



Why not drive to London?
Study abroad programs give us some time to travel — so where are you going to go? Maybe you should be prepared for a road trip.
 Scene ♦ page 14-15

Image of violent America
This is one ND student's experience with the influence of the American media on children in Austria.
 Viewpoint ♦ page 12

Friday
MARCH 30,
2001

THE OBSERVER

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O'Donoghue looks back, Norton takes office

By LAURA ROMPF
 Associate News Editor

Jonathan Jorrissen sat in the student government office Wednesday night with his legs propped up on the conference table. In three days, he would take the office of chief of staff and while some would be nervous, Jorrissen seemed quite comfortable during his first media interview.

His predecessor, current chief of staff Jay Smith, also had his legs propped on the table — only they pointed in the opposite direction. How appropriate.

Jorrissen faced the center of the student government office where he will soon be part of a new administration, headed by the first female student body president Brooke Norton. Smith faced the door to the outside of the office. On April 1, he and current student body president Brian O'Donoghue will leave office.

For the past month, the two administrations have gone through a transition period. According to Jorrissen, the new administration hopes to build on O'Donoghue's, while also implementing new programs.

Something Old

Compared to previous administrations, O'Donoghue's staff has completely expanded the role of what student government can accomplish. From implementing the Rector's Endowment Fund, which sets aside thousands of dollars for students in need, to establishing Founder's Day, a carnival that brought several campus organizations together, the current administration has

surpassed most expectations.

"I think we've really accomplished a lot people said we couldn't accomplish," O'Donoghue said. "Time and time again we went after a goal and accomplished it."

Smith attributed the success of the administration to the hard working staff, which came in nearly everyday to the office.

"I think the most important thing we did was set a high standard for future administrations," Smith said.

Since Norton's election on Feb. 15, the current administration has been working with Norton newly elected vice president Brian Moscona and Jorrissen. According to both the old and new administrations, the transition has been smooth.

"I think our administration was special because we laid out

a vision and went out and tried to do it," Smith said. "I hope and pray this new administration has a vision. We did our best in the past month to try and prepare them for what they will face."

O'Donoghue said he is never satisfied and the administration could've done more, but overall he thinks they did the best they could have with the tools they were given.

"I recognize my time is over," O'Donoghue said. "It's time to get some new blood and new ideas into this office."

Something New

Thursday night, Norton began moving boxes from her current office, across the room to the president's office. There were pictures to be hung and comput-

see NEW/page 4



MARY AIMOVIATCH/The Observer

Jonathan Jorrissen [standing] is facing his new position as chief of staff while his predecessor, Jay Smith, assists. Above, Brooke Norton moves in to her new office. Norton will begin her term as student body president April 1.

Saint Mary's issues security alert

◆ Students report three sexual assaults in last week

By MYRA McGRUFF
 Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's Student Affairs office released an assault notice to campus Thursday afternoon over e-mail, notifying students, faculty and staff that three separate incidents of alleged sexual assault have been reported in the past week.

"Three Saint Mary's students have reported being assaulted," wrote Linda Timm, vice president of Student Affairs, in the e-mail. "All three students know the identity of their assailant. There were not stranger assaults. Two of the assaults did occur on campus, one occurred off-campus," wrote Timm.

Two out of the three alleged assaults were reported to campus security, according to the campus logbook The Observer obtained Thursday.

The first case was referred to the security office on March 29, and occurred in Regina Hall on Mar. 22 at 4:20 p.m. The alleged assailant was identified. The second case

was reported on Mar. 25 at 8 p.m., and occurred on Cedar Street in South Bend. The alleged victim has also filed charges with the South Bend Police Department.

The third case has gone unreported to campus security as of Thursday, said Richard Clebeck, director of campus security. Clebeck told The Observer Wednesday a faculty member and a student reported the incident on behalf of the victim to an administrator at Saint Mary's.

It has been the practice of security and student affairs to notify the campus only when the assailant is unknown, Clebeck said. "When the identity of the assailant is known the danger is diminished," Clebeck said.

Timm advised students to report all cases of sexual assault to a friend, security officer, resident assistant, hall director, faculty member, counselor or campus minister, in addition to reporting the incident to campus security. She also encouraged students to seek medical attention should they be the victim of an attack.

