That's the best race going on in the country — hopefully. Notre Dame will be there." Though the Cycling Club hopes for spectators, Campbell said his expectations aren't that high because of people's misunderstanding of the sport.

"Everyone knows Lance Armstrong ... I'm hoping, with [him], people are coming back to the sport and trying to understand what the sport of cycling is all about," he said. "It's a good chance to come out and check out what Lance Armstrong really does ... except we'll be doing it a lot slower"

Regardless of spectator turnout, for the black and green argyle spandex-clad Notre Dame cyclists, this weekend's races will be a display of their work this year.

"You're out there, two to three hours everyday, a lot of times by yourself riding into the wind," he said. "This weekend, we'll see the fruits of our labor."

The club's Facebook event, "le Tour de Notre Dame du Lac," includes information about volunteering at the races as well as directions and fliers about each day's events.

"If someone wants to volunteer or needs a ride out there, we can definitely arrange that," Campbell said.

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

FOCA

continued from page 1

movement

Christine Romero, a junior and Right to Life's legislative commissioner, called the bill "extremely radical, really draconian," and said that through the postcard campaign, students can "let our congressmen know that we feel it is inappropriate."

Romero said the club is working with Campus Ministry and dorms to facilitate the effort. Postcards, which are produced by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, are sent to congressmen, stating the constituent's opposition to FOCA.

The club ordered 12,000 postcards, Romero said. She noted that each person is able to send three to members of Congress — one to each of his state's Senators and one to his Representative.

Wednesday night, representatives from the club gathered signatures outside both South and North dining halls.

"We had a really great turnout," Romero said. She estimated around 1,200 individual postcards were signed.

In addition, Romero said that Campus Ministry has facilitated the distribution of postcards to every dorm through Campus Ministry commissioners.

In addition to supporters who mail their own cards, Right to Life, as well as some individual dorms, will fund the cost of postage, according to Romero and Brett, Perkins, director of Catholic Peer Ministry for Campus Ministry.

"Our mission is one of solidarity with the voiceless and underprivileged, both women and unborn children," Perkins said. The postcards convey a message to officials that FOCA "is a poor piece of legislation, is clearly an offense to life ... and does not promote the well being of women, let along their unborn children."

Angela Rossi, Campus Ministry commissioner for Cavanaugh Hall, said that her dorm was provided with 300 postcards, available for residents to sign. Cavanaugh will send the cards and pay the postage with discretionary funds, she said.

Rossi said the postcards coming from Notre Dame could have "a large effect," pointing out that students hail from all 50 states and have a diverse mix of congressmen and women.

Rossi said there has already been a response in Cavanaugh, but "participation could be greater than what it is."

"Maybe people are not aware enough, or maybe people don't understand everything about [this act]," she said.

Mary Daly, a junior and president of Right to Life, said that she knows

Right to Life supporters are aware of the legislation, but was unsure how much other students knew about FOCA.

"My general impression is that people have heard of it. The extent to which people are aware of the details — people aren't as aware of that," she said.

Daly said some people argue the bill is unlikely to pass through congress, due to the many controversial provisions it includes, but Daly said there is value in voicing opposition to the bill, "letting [legislators] know that people are against it, despite the seeming impracticality of lit's passage]."

Romero said the response from Wednesday's postcard drive was mostly positive.

"A surprising amount of students already knew what FOCA was without us explaining it," she said.

Perkins agreed that he believes most students are aware "of the potential that FOCA legislation could be brought before congress, either in its entirety or piecemeal."

Overall, he said, "the response to the campaign has been very favorable."

Romero said that Right to Life would be collecting remaining cards from dorms that chose not to fund postage, and would mail them in the coming weeks.

Contact Aaron Steiner at asteiner@nd.edu

Petition

continued from page 1

Dewey said she believes the group submitted the petition too close to the end of the year, which contributed to the lack of a response from the administration. She said this year, the group sought to present the petition early enough that the administration has ample time to respond.

The group's next step depends on Jenkins' response.

"We want to work with the administration in this matter," Dewey said. "But if we get a negative response, we want to demonstrate that there is student support with actions like rallies, but that is really a last resort."

Flores asked group members to be silent when presenting the petition in the Office of the President in order to show respect for the University. When the group arrived in the office, Jenkins was not present, but the petition was taken by a representative of the Office.

In addition to asking for sexual orientation to be a part of the non-discrimination clause, the group outlined two other goals in a letter presented with the petition: official club status for OUTreach ND and Alliance ND, groups which provide support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning (GLBTQ) students on campus and increased attention to hate crimes directed against GLBTQ members of the Notre Dame community.

"I think these issues are basic common sense," Dewey said.

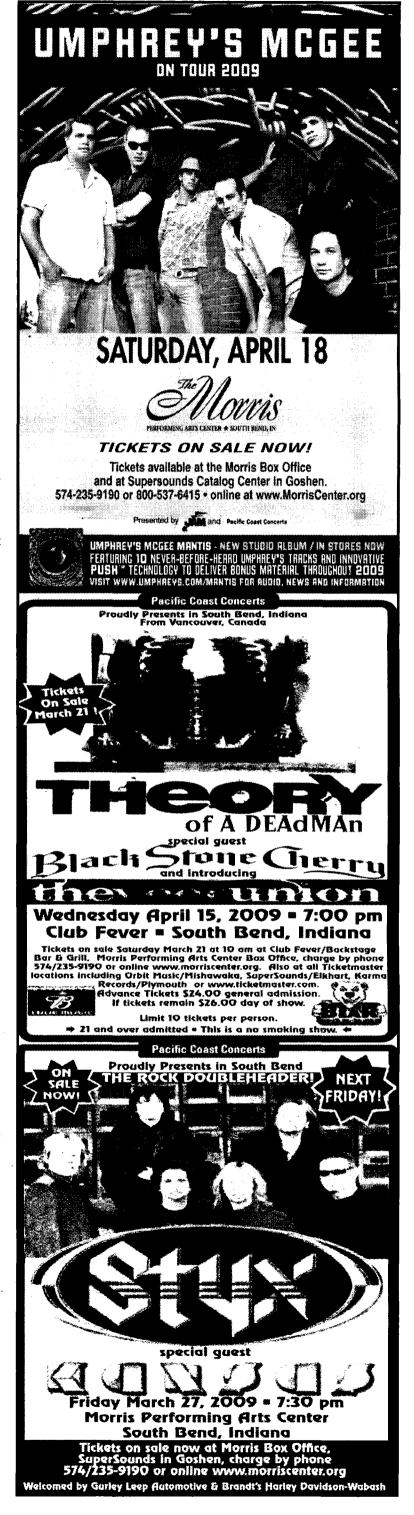
Flores said the group generally received positive feedback from students who were asked to sign the petition, but were also met with a few dissenters. Most did not give a reason, but declined to sign the petition, she said.

The petition also includes a small number of faculty signatures, Flores said.

"We asked a few faculty members who we already knew were interested," she said.

Flores said many students they approached about signing the petition did not realize how the absence of sexual orientation in the clause affects members of the Notre Dame community.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu



BUSINESS

MARKET RECAP

Stocks				
Dow Jones	7	,486	.58 +9	88.09
Up: 3,045	Same: 90	Down: 740	Composite 1,938,122	
AMEX NASDA	7		1, 327.73 1,491.22	+9.01 +29.11
NYSE S&P 50	_			+107.16 +6.31
NIKKEI FTSE 10	(Toky		7,994.38 3,804.99	+19.16 -52.11

COMPANY	76CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE		
CITIGROUP INC (C)	+22.71	+0.57	3.08		
BK OF AMERICA (BAC)	+22.33	+1.40	7.67		
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	+2.24	+1.75	79.93		
FINANCIAL SEL (XLF)	+10.02	+0.857	9.408		
Treasuries					

:	rreasurres						
Ī	10-YEAR NOTE	-15.65	-0.47	2.533			
	13-WEEK BILL	-8.89	-0.02	0.205			
	30-YEAR BOND	-6.10	-0.232	3.572			
	5-YEAR NOTE	-23.21	-0.458	1.515			
۱	Commodities						

٠	Commodities					
	LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-1.02	48.14			
	GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-27.70	889.10			
	PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.733	90.23			

Exchange Rates				
YEN	-	96.4050		
EURO		1.3453		
CANADIAN D	DLLAR	1.2489		
BRITISH POU	ND	1.4232		

IN BRIEF

Kellogg official calls for revamp WASHINGTON — The top official at Kellogg,

the giant food-maker who lost \$70 million worth of peanut products in the recent salmonella outbreak, is urging lawmakers to overhaul the nation's food safety system.

Kellogg Co. chief executive David Mackay wants food safety placed under a new leader in the Health and Human Services Department. He also called for new requirements that all food companies have written safety plans, annual federal inspections of facilities that make high-risk foods, and other

Mackay's strong endorsement of major changes could boost President Barack Obama's efforts to overhaul the system. Last week Obama launched a special review of food safety programs, which are split among several departments and agencies, and rely in some cases on decades-old laws. Critics say more funding is needed for inspections and basic research.

Madoff's accountant arrested on fraud

NEW YORK — Bernard Madoff's longtime accountant was arrested on fraud charges Wednesday as authorities blamed him for failing to make the most basic auditing checks that would have exposed an epic fraud that cost investors billions of dollars.

David Friehling is the first person to be arrested in the scandal since Madoff turned himself in, and his prosecution signals that the government is intent on bringing Madoff's associates to justice as they try to figure out who helped him carry out the fraud.

Prosecutors say the 49-year-old Friehling essentially rubber-stamped Madoff's books for 17 years, serving as Madoff's auditor from 1991 through 2008 while operating from a discreet building in suburban New York.

Authorities said that if Friehling had done his job, Madoff's financial statements would have shown his company owed tens of billions of dollars to his customers and was insolvent.

"Mr. Friehling's deception helped foster the illusion that Mr. Madoff legitimately invested his clients' money," said acting U.S. Attorney Lev L. Dassin.

Obama seeks control over institutions

Urges Congress to pass legislation to govern large financial entities

Associated Press

WASHINGTON President Barack Obama said Wednesday no one in his administration created the mess at insurance giant AIG, including the much-maligned executive bonuses, but that "the buck stops with me" to fix

Standing on the White House lawn as he prepared to go to California, Obama vigorously defended his embattled Treasury secretary, Timothy Geithner. Some have speculated that Geithner's job could be in danger over his handling of the millions of dollars in bonuses International Group Inc., is giving its executives

even in the midst of a

massive federal bailout. "There has never been a secretary of the treasexcept maybe Alexander Hamilton, right after the Revolutionary War, who's had to deal with the multiplicity of issues that Secretary Geithner is having to deal with, all at the same time," said Obama, with Geithner standing at his right elbow.

'And, you know, he is doing so with intelligence and diligence. Nobody's working harder than this guy," Obama said.

The president told reporters that Geithner "is making all the right moves in terms of playing a bad hand."

In more pointed terms than before, the president assailed AIG for its business practices that led to the need for an infusion of tens of millions in taxpayer dollars.

"I don't want to quell anger. I think people are right to be angry. I'm angry," the president said. "What I want us to do, though, is channel our anger in a constructive



President Obama, with Council of Economic Advisers Director Christina Romer and Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, speaks on March 18, 2009, at the White House.

He said he and his economic team have begun discussions with leading congressional players to fast-track legislation creating another regulatory entity to govern the disso-lution of large financial institutions such as AIG, which if merely liquidated could reverberate disastrously through the financial system.

The so-called "resolution authority" would have powers similar but not identical to those of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

the protection of creditors, depositors and consumers without taxpayers left "holding the bag." Obama said this broader authority would allow the government to prevent "the kinds of systemic risks that we've seen taking place" with AIG.

Obama said the new authority would be part of a broader regulatory reform agenda that his administration is preparing to send to Congress in an effort to deal with lax oversight that many blame for creating the over banks, allowing for current financial crisis, my into recession.

the worst to hit the country in seven decades.

The broad outlines of the overhaul are expected to be unveiled before Obama attends the Group of 20 meeting of major industrial countries and developing nations in London on April 2. European countries have pushed the administration to take a tougher approach to financial regulation, believing it was lax enforcement in the United States that led to the crisis that has now pushed the global econo-

Fed to buy billions in long-term bonds

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve announced Wednesday that it will inject about \$1 trillion into the economy in a bold effort to help the battered housing market and lift the country out of recession.

At the same time, the Fed left a key short-term bank lending rate at a record low of between zero and 0.25 percent. Economists predict the Fed will hold the rate in that zone for the rest of this year and for most — if not all — of next year.

In a new program, the Fed said it will buy up to \$300 billion of longterm bonds, a move that should boost Treasury prices and drive down their rates. That would ripple through and lower rates on other kinds of debt. The last time the Fed set out to influence long-term interest rates was during the 1960s.

And expanding an existing program, the Fed said it will buy more mortgage-backed securities guaranteed by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. The central bank will buy an additional \$750 billion, bringing its total purchases of these securities to \$1.25 trillion. It also will boost its purchase of Fannie and Freddie debt to \$200 billion

"This is not only going to keep mortgage rates low for a long period of time," said Greg McBride, a senior financial analyst at Bankrate.com. 'The mere announcement may produce a honeymoon effect and bring mortgage rates down to even lower levels in the coming days."

In addition, the Fed said a \$1 trillion program to jump-start consumer and small business lending could be expanded to include other financial

The program — which is rolling out this week — currently is focused on spurring lending for autos, education. credit cards and loans for business equipment. The government already has announced an expansion to include commercial real-estate assets. Any broadening of the program would be beyond that area.

The Fed's action kept Wall Street's big rally alive. After being down earlier in the day, the Dow Jones industrial average added more than 90 points, and broader indicators also rose.

Government bond prices surged. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note, which moves opposite its price, fell to 2.50 percent from 3.01 percent late Tuesday.

CHINA

Soldier's story offers a new look at Tiananmen

Associated Press

TENGZHOU - Even 20 years later, the shooting, chaos and death of the final assault on Tiananmen Square remain vivid in the mind of former soldier Zhang Shijun. Today, he has become one of the few to publicly voice regret.

In bearing witness about his role in the military crackdown on the 1989 student demonstrations in Beijing, Zhang says he hopes to add momentum to calls for an investigation and reassessment of the protest movement — and to further its ultimate goal of a democratic China.

"I feel like my spirit is stuck there on the night of June 3,' Zhang, 40, said in an interview at his home in the dusty northern city of Tengzhou, referring to the date in 1989 when the final assault

Zhang's tortured memories have gained a global audience among China's dissident community in the weeks since he posted an open letter online to the Communist Party leader, President Hu Jintao. In it, he relates some of what he saw when posted on the night of June 3-4, along with an account of the persecution he underwent after asking for an early discharge, and his belief that China must eventually clear its collective conscience of the tragic events.

"The responsibility can't just be laid on the military," Zhang said. "It's really the responsibility of all Chinese.

Zhang was just 18 when he' joined the elite 54th Group Army's 162nd Motorized Infantry Division based in the central city of Anyang. Less than three years later, with student-led protests gathering pace, Zhang's units were ordered to Beijing on April 20, 1989. There, they camped on the capital's southwestern edge while citizens erected barricades to block their progress toward Tiananmen, the vast square in the heart of the city where the students had established their head-

On June 3, their orders came: Drive through to the square and get it cleared.

Heading east toward the square, Zhang and his comrades abandoned their vehicles as bricks and rocks flew at their heads and bullets were fired at them by unknown shooters from upper stories of apartment buildings. Members of his unit fired over the heads of civilians as a warning, according to Zhang, who said he was serving as a medic and was unarmed in the final assault.

Zhang said he knew of no deaths caused by the troops of the 54th army — a claim impossible to disprove as long as official files on the events remain closed. Most of .the post-crackdown reports pinned the hundreds, possibly thousands of deaths among civilians and students on two other units, the 27th and 38th group armies based outside Beijing.

By daylight the next morning, Zhang said his unit established a cordon along the square's southern edge between a KFC restaurant and the mausoleum of communist China's founder, Mao Zedong.

Zhang said other details were still too sensitive to tell, suggesting atrocities such as the shooting in the back of unarmed students and civilians. While other eyewitnesses have made similar allegations, they remain impossible to independently confirm.

After their withdrawal, Zhang said he asked for and eventually obtained an early discharge, never having expected to be sent to fight ordinary Chinese citizens. After returning to Tengzhou he began a discussion group promoting market economics and politics, but was arrested on March 14, 1992 and sentenced to three years in a labor camp for political crimes. Then, as now, he regarded the charges as trumped-up retribution for his leaving the unit early.

Suspect dies in murder case

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Answers to what led to the slayings of a mother and her three children in a western North Carolina home might have died along with the suspect, who killed himself as police closed in on him along a stretch of Utah highway, investigators said Wednesday.

For almost a week, Conover police detectives were trying to find the man witnesses said was lurking outside the home and grabbed one of the victims, yanking her inside. As sheriff's deputies in southwestern Utah Tuesday night chased that suspect, alleged opium trafficker Chiew Chan Saevang of Wisconsin, he killed his girlfriend, Yer Yang, then himself, police said.

With no chance to question him in the shooting and stabbing deaths of Lisa Saephan and her three children - 20year-old Melanie, 18-year-old Pauline and 4-year-old Cody what exactly happened on March 12 in the quiet subdivision remains a mystery.

"It's like trying to put together a big půzzle," said Coy Reid, chief deputy with North Carolina's Catawba County Sheriff's Office. "They could've finished the rest of the pieces. We still have a lot to tie up and finish in the investigation.'

Authorities said that investigation could ultimately end with Saephan's husband facing charges of trafficking drugs. Although he is not implicated in his family's slayings, detectives suggested that Brian Tzeo's involvement in a trafficking ring with the suspects may have been behind the attacks.

"The information we have suggests the father was a drug distributor," Reid said. "He has cooperated with us. And we're not at liberty to talk about that right now. It's an ongoing investigation."

Tzeo hung up when reached by phone.

Seven minutes after North Carolina authorities put out a national alert with Saevang's license plate, Utah deputies in Washington County spotted his car on Interstate 15 near the southwestern border with Arizona headed west. As deputies gave chase, Saevang's BMW hit another car, went up an embankment, stopped on a hillside and caught fire. Saevang had fatally shot himself and the 40year-old Yang, who authorities said was an accomplice in selling drugs and the killings.

Detectives in North Carolina learned of the deaths as they prepared arrest warrants for Saevang for murder and for Yang for accessory after the fact to murder. Reid said days of poring over notes and taking in tips, including those generated by the case's appearance on "America's Most Wanted," led them to the couple. Both were also expected to have been charged with conspiracy to sell opium.

Authorities said Tzeo would receive opium through the mail from Thailand, convert it to heroin and give it to Yang who lived in Long View, in Catawba County. She would take the heroin to Saevang in Wisconsin, where he would sell it, they said.

Kelly O Driscoll, spokeswoman for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin, told the Wisconsin State Journal that Saevang had ties to the Schofield, Wis., area, about 130 miles north of Madison.

"There was some drug distribution that came out of that house," N.C. State Bureau of Investigation spokesman Dave Call said about the North Carolina home.

Investigators would not discuss details about what led Saevang to kill Tzeo's family in the community about 40 miles northwest of Charlotte. They have said Tzeo was at work when his family was killed. Cody was found shot to death at the kitchen table, his fingers still inside his cereal bowl.

Funerals were Wednesday afternoon for the victims in nearby Newton. Tzeo has said he wants to take his family back to California for burial, but authorities have not said whether they would allow him to leave the state.

Authorities found the victims after a friend of Pauline's called 911, screaming and sobbing as she told the operator Pauline had just been pulled into her home and stabbed by a man. The friend had picked up Pauline for school that morning, but they went back after the friend said she had seen a suspicious man outside the house.

Tzeo has said he and his wife had separated and that he had an affair but they were still living together and trying to work things out.

Yang's criminal history showed convictions for forgery and larceny and several charges related to obtaining property by false pretense. Saevang faced several charges of trafficking in opium in Catawba County over the last

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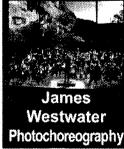
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AIG head says execs are returning part of bonuses

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Under intense pressure from the Obama administration and Congress, the head of bailedout insurance giant AIG declared Wednesday that some of the firm's executives have begun returning all or part of bonuses totaling \$165 million.

Edward Liddy offered no details, and lawmakers were in no mood to wait. He was still fielding their questions when House Democratic leaders announced plans for a vote Thursday on legislation to tax away 90 percent of the extra pay for executives at AIG and many other bailed-out firms.

Liddy, brought in last year to oversee a company that has received \$182 billion in federal bailout money, said he, too, was angry about the bonuses. But he did not respond directly when advised in pungent terms to pay to the Treasury all the money handed out last weekend in "retention payments."

"Eat it now. Take it out of your profits down the road. It's a lot sweeter now than it's gonna be later," said Rep. Gary Ackerman, D-N.Y.

Liddy slid into the witness chair at a congressional hearing as President Barack Obama sought anew to quell a furor that has bedeviled his administration since word of the bonuses surfaced over the weekend.

Obama, who took office just under two months ago, told reporters his administration was not responsible for a lack of federal supervision of AIG that preceded the company's demise, nor for the decision made last year to pay what he called "outrageous bonuses."

Still, he said, "The buck stops with me." He said that "my goal is to make sure that we never put ourselves in this kind of position again," and he disclosed the administration was consulting with Congress on the possibility of creating a new agency to govern the meltdown of large financial institutions such as AIG.

He also gave a strong vote of confidence to Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner, who has been the target of growing Republican criticism.

Later, at a town hall meeting in Costa Mesa, Calif., Obama said that while his administration was addressing the AIG bonuses specifically, he said he wanted to "make sure we don't find ourselves in this situation again, where taxpayers are on the hook for losses in bad times and all the wealth generated in good times goes to those at the very top."

Obama spoke as congressional Democrats worked on legislation designed to recoup most or all of the \$165 million by exposing it to new taxes.

Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., chairman of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee, said the new 90 percent tax would apply to bonus money paid to employees earning more than \$250,000 at firms that have received more than \$5 billion in federal bailout funds. Mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are covered under the proposal.

Liddy said that on Tuesday, he had "asked those who have received retention payments in excess of \$100,000 or more to return at least half of those payments." Some have "already stepped forward and returned 100 percent," he

Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md., said the House bill would be voted on under rules requiring a two-thirds majority for passage. Democrats are in comfortable control of the House but do not control two-thirds of the seats, meaning the outcome of the vote would probably be determined by tax-averse Republicans.

Republicans raised pointed questions about the extent of Geithner's advance knowledge of the bonuses, and stressed they had been locked out of discussions earlier this year when Democrats decided to jettison a provision from legislation that could have revoked the payments.

"The fact is that the bill the president signed, which protected the AIG bonuses and others, was written behind closed doors by Democratic leaders of the House and Senate. There was no transparency," said Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, the senior Republican on the Senate Finance Committee.

On Wednesday, Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., the chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, acknowledged that his staff agreed to dilute an executive compensation provision that would have applied retroactively to recipients of federal aid. Dodd told CNN the request came from officials at the Treasury Department whom he did not identify.

While the House and Senate reconciled their stimulus bills last month, the Treasury Department expressed concern with a Senate restriction on bonuses, noting that if it applied to existing compensation contracts it could face a legal challenge.

"The alternative was losing, in my view, the entire section on executive excessive compensation," Dodd told CNN. "Given a choice — this is not an uncommon occurrence here — I agreed to a modification in the legislation, reluctantly."

The legislation does include a provision that allows the Treasury Department to examine past compensation payments to determine whether they were "contrary to the public interest." Geithner on Tuesday said he was using that provision to review AIG's bonuses.

Liddy's presence in a congressional hearing room was evidence of a bipartisan opposition to the bonuses, although his status as a \$1-a-year CEO called out of retirement last year to try and untangle AIG's financial mess made him a less-than-easy target for expressions of outrage.

"No one knows better than I that AIG has been the recipient of generous amounts of government financial aid," he said. "We have been the beneficiary of the American people's forbearance and patience," he added, acknowledging the patience was wearing thin.

Asked by Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., whether he would turn over the names of individuals who received the bonuses, as well as the amounts, Liddy said he would do so only if assured the information not be made public.

When Frank said he might seek a subpoena, Liddy said he was concerned about the safety of the employees and their families, and read aloud from a death threat received by one of them.

Frank said he would be guided in part by security considerations, but Ackerman later noted that Andrew Cuomo, the New York attorney general, was already seeking the names with a subpoena.

Liddy said he had not yet complied, sidestepped several times when asked whether he would, and finally said "it would be our intent" to do so.

Cuomo swiftly issued a statement saying Liddy's pledge was "simply too little, too late. ... Rather than take half-measures, AIG should immediately turn over the list, which we have subpoenaed, of who got what and when."

Separately, a New York state judge ordered Bank of America Corp. to disclose information about bonuses given to employees at Merrill Lynch & Co. just before the bank bought the brokerage company. Cuomo, who has been sparring with the bank over release of the information, said the decision "will now lift the shroud of secrecy surrounding the \$3.6 billion in premature bonuses Merrill Lynch rushed out in early December.

"AIG should take heed and immediately turn over the list of bonus recipients we have subpoenaed," he said. "The deadline for responding to our subpoena is tomorrow."

AIG spokesman Mark Herr said he could not say how many executives had turned back the money. "Bear in mind, these bonuses were only just paid," he said.

Lenten Day of Recollection In the Ignatian Spiritual Tradition

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What is a "Day of Recollection?" It is an opportunity to set some time aside for God. We are all busy! Sometimes in the midst of all our activity, it is good to take an opportunity for some time apart, time for guided prayer and meditation, time with God and one another. The Day is structured around two "conferences" (biblically based reflections) offered by the retreat director, one morning and one afternoon. Each is followed by guided meditative and conversational response for the group, and opportunity for individual prayer and reflection afterward. The day will end with Mass and dinner.

Who is invited? All faculty members interested in deepening their relationship with God. The retreat is in the living tradition of Catholic spirituality. It can be meaningfully experienced from a variety of perspectives, including those with no previous exposure. The only requirement is commitment to the whole day's experience.

For further information and to register: The Day of Recollection is a project of the Institute for Church Life, which assumes all costs. Simply email: cavadini.1@nd.edu. Deadline: Tuesday, March 24, 2009.

For more information, please visit our website: http://icl.nd.edu/faculty-retreat.html.





Fed to pump funds into housing market

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Federal Reserve kept Wall Street's big rally alive — and gave the Treasury market a huge boost as well.

Both markets surged Wednesday after the Fed said it would pump more than \$1 trillion into the economy to help revive the housing market. The plan includes buying up to \$300 billion of long-term government bonds during the next six months.

Investors expect the move to drive down borrowing costs for everything from mortgages to credit cards. The Dow Jones industrial average reversed early losses to end up 91 points and the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note plunged, indicating strong demand for the note.

The dollar also fell sharply as investors worried the government's actions would eventually fan inflation.

The Fed's move, analysts said, is likely to produce an immediate drop in mortgage rates, of 0.25 to 0.5 percent percentage points. The central bank also made clear it would be able to purchase the majority of new mortgage-backed securities for at least the rest of the year, possibly longer.

That's great news for those borrowers with good incomes and healthy credit scores who are able to qualify for a loan. But dramatically tighter lending standards have made it tough for many borrowers to qualify.

Still, it was a plus for the housing industry, which many analysts believe must recover in order for the overall economy to prosper again. Homebuilder and financial company stocks shot higher on the news, which came a day after the Commerce Department reported better-than-expected housing start numbers for February.

The sheer magnitude of the Fed's proposal "indicates they have a lot of weapons still in the arsenal," said Bruce McCain, chief investment strategist at Key Private Bank in Cleveland.

The Fed said it would build on a plan to buy mortgage-backed securities guaranteed by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. It also will buy an additional \$750 billion, bringing its total purchases of these securities to \$1.25 trillion. It also will boost its purchase of Fannie and Freddie debt to \$200 billion.

The Fed's announcement accompanied its decision to keep interest rates at historically low levels. Chairman Ben Bernanke has said in recent weeks that the recession could end this year if the credit and financial markets can be stabilized. Bernanke and other officials have said they would deploy whatever tools necessary to revive the economy.

"They are certainly, assertively doing everything they can to intervene," said David Darst, chief investment strategist of Morgan Stanley's Global Wealth Management Group.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 90.88, or 1.2 percent, to 7,486.58.

Broader stock indicators also jumped. The Standard & Poor's 500 index added 16.23, or 2.1 percent, to 794.35, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 29.11, or 2 percent, to 1,491.22.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies jumped 14.04, or 3.5 percent, to 417.63.

More than four stocks rose for

every one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange, where consolidated volume came to a heavy 9 billion shares compared with 6 billion shares traded Tuesday.

The market had traded lower ahead of the Fed's decision.

Stocks have risen for six out of the last seven days. Since the market rally began last week, the Dow has jumped 14.4 percent, and the S&P 500 has soared 17.4 percent. Those are the types of gains that would normally make for a great year in the stock market

Government bond prices surged. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note, which moves opposite its price, tumbled to 2.50 percent from 3.01 percent late Tuesday. The yield on the three-month T-bill, considered one of the safest investments, slipped to 0.20 percent from 0.22 percent late Tuesday.

The dollar fell against other major currencies. Gold prices also slid as demand for safe haven holdings fell.

For both the stock and bond markets, the Fed's announcement was a welcome surprise. After the last Fed meeting in January, policy makers said they were considering buying government debt. But investors were skeptical the Fed would actually go through with it

"We've suffered over the last month or so with disappointment that a lot of the initiatives out of the administration haven't materialized, and here is the Fed moving in with very strong actions to get things back on track," McCain said.

The Fed move — which economists call "quantitative easing" — is another way to push interest rates lower by essentially adding more money to the financial system. The Fed is using this tool now since its other main policy lever, the federal funds rate, has already been ratcheted down as low as it can go.

Bank stocks — including Citigroup Inc., Bank of America Corp., Wells Fargo & Co. and JPMorgan Chase & Co. — got an extra boost after the Fed announcement. The Fed's actions are intended to keep interest rates low and also to unfreeze borrowing activity, which could be a huge help for banks.

Citi and Bank of America each jumped more than 22 percent, while Wells Fargo rose 17.5 percent and JPMorgan added 7.8 percent

Home builders put up huge gains as well. Hovnanian Enterprises Inc. jumped 50 percent to \$1.44, while Toll Brothers Inc. rose 5.7 percent. Home improvement retailers jumped as well. Home Depot Inc. rose 5.1 percent and Lowe's Cos. added 4.7 percent.

Technology stocks rose on news that International Business Machines Corp. is in discussions to buy Sun Microsystems Inc. for at least \$6.5 billion in cash. Sun skyrocketed 79 percent, rising \$3.92 to \$8.89. IBM fell 96 cents, or 1 percent, to \$91.95.

Investors are growing more hopeful that the rally in stocks might have staying power, though many remain cautious. Stocks gained 20 percent from late November until the start of the year, only to come crashing down to levels not seen in more than a decade as worries grew about the stability of the financial system and the economy's ability to turn higher.

YEMEN

Bomber strikes South Korean officials

Associated Press

SAN'A — A suicide bomber on Wednesday struck a convoy carrying South Korean officials sent to Yemen to investigate a bombing earlier in the week that killed four tourists from the country.

The well-coordinated attack was specifically designed to target the South Koreans, officials said. The three-car convoy was carrying South Korean officials and investigators sent to look into a suicide bombing on Sunday that killed four South Korean tourists and their Yemeni driver at a historical site. No one was hurt, officials said.

The South Korean Foreign Ministry confirmed Wednesday's attack and said the convoy was also carrying relatives of the victims of Sunday's attack. They were in the country to recover the bodies of those killed in that attack and were headed to the airport for a flight to return to South Korea when the bomber struck.

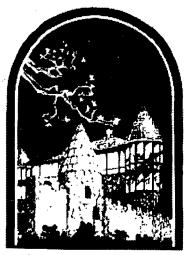
Yemen, an impoverished country in the southwestern corner of the Arabian Peninsula, is Osama bin Laden's ancestral homeland and has long been a center of militant activity.

A Yemeni security official said South Korea's ambassador

to the country was also in the convoy hit Wednesday, but in Seoul, the Foreign Ministry denied that.

The bomber walked into the road between two of the vehicles and blew himself up as the convoy was traveling to the airport outside the capital, San'a, the Yemeni official said. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to speak to the press. The blast shattered the windows of the vehicles.

Yemeni authorities said al-Qaida was behind Sunday's suicide bombing near the ancient fortress city of Shibam and that 12 suspects were arrested

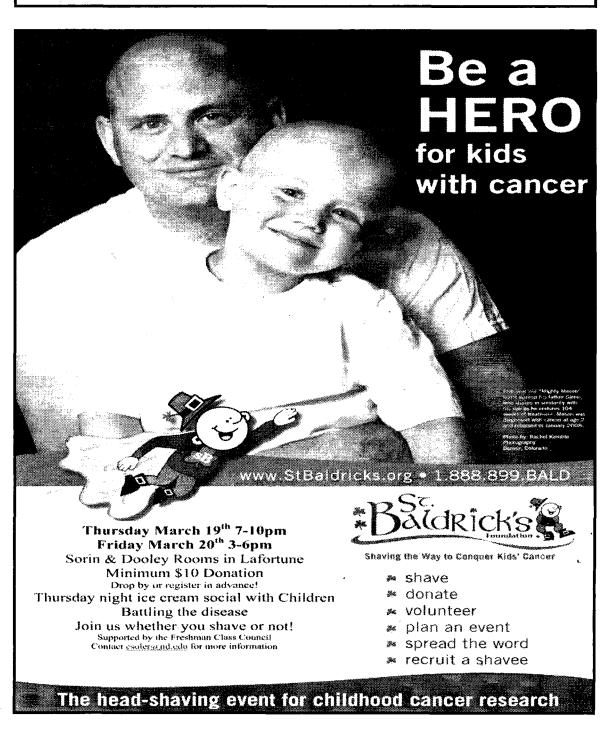


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Actress Richardson dies of head injury

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Natasha Richardson, a gifted and precocious heiress to acting royalty whose career highlights included the film "Patty Hearst" and a Tony-winning performance in a stage revival of "Cabaret," died Wednesday at age 45 after suffering a head injury during a beginners' ski lesson.

Alan Nierob, the Los Angelesbased publicist for Richardson's husband Liam Neeson, confirmed her death in a written statement.

"Liam Neeson, his sons (Micheal, 13, and 12-year-old Daniel), and the entire family are shocked and devastated by the tragic death of their beloved Natasha," the statement said. "They are profoundly grateful for the support, love and prayers of everyone, and ask for privacy during this very difficult time."

The statement did not give details on the cause of death for Richardson, who suffered a head injury and fell on a beginner's trail during a private ski lesson at the luxury Mont Tremblant ski resort in Quebec. Seemingly fine after the fall, about an hour later she complained that she didn't feel well.

She was hospitalized Tuesday in Montreal and later flown to a hospital in New York, where family members had been seen coming and going.

Vanessa Redgrave, Richardson's mother, arrived in a car with darkened windows and was taken through a garage when she arrived at the Lenox Hill Hospital on Manhattan's Upper East Side about 5 p.m. Wednesday. An hour earlier, Richardson's sister, Joely, arrived alone and was swarmed by the media as she entered through the back of the hospital.

It was a sudden and horrifying loss for her family and friends, for the film and theater communities, for her many fans and for both her native and adoptive countries. Descended from at least three generations of actors, Richardson was a proper Londoner who came to love the noise of New York, an elegant blonde with large, lively eyes, a bright smile and a hearty laugh.

If she never quite attained the acting heights of her Academy Award-winning mother, she still had enjoyed a long and worthy career. As an actress, Richardson was equally adept at passion and restraint, able to portray besieged women both confessional (Tennessee Williams' Blanche DuBois) and confined (the concubine in the futuristic horror of "The Handmaid's Tale").

Like other family members, she divided her time between stage and screen. On Broadway, she won a Tony for her performance as Sally Bowles in a 1998 revival of "Cabaret." She also appeared in New York in a production of Patrick Marber's "Closer" (1999) as well as 2005 revival of Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire," in which she played Blanche oppo-

site John C. Reilly's Stanley Kowalski.

She met Neeson when they made their Broadway debuts in 1993, co-starring in "Anna Christie," Eugene O'Neill's drama about a former prostitute and the sailor who falls in love with her.

"The astonishing Natasha Richardson ... gives what may prove to be the performance of the season as Anna, turning a heroine who has long been portrayed (and reviled) as a whore with a heart of gold into a tough, ruthlessly unsentimental apostle of O'Neill's tragic understanding of life," The New York Times critic Frank Rich wrote. "Miss Richardson, seeming more like a youthful incarnation of her mother, Vanessa Redgrave, than she has before, is riveting from her first entrance through a saloon doorway's ethereal shaft of golden light."

Her most notable film roles came earlier in her career. Richardson played the title character in Paul Schrader's "Patty Hearst," a 1988 biopic about the kidnapped heiress for which the actress became so immersed that even between scenes she wore a blindfold, the better to identify with her real-life counterpart.

"Natasha Richardson ... has been handed a big unwritten role; she feels her way into it, and she fills it," wrote The New Yorker's Pauline Kael. "We feel how alone and paralyzed Patty is — she retreats into being a hidden observer."