"Reporting an incident of sexual assault is critically important," Timm wrote. "Even if your choice is not to pursue any kind of formal action, we want to be of assistance to you."

Timm could not be reached for further comment Thursday evening.

University names Higgins Laetare Medal recipient

By ALYSON TOMME
 News Writer

Monsignor George Higgins can now include himself in the company of former President John F. Kennedy, social activist Sister Helen Prejean, and Catholic Worker founder Dorothy Day. As the recipient of the University's Laetare Medal for the year 2001, Higgins has distinguished himself as a prominent and honorable American Catholic.

"I look at the list of who's received it before — some I've known personally or by reputation — and they are very distinguished," he said. "It feels very humbling to be in the same category."

The Laetare Medal, the oldest and most prestigious

see LAETARE/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Where is Little Juan?

Earlier this year I had an epiphany. As I strolled into LaFortune late one evening, I felt the familiar sting of hunger race through my stomach, and I decided that I needed to find something to eat. This was an incredible hunger, one that I had never felt before. Not just any snack would do. Tomassito's was right out, because the pizza sucks. And everyone knows that Burger King smells better in the dumpster the next day — I just don't trust anything that cooks on a conveyor belt. My options were limited, and I was growing more and more hungry, when in the corner of the Huddle Mart, a choir of angels sang out to me, and a golden flash appeared before my eyes, and I first beheld the beauty that is the Little Juan frozen burrito.



Adam Turner

Web Administrator

Before this happened, I always thought that 7-Eleven was the only place to go for frozen burritos. That's the one thing I've learned about love, that you always find it in the last place you look. But there it was the whole time, right in front of me, hanging out under the cookie dough batter, next to the cheese cubes. Little Juan promised a red-hot supreme burrito, full of shredded beef steak and jalapeno peppers. I was ready to test the accuracy of such bold advertisement.

I grabbed the burrito from the icy cold cooling unit and paid for it, then ran back to Dillon to prepare my feast. After a short minute and 45 seconds, I beheld the finest cuisine to ever come out of a microwave. Sometimes you can just tell when something feels right in a relationship. You have compatible likes. I like eating the burrito and it likes being in my stomach. I bet you're saying "yeah, and then sitting on the toilet for the whole next day." This is untrue. Little Juan makes a kinder frozen burrito, one that will not cause gastro-intestinal problems. It is simply a delicious way to get 65 percent of your daily allowance of fat in one gluttonous debacle.

As time went on, I tried other frozen burritos, but I kept coming back to Little Juan and his wonderful variety of meat and bean matter-filled burritos. I could always count on Little Juan being there for me, no matter how bad my week was going. I could always have a burrito if I really needed one. I'm sorry to say that everything changed last week. All of a sudden, Little Juan stopped being there for me. I walked into the Huddle Mart after a rough week in the lab, and in Little Juan's designated area were frozen gorditas! These bastardized frozen burrito products had taken away my birthright, and I was visibly upset. Did the cashiers care about my extreme displeasure? When I asked the young man about the location of Little Juan's burritos, all he could offer in response was "What?"

I left the Huddle Mart sadly that day, my friends. There would be no more burrito goodness because Little Juan had sold out. So gather your friends today and storm into LaFortune, and don't leave until the working manager signs the order that will ensure the return of Little Juan to his shelf. Then feast on the ambrosia-like Little Juan burrito. With steak and jalapenos!

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

TODAY'S STAFF

News	Scene
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Sports	Production
Lauren Kelly	Colleen McCarthy
Viewpoint	Lab Tech
Pat Peters	Lisa Velte

THIS WEEK IN NOTRE DAME/SAINT MARY'S HISTORY

Sophomores earn vehicle privileges March 30, 1971

The Student Life Council voted to allow sophomores cars on campus, ruling against a previous legislation which stated that vehicles negatively influenced academics. The proposal was based on statistics which pointed out that although sophomore had more overall academic problems than juniors or seniors, the difference was not significant enough to merit a ban on transportation.

Priest protests gay discrimination March 25, 1998

Father David Garrick, a Notre Dame communications and theater professor, spoke to a supportive crowd after he resigned. He said that he would be leaving the University because, as a celibate homosexual, he felt he was the object of discrimination by the administration. "Nobody has secure rights until everyone has equal rights," Garrick said.