Governor signs death penalty ban

New Mexico is second state to outlaw executions since reinstatement of law in 1976

Associated Press

SANTA FE — Gov. Bill Richardson signed legislation Wednesday repealing New Mexico's death penalty, making it the second state to ban executions since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976.

Richardson, a Democrat who formerly supported capital punishment, said signing the bill was the "most difficult decision" of his political life but that "the potential for ... execution of an innocent person stands as anathema to our very sensibilities as human beings."

Richardson said he made the decision after going to the state penitentiary, where he saw the death chamber and visited the maximum security unit where those sentenced to life without parole could be housed.

"My conclusion was those cells are something that may be worse than death," he said. "I believe this is a just punishment."

The repeal, which passed the state Senate by a 24-18 vote Friday and was approved by the House a month earlier, takes effect July 1 and will apply to crimes committed after that date. Once in effect, the most severe punishment will be a sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole.

"Faced with the reality that our system for imposing the death penalty can never be perfect, my conscience compels me to replace the death penalty with a solution that keeps society safe," Richardson told a news conference in the state Capitol.

With Richardson signing the measure, New Mexico joins 14 other states that do not impose capital punishment. New Jersey, in 2007, was the first and only other state to outlaw capital punishment since its reinstatement by the Supreme Court.

Since 1960, New Mexico has executed only one person, child killer Terry Clark, in 2001. Under the outgoing law, the death sentence could be applied in cases where children, law enforcement and correctional officials, and witnesses were murdered.

The sentences of two men currently on death row will not be affected by the new law





Divided We Fall: Americans in the Aftermath (2006) Directed by Sharat Raju & Valarie Kaur

NR, 88 minutes, English & Punjabi languages with English subtitles

Divided We Fall: Americans in the Aftermath is the first feature-length documentary film about hate violence in the aftermath of September 11, 2001. The film weaves together a personal journey and cross-country road trip with an authoritative examination of race, religion, and American identity.

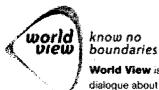
Valarie Kaur was a 20-year-old college student when she set out across America in the aftermath of 9/11, camera in hand, to document hate violence against Sikhs, Muslims and Arabs. She continued to capture unreported stories as a student until she joined writer-director Sharat Raju and his team in 2004. With grassroots donations, the team retraced Kaur's steps in 2005, revisiting her original Interviewees and speaking with scholars and lawyers about the larger historical and political context. From the still-shocked streets of Ground Zero to the desert towns of the American West, her epic journey confronts the forces unleashed in a time of national crisis – racism and religion, fear and forgiveness – until she finds the heart of America, halfway around the world.



Valarie Kaur and Sharat Raju will discuss their film following the first screening.

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Actor saves man falling off subway platform

Associated Press

NEW YORK — An actor on his way to a reading jumped onto subway tracks to rescue a man who tumbled off a platform as a train approached.

"I just thought the guy fell down there and I needed to get him out of there," said

Chad Lindsey, 33.

The rescue happened Monday at busy Pennsylvania Station, where Lindsey was waiting for a train as he headed to a theater downtown. He said he saw a man who appeared drunk come very close to the platform,

rock back and forth, then pitch headlong onto the tracks.

The man struck his head on the rail and began bleeding profusely, Lindsey said. He said he jumped down to the tracks and tried to rouse the man. When he didn't respond, Lindsey lifted him under the arms and hoisted him onto the platform, with the help of others standing on the platform.

The rescue, first reported in The New York Times, lasted about 30 seconds, bringing Lindsey some instant—and overwhelming—publicities

ty.
"I'm an actor. I've spent most of my life trying to get attention and then I do something that's a no-brainer, and now I have more than I need," he said Wednesday.

Lindsey stars in an off-Broadway musical, "Kaspar Hauser." He said the role prepared him well for the emergency because he's required in the play to repeatedly lift a character who can't walk.

He said he could see the lights of the train approaching and about 15 seconds later — after the man was safely on the platform — the cars arrived in the station. Someone had already called 911. After giving police a quick report, Lindsey boarded the train, where passengers greeted him with applause.

Lindsey said he didn't know if his newfound fame would boost his career.

"I really wasn't thinking about that at the time. I really wasn't thinking about it at all even afterward," said Lindsey, who also works as a proofreader. "I sort of just did it and thought afterward, 'Well, that's just a pain, now I'm all dirty and bloody."

The injured man was treated at a hospital and released.

The rescue was reminiscent of another subway hero, Wesley Autrey, who in 2007 jumped on top of a man who had fallen onto the tracks after having a seizure. The train passed over the two of them.

Autrey, a construction worker, was awarded the city's highest civilian honor and invited to President George W. Bush's State of the Union address.

Harbor porpoise evades rescuers

Associated Press

LITTLE EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP, N.J. — Bobbing up and down in a placid lagoon, the young harbor porpoise faced off against a dozen people, four boats, two nets and hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of equipment, all closing in on it Wednesday morning.

Everyone feared it needed to be rescued.

It glided below the surface, heading straight for a 20-foot-wide net stretched between two boats. Its capture seemed inevitable.

At the last minute, it dove deep, darting through a 2foot gap between the mucky lagoon bottom and the edge of the net, heading back out to deeper water.

"This is a healthy animal that doesn't need to be picked up," said Bob Schoelkopf, co-director of the Marine Mammal Stranding Center. His group had joined with the Marine Mammal & Sea Turtle Rescue Program from Riverhead, N.Y., to try to capture the animal.

"Because of how easily it evaded us, we've determined it is not in any trouble at this time," Schoelkopf said.

The story started about a week and a half ago when the porpoise was first spotted in lagoons in Little Egg Harbor Township and Tuckerton, about 20 miles north of Atlantic City.

There was reason for concern: It was a young animal, and had become separated from its pod, Schoelkopf said.

It's unusual, though not unheard of, for porpoises to inhabit lagoons, Schoelkopf said. It has happened in coastal communities outside Atlantic City, as well as on Long Island, N.Y.

The plan was to sidle up to the porpoise, either in a large aluminum rescue boat or in one of three inflatable speedboat rafts, and toss a large net over the animal.

They would bring it to shore in a padded sling, weight it on a 15-foot-tall scale suspended on a steel tripod, and take blood tests to see if the animal was sick or injured.

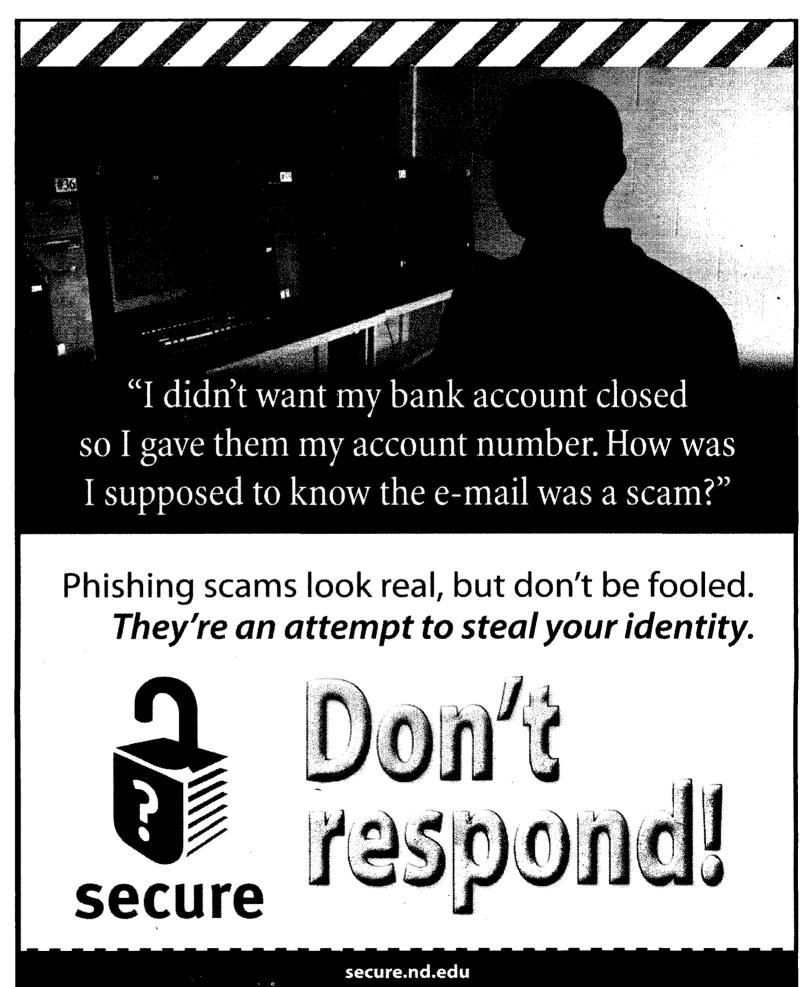
But the porpoise had other

ideas.

"He seems very playful," said Bon Baker, who has watched the porpoise in the lagoon behind his house for about 10 days. "I think he found the area to his liking, and he probably wants to spend some time here."

That's exactly what Schoelkopf plans to let it do. The 3-foot-long porpoise weighs about 40 or 50 pounds, and looks to be in good health.

Schoelkopf said porpoises follow schools of herring and mackerel up the East Coast at this time of year, and noted the lagoons provide abundant food. When the porpoise runs of food or tires of the area, it will probably leave on its own.



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MEXICO

Mexican tariffs take effect on U.S. products

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — U.S. officials are assessing the cost of new Mexican tariffs that take effect Thursday in retaliation for a U.S. decision to cancel a crossborder program that gave Mexican truckers access to their northern neighbor's highways.

The tariffs affect about \$2.4 billion in annual trade and 89 U.S. products, ranging from fruit and wine to washing machines, according to the Mexican government. Assistant Economy Secretary Beatriz Leycegui warned the list could grow unless there is progress toward resolving the trucking dispute.

The U.S. was required under the North American Free Trade Agreement to grant Mexican trucks full access to its highways by January 2000, but domestic opposition led U.S. legislators to delay the opening until a pilot program allowing some trucks was instituted in 2007.

The U.S. ended that program last week — a move that Mexican Economy Secretary Gerardo Ruiz Mateos called "wrong, protectionist and a clear violation" of NAFTA. The 1994 agreement allows Mexico to introduce retaliatory tariffs equal to the amount of trade lost by the truck ban.

Many U.S. officials and exporters responded with concern.

cern

"In good times, an economy may be able to weather this kind of thing. But now it's devastating," said Rep. Dave Camp of Michigan, whose district is home to cherry farmers, manufacturers and chemical producers such as Dow Chemical Co. that will be affected.

The tariffs apply to 36 agricultural and 53 industrial products, including onions, strawberries, shampoo, toothpaste, pet food, books, pencils and dishwashers. The only item facing a 45-percent tax is fresh grapes. Some 55 other products

will be taxed at 20 percent, and the remaining 33 items at 10 to 15 percent.

NAFTA normally exempts agricultural products from such duties.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture was still assessing the cost of the tariffs

the cost of the tariffs.

"We have alerted all the industry associations that represent these producers, the state regional groups and agriculture trade advisory groups so that we can continue to work with them as we assess the effects the tariffs will have on the markets," said Nayyera Haq, a USDA spokeswoman.

Mexican officials appear to have targeted products from states represented by lawmakers who are influential in Congress or have some kind of voice on trade issues.

For example, sunflower seeds, which appear on the tariff list, are produced in North Dakota — the home state of Sen. Byron Dorgan, who authored the language that ended spending on the Mexican trucks pilot program.

"In these challenging economic times, we need more open markets, not higher tariffs," said Brian Black, a Texas Agriculture Department spokesman. "We are asking President Obama and his Mexican counterpart to resolve this issue as soon as possible."

Mexico is Texas' No. 1 trading partner — and the second biggest buyer of U.S. exports.

In one of the last and largest NAFTA-related disputes, the U.S. has long delayed granting Mexican trucks access to its roads. Mexico brought the case before a dispute-resolution panel, which ruled in its favor in 2001.

But the Teamsters union, U.S. consumer groups and independent insurers have warned that Mexican trucks are unsafe and lobbied Congress to keep them out. Many unions also voiced fears that U.S. drivers would lose work if lower-paid Mexican truckers could carry goods across the United States.

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The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$100 for one academic year; \$55 for one semester.

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

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

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Lent and getting over myself

My mom casually asked me, "How's your Lent going?" Like, in the same tone she would ask, "How are the Irish doing?" I wonder, does she ask my younger brother how his Lent is going,

or is this a question reserved for her son the priest? How's my Lent going? How do you answer

Fr. Lou DelFra

Faithpoint

Funny what I learned while I listened to myself answering my mother. The only way I could think to evaluate my Lent was whether I had faithfully refrained from eating chocolate. "Pretty good so far," I answered. I guess I could have determined if I had eaten meat on any Friday's, but being an Italian pasta-lover, this isn't a particularly difficult practice for me, and so hardly a helpful measure of the successfulness of my Lent. With that quick Lenten-scan, I was ready to move on, allow my mother some time to recite her litany of grandchildren stories.

A few days later, however, I found myself bugged by our conversation, or more specifically, by my evaluation of Lent. Is that all there is to Lent? A contest to check my self-restraint? I'm all for an annual self-examination, but at the end of the day, if the only person I have thought of during Lent is myself, have I really entered into Lent?

With this question in mind, I was preparing the readings for Mass last week, and unsuspectingly had my world rocked by the first reading. It was from Isaiah, and he wasn't happy:

'Yet on the day of your fasting, you

do as you please

and exploit others.... Is this the kind of fast I have chosen,

says the Lord? Is it only for ... lying on sackcloth

and ashes? Is that what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free

and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the

and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter — when you see the naked, to clothe him,

and not to turn away?"

I re-read the passage in semi-panic, but could find no reference to chocolate. Maybe some biblical commentary or perhaps a new translation would reveal that this passage was, in its proper historical context, about giving up chocolate, but the chances seemed bleak. At some point, I was going to have to wrestle with the hard fact of the matter: Lenten fasting is not meant to end in mere self-reflection, selfevaluation, or self-anything-else. It is meant to end in others, and in the Other. It is meant to end in love of

neighbor and love of God. It is meant to end in hunger - for peace and justice. It is meant to end in Christ's constant teaching to "lose our life that we may find it."

Isaiah's poignant words are meant to awaken and arouse us, to challenge and unsettle us this Lent. They call us to refocus our hearts on what truly sets us free and brings us real joygiving ourselves away in love to God and others, struggling for true and lasting justice, which alone brings true and lasting freedom and peace.

Our individual Lenten self-denials are excellent little ways to deny ourselves, to lose ourselves, to remind us to lose our lives in love of God and service of others, so that we might find Life. This is the promise of Jesus' teaching, and this is the example of Jesus' death and resurrection — the moment of losing ourselves is the moment of gaining Life.

How's my Lent going? I'm not sure anymore. But I know that if I am the only person who shows up in my answer, I haven't reached the heart of Lent yet.

This week's column is written by Fr. Lou DelFra, CSC, Director of Campus Ministry Bible Studies and ACE Chaplain. He can be reached at fra.2@nd.edu.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Always laugh when you can. It is cheap medicine.

> Lord Byron British poet

Submit a Letter to the Editor at www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE **D**AY

"Life is tough, and if you have the ability to laugh at it you have the ability to enjoy

Salma Hayek **Mexican and American actress**

VIEWPOINT

Tonya and the red shoes

Trinity College runs on trimesters. Spring Break is three weeks, and we're in the middle of it.

Spring Break last year, for some of us, was 10 days overseas. In some ways, we're still in the middle of

Katherine Khorey

Both Sides Now

Some of you have just gotten back from the same trip. If you're anything

that one, too.

like me, music and bread are, for some time, going to sound and taste like they never have done before.

You may be a while, too, in forming any coherent responses.

This, after a while, was mine.

I only recently started to like shoes, so my collection, though it fills the floor of my closet, could still be called limited. Most of mine are brown or black: one pair is silver. But there are girls who've been building their accessory portfolios much longer, who have a double layer of shoes on their closet floors, maybe one pair of heels and one of flats to match every sweater.

I have been trying to expand, though. For a long time, now, I've been looking for a pair of red heels to bring out the accents in one of my for-

I did end up finding a pair over last year's Spring Break. But they belong to someone else.

I don't really know who she was, or

how frequently she liked to wear them, or what she wore them with. But almost 70 years after she took them off for the last time, I found them in a place I'd never expected.

We'd been studying this place in class. It was horrific, as were other places like it, and we'd read and heard so much about the horror that the stories had begun to repeat themselves. I thought at this point, when we walked through these places, I might actually be numb to them.

At that point it was only history.
After half a semester of readings, lectures, and quizzes, last year's Holocaust class left for our Spring Break trip to Europe. On the second day we visited Majdanek, a concentration camp a few hours outside Warsaw. Majdanek isn't as big as Auschwitz, or as geared to tourists. But still, as we heard once again on the bus ride over, it'd hosted cruelty and death. Some of us would go on to write papers about it.

Back on campus we'd spent the past weeks trudging from building to building through snow and ice, the wind cutting straight through our heavy jackets. Now, still shaking off jet lag, we were trudging from building to building through mud and very cold rain. We talked later about what working barefoot in that weather would be like. I almost went through the tour coatless, for solidarity, but decided that'd be melodramatic and unneces-

sary. And I was cold enough as it was.

Toward the beginning we went through the men's "bath house", and saw the delousing tubs, and the showers. Then, in the same building, we saw a gas chamber. There were turquoise stains on the walls.

Then we saw the living quarters. And a model of the whole camp. And then at some point we walked into a barracks that was filled with racks and racks of shoes.

That was when I stopped feeling

Most of the shoes were brown with decay. From a distance they all looked alike. Up close they varied in size and detail. Some had empty holes for laces. Some may have once been pretty sandals. Some were like clogs or work boots. Some belonged to children.

And then, right in the middle of one rack full of brown, there was a splash of very bright red.

It was a woman's high heeled shoe. Only the back was visible. But it was very visibly red.

These were statement shoes. They might have been defiant when they'd been new, and they might still be defiant now.

They matched the ribbon belt on my dress.

I stared at the shoe for a long time. I thought about who might have worn it:

She was a sophisticated, single Polish Jew. She was sociable. She was

fashion-conscious. She went by two names, Tonya to her gentile friends and Leah to her family. She owned a black suit with red piping, and for the evenings a red dress to go dancing in. Her red shoes matched both.

They were her favorites. They made her feel confident, and beautiful, and strong. When she was being "deported", she might have only happened to have been wearing them. Or she might have known where she was going, and put them on for a reason.

She'd wear them while standing up in a moving cattle car for a week. She wore them when she arrived at Maidanek.

I knew the rest from class. And I couldn't see Tonya surviving it. But at least now I knew Tonya. I'd found her

So I'd found a perfect pair of red shoes last Spring Break, even though I couldn't put them on.

But I can wear them again.

If I ever find red shoes of my own, I'll share them with Tonya, just like she shared hers with me.

She was probably a better dancer than me. Hopefully, when we go out, that'll rub off.

Katherine Khorey may be contacted at kkhorey@nd.edu

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

U WIRE

Combating Mexican drug violence requires effort from both sides of the border

As University of Connecticut students return from their fun in the sun, and tens of thousands of other college students from across the country make their way south on spring break, there has been a growing amount of coverage here in the U.S. about the rapidly escalating violence in Mexico. Hardly an evening newscast goes by without a report about a bloodbath shootout between Mexican authorities and drug cartels in towns and cities mere miles from the U.S. border. Some colleges and universities have even made official statements advising their students against traveling to Mexico due to the deteriorating situation there. Much of this increased coverage is the result of the growing concern that it is only a matter of time before the violence in Mexico makes its way over the border into the United States.

This escalation in violence has been brewing for years: ever since Mexican President Felipe Calderón assumed power from Vicente Fox back in December of 2006, Calderón has waged an aggressive war on the all-mighty drug cartels that had been the de-facto rulers of Mexico for decades. By taking the cartels head-on and working to weed out the deeply rooted corruption in his country, President Calderón has made admirable progress in his antinarcotic efforts.

Such progress has come at a very high price, however: the drug cartels have fought back with ruthless violence.

Thousands have been slaughtered, many of them innocent women and children caught in the crossfire of the heartless cartels. Cities and towns have been terrorized by the brutal violence. President Calderón is attempting to destroy the cartels' extremely lucrative trade, and cartel bosses are not going to surrender easily.

With 90 percent of the cocaine in the United States passing through Mexico on its journey here (not to mention marijuana and heroin), the sheer volume of the drugs and drug traffickers makes President Calderón's goal nearly impossible to achieve. Corrupt officials on

both sides of the border are making the war on the cartels even more difficult.

The U.S. has already sent \$400 million to Mexico to help them train forces and provide equipment for the war against the cartels. Unfortunately, that is but a drop in the bucket, and our government officials know it. Drug cartels are committing far more money than \$400 million to secure their profitable trade, and they will stop at nothing to protect their business. Significant financial cost and innocent human lives are merely expendable commodities that are just a part of everyday business to the brutal drug lords who command the cartels.

The only way for a war against the drug cartels to be successfully waged is with a legitimate commitment from the United States. Mexico can do its best to fight the cartels within their borders, but without a more significant commitment of American tactical and financial support, their efforts will prove futile. Ultimately, Americans (particularly those in border towns and states) will pay the price when the rampant, unbri-

dled violence pours over our borders. The situation has grown so severe that Texas and Arizona are already discussing the idea of putting the National Guard along the border to help keep the violence out.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano have both announced plans for upcoming visits to Mexico to discuss the crisis with leaders there and to see the aftermath of the violence. It is imperative that Secretaries Clinton and Napolitano use their visits as a starting point for a meaningful, legitimate working relationship between our two countries, a relationship that is absolutely critical to the security of our nation.

This column first appeared in the March 17, 2009 edition of The Daily Campus, the daily publication of University of Connecticut.

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

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THE OBSERVER CENE



Most people on campus have heard of Taylor Swift, Swift's two albums have gone multi-platinum. She was the biggest-selling American artist of 2008. Time Magazine described her as "one of pop's

finest songwriters, country's

Lillian Civantos

foremost pragmatist and

Scene Writer

more in touch with her inner life than most adults." Her hit music video, "Love Story," is an Internet sensation (and the inspiration for a certain romantic on-campus proposal). But most college students don't realize that this talented 19-year-old is younger than most of us. And even though she is famous, Taylor Swift is very easy to relate to.

Let me tell you why.

After researching Taylor for this column, I came to one conclusion: the girl is adorable. If you want proof, read her MySpace journal entries, or check out the cute home videos she has posted, which are also on MySpace. The journal entries are funny, well-written and interesting. They have titles like, "While I was in L.A., my mom re-arranged my bathroom" and "Putting off packing by blogging," making her seem very relatable. The videos, too, reveal her sarcastic sense of humor.

In short, Taylor Swift is an incredibly genuine and down-to-earth person - qualities that really come

through in her albums.

For starters Taylor Swift of her own music. All of it, How many pop artists can say that? A few songs on her two albums are co-written, including a soulful collaboration with Colbie Caillat on her second album, "Fearless" that's worth checking out. None of her songs are entirely written by someone else. What's more, every one of Taylor Swift's songs is based on her own life - really. She also doesn't hesitate to use the actual names of friends and ex-boyfriends.

This honesty has generated a let of drama. For instance, Taylor wrote the hit song "Teardrops on My Guitar" about a boy named Drew who she crushed on in high school. As the song says, he had a girlfriend at the time and never dated Taylor. But in one interview, Taylor Swift revealed that he showed up on her driveway — single — after the release of her first album. Unfortunately, their reunion didn't work out. Too much time had passed, and they had grown apart. It's still a crazy story, isn't it?

A cuter story surrounds the fourth track on "Fearless," called "Hey Stephen." The song is about singer Stephen Barker Liles of the Nashville band Love and Theft. The band toured with Taylor last summer, and she developed a crush on Liles. But she did not tell him that she planned to write a song about him. Liles was reportedly quite surprised when the album came out.

The lyrics include such lines as, "Hey Stephen/ I could give you 50 reasons/ Why I should be the one you choose/ All those other girls are beautiful/ But would they write a song for you?'

No word yet on a developing romance between the two, but Liles did say in a past interview that, "I think everyone would agree she's a total sweetheart and anyone would be lucky to go out with her." Stay ;

And, of course, Taylor's breakout single — 2006's "Tim McGraw" has its own story. She wrote this heart-rending tune in math class, during her freshman year. Yes, of high school. This kind of story makes me wish that I had used my high school math classes more productively — to write hit songs, for instance.

Other proof of Taylor Swift's adorability? She encodes secret messages into her albums, which are fun to unravel. For instance, track three on "Fearless" "Fifteen." is a bittersweet take on her freshman year. Its secret message? "I cried while recording this."

How's that for honesty?

I could go on and on about how amazing this young star is, but I'll wrap it up in Taylor's own words. Here's an excerpt from her recent with Philadelphia Magazine:

PM: When did you realize that you weren't just successful — you were a humongous friggin' deal?

Taylor: Um, I never came to that realization, actually. My biggest pet peeve is people who feel they're entitled to success and fame. I haven't reached the point where I'm like, "Hey, man, I've made it!" And I hope I never do get to that point.

We hope she doesn't either. Taylor, stay just the way you are — adorable.

Contact Lillian Civantos at lcivanto@nd.edu

By LILLIAN CIVANTOS

There is no doubt that Taylor Swift is one of the most impressive young artists of 2008. She was completely unknown three short years ago, but has built success through hard work and sheer talent. Her first album, the self-titled "Taylor Swift," is beloved for its instantly likeable sound. "Fearless," released in 2008, lives up to the hype and delivers the same fresh sound that fans love.

Each song on "Fearless" can stand alone as an excellent tune. The tracks are easy listening, and most are quite catchy. There is no denying Swift's talent vocally and on guitar and piano. And again, just like on her debut, Swift's sound resembles light pop more than stereotypical

country western.

A few tracks really stand out from the crowd. Most readers are probably already familiar with "Love Story," and don't need a description • of its lyrical strength. The track was a hit single well before "Fearless' was released. Although some consider it the best song on the album, several others give "Love Story" a

run for its money.

Track three, "Hey Stephen," is a flirty, sparkling number about Taylor's secret crush on singer Stephen Barker Liles of the country band Love and Theft. The song informed the real-life Stephen of Swift's feelings for him.

The title track, "Fearless," is another contender. It is characterized by strong guitar, played by Taylor herself, and powerful lyrics. Track six, "You Belong With Me," is a playful take on unrequited love. It is melodious, lighthearted and thoroughly enjoyable. "Best Day" is

another of the album's strongest offerings, a genuine tribute to Swift's family, especially her mother.

The album becomes slower towards the end. Each of these measured songs alone is great, but together they start to sound similar, The common themes and consistent sounds make such songs begin to feel repetitive over time. Most of the songs on the album are slow-moving and soft, and individually they sound beautiful. Still, the album contains too many slow numbers in close succession. And truthfully, Swift is at her best when she reveals her inner sparkle with a faster pace.

As always, Swift is honest and self-reflective in her singing and song writing. This may explain the downbeat trend in "Fearless." which was, unsurprisingly, based on actual events in Swift's life. The young singer-songwriter broke up with boyfriend Joe Jonas while "Fearless" was being recorded. Track 11, "Forever & Always," is specifically about Jonas and their relationship. The majority of the album's songs have fairly sad, 'love-slipped-away" sorts of themes, and many could be played repeatedly after a break-up.

Swift is recognized as a pioneer of the new generation in country music. Her style is nothing like the typical down-home sound of "country western" — for that style, try Johnny Cash or Dolly Parton. Rather, Taylor Swift is a member of the new "country pop" or "southern rock" style that is a mix of country, rock, and pop. Rascal Flatts is another example of this growing genre. Swift's style is more evocative of Michelle Branch than Merle Haggard. She has been compared to Norah Jones and Colbie Caillat, with whom she collaborated

> for track "Breathe."

If you're looking for a light and likeable album from one of the hottest young artists in the country, you will love "Fearless." And if you're looking to for a weepy post-break-up ballad, the album is also for you. Tissues not included.

Contact Lillian Civantos at lcivanto@nd.edu

Fearless Taylor Swift

Label: Big Machine Records Recommended Tracks: "Hey Stephen," "You Belong With Me" and "Fearless"

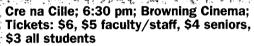


THE OBSERVER CENE

wèerend events calendar

Waltz with Bashir; Vickers Theatre; 9:00 p.m.; Tickets: Adults \$8, Students/Seniors \$6

Winner of the Golden Globe for Best Foreign Film and the Best Animated Feature award from the Los Angeles Film Critics; Association, the tale "Waltz with Bashir," based on a true story, explores the director's 🛎 memory as he searches to piece together the 🎋 events of the Lebanon War in the early 1980s. Eerily animated in a style that depicts: the serious subject matter, "Waltz with Bashir" shows his journey into the realms of an event that some think would be better to forget. Join Ari Folman on his difficult voyage of self-discovery.



Capitalize on Notre Dame's Irish pride by exploring the contemporary Irish films being shown at Browning Cinema this weekend. In an adaptation of Mairtin O Cadhain's book, the cunning and comical "Cre na Cille" (Churchyard Clay) tells a story of sibling rivalry, death and the fascinating journey souls embark after they've left the realms of the living. The recently departed Caitriona hungrily awaits the death of her rival sister Neil, who stole away Caitriona's true love when living. From the grave to the great beyond, laugh and learn about rural Ireland's finest as you watch "Cre na Cille."

Mark Duval and the Brothers Kalamazov; 8:00 pm; The Livery; \$5, Free for 'Mug Club' Members

For a fun and chill start to the evening, head to The Livery this Friday night for an eclectic and versatile performance by the folksy rock band Mark Duval and the Brothers Kalamazov. With a wide variety of instruments ranging from a guitar and banjo to a flute and saxophone, be prepared to hear surprising combinations of multiple styles influenced by Celtic, bluegrass, and jazz sounds. As spring finally starts to come out of hiding, get up and get off campus for a night of entertaining music.

Eden; (2008); Browning Cinema 3:00 pm; Tickets: \$6, \$5 faculty/staff, \$4 seniors, \$3 all students

Director Declan Recks explores the rocky period in many marriages when husbands or wives start to question their happiness in his Irish film, "Eden." What happens when 10 years into your marriage, you discover an intense unhappiness lurking beneath the surface, one that leads you to believe maybe you are not really in love with your spouse? As Breda Farrell (Eileen Walsh) clings to the thinning threads holding her marriage together, her questioning husband (Aidan) Kelly) pulls further away, breaking the bonds they once had.







Contact Adriana Prátt ar apratt@nd.edu



MARY CECLILA MITSCH I Observer Graphic

Rachel Getting Married

Director: Jonathan Demme Starring: Anne Hathaway, Rosemarie DeWitt and Debra Winger

Warning: For those of you who con-

If you're uncomfortable with the

On the other hand,

Rachel's inner

of attention paid to her

prodigal sister mirrors

common themes of

sibling rivalry and

sisterly drama.



the complicated but loveable Buchman family - then waste no time in renting this newly released film.

Home from rehab for the weekend, recovering addict and semi-psychotic Kym (Hathaway) travels back to her roots to witness the wedding of her sister Rachel (Rosemarie DeWitt) and

fiancé Sidney (Tunde Adebimpe). Kym dives back into the eccentric lows, but will also jealousy for the amount and sometimes overwhelming atmosphere tnat Iamily inevitably brings.

Upon Kym's return, the tension between the two sisters boils to the surface. Kym, paradoxically charming and painful, throws sarcastic, offensive and

The feeling of fullness

this film gives is

unmatched by much of

what is currently in

theaters.

sometimés-funny comments Rachel's way. She constantly forces the spotlight on her own miracu-

lous return from exile, in spite of her sister's role as the weekend's blushing bride.

Rachel's inner jealousy for the amount of attention paid to her prodigal sister mirrors common themes of sibling rivalry and sisterly drama.

As the weekend of the wedding progresses, a tragic reason for the family's estranged state is revealed. The surprise revelation shows audiences how one momentous event can change the course of a life, or even end it.

A contemporary cinematic accomplishment, "Rachel Getting Married" dares to take an in-depth look at why and how families grow apart, finding eventual reconciliation and powerful reunion.

Director Jonathan Demme elicits stellar performances from his cast, and each member plays with the complex ties of family very well.

inrough ups and downs, joyous moments and times of heartbreaking sadness, "Rachel Getting Married" presents life in its raw, inharmonious and beautiful existence.

The feeling of fullness this film gives is unmatched by much of what is currently in theaters. Don't miss out on

the opportunity to escape from the confining strictures of daily life — join Kym's journey back into the world of freely bared emotions and realities their most unprocessed forms.

The DVD of "Rachel Getting Married" was released on March 10. Among the special features, fans of the film can enjoy a director's commentary with Demme, an additional commentary featuring DeWitt, several deleted scenes and a series of production fea-

Contact Adriana Pratt at apratt@nd.edu

NBA

Pierce scores 36 in Celtics' overtime win at home

Wallace scores 25 points and 12 rebounds in win over Kings; Nets win over Knicks after a four-game losing streak

Associated Press

BOSTON — Paul Pierce scored 36 points and the Boston Celtics clinched the Atlantic Division title with a 112-108 victory Wednesday night against the Miami Heat, who played without NBA scoring-leader Dwyane Wade.

Wade missed his first game of the season because of a right hip flexor.

But Boston was without Kevin Garnett for the 13th straight game with a strained right knee and Ray Allen, who hyperextended his elbow Tuesday night in a loss at Chicago.

Rajon Rondo had 27 for Boston. Miami, in its third overtime game in its last five, was led by Michael Beasley with 21 points and Mario Chalmers with 19.

With the score tied at 100 after regulation, Eddie House and Pierce hit 3-pointers and Rondo sank a layup for a 108-100 lead.

Then Chalmers made a 3pointer and, after Kendrick Perkins hit a free throw, Chalmers sank another 3pointer, making it 109-106 with 44 seconds left.

But House hit one free throw and Pierce sank two before Beasley's basket ended the scoring.

Boston improved to 51-18 with its second win in six games. Second-place Philadelphia can win no more than 51 and the Celtics have won the season series with the 76ers.

In its previous four games, Miami beat Chicago in double overtime, Boston in regulation and Utah in triple overtime before losing at Philadelphia on Sunday.

Wade's injury ended his career-long streak off 66 straight games played. The Heat did not say how long he would be sidelined, but he was not ruled out of games Friday night at New Jersey and Sunday against Detroit.

Boston had a chance to win in regulation Wednesday, but Pierce's 18-footer from the left missed as the buzzer sounded.

The lead changed hands 11 times in the fourth quarter when the biggest edge was just three points by Miami.

With all their injuries, the Celtics relied on Pierce even more than they usually do.

Besides Garnett and Allen, Leon Powe is expected to miss two weeks after spraining his right knee on Tuesday. Tony Allen missed his 16th straight game with a left thumb injury and Brian Scalabrine sat out his 20th in the last 23 following a concussion.

Glen Davis started at forward in place of Powe after missing the previous four games with a sprained right ankle.

Boston led 34-21 after one quarter but quickly lost control as Miami opened the second period with an 10-2 run that cut the margin to 36-31. The Celtics stretched that to 45-37 before the Heat made an even stronger surge, ending the half with a 17-4 spurt and a 54-49

The run began with a free throw by Jermaine O'Neal, who had seven of the 17 points, and ended with a layup by Chalmers.

Daequan Cook, starting in place of Wade, gave Miami its first lead, 46-45, on a 3-point-

Pierce had 12 points in the first quarter when he hit 5-of-6 shots but was scoreless in the second when he missed all three of his attempts.

Bobcats 104, Kings 88

Gerald Wallace had 25 points and 12 rebounds and the Charlotte Bobcats beat shorthanded Sacramento 104-88 on Wednesday to keep the Kings winless against the Eastern Conference.

Emeka Okafor added 16 points and 10 rebounds for the Bobcats, who pulled away in the fourth quarter as the Kings played without top scorer Kevin Martin (illness), Andres Nocioni (quadriceps) and then lost Rashad McCants (ankle) after he scored 30 points.

Beginning the night in the middle of a six-team logjam for the final playoff spot in the East, the Bobcats won their second straight while the NBAworst Kings fell to 0-28 against the East.

McCants, starting for Martin, hit 10 of 20 shots before limping to the locker room with 4:41 left with a sprained right

Coach Kenny Natt said Martin first started feeling ill before he scored 31 points in Tuesday's loss to Atlanta. But it got worse after the flight to Charlotte, and Martin stayed

back at the hotel, leaving a huge void for the Kings on offense made worse by Nocioni's absence.

The forward, acquired in a three-team trade last month, has been slowed by tendinitis in his right quadriceps. Nocioni received treatment before the game, but Natt decided to rest him.

Francisco Garcia, starting for Nocioni, scored 17 points, but hit only seven of 21 shots. He also was called for a technical foul after a hard foul on Wallace midway through the fourth quarter.

It was the second — and less scarier — time Wallace crashed to the floor.

Late in the second quarter Wallace slipped on a drive and clutched his left knee as McCants scored off the turnover at the other end.

But Wallace walked to the locker room, then returned and started the second half as the Kings rallied.

Trailing by as many as 13 points in the first half, McCants scored 13 points in the third quarter and Sacramento led briefly before Charlotte regained a 78-70 lead entering the fourth.