OUTSIDE THE DOME

Compiled from U-Wire reports

Duke student group protests advertisement

DURHAM
Protests catalyzed by The Chronicle's publication of an advertisement opposing reparations for slavery continued with a vigil last night, followed by a rally. The students — who call themselves the Duke University Student Movement — outlined five objectives for the administration and one for The Chronicle.

Dressed in black, the students held a vigil outside Cameron Indoor Stadium during an All-America basketball game. Later in the evening, about 75 students chanted phrases such as "D-U-K-E, you will not silence me!" and "You say free speech! We say hate speech!" A handout distributed by members of the movement indicates that although students continue to object to The Chronicle's

"Duke creates ... an atmosphere that makes black students in particular feel they have to continually defend their right to be here."

Statement from Duke University Student Movement

handling of the ad, but not the decision to run it. The group is now focusing on actions Duke University should take on minority issues in general.

"For many of us, the central issue is Duke's failure to create a climate where the voices of minority people are valued and supported," the hand-

out reads. "Instead, Duke creates an atmosphere that alienates us, an atmosphere that makes black students in particular feel they have to continually defend their right to be here."

The objectives listed in the statement include the following: that Duke appoint a task force to compile an annual report on efforts to improve the treatment of minority students; that it actively recruit minority faculty and provide reports on this initiative; that it provide a center for cultural academic and social programming for the black community; that it establish a stable, well-supported African and African-American Studies program; and that it implement a plan to increase funding for minority events and organizations.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Law School files to delay decision

The University of Michigan Wednesday filed a motion for a stay in order to stall U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman's order that the Law School discontinue its use of race as a factor in admissions. Also Wednesday, the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati agreed to hear the appeal for the lawsuit challenging the admissions policies of the College of Literature, Science and the Arts. General Counsel Liz Barry said the University expected the higher court to take the LSA case. Center for Individual Right director of legal affairs Curt Levey agreed, calling the 6th Circuit's decision "totally expected." It has not been determined when the higher court will hear oral arguments in the case, but each side must submit briefs to the court in advance. In December, U.S. District Judge Patrick Duggan granted summary judgment in favor of the University, which decided the case without holding a trial. In his opinion, Duggan wrote that the University's current system of admissions is legal, but the "grid" system used from 1995-1998 was not.

EASTERN CONNETICUT STATE

School games deemed unhealthy

Generations of people grew up playing dodge ball and other childhood games. However, according to a recent study, these games might cause psychological damage. The study, led by Neil Williams, professor of physical education at Eastern Connecticut State University, states that many traditional games are played with the intent to harm. These games also result in isolation between children and their peers, according to the study. Williams compiled a "Hall of Shame" list of all games that should be removed from schools. Included in this list are dodge ball, kickball, Simon Says and Duck Duck Goose. According to the list, dodge ball is played with an intent to harm, playing kickball and Duck Duck Goose promotes cliques, and playing Simon Says eliminates players based on ability. Ruth Esry, principal of Pleasant Acres Elementary School in Rantoul, has been involved in education for many years, during which she has seen children play these games. Esry admits that the games usually lead to isolation of certain children.

LOCAL WEATHER

5 Day South Bend Forecast
AccuWeather® forecast for daytime conditions and high temperatures

	H	L
Saturday	49	34
Sunday	46	32
Monday	50	35
Tuesday	55	38
Wednesday	55	39

NATIONAL WEATHER

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Pressure: (H) High (L) Low

Fronts: COLD, WARM, STATIONARY

Atlanta	39	36	Las Vegas	80	60	Portland	56	38
Baltimore	49	37	Memphis	60	42	Sacramento	77	52
Boston	39	27	Milwaukee	47	33	St. Louis	56	38
Chicago	60	48	New York	45	35	Tampa	70	48
Houston	68	45	Philadelphia	51	36	Washington DC	50	38

Students hope to dust away Women's Center's old image

By MYRA McGRUFF
Saint Mary's Editor

The Women's Center was once only the vision of two Saint Mary's students. Today, seven years after the first opening of the Center, the small room in the basement of LeMans Hall will open its doors once again and try to rekindle that vision.