After being outscored 27-9 to close the game in Atlanta Tuesday, the Kings had a similar meltdown, watching Charlotte finish on a 17-5 run that included Spencer Hawes getting called for a technical foul for complaining about a

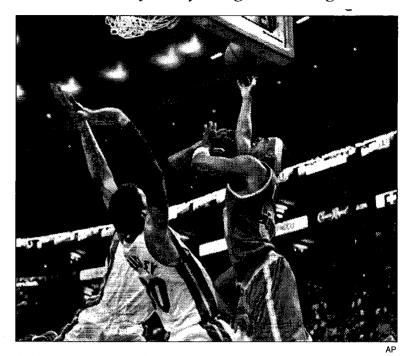
Sacramento had no go-to player after McCants left following his season-high performance, and the Kings lost their fifth straight and fell to 4-31 on the road.

The Kings have just two more chances - Friday at New York and Sunday at home against Philadelphia to avoid becoming the first NBA team to go winless against the other conference.

Nets 115, Knicks 89

Vince Carter scored 29 points and the New Jersey Nets salvaged the final game of their otherwise miserable five-game trip with a 115-89 victory over the New York Knicks on Wednesday night.

Brook Lopez added 23 points for the Nets, who put up 70 points across the middle two quarters, making 16



Celtics' Paul Pierce, right, moves in for the basket against Heat forward Michael Beasley (30) during a game overtime Wednesday.

third, and cruised to a surprisingly easy victory in a game between teams fighting desperately to stay in the playoff race.

The Nets lost the first four games of the trip out West, losing All-Star point guard Devin Harris to a sprained left shoulder along the way. They didn't miss him on this night, shooting 59 percent and getting 17 points from his replacement, Keyon Dooling .

Al Harrington scored 21 points, and Nate Robinson had 18 points for the Knicks, who came home only two games out of the eighth playoff spot after going 3-2 on their trip and were opening a stretch where they play five of six at home. But they were never in the game in the second half, booed occasionally in a performance that was so bad that coach Mike D'Antoni gave Demetris Nichols and Cheikh Samb, both on 10-day contracts, their first playing time with the

The Knicks wore their green St. Patrick's Day uniforms, the same one Robinson wore when he soared over Dwight Howard to win the All-Star slam dunk contest. But Krypto-Nate and the Knicks were far from super, going 2-for-17 from 3point range and having as many turnovers (15) as assists.

Robinson stayed in starting lineup despite the return of Chris Duhon , who missed the last two with a sore ankle and of 22 shots (73 percent) in the back. But he was only 1-for-7

in the first half and didn't get anything going until the game was essentially decided. Fellow starting guard Larry Hughes was 3-for-11 for his 10 points.

Nets coach Lawrence Frank said before the game there was no timetable for Harris' return, but insisted his team still had enough to win without him. That might be true if Carter plays the way he did Wednesday.

The Knicks led by three after one quarter, but Carter knocked down consecutive 3pointers to open the second and give the Nets the lead. He later scored eight straight points on a pair of 3s and a layup to push the lead into double digits and finished with 17 points in the period, helping New Jersey open a 55-44 halftime lead.

The Nets then hit their first four and seven of their first eight shots in the third, extending the lead to 67-48, and it was never close again.

Nuggets 111, Grizzlies 109

Carmelo Anthony scored 35 points, including the goahead three-point play with 33.2 remaining, as the Denver Nuggets overcame a 17-point second-half deficit to defeat the Memphis 111-109 Grizzlies Wednesday night.

Anthony hit a pair of free throws with 5.8 seconds left

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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NCAA Baseball USA Today/ESPN Coach's Poll

	team		points
1	North Carolina		755
2	Texas		726
3	Georgia		649
4	Arizona St.		638
5	LSU		629
6	Cal St. Fullerton		618
7	Miami (Fla.)		608
8	Texas A&M		566
9	Georgia Tech		556
10	Coastal Carolina		428
11	Oklahoma St.		423
12	Rice		410
13	UC Irvine		317
14	Virginia		279
15	Arkansas		278
16	Oklahoma		261
17	Baylor		243
18	TCU		218
19	Clemson		186
20			171
21	Pepperdine	117	163
22	UC Riverside		107
23			95
24	•	* -	89
25	Elorido		60

NCAA Women's Lacrosse Division I Top 20

	team		points	;
1	Northwestern		1,0%6	400
2	Maryland			368
3	Duke			335
4	Virginia			326
5	Penn			320
6	Syracuse			310
7	Princeton			250
8	Georgetown			239
9	North Carolina			220
10	Vanderbilt			206
11	NOTRE DAME			204
12	Boston U.			175
12	New Hampshire			124
14	Cornell			121
15	Penn St.			103
16	James Madison			98
17	Stanford			98
18	Dartmouth			75
19	Ohio St.			63
20	Loyola (Md.)			37

NCAA Men's Volleyball Division I-II Top 15

	team		:	points
1	UC Irvine		- 97	239
2	Cal St. Northridge			219
3	Pepperdine			210
4	Southern California			187
5	Long Beach St.			169
6	Stanford			163
7	Penn St.			144
8	BYU			133
9	UC San Diego			118
10	UCLA		i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	84
11	Lewis			82
12	UC Santa Barbara			47
13	Hawaii		3 Ay 3 A	45
14	Ohio St.	ng.		42
15	Loyola (III.)			16

around the dial

NCAA Basketball Tournament

No. 14 American vs. No. 3 Villanova 7:20 p.m., CBS

No. 11 VCU vs. No. 6 UCLA 9:50 p.m., CBS

IDITAROD



Lance Mackey sits with his lead dogs Larry, right, and Maple after crossing the finish line to win his third consecutive Iditarod Wednesday. Mackey is only the third musher in history to accomplish the feat.

Mackey wins 3rd consecutive Iditarod

Associated Press

NOME, Alaska — Make it three Iditarods in a row for Lance Mackey.

The musher from Fairbanks won the 1,100-mile trek across the Alaska wilderness Wednesday in the world's most famous sled dog race. And it wasn't even close.

Mackey slapped hands with fans along Nome's Front Street. About a block from the finish line, he raised both arms in victory and rode that way into the chute at 11:38 a.m., hours ahead of his nearest competitors in the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

Immediately after winning, he gave treats to his

dogs, calling them the "real heroes."

"This never gets old," he said at the finish line as he hugged two of his dogs.

"It's pretty awesome. Pretty cool."

Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin congratulated Mackey by phone.

"We are so proud of you, Lance, and we're considering this the greatest team in Iditarod history," Palin said.

She also told the 38-year-old Mackey, a throat cancer survivor, "You continue to give all of us hope, the adversity that you have overcome, the challenges you've met, believe me, it resonates across our

nation and across our world."

Mackey commended his "little superstar Maple," a 3-year-old female who was in the lead for much of the last part of the race. He hauled her and 9-year-old Larry, one of his traditional lead dogs, onto the stage with him.

Mackey became the third musher in the race's 37year history to win in three consecutive years, joining Susan Butcher (1986-88) and Doug Swingley (1999-01).

He finished about six hours ahead of the secondand third-place mushers, Sebastian Schnuelle of Canada and John Baker of Kotzebue.

He increased his lead along the wind-swept western coast of Alaska. Fierce, biting winds blew in off the Bering Sea, forcing temperatures to 50 below zero. Many mushers waited out the storm in checkpoints.

In Mackey's two previous victories, he headed into the Iditarod about two weeks after winning the 1,000-mile Yukon Quest International Sled Dog Race, considered a tougher race.

He didn't run the Yukon Quest this year, choosing instead to train an Alaska Native musher for the Iditarod.

IN RDIE

Blazers center Oden to return against Pacers INDIANAPOLIS — Greg Oden

INDIANAPOLIS — Greg Oden will finally play in his hometown as a pro.

The 7-foot center is set to return to the Portland Trail Blazers' lineup Wednesday against the Indiana Pacers after sitting out for more than a month with a bone chip in his left knee, coach Nate McMillan said.

The top pick in the 2007 draft and former Lawrence North High School star sat out last season after microfracture surgery on his right knee, so he missed the Trail Blazers' visit to Indiana last season.

Oden was hurt in a collision during a game at Golden State before the All-Star break. McMillan said he expects the former Ohio State star to play 15 to 20 minutes.

Oden is averaging 9.0 and 7.2 rebounds in 46 games this season.

Cubs retire number of Jenkins, Maddux

MESA, Ariz. — The Chicago Cubs will retire the No. 31 worn by both Ferguson Jenkins and Greg Maddux.

They two star right-handed pitchers will be honored at a ceremony May 3 before a game against Florida at Wrigley Field.

It will be the fifth number retired by the Cubs, joining No. 14 (Ernie Banks), No. 26 (Billy Williams), No. 10 (Ron Santo) and No. 23 (Ryne Sandberg).

Jenkins, elected to the Hall of Fame in 1991, and Maddux, who won 355 games before retiring in December, are the first pitchers in Cubs history to have their numbers retired.

Jenkins retired before the 1984 season. When Maddux broke in with the Cubs two years later, he was given No. 31.

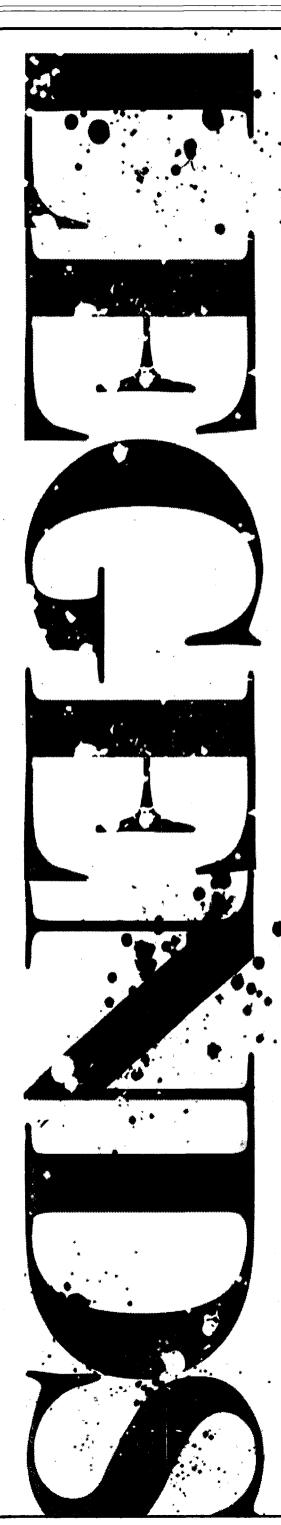
New jobs, rumors keeping Andretti busy

INDIANAPOLIS — Michael Andretti's jobs keep getting more complex.

He's already the co-owner of the only four-car team in the IndyCar Series. He's promoting two races this season. He will be on Danica Patrick's radio when the Indy Racing League season opens and he will spend the next several months, perhaps longer, answering those incessant questions about the future of Patrick at Andretti Green Racing.

"I think we all know what we need to do with Danica, she knows what she needs to do, and we're hoping that she's going to be here for a long time," Andretti said Wednesday. "She hasn't expressed anything to us that would lead us to believe she doesn't want to be here."

That's unlikely to satisfy a racing community abuzz with speculation now that the Illinois native is entering the final year of her contract.





THURSDAY, MARCH 19th

10 PM Irish Idol Finals Midnight St. Paddy's Day Party ft. Chicken Jackson

FRIDAY, MARCH 20th

10 PM Bayside w/ special guest Dear Noel Midnight Salsa Nightclub ft. DJ Del Rio

SATURDAY, MARCH 21st

10 PM Taalam Acey Midnight Hip-Hop Nightclub ft. DJ SoCo NCAA BASKETBALL

LSU hoping to make long run

Mitchell looking to lead No.8 Tigers far in the NCAA tournament

Associated Press

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Tasmin Mitchell took a feed on the block Wednesday during LSU's open workout, spun around and kissed a layup off the glass.

Getting the Tigers to the NCAA tournament every year was supposed to be that easy, too. Or so Mitchell thought, anyway, after a freshman season in which he helped lead LSU to its first Final Four in two decades.

"Every team goes into the season thinking they can make it to the Final Four, especially if we made it the year before that," Mitchell said. "The sky's the limit for the team. You know, as the seasons played out, it didn't go as planned."

No, it didn't.

A broken leg, a coaching change and a pair of mediocre finishes later, and Mitchell finally has the eighth-seeded Tigers (26-7) back in the bracket. They're preparing for ninth-seeded Butler in a South Regional first-round matchup marked by an intriguing juxtaposition of the teams' experience levels.

The young Bulldogs (26-5) have had to mature quickly into tournament regulars,

making the field of 65 for the third straight year despite a starting lineup that has three freshmen joined by a pair of underclassmen — sophomore Matt Howard and junior Willie Veasley — who have become team leaders by default.

"We talked about being inexperienced, but between (Howard and Veasley), they played seven NCAA tournament games, so those guys understand what this is all about," Butler coach Brad Stevens said.

The senior-dominated Tigers, meanwhile, start four fourth-year players — but only two of them, Mitchell and guard Garrett Temple, logged significant minutes on LSU's most recent NCAA tournament team.

Those 2006 Tigers advanced to the national semifinals before struggling badly enough during the years that followed that coach John Brady was fired midway through last season. It didn't help that Mitchell played just three games that year before taking a medical redshirt and having surgery to repair a stress fracture in his left shin.

"Me and Garrett sit back and talk about it all the time — remember it was like this, remember that game," Mitchell said. "That's over with. We've got to try to get back where we were. The two years after that, you know, we kind of really, really dropped the ball. We really proved to teams that, OK, LSU is not the same as 2006."

These Tigers aren't much like the ones of the past couple seasons, either.

Under Southeastern Conference coach of the year Trent Johnson, LSU won the league's regular-season title by going 13-3. But they slipped into a late-season swoon that included losses in three of four games and probably was responsible for their drop to a No. 8 seed.

To regain their swagger, they'll need to find a way to handle a Butler team that built its reputation as one of the nation's most dangerous mid-majors by taking down several teams from BCS conformage.

Since 2000, the Bulldogs have knocked Maryland, Mississippi State, Louisville and Wake Forest out of the tournament. Last year, they took Tennessee to overtime before falling in the second round.

"It's in the perception of what people think we should do, is the main thing," forward Matt Howard said. **MLB**

Boone in need of heart surgery on aortic valve

Associated Press

KISSIMMEE, Fla. — Aaron Boone of the Houston Astros will have open-heart surgery to replace an aortic valve.

Boone made the announcement Wednesday, saying he has known about his heart condition since college but tests after his routine physical determined he needed surgery. It is not an emergency, but doctors indicated the procedure was needed.

He said doctors told him he could play baseball when he recovers, but he's not sure whether he will.

An emotional Boone delivered the news flanked by general manager Ed Wade and manager Cecil Cooper and in front of a somber room filled with teammates and Astros officials.

"It definitely hits home, but I'm doing well with it," Boone said. "I feel_like I'm fairly educated on it now. I have a strong faith and a great family and friends and teammates. I really am doing well and I'm ready to tackle this thing and get it behind me and get on with life."

Wade said a local doctor who did the team physicals and team physician Dr. Jim Muntz worked together to conduct tests on Boone because they knew of his condition.

"Unfortunately the test results came out indicating there was an acceleration of the condition that Aaron has been dealing with for a number of years," Wade said

He has a bicuspid aortic valve, a congenital defect where the valve has only two cusps to manage the flow of blood through the heart, as opposed to the normal three. The surgery has not been scheduled, but Boone expects to set a date for the procedure later this week.

"As a baseball family we're here to support Aaron, as you can see by all the teammates and front office personnel we have here," Cooper said. "And anything he needs we're going to be there to help him out."

Boone said he feels fine, but that he's never had symptoms of the problem.

He'll make decisions on his future after he recovers and can research and talk with athletes who have returned to play after heart surgery. He mentioned getting in touch with Golden State's Ronny Turiaf, who had a similar procedure and currently plays in the NBA.



NCAA Men's Basketball

Northern Iowa ready to go against Purdue

Panthers looking to score big against fifthseeded Boilermakers in NCAA opening

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Ben Jacobson isn't going to sell his Northern Iowa Panthers any delusions for a firstround upset of Purdue. That means no inspirational talk of Cinderellas, bracket-busters or Hoosiers.

"That isn't a card, if you will, that I'd play with our guys," the coach said. "Our guys know what they're about. They know what they're made of. They don't need me to tell them what they're up against.'

The 12th-seeded Panthers (23-10) will go into Thursday's game against the fifth-seeded Boilermakers (25-9) grounded in reality.

Northern Iowa failed to make even the NIT the past two seasons, and was picked to finish sixth in the Missouri Valley Conference. The Panthers met that expectation by starting the season 6-

But then Northern Iowa took off on an 11-game winning streak. The Panthers lost just four games after the first of the year and capped the season with a 60-57 overtime victory over Illinois State to win the MVC tournament

So while they have dismissed the doubters and get the added bonus of momentum, coach Jacobson was guarding his team against dreams of an headline-grabbing upset. He was putting the focus on old-fashioned hard work.

"It doesn't mean that we get to win just because we're the 12 and people like to talk about it, you know?" he said. "We're going to have to play a very good basketball team and we know what we're up

Since 2001, No. 12 seeds have defeated No. 5 seeds in 13 of 32 games.

"I think it just shows the parity through the years, said Purdue coach Matt Painter, "that there's not a whole lot of difference between the five and the 12.

The 17th-ranked Boilermakers defeated Ohio State 65-61 on Sunday to claim the Big Ten Conference championship and earn the automatic berth.

The conference tournament title was a boost for Purdue, which lost three of its final four regular-season games. The Boilermakers even held a special meeting to address con-

"We were definitely struggling coming into that weekend," forward Robbie Hummel said. "But I think we played really well in the Big Ten tournament. I really felt like we were playing well as a team and doing everything we needed to win.

Hummel missed several games this season with a hairline fracture in his lower back, but he returned to full strength in time for the conference tournament, where he averaged 16.0 points and 9.3 rebounds. He was named the tourney's most outstanding player.

He is one of Purdue's three super sophomores, along with JaJuan Johnson and E'Twaun Moore. None of the seniors

Toward the end of the regular season, the Boilermakers lost focus, the players said. But the meeting helped them regain it iust in time.

"We were playing a little sloppy sometimes, playing a little out of control," Moore said. "So we needed to focus, tighten it down, play basic fundamental basketball and just do the basic necessary things to

NCAA Women's Basketball

Big Ten looks to impress NCAA

Teams hope to show that conference is still in the running for the title

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Ohio State was the only Big Ten women's team consistently ranked in the national polls this season, one clear sign that this league of late has been lagging behind the country's other power conferences.

The strength of the middle of the pack, however, made enough of an impression on the NCAA tournament selection committee to warrant five teams chosen for the

So how good, or bad, is the Big Ten these days?

The tournament is a litmus test," said Buckeyes coach Jim Foster, whose team was 10th in the most recent Associated Press rankings. 'We're about to find out.'

Ohio State (27-5) is the No. 3 seed in the Berkeley region and gets to open at home, though in a different arena than it's used to, in Columbus on Saturday against Sacred Heart. But Stanford, the second-ranked team in the latest AP poll, looms in a potential third-round game a few miles from the Cardinal's campus.

Nobody else from the Big Ten is seeded to survive the second round, and No. 10 Minnesota (19-11) must play at Notre Dame on Sunday in the Trenton region. Purdue (22-10) is the No. 6 team in the Oklahoma City region, and Iowa is No. 8. The Hawkeyes (21-10) start at home, but top seed Oklahoma

will probably await in round two if Iowa beats Georgia Tech. Michigan State (20-10) is No. 9 in the Berkeley region.

The Southeastern and Big East conferences each have seven teams in this year's tournament, and the Big 12 and Atlantic Coast conferences have six. The Pac-10, with three, is the only major league with fewer schools in than the Big Ten this year. The Pac-10, though, has at least put a team in the Final Four over the previous three seasons. The Big Ten has not, with only one in a regional final during that span.

Since 2000, the Big Ten is 57-44 in the NCAA tournament. The SEC (118-53), Big East (103-51), ACC (79-48) and Big 12 (79-55) have all fared considerably better. Purdue, in 1999, has the only national title by a Big Ten team in the sport.

Much like on the men's side, this one of the most rugged conferences in the country. When it comes to toughness, however, perhaps enough is

enough.

"I'm not convinced until I see otherwise that the physicality in the league is a good thing for us," Foster said, alluding to the 18-game regular season schedule that has each team facing all but two of the other members twice. The SEC, Big East, ACC and Big 12 each play fewer conference games.

There are benefits, though.

"The Big Ten used to be thought of as a power and pounding, walk-it-up league, but now our styles are so varied," Michigan State coach Suzy Merchant said. "There are teams like Minnesota that still play a physical brand of basketball, but there are teams such as Ohio State that play up tempo and there are some teams that shoot a bunch of 3s. So regardless of the type of team you play in the tournament, Big Ten coaches can tell their players, 'We've seen that.' That can only help in the NCAA tournament.'

The crowds at most places are pretty good, too, which can provide useful tests for postseason play.

"I think winning in the Big Ten is very difficult on the road, because especially at Purdue you're playing in front of 10,000 to 12,000 fans,' Gophers coach Pam Borton said. "That's pretty much what we're going to see when we go to Notre Dame. It's going to be an unbelievable environment.'

Minnesota probably wouldn't have been invited, however, without playing so many quality teams before Big Ten play began. The Gophers lost to Stanford, Iowa State (No. 4 seed) and South Dakota State (No. 7 seed) and beat two teams from major leagues, Colorado and Boston College.

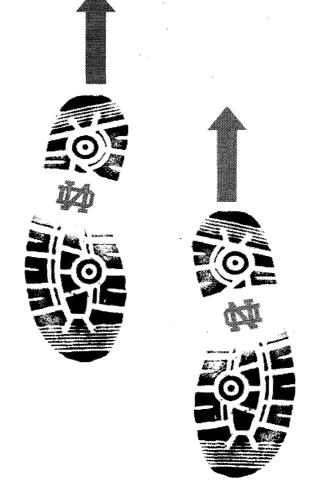
"I think everybody's really beefed up their nonconference schedules," Borton said.



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NBA BASKETBALL

Magic defeat Bucks after tough loss to Cavs

Howard has first career triple-double in points, rebounds, and blocked shots; Rose unstoppable in Bulls win over Thunder

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE - Playing back-to-back road games and coming off a tough loss, the Orlando Magic could have fallen into a trap against a Milwaukee team that had just tripped up another Eastern Conference contender.
Instead, Dwight Howard

dominated in the first quarter and the Magic never really let the Bucks back into the game, cruising to a 106-80 victory Wednesday night.

'We came out today with a lot of energy and a lot of effort — which we needed last night, and we didn't do that," Howard said.

Orlando was coming off a deflating 97-93 loss at Cleveland, a game in which Howard scored only 13 points. That turned around right away Wednesday, as Howard scored 18 points in the first quarter on his way to 28 for the game. He added 12 rebounds, and had seven assists, falling three shy of a triple-double.

"Coming off of yesterday, no hangover, great energy,' Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said. "Went up and down the court, played great defense — and Dwight was tremendous."

Hedo Turkoglu also came close to a triple-double with 14 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists for Orlando, 8-2 in its last 10 games.

Van Gundy had some nitpicking to do, but wasn't surprised with the overall effort.

Van Gundy said. "I think that there's a lot of things that we still need to improve on, but our guys come out and play for the most part. I think in terms of that, we're about as consistent as any team in the. league.'

Charlie Villanueva had 17 points for the Bucks, who are desperately trying to earn the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference and were coming off a home victory over Boston.

Milwaukee fell to 2-3 on its critical and challenging sixgame homestand that ends against Portland on Saturday night.

"I think there's a lesson learned here for us," Bucks coach Scott Skiles said. "Most sporting events are over before they even start, based on the mind-set of the teams that are playing and the players that are playing in it.'

Skiles said the Magic are a good team, but added, "We really didn't compete at all. It's very disappointing and we need to learn something from

Howard went after the Bucks early and often after taking only eight shots in Orlando's loss at Cleveland on Tuesday. He scored 18 points in the first quarter alone, putting together his own 10-2 run to end the quarter.

He began the scoring spurt by converting three-point plays on back-to-back possessions, then dunked home a putback. After a pair of free

scored on a layup with 23 seconds left to give Orlando a 36-20 lead going into the second quarter.

"He set the tone of the game," Villanueva said. "It was difficult because there are four perimeter guys around him and that makes it very difficult to defend. It just seemed like we couldn't stop him out there."

Howard then rested for the first 6-plus minutes of the second quarter, but Milwaukee couldn't make up any ground.

Malik Allen was one of several Bucks who struggled trying to defend Howard - and then Allen picked up his third and fourth fouls in the final minutes of the first half.

Allen's third foul came when he sent J.J. Redick crashing to the floor under the basket, then picked up his fourth foul on the offensive end with 32.3 seconds left in the half.

Howard's only noticeable misstep midway came through the third quarter, when he was called for offensive basket interference on a putback attempt. But it didn't matter much, because Orlando was leading 69-45 at the time.

Howard recovered to make a huge block near the end of the third quarter, slapping a shot by Milwaukee's Charlie Bell over his teammates' heads on the bench and into the second row of seats.

Howard then went skyward to slam home an alley-oop the Magic up by 26.

Bulls 103, Thunder 96

Derrick Rose didn't know what he had to do, but his team needed him to do something. A perfect second half took care of what was ailing the Chicago Bulls Rose scored 25 of his 20 points and didn't miss a shot in the second half and the Bulls snapped a seven-game road losing streak by beating the Oklahoma City Thunder 103-96 on Wednesday night.

"I knew that my team needed me to make plays. I didn't know what type of plays, but it ended up being scoring plays," said Rose, who finished two points off his career

In a matchup between two of the NBA's top rookie point guards, Rose was unstoppable in the second half. The No. 1 pick in last year's draft hit all 10 of his shots, including the jumper that gave the Bulls the lead for good late in the third

"I was just feeling it tonight. I didn't want to lose, so I just started shooting the ball," Rose said.

Russell Westbrook, the fourth overall pick in the draft, had 15 points and pulled the Thunder within 99-96 by driving past Rose for a layup in the final minute before Oklahoma City's rally fell short.

John Salmons added 20 points and Ben Gordon scored 18 for the Bulls.

Kevin Durant led Oklahoma City with 28 points and Jeff Green had 18.

Durant missed a 3-pointer that would have tied the game in the final 30 seconds before Tyrus Thomas hit four free throws to close it out for eighth-place Chicago, which leads the race for the final playoff spot by a game and a half over Milwaukee and Charlotte.

"It's such a tight race right now to get that eighth spot in the East," Bulls coach Vinny Del Negro said. "All these games we've struggled on the road and we haven't converted down the stretch, but it was nice for us tonight to con-

Rose and Westbrook became friends while training together in Los Angeles leading up to the draft, going one-on-one and doing other drills to prepare themselves to be lottery picks.

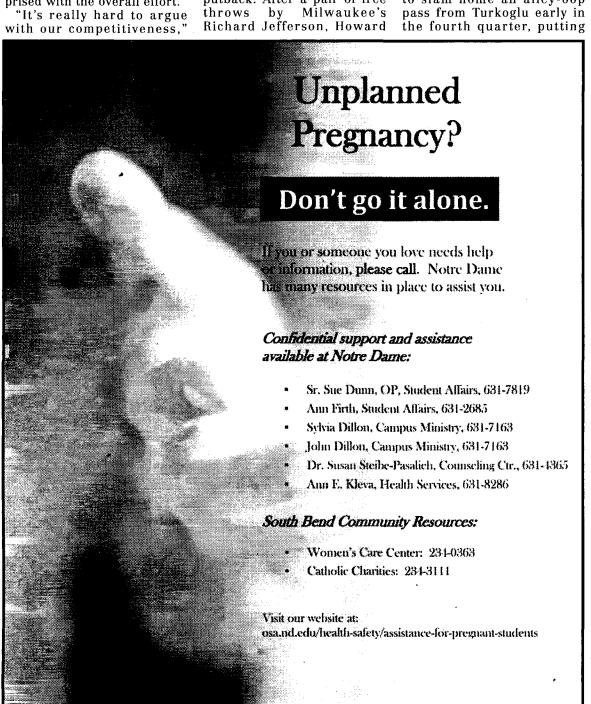
'Basically, it was just me and him before the draft, just working out every day," Rose

Rose and Westbrook came in ranked second and third among rookies in scoring and 1-2 in assists. Westbrook was also seventh in rebounding but had the most turnovers among rookies and the fifthmost in the NBA overall.

The game was an opportunity for Westbrook to make a statement in the Rookie of the Year race, although he said he was approaching it like "any other game."

He had the better first half with 12 points and only one turnover while Rose was the mistake-prone one early, turning it over five times while scoring only five points. But that changed quickly.

He hit five shots in the first 5 minutes after halftime as the Bulls turned a five-point deficit into a 63-62 lead when Rose connected on a foul line jumper. The lead grew to 74-68 the Thunder rallied back ahead with seven straight points, but then Rose struck again from the right wing for a 76-75 Chicago lead.



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NHL

Hurricanes take down Devils

Blue Jackets take down the Blackhawks by one in overtime

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — The New Jersey Devils can be excused for this lackluster effort against the Carolina Hurricanes.

They have been surging since Martin Brodeur returned from an elbow injury and chased down the NHL record for wins by a goalie. One night after he broke Patrick Roy's career mark by winning his 552nd game, New Jersey was done in by playoff-hungry Carolina.

The Hurricanes, who had four days off since returning from a winless three-game road trip, pounced on New Jersey. Anton Babchuk scored twice, Eric Staal got his team-high 34th goal and Sergei Samsonov added one in a 4-2 victory Wednesday night over the Brodeur-less Devils.

Carolina began a threegame homestand and ending the Devils' four-game winning streak. The Hurricanes have won a season-high six in a row at home.

New Jersey played without Brodeur, who set the wins record Tuesday night by beating Chicago. It was the first time Brodeur missed a start in 10 games since returning from an elbow injury on Feb. 26

Kevin Weekes made 28 saves in place of Brodeur.

"It's been a week where it's been a high emotional week and for all the right reasons," Devils coach Brent Sutter said. "We'll regroup and get back at it. We knew what to expect. They'd been sitting for four days waiting for us."

"The outcome isn't like shocking because when you give up three power-plays goals, it's a tough night."

The Hurricanes, with 81 points, moved into a tie with Montreal for seventh place in the Eastern Conference—three points above ninth-place Florida and the post-season cutoff.

Carolina went 3-for-5 on the power play against the Devils, who are among the best penalty-killers on the road. New Jersey, second in the East, allowed three manadvantage goals in a game for only the second time this season.

"It was a game where 5-on-5 we played well and yet it was a night where you needed your special teams to be good," Sutter said. "Our PK got three power-play goals on us."

Babchuk, who notched his first multigoal game of the season, opened the scoring 10 minutes in with a poke at the right post after Weekes was unable to control a pair of rebounds. Staal gave Carolina a 2-0 lead 1:25 into the second period with a sharp-angle slap shot from the bottom of the right circle.

"We got to do a better job (on the penalty kill)," New Jersey forward Patrik Elias said. "They have a lot of skills on the power play but we have to be better."

Zach Parise scored New Jersey's first goal when the Devils were on a 5-on-3 manadvantage with 6:38 left in the second period.

But Babchuk restored Carolina's two-goal cushion with 38 seconds left in the second period when he blasted a low slap shot through traffic from the top of the slot.

"I've been playing more lately and trying to take advantage of it," Babchuk said. "I knew they played last night and thought they would be more tired."

Sergei Samsonov made it 4-1 with 7:46 left in the third, and Brian Gionta scored with 2:17 left in the game to bring the Devils back within two goals

Weekes got his first start since Feb. 19 and saw his first action since March 7 in relief of Brodeur. Carolina's Cam Ward, making his 19th straight start, stopped 41

Blue Jackets 4,Blackhawks

The latest addition to the Columbus Blue Jackets is proving to be a perfect fit.

Antoine Vermette took a pass from R.J. Umberger and scored 2:38 into overtime, giving the Blue Jackets a 4-3 victory over the Chicago Blackhawks on Wednesday night

"It doesn't get much better than a playoff race," said Vermette, acquired this month in a trade-deadline deal with the Ottawa Senators. "It's great. I'm pretty happy."

Umberger carried the puck up the right wing on a 2-on-1 in overtime, saucering a pass that tumbled to the high slot where Vermette beat defenseman Brian Campbell to the puck and chipped it past Cristobal Huet for his first game-winner in more than a

How valuable an addition has he been to the Blue Jackets' first stretch run? He's scored points in five of

his six games with Columbus.

Umberger, Derek Dorsett and Rick Nash added goals for the Blue Jackets, who came into the night sixth in the Western Conference. Columbus tied a franchise

winning for the fifth time in six starts. For the first time, the Blue Jackets find themselves watching the scoreboard to

see how it affects their play-

record with 80 points while

off run.

"When you're in this kind of race, everybody checks every once in a while," Dorsett said. "No one really pays too much attention. You've just got to worry about yourself and make sure you're getting the two points."

Rookie goalie Steve Mason stopped 24 shots to improve to 29-17-3.

Patrick Kane and Jonathan Toews each had a goal and an assist, and Dave Bolland also scored for the Blackhawks, who have lost four in a row and six of seven. Huet made numerous spectacular saves, stopping 24 shots.

"Obviously, the way, we've been playing, it's good to get a point," Kane said. "But you want to go in and win that game. So it's disappointing not to get two. You can tell by everyone's reaction in the locker room that we're not real happy."

Blackhawks coach Joel Quenneville looked at the game as a small step.

"The confidence is a little bit off," he said. "We stemmed a little bit of the flow going against us. (But) we've got to (start) winning and feeling a little more confident at critical times of games."

The teams traded goals throughout the game before a scoreless third period.

Bolland scored in the opening minute before Umberger redirected a tape-to-tape pass from Jake Voracek to tie

NCAA BASKETBALL

Gonzaga ready to make their mark at NCAAs

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — When Jeremy Pargo turned down the opportunity to be drafted into the NBA last year as a junior, it was because of what he begins Thursday: A senior year run through the NCAA tournament.

"Oh, definitely. This tournament is unbelievable. I haven't experienced the NBA, but there's nothing like this," the streaky point guard said Wednesday in Gonzaga's locker room before a practice for a first-round game against 13th-seeded Akron.

Pargo and the heralded Bulldogs (26-5) are heavy favorites to zap the Zips (23-12), who won the Mid-American Conference tournament, and advance to the second-round Saturday against Illinois or Western Kentucky, who play later Thursday. Gonzaga has won 18 of 19 games and were undefeated in the West Coast Conference regular season and tournament.

Yet Pargo, fellow senior and leading scorer Josh Heytvelt, coach Mark Few and shooter Matt Bouldin all mentioned how one bad day can end everything for Gonzaga, which has yet to reach the Final Four in 11 consecutive NCAA tournament appearances.

"I definitely want to leave a mark on this program," Pargo said. "This program has been to an Elite Eight. The Final Four is the next step."

"Our expectations are really high," Bouldin said. "We just can't take any game for granted. I think the last two years taught me that."

Few, a former 10-year Zags assistant who was promoted to head coach in 1999, cautioned not to judge this team, or his program, by the stan-

dard of Final Four appearances.

"We've had an incredible run these last 11 years now," he said. "I'm hesitant to put all the eggs in one basket like so many people like to do with this tournament, when it's a one-and-done deal. These seasons are long, hard journeys, and I wouldn't take that for granted.

"The fact that we've won 26 games with an incredible difficult schedule. ... The league championships obviously mean a lot to us.

"We've been to an Elite Eight, we've been to several Sweet 16s, and I think if we keep fielding the type of teams with student athletes like these guys ... then eventually we'll be able to bust through and get to a Final Four sometime, but it's certainly not — I don't think it's the end-all to everything."

Few praised Pargo for his resiliency — "he's probably missed one or two practices in four years" — for playing lately as well as he has all season and for spurning the temptation of NBA riches.

"He's meant everything to this program," Few said. "He's as charismatic and engaging a person that you'll ever coach. You can hear him, even in my office when he comes rolling in down through the corridors of the arena.

"He was going to get drafted and yet weighed it out where he was at and what he wanted to accomplish, what he wanted to do with this group of guys. It's hasn't been perfect. I don't think it's been exactly the way that he scripted it, but here he is.

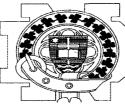
"Hopefully, he can end what's already been a great career with a long run in the NCAA tournament."

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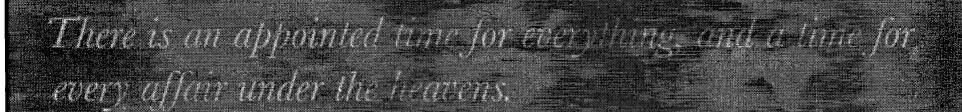


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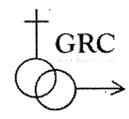
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GOLF

Woods to play in the Australian Masters

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Tiger Woods will play at the Australian Masters in November, his first tournament appearance Down Under since 1998.

A government spokesman confirmed premier John Brumby's comments in a Melbourne newspaper that Woods would play in the event at Kingston Heath, scheduled for Nov. 12-15.

A news conference was planned in Melbourne later Thursday.