Working on an independent study project, Teresa Lynch and Karen Jurgenson designed a proposal to create a physical space on campus that could be the hub for women's concerns. Their vision became a reality more than seven years ago when in the last months of their senior year, the proposal for the Women's Center was approved.

The two students started their research into establishing the center under the pretext of addressing problems that had no forum for discussion on Saint Mary's campus. In their constitution, the students proposed that the Women's Center would be the place for such discussion. They wanted a place where students could discuss and educate themselves on sexual assault, abortion, health concerns, AIDS, and other hot topics.

Along with providing a safe environment, they also wanted the Women's Center to stand as a place for community outreach. They wanted to be able to work with along with other organizations in the community. Their vision reached fulfillment when in March of 1992, the Women's Center received a room in the basement of LeMans Hall.

Upon their graduation, Lynch and Jurgenson set up an advisory board to facilitate the progress of the center. So in the

1992-1993 academic year the center opened with the mission to provide programming, events and lectures for women of Saint Mary's. The board, then consisting of two students, one faculty representative, a residential life representative, and an administration representative pushed through the academic year planning events to draw all women of the campus.

That first year the Women's Center sponsored panel discussions, film series and sexual assault awareness events — events the board hoped would reach, uncover, and discuss issues facing women on campus.

"They wanted to connect with the Saint Mary's community as a whole," said Phyllis Kaminski, professor of Religious Studies and coordinator of Women's Studies at Saint Mary's.

Since then, not much planning comes out of that little room nor do students from all groups of campus use the space. Over the years the Women's Center has even developed a stigma — a stigma that goes contrary to everything Lynch and Jurgenson envisioned in their proposal.

"It is unfair that it has gotten the stigma because the Women's Center could be so much more," said Jami Newcomb, a member of the Feminist Collective.

The stigma led to only gender-specific groups using the space — something its organizers wanted to avoid.

"The only groups using the space were CARE [Campus Alliance for Rape Elimination] and Feminist Collective and other students didn't know it was for any other group," said Emily Welsh, a freshman member of the Women's Resource



MARY AIMONOVITCH/The Observer

Among the additions in the new Women's Center is a mural. The Center re-opens today at 5 p.m. in the basement of Le Mans.

Center Community Leadership Team [CoLT].

In the seven years the room has been available, many students have thought of the women's center as a space only for specific organizations. No longer do people see the center speaking to the issues of all women, but rather speaking to the issues of lesbian, feminist, and radical students on campus. Although the room does house meetings of the Feminist Collective and Peacemakers, those that use the room see the room representing more than just a stigma that may or may not be valid.

In the center's re-opening today, those students with a vested interest in its future hope the "more" that the center has to offer will get other students involved. They hope that with a fresh coat of paint, revived furniture and a little dusting, other

students will see that the Women's Center is open to all women from every part of campus life.

A sign of that mission will be represented in a painted mural of two goddesses in the re-opened Center.

"The remodeling will be empowering with a mural painted with different shades of bodies. It will provide a safe and empowering space for women on campus," said Marueen Capillo, a member of Peacemakers.

The Center in the past has served as the launchpad for such events as Take Back the Night, Take Back the Woods, and Week without Violence — all events that strive to unite not only the Saint Mary's community, but also unite with other community women organizations such as the YWCA, said Susan Alexander, a former coor-

ordinator for the Women's Center.

However some students still see strides that need to be taken to fully make Lynch and Jurgenson's vision a reality. Student noted, like the newly formed CoLT not only want to make the space more viable for students but also more educational. They want to provide students with updated information in the form of health pamphlets on everything from AIDS to birth control, Welsh said.

Organizers hope the re-opening will stand as a way to open dialogue between other organizations such as Multicultural Affairs, Health Services, and other student groups, and facilitate a wider campus dialogue, said Welsh.

"I hope to it will be able to work hand in hand with other organizations to bring in speakers on women's issues," said Welsh.