"We are delighted Tiger Woods has chosen to come to Melbourne, further cementing our position as the major events capital of the world," Brumby told the Herald Sun newspaper. Melbourne also hosts the Australian Open, the first of four majors each year on the international tennis circuit, and the season-opening Formula One Grand Prix.

Brumby predicted the visit by the world's top golfer would earn Victoria state \$19 million in economic benefits, which would offset Woods' \$4.54 million appearance fee.

Woods has recently returned from an eight-month layoff following season-ending knee sur-

gery last year after winning the U.S. Open, his 14th career major.

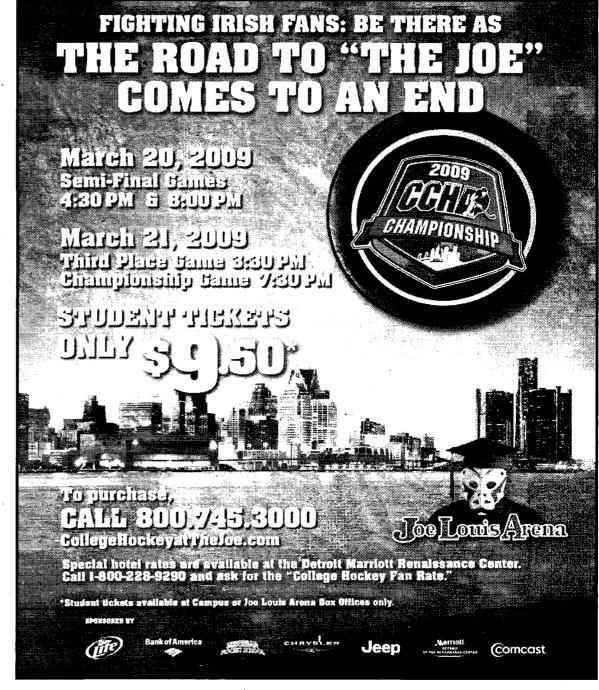
Stuart Appleby, among the Australians who regularly compete against Woods on the PGA Tour, said it was a coup for golf Down Under, even in the economic climate.

"It will be great for the game and bring out a lot of people who haven't seen him before — in person, not on a video game," Appleby told The Associated Press. "There's a lot of people hurting in Australia, and they might look negatively that one guy is paid (\$4.54 million) just to turn up. The common man won't understand the business model because the government is paying for it. They might not see the money he brings in."

But he predicted huge galleries for Woods at Kingston Heath.

"He not been down here since the Presidents Cup," Appleby said. "He's been to Asia multiple times. He's been to Europe multiple times. I think it's good that he's bringing his game to Australia."

Woods, who was not immediately available for comment, is very selective about his appearances outside of the United States.





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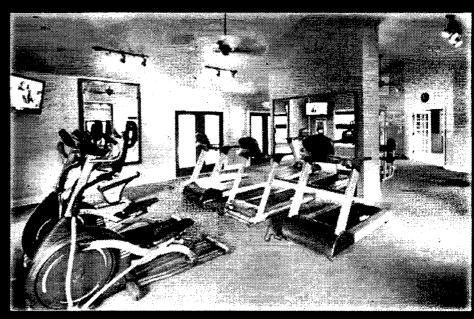
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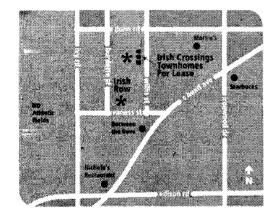
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Please recycle The Observer.

Men's NIT

Second-half surge helps Baylor past G'Town

Va. Tech edges Duquesne; Creighton tops BGSU

Associated Press

WACO, Texas — LaceDarius Dunn and Kevin Rogers each scored 20 points and Curtis Jerrells added 19 to lead Baylor to a 74-72 win over Georgetown in the first round of the National Invitation Tournament on Wednesday night.

The Bears (21-14) got their first postseason victory since

Jerrells put Baylor ahead 74-69 with a pair of free throws with eight seconds remaining.

But DaJuan Summers hit a 3pointer for Georgetown (16-15) with four seconds left, and Tweety Carter missed the front end of a one-and-one opportunity for the Bears.

Summers, who led the Hoyas with 19 points, grabbed the rebound and launched a shot at the buzzer that fell short.

Jerrells' layup tied the game at 67 with just under five minutes remaining. He followed with a steal, and Carter's 3pointer gave the Bears the lead for good less than 30 seconds later.

Behind 72-69, Georgetown's Chris Wright attempted a 3pointer from the left side with 11 seconds left. Jerrells partially blocked the shot and Dunn pulled down the rebound for the Bears. He nailed the clinching free throws in the final seconds.

Greg Monroe added 12 points and Austin Freeman 11 for

Georgetown.

Trailing 44-34 at halftime, Baylor opened the second half on 13-2 run and took a 47-46 lead with 16 ½ minutes left to play. Dunn ignited the comeback with 11 points, including three 3-pointers.

Georgetown shot 76 percent from the floor in the first half, connecting on 16 of 21

attempts.

Baylor plays Virginia Tech, a 116-108 double overtime winner over Duquesne, in the next round of the NIT.

Virginia Tech 116, Duquesne 108 (2 OT)

A.D. Vassallo scored 33 points and the Hokies scored on their first five possessions in the second overtime to overcome a huge night from Duquesne's Aaron Jackson and win their urst-round Wednesday night.

Jackson scored a career-high 46 points, but it wasn't enough to keep the Hokies (19-14) from advancing to the second round, where they will host Baylor.

Duquesne (21-13), making its first postseason appearance since the 1994 NIT, closed out its best season since the 1971 team went 21-4.

Jeff Allen added 23 points for Virginia Tech, which led by six with under a minute to go in the first overtime. But the Dukes rallied and tied the game at 94 on Jackson's layup with less than 2 seconds left.

In the second overtime, Vassallo scored 10 points and the Hokies made all 10 of their free throws to put the game

Jackson, a senior from Hartford, Conn., paced the Dukes with a career-high 46 points. He hit 15-of-25 from the

floor, including 8-of-13 from beyond the 3-point arc. He also hit 8-of-9 from the free-throw line and had four assists.

His performance was the fourth-best single-game performance in Duquesne history.

The Hokies led by 13 with seven minutes to go in regulation, but the Dukes used a 17-4 run to tie the game, and took a 78-76 lead after Melquan Bolding hit the first of two free throws with 28.6 seconds remaining. But Vassallo hit a floater in the lane with 13.1 seconds to go to tie the game at 78.

On the final possession of regulation, Duquesne's Eric Evans drove into the lane. But his contested layup came up well short, sending the game into overtime.

Creighton 73, Bowling Green

P'Allen Stinnett scored 18 points, including two big free throws in the final minute, and Creighton came from behind to defeat Bowling Green in the first round of the NIT Wednesday

The Bluejays (27-7) will host Kentucky (21-13) in a secondround game Monday.

Creighton, which trailed by 14 points in the first half and by 8 with 8 1/2 minutes left, went ahead 69-67 with 4:41 to play on Booker Woodfox's 3-pointer.

Nate Miller put the Falcons (19-14) ahead again briefly, but Justin Carter's 3-pointer with 1:46 left gave the Bluejays the lead for good.

Stinnett hit two free throws with 35 seconds to make it a three-point game. Miller's fastbreak layup got Bowling Green within 72-71, but he missed an inside shot that would have given the Falcons the lead with 19 seconds to play.

Woodfox made a free throw

for the final margin.

Carter added 14 points, Antoine Young 12 and Woodfox 10 for the Bluejays.

Miller scored 22 points, Darryl Clements had 19 points and eight rebounds, and Brian Moten added 12 points for Bowling Green.

Creighton, the Missouri Valley Conference regular-season cochampion, had hoped to receive an at-large bid in the NCAA tournament after winning 10 of us last 11 games. An ugly loss to Illinois State in the Missouri Valley Conference tournament semifinals, combined with upsets in other conference tournaments, left the Bluejays short.

The Bluejays missed their first 11 3-point shots, and the Falcons led for more than 32 minutes before Creighton ral-

Bowling Green, which won the Mid-American Conference regular-season title, had a chance to tie or win at the end, but Clements' 23-footer bounced off the rim, and Scott Thomas' tip try was off the mark at the

The Bluejays will be playing a Kentucky team that is in the NIT for the first time in three decades. The Wildcats missed the NCAA tournament for the first time in 18 years.

They advanced to the second round of the NIT with a 70-60 win over UNLV on Tuesday.

NCAA

continued from page 32

going to be awesome," Maxwell said. "All of the best collegiate swimmers will be here and they are all going to be ready to swim fast. It's going to be great to swim against them and have every person in the event be at a high level of competition.'

Maxwell is competing in the 100- and 200-yard breaststroke events. She currently holds the 17th-fastest times in the nation in both of these

Both Miller and Maxwell are making their second appearances at the national championships, but Stitt is participating for the first time. After being named the 2009 Big East Diver of the Year, hopes are high for Stitt's coming per-

formance in Texas. She will be competing in the one- and three-meter diving events.

The competition will be really tough, especially competing against girls who I watched on TV this summer competing for the Olympics, but it's also so inspiring to watch them dive," Stitt said.
"I'm a little intimidated, but watching them makes me want to be able to dive as well as them and it makes me want to be better.'

Miller is competing in the 50 and 100 freestyle events and the 100 fly event. Recently, Miller broke her personal-best time and the school record in the 50 freestyle event, making her the fastest female swimmer in school history with a time of 22.37 seconds. She broke the record at the Big East conference meet, where the Irish took home top honors for the 13th consecutive year.

Over the last week in practice, the girls have been working on perfecting their strokes and dives for optimal results in their toughest meet of the season.

"In preparation for my swims I have just been trying to maintain my stroke and make sure that I am keeping the technical aspect of my swimming where it should be," Maxwell said.

Beside the technique and stroke maintenance, there is one other driving force that comes into play during the intense competition that these girls will face.

"While consistency and technique are things every diver focuses on, I've learned the huge difference that confidence in my diving makes," Stitt said.

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu

Nationals

continued from page 32

Still, the level of competition Notre Dame will face will be the stiffest of the season, with a large and deep pool of competitors to wade through.

"We're aware of our primary

rivals, Penn State and Ohio State, but there's a very strong team Columbia,' Bednarski said. "The pool is strong. I think it will really come down to the last minutes of the competition on Sunday with everyone being so strong. By the

end, the psychology of the team will be much more important."

The men's bouts will begin Thursday and conclude with the medal round Friday afternoon. Senior All-American Karol Kostka and sophomore Greg Schoolcraft will represent the Irish in the epee class. This year will be Kostka's fourth year competing in the NCAAs.

In foil, Notre Dame is young, sending freshman Olympian Gerek Meinhardt and freshman Enzo Castellani. Sophomore Avery Zuck and All-American Barron Nydam, competing in the sabre division, round out the men's team.

On the women's side, the Irish send a deep and experienced lineup to the Saturday bouts. Sophomore American Ewa Nelip and freshman Courtney Hurley will fence in the epee division, while

sophomore All-American Hayley Reese and senior All-American Adrienne Nott represent the foil contingent. Nott, Kostka, is making her fourth visit to the N C A A s Sophomore All-Americans arah

Borrmann and Eileen Hassett. will compete in sabre, with Borrmann looking to defend her 2008 national title.

The tournament will be held at the Penn State Multi-Sports Facility in State College, Penn. Last season, Notre Dame placed second in the NCAA Championships. The Irish have claimed titles three times, in 1994, 2003 and 2005.

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Toledo

continued from page 32

baseman Christine Lux paced the Irish attack, notching five hits — including two home runs and two doubles - over the two games.

"Everybody being relaxed led to good hitting," sophomore pitcher Jody Valdivia, who earned the completegame victory in Game 2, said. Everyone knew what they needed to work on, and they went up with a relaxed approach and hit the ball."

In the third inning, the Rockets switched pitchers, but the Irish were still able to show their offensive dominance by scoring four more runs in the third inning. Hits

from Miller and fellow freshmen catcher Kristina Wright and center fielder Alexa Maldonado, and sophomore shortstop Sadie Pitzenberger each helped bring Notre Dame's lead to 9-0 at the end of the third

It was more of the same for the Irish in the fourth inning, when they scored six more times before holding the Rockets scoreless for a 15-0, five-inning victory by the eight-run mercy rule.

With both offenses slow to

start in the second game, the Rockets got on the board first when, in the fourth inning,

Toledo pitcher Brooke Gates blasted a home run to left to give her team a 1-0 lead.

That was short-lived, however, as Dame Notre plated nine runs in the bottom of the fourth to finish off Toledo 9-1.

"Toledo coming out and challenging us and by hitting a home run made them worthy opponents," Valdivia said. "They

held with us longer in the second game.'

Irish sophomore

Lux hit her second home "Everyone should run of the day work on taking the to start the Notre Dame mentality we used offensive today and take it to onslaught. A the Big East teams. tight line drive down the first We don't play down base line from to any opponent." sophomore left fielder Brianna **Jody Valdivia**

> run for the Irish to take the lead. A single from Moldonado loaded up the bases, and a triple from senior designated hitter Beth Northway cleared them and brought the score to 6-1.

Jorgensborg

brought in an

Northway came home on a single from junior third baseman Heather Johnson, and senior second baseman Linda Kohan drove home two more

with a double Valdivia made "Everyone knew what quick work of they needed to work the Rockets in on, and they went up the fifth to secure the victory in Notre Dame's last non-conference matchup before it starts Big East play

against

John's Sunday.

with a relaxed

approach and hit

the ball."

Jody Valdivia

Irish sophomore

'Everyone should work on taking the mentality we used today and take it to the Big East teams," Valdivia said. "We don't play down to any oppo-

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu



"The pool is strong. I

think it will really

come down to the last

minutes of the

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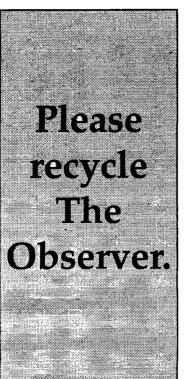
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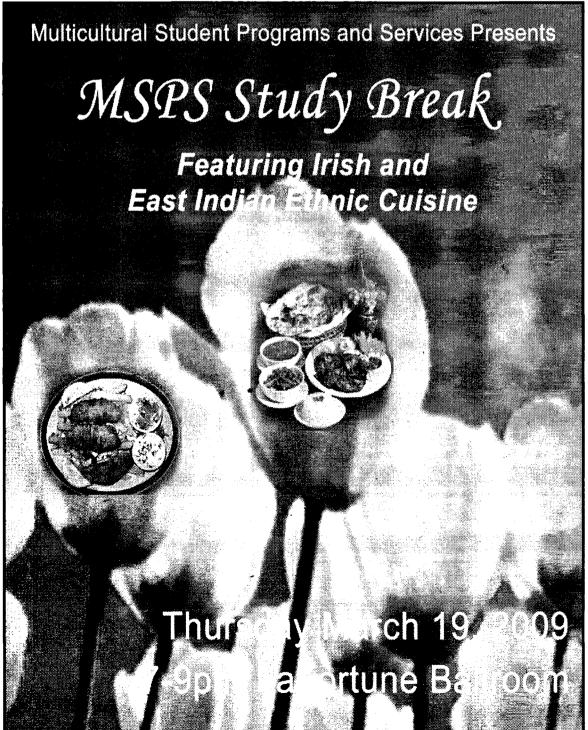
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NIT

continued from page 32

Albuquerque as Gary is the only Lobo to start every game this season, averaging 8.1 points per game and 2.2 rebounds per game.

Gary, though, isn't the player Notre Dame most needs to account for Thursday. That distinction falls to senior forward Daniel Faris, a 6-foot-9-inch, 245-pound load who notched a career-best 28 points and 13 rebounds in New Mexico's 83-71 win over Nebraska in the first round. Faris is averaging 11.5 points per game and 6.2 rebounds per game on the season.

Responsibility for Faris will likely fall primarily on the shoulders of Harangody. The junior forward played a leading role in the Irish win over UAB, pouring in 22 points and grabbing 10 rebounds. Harangody will get some help down low from sophomore Tyrone Nash, who saw expanded minutes when senior forward Zach Hillesland went out because of a knee injury.

Hillesland and the rest of the Irish have been using their brief time before Thursday's game to recover from Tuesday's win.

"Wednesday's a day where, we've done a lot of these one day in between things," Brey said. "It's trying to get our energy back, it's more of a mental session, shoot a little bit, stretch out and have the same energy for Thursday night. If you're fortunate enough to win on Thursday, then you get some time off."

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogas@nd.edu

Valpo

continued from page 32

Crusaders early, giving up just two hits in the first five innings. He faced brief struggles with his control, walking three, but he stymied the Crusader lineup when finding the strike zone with an effective fastball.

Notre Dame continued their success at the plate against Deetjen after the first inning but was unable to capitalize with any runs until the fifth inning. The Irish stranded two runners on base in both the second and third innings, and sophomore outfielder Golden Tate was thrown out at home to end the fourth.

Pollock manufactured a run on his own in the fifth inning, stealing second and third base after walking to lead off the inning. The junior came around to score on a Martin groundout to extend the Notre Dame lead.

Notre Dame had a field day on the basepaths, notching a season-high five stolen bases in the game.

"We really as a team emphasize being aggressive on the base paths and work on our baserunning all year," Sherry said

Valparaiso finally reached Sabatino in the top of the sixth, beginning the inning with a strikeout but advancing to first after the pitch got by sophomore catcher Matt Scioscia. After outfielder Kyle Gaedele followed with a double down the left field line, designated hitter Josh Wallace put Valparaiso on the board with a sacrifice fly.

Freshman reliever Ryan

Richter came on in relief of Sabatino, and had a difficult time finding the plate early. Richter walked the first two Valparaiso hitters he faced, and Martin misplayed a groundball down the first base line, allowing two Crusaders to score.

Richter escaped the inning with a 6-4-3 double play, but the damage was done with the score tied at three.

The Irish quickly responded in the bottom half of the inning, loading the bases with none out on three straight singles by Scioscia, Sherry, and Tate. One run came in to score on a passed ball by Crusaders catcher Billy Cribbs, and Pollock plated Sherry on a sacrifice fly to center field.

Two more runs came into score as Jeremy Barnes drove in one with an infield single and senior Ryan Connolly contributed a sacrifice fly, extending the lead to 7-3.

Notre Dame added an insurance run in the seventh on a Mills sacrifice fly, the third for the Irish in the game.

Barnes led the Irish offensively with three hits and two RBIs, and Martin also had two RBIs on one hit. Mills and sophomore Cameron McConnell, who came on in relief of Scioscia, contributed two hits apiece.

The Irish will open Big East play Friday against Seton Hall, with the first pitch scheduled for 5:05 p.m.

"We're definitely confident going into conference play," Sherry said. "We started off really hot in conference play last year and are looking to do the same thing this year."

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

For more on ND and SMC Sports, check out The Casual Observer at observersportsblog.wordpress.com

SMC SOFTBALL

Belles split doubleheader

By MEAGHAN VESELIK Sports Writer

Saint Mary's started slow but came back to split a doubleheader with Manchester Wednesday after junior Ashley Peterson was named Division III Regional Player of the Week.

Manchester took the lead in the top of the first with three runs and held Saint Mary's (12-2) off the board until the bottom of the fourth. Senior Cathy Kurczak was first at bat for the Belles, leading off with a walk. Three batters later, Kurczak scored on Peterson's single to left-center field, cutting the Belles' deficit to 3-1.

The Spartans responded with four runs in the top of the fifth, widening their lead to 7-1 as the Belles stepped up to the plate. Sophomore Hayley Bojorquez started the offensive attack for Saint Mary's, reaching on an error. Senior Katie Rashid hit an RBI double down the rightfield line to bring in Bojorquez and make the score 7-2. Two batters after Rashid, freshman Kristen Nelson hit a triple to rightcenter field to bring in Rashid from second. Nelson quickly scored off of a hit by Kurczak, putting the Belles down 7-4.

Saint Mary's held Manchester at seven runs but wasn't able to get on the board again until the bottom of the seventh. With two outs, Peterson scored from second off of a single to center field from Rashid. The Belles weren't able to score again to

make a full comeback over the Spartans and lost 7-5.

"I think we beat ourselves today," Belles coach Erin Sullivan said. "We played down to our competition and they capitalized on our errors early in the game. We lacked a sense of urgency to make up for the runs we gave up in the first inning, which resulted in us running out of time. I told my team we would have won had we had nine innings to play, but we only get seven.'

Freshman pitcher Monica Palicki moved her record to 5-2, allowing nine hits and only three earned runs in the loss. Peterson, Rashid and senior Ashley Fusaro each went 2-4 in the first game. Peterson scored once and drove in a run, and Rashid had two RBIs and scored

Ready for round two, Saint Mary's took the lead early in the second game with a run from junior Maureen Healy in the bottom of the first. Manchester came back with a run in the top of the second inning, moving the score to 1-1, but not for long.

The Belles followed with Bojorquez scoring off of a single up the middle by freshman Kate Mitchell.

After three scoreless innings, Manchester scored three times off a double and a two-run home run, putting its lead at 4-2 going into the bottom of the sixth. Fusaro led off for Saint Mary's with a single. Consecutive hits from Bojorquez and freshman Kate Mitchell and a double to leftcenter from Nelson tied the game 4-4.

Kurczak next came to the plate, bringing in Mitchell for the game-winning run off of a sacrifice fly to right field. The Spartans managed to get one runner on second in the top half of the seventh but weren't able to score again. The Belles defeated the Spartans 5-4.

"I was proud of our pitchers for staying in two tight games," Sullivan said. Peterson, Bojo

Bojorquez, Mitchell and Nelson each had a pair of hits in Game 2, with Bojorquez scoring twice while Mitchell drove in two runs and scored once. Peterson's current career-high hitting streak moved to 14 games, and Fusaro's to 13. Freshman pitcher Angela Gillis moved her record to 7-0, allowing nine hits and three runs.

'I am hoping today's games were a good wake-up call for us to make sure we play our game and play the sport with passion, the way it is meant to be played," Sullivan said. "I was also happy with our comeback in the bottom of the 6th to win Game 2. The team showed a lot of heart and a desire to win by scoring three runs that

The Belles will have a full week off and will return to action a week from Thursday, on March 26, with a doubleheader at Franklin College.

"We will be working on better communication, fewer mental errors, and smarter base running before we play Franklin on the 26th, Sullivan said.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

Men's Tennis

Irish head to Alabama for Blue Gray Classic

By KATE GRABAREK Sports Writer

After 10 days off, No. 26 Notre Dame will be challenged at the Blue Gray National Classic in Montgomery, Ala., today - a tournament Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said is one of country's most pres-

"All of the teams are nationally ranked," Bayliss said. "There will be no easy matches and we will be challenged every time we

The Irish will open play against No. 48 Mississippi State at 4 p.m. today. With a win, Notre Dame would advance to play either No. 22 Boise State or No. 41 Oklahoma Friday afternoon.

Despite having to juggle their lineup due to injuries to several usual starters, the Irish enjoyed a strong showing over spring break at the Pacific Coast Doubles in La Jolla, Calif.

The new combination of freshman Casey Watt and senior Santiago Montoya was particularly impressive, Bayliss said.

"Because of a couple of minor injuries we were not able to play all of our regular combinations," Bayliss said. "But Santiago Montoya and Casey Watt reached the consolation finals and looked pretty good together. They brought interesting chemistry to

the table - Santiago's touch and feel at the net coupled with Casey's ability to dominate on serve returns and from the back of the court.'

Bayliss said he will continue to search for the right doubles combinations, especially at the bottom of the young but talented Irish

As expected, senior Brett Helgeson has been a force at the top of the lineup already this sea-

Helgeson is currently ranked No. 21 in the nation in singles, and he and his doubles partner, sophomore Tyler Davis, are also ranked No. 21.

Sophomore Stepehen Havens moved up in the lineup this season

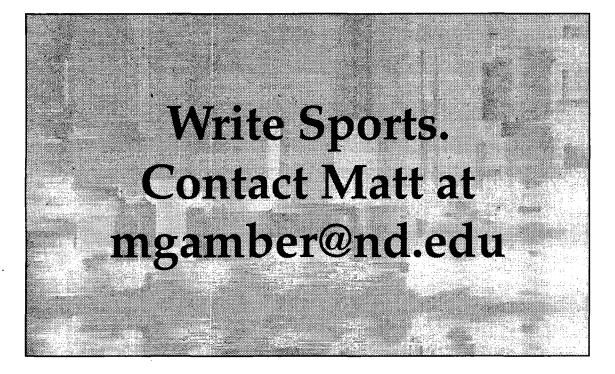
with the graduation of Sheeva Parbhu and Andrew Roth from last season, and has played consistently at No. 2 doubles with

Sophomore Dan Stahl also moved up in the lineup this season and

has been a force for the Irish.

"Dan has surprised everyone with his ability to move from No. 6 last year to No. 3 this year,' Bayliss said. "He has superb work ethic and competitiveness. He has a great ability to take time away from his opponents and rock solid ground strokes."

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgraba01@saintmarys.edu





"There will be no

easy matches and we

will be challenged

every time we play."

Bobby Bayliss

Irish coach

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Crossword

- Across 1 "Shimdog Millionaire' locale
- 5 Find fault
- 9 Old auto control 14 Move to solid
- food 15 Scene of classic
- flooding
- 16 The Four Seasons, e.g.
- 17 Influential work by 28-Across, familiarly
- 20 Bygone leader with a goatee
- 21 Bit
- 22 Health
- 23 Dastard 26 Where to see 20th Century
- Fox studios 28 Notable born
- 2/12/1809
- 33 Gro. founded in Jerusalem

mayor

crackers, maybe

- 36 Sony brand 38 Cheese and
- 41 Some
- 42 Great Lakes fish 44 Tills, in a way
- 47 Notable born
- 2/12/1809 51 Role played by 52-Across in
- The Story of Mankind* 52 See 51-Across
- 53 Signs off on 56 Lake Thun's
- river 58 Absinthe flavor
- 61 47-Across led it 65 What almost
- always goes for a buck? 66 2004 Brad Pitt

film

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



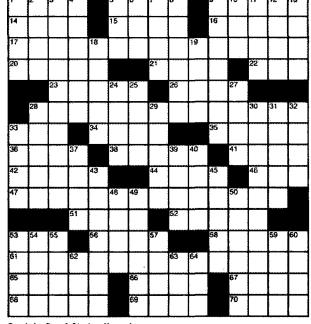
- 34 Part of a knave's 67 Tinware art loot, in a rhyme 68 Tour stops
- 35 1970s Big Apple 69 End of a phonetic
 - alphabet 70 Genesis

grandson

Down

- 1 Object of a hunt. maybe
- 2 "Runaway Bride" co-star, 1999
- 3 Drought easer 4 Chest pain
- 5 Atlanta's Center
- 6 "A Rainy Night in "" (1946 hit)
- 7 European sports car, informally
- 8 Rouse
- 9 Beaker site, for
- 10 Ad
- 11 Bluesman Rush
- 12 Not go bad 13 Old-time gossip
- queen Maxwell
- 18 Like neon 19 Place for a lily
- _ the day!" (Shakespearean
- exclamation) 25 "Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man'
- composer 27 Quarter
- 28 Scale 29 "60 Minutes" correspondent
- starting in 1991 30 Kitchen appliance
- E E L E R 31 "Er ... uh ..."

WILL SHORTZ



Puzzle by Gary & Stephen Kennedy

- 32 Slender amphibian
- 33 "Qué 37 Singer Jackson
- with more than 20 #1 country
- 39 Stamp purchase 40 Numbers game
- 43 Kindergarten learning
- 45 Go at it 48 Salty inland ____ 49 St.
- Switzerland 50 Flowery 53 Christmas tree
- omaments, typically
- 54 R&B singer
- 55 Descry 57 Literally, "raw"
- 59 1944 battle site 60 Checks out
- _Saison en Enfer*
 - 63 Comcast alternative
 - 64 Home of the Stem School of Business: Abbr.

MICHAEL MIKUSKA

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

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Dauc Cook, 37; Queen Latifah, 39; Vanessa

Happy Birthday: Don't let confusion and uncertainty bog you down and stop you from getting ahead. There will be lots of hidden matters to contend with, so ask questions before you make a decision. Keeping a low profile but a high work ethic will help you maintain your status and emotional well-being. Your mimbers are 2, 7, 16, 28, 37, 40, 45

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't mix emotions with finances If someone is playing on your good nature m order to get something out of you, don't fall for it. You can make suggestions but as soon as you pay for someone, your relationship with that person will

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): The opportunities you get will not sit right with some of the people you know. Jealousy will play a role so be careful not to give anyone ammunition to use against you. An added responsibility may be given to you. $\star\star\star$

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Sit back and let the changes going on around you fall into place. Lashing out emotionally before you actually know what the end result is will be futile and will cost you dearly. Acceptance will lead to a good impression: ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your outgoing nature will open up doors to new partnerships that can enhance your personal and professional position. Put on the charm but try not to lead anyone on emotionally or you may have to pay the consequences. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You have plenty to be thankful for and lots of plans to make your life better. Alterations to your living quarters will turn out well. A chance to engage in an emotionally beneficial encounter will leave you wanting more. ★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A push will make you decide quickly what you should do about a troublesome relationship. Either set the record straight or pull out. You need new activities or events as avenues to meet people with common interests. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): How you earn your living will take on a whole new meaning. You can launch or integrate something you've been working on to a totally new application. A sudden change in the structure and the way you approach someone or something will make the difference ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21); Don't confront anyone before you have thought matters through. Love is on the line and so are your emotions and your future. Avoid meddlers and stay out of everyone else's business as well. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A change of plans will suit your needs but someone you care about may not be happy with the decision you make. Decide if it is worth putting up with the negativity. A secret encounter will be enticing but isn't the answer. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Getting involved in a group or organization that will help you meet people will be good for you. Love is in the stars and opportunities to show others what you have to offer will lead to bigger and better things. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll be confused and scattered, causing you to make some mistakes if you let your emptions take over. Deal with anyone who is trying to make you look bad before he or she has a chance to do any real damage. Your reputation may be at risk $\star\star$

Birthday Baby: You have spunk, audacity and tenacity all mixed up into a dynamite presence. You are inquisitive, thrill-seeking and a masterful chancleon. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

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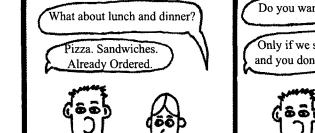


FORBIDDEN DOUGHNUT

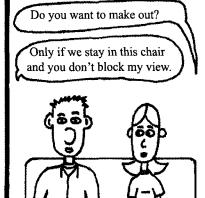
So you're not going to

your classes today?

No. Games are on.



PAT GARTLAND



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

HENRI ARNOLD

MIKE ARGIRION

Are you awake yet?

Everything

Unscramble these four Jumbles. one letter to each square.

to form four ordinary words. NABOR ©2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc All Rights Reserved. THAIB

INREET VEW KIMPLE NINTENDOW **FLEEBE**

哥 WHEN THE BOXER LOST THE FIGHT, HE DIDN'T GET UP Now arrange the circled letters

Answer here:

to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's

(Answers tomorrow) Jumbles: DRAWL CHIME WHALER ANGINA What the cowboy who repaired the truck turned into - A "WRENCH" HAND

The Observer

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S PORTS

BASEBALL

Hitting their stride

Offense impressive as Irish win fifth straight

By MICHAEL BRYAN Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame won its fifth straight and the ninth game in its last 11 Wednesday, routing Valparaiso 10-4 at Frank Eck Stadium.

Freshman southpaw Steve Sabatino received a no-decision but had a solid start for the Irish (12-5), giving up two runs over 5 1-3 innings. Sabatino struck out four and held the Crusaders (5-10) scoreless until the sixth inning.

Freshman reliever Ryan Richter picked up the first win of his career after pitching two innings and giving up no earned runs.

The Irish struck first in the bottom of the opening frame,

scoring two quick runs off of Valparaiso freshman Tyler Deetjen. After consecutive singles by junior outfielders David Mills and A.J. Pollock, junior first baseman Casey Martin opened the scoring with an RBI single.

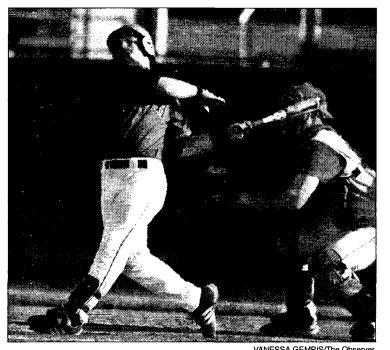
Senior shortstop Jeremy Barnes then ripped an RBI double into the left-center gap, plating Pollock and giving Notre Dame an early 2-0 lead.

Sophomore third baseman Greg Sherry said Notre Dame's situational hitting was a big advantage.

"We work on situational hitting all the time in practice," Sherry said. "That's the great part about our lineup, everyone top to bottom just wants to get the job done, whether it's a bunt, sacrifice fly, or getting the big hit.'

Sabatino dominated the

see VALPO/page 29



Senior shortstop Jeremy Barnes takes a big cut during Notre Dame's 5-4 victory over Ball State on Tuesday.

Women's Swimming

Three head to nationals in Texas

By MOLLY SAMMON Sports Writer

Three members of Notre Dame's Big East Championship team will represent the univerthe Championships at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, this weekend.

Sophomore swimmers Amywren Miller and Samantha Maxwell and junior diver Natalie Stitt each qualified for this opportunity by remaining among the most competitive swimmers and divers in the country.

"The competition in Texas is

see NCAA/page 28

Men's Basketball

Notre Dame set to host New Mexico in NIT's second round

By GREG ARBOGAST Senior Staff Writer

Entering the Big East tournament, Notre Dame knew it needed to win five games in a row to claim the ultimate prize, but the Irish flamed out in round two. Notre Dame now gets a second chance at making it to round three out of

After winning their first NIT game 70-64 over Alabama-Birmingham Tuesday, the No. 2-seed Irish look to advance to

the quarterfinals of the NIT when they host No. 3-seed New Mexico (22-11, 12-4 Mountain West) Thursday night at 7:05 p.m.

In an attempt to draw a strong home crowd, the ticket department will be distributing free tickets to the first 1,000 students to attend Thursday's game. That same incentive was in place for the UAB game but didn't seem to have much effect, as roughly one-fourth of the 2,064 in attendance were students. That attendance figure, however, may have been affected by the 9 p.m. start time for a game played on St. Patrick's

Day.
"I think our crowd really helped us tonight, and it'll be better because there will be even more people Thursday,' Irish coach Mike Brey said after Tuesday's win. "It'll build a little bit for Thursday.'

Strong crowd or not, the Joyce Center has been a good home for Notre Dame this season. The Irish are 13-3 at home compared to 2-9 on the road. The Irish have also beaten 35 straight non-conference opponents at the JACC, last losing to Michigan 71-67 on Dec. 3, 2005.

Especially for our seniors, to play another home game Thursday, that's great for them," junior forward Luke Harangody said. "They're looking to fight every game. They want to keep playing, everybody on the team wants to keep playing, we're just excited to be out here."

New Mexico, however, won't feel completely out of its element traveling to Indiana for

Thursday's game. The Lobos are coached by Steve Alford, who was Mr. Basketball for the state of Indiana in 1983. Alford then went on to an All-America career at Indiana that included a national championship in 1987.

Sophomore guard Dairese Gary is also making a homecoming of sorts. Alford's first signee at New Mexico, Gary played point guard at Concord High in Elkhart, Ind. He's found a new home in

see NIT/page 29

FENCING

Team sends 12 fencers to NCAA competition

By MICHAEL BLASCO Sports Writer

Twelve Notre Dame fencers will compete for a chance at a national title this weekend at NCAA Fencing Championships in State College, Penn. The No. 1. Irish, alongside rivals No.2 Penn State and No. 4 Ohio State, qualified the maximum six fencers from both the male and female teams.

The event caps a roaring season in which the Notre Dame squads combined for a 65-2 record. Both the men's and women's teams have held at least a share of the top spot in the USFCA Coaches' throughout the season.

This year marks the seventh time the Irish have qualified 12 fencers for the NCAA Championships, a key step

toward a national title. Since 2000, teams sending 12 fencers to the NCAAs have claimed eight of nine titles, and in 2005, Notre Dame took home the title with only 11 entrants.

Irish head coach Janusz Bednarski said he hopes that this tournament will mark his third national championship since becoming head coach in 2002, but he acknowledged the pressure and grueling toll that the NCAAs can take on a young squad such as his.

They'll be OK," Bednarski said. "Although we're young, we have some very experienced fencers who've been fencing all over the globe. NCAA competitions have a level of stress, a different environment, but I believe the young kids will adapt."

see NATIONALS/page 28

SOFTBALL

Squad overwhelms Toledo

ND holds Rockets to one run over two games in dominating sweep

By MOLLY SAMMON Sports Writer

Notre Dame needed only five innings in each game of its doubleheader against Toledo Wednesday, as the Irish swept the Rockets with 15-0 and 9-1 victories in their first pair of games at Melissa Cook Stadium.

Notre Dame (10-10) senior Brittney Bargar held Toledo (2-12) to just one hit in the first game, and the Irish jumped on the Rockets from the get-go with four runs in the bottom of the first inning, which was capped by a home run from freshman right fielder Dani Miller. Junior first

see TOLEDO/page 28



Senior second baseman Linda Kohan fields a grounder during Notre Dame's sweep of Toledo Wednesday.