Friday
12:30 - 10 pm

12:30 pm
Priscilla Hayner,
Program Director
International Center for
Transitional Justice

1:30 pm
Team Building
Exercises
"Tools for Activities"

6:30 pm
Keynote Address
Priscilla Hayner
*Stepping Out of the Box:
Paving One's Own Path as
an Independent Writer*

9:00 pm
Laren Saur, Colgate University
South Africa
Two Cultural Productions - One Message

THE MISSING PEACE

A Student Conference
March 30 & 31, 2001



Saturday
10 am - 6 pm

9:00 am
Open Talk and Discussion
*From Desk Study to
Field Work:
A Global Peace Researcher
in Local Conflicts*

10 am - 6 pm
Student Panels
Child Soldiers
the Peace Puzzle
The Price of Peace
Family, Gender, Conflict and Peace
Drama
Dance and Photography
Religions and Peace
Issues in Social Justice in the U.S.
Borderlines
Education for Peace
Gangs, Violence,
and Peace in the U.S.

New

continued from page 1

ers to be connected. But for Moscona and Jorrissen, the moving process is a bigger task. They will not simply carry boxes across a room, but up the stairs and down the hallway, too. Moscona and Jorrissen will add a new dynamic to the office of the president.

"I bring a totally new perspective to the administration," Jorrissen, the current junior class president, said. "I hope to bring a high level of energy and enthusiasm into the office."

Moscona realizes his role as vice president will often mean doing the jobs Norton and Jorrissen cannot do because of time commitments.

"I think that I am unique in the fact that I am very willing to do the grunt work that comes with any vice presidential role, but I am also very devoted to being an effective leader of the senate," Moscano said.

Although people claim the new administration will not change from the previous one, Moscona and Jorrissen reject that criticism clearing depicting new characteristics they bring to the office.

"Our goal is to build on what the previous administration has done this year," Jorrissen said. "But we want to look at what they did, expand on that and do everything bigger."

Jorrissen said he is confident that the new administration will be ready to take over come April 1.

"Jay has been great through

transition. He is obviously well experienced and knowledgeable," Jorrissen said. "He has imparted his veritable cornucopia of knowledge onto me."

Something Borrowed

Because O'Donoghue's administration has been so successful, accomplishing nearly every goal they set, Norton may have a tough act to follow. However, O'Donoghue is quick to point out that Norton was an essential component of the current administration.

"Brooke has been such an integral part of the office," O'Donoghue said. "Her administration can take all the lessons we've learned as we did it for the first time and build a better administration."

Norton realizes the high expectations created by O'Donoghue are also coupled with the fact she is the first female student body president. But Norton isn't shying away from the challenge.

"Odie served the students of Notre Dame incredibly well this year," she said. "With a year of experience, I hope that I will be able to hit the ground running even faster than Odie did. And the office occupied by the student body president will finally have a woman's touch."

Norton plans to continue many programs started by the current administration, but wants to work more closely with the student body.

"We intend to increase communication with the student body, and work with other campus groups and organizations in order to take more of an active role in diversity affairs, gender issues, and social concerns on

campus," Norton said.

Something Blue

Because O'Donoghue was going out of town for the weekend on Thursday, he knew he had to pass his office key to Norton on Wednesday night. The staff had been gone for hours, the clock read midnight, but both O'Donoghue and Norton remained in the student government office.

They had worked together like this for countless hours, long into the night, over the past year. During most of those late hours both longed to be sleeping in Walsh or Keough. But this night was different.

Norton was in no rush to leave the office during this final night she was able to observe O'Donoghue and recall the lessons he taught her.

"From a distance, one can tell Odie is knowledgeable and committed to his job," Norton said. "But on a personal level he really does what his heart believes and what is best for Notre Dame."

O'Donoghue called Norton into the president's office, swore her in and handed Norton the small key to the office, which she has now placed on a blue key chain.

The calm and collected O'Donoghue seemed a bit emotional to Norton, and while he is normally a man of many words, he offered her only one final piece of advice.

"He told me, 'Many people talk about the dignity of the office, and that is part of your job,'" Norton said. "'But more importantly, your job is to love each and every student at Notre Dame no matter what.'"

Laetare

continued from page 1

mark of distinction among Catholics, was awarded to Higgins for his work as a scholar, activist and labor priest within the Catholic Church of America. He will receive the medal on May 20th during the



Higgins

University's 156th Commencement proceedings.

"The long career of George Higgins shows how an ardent embrace of Catholic doctrine intensifies the hunger and thirst for justice," said University President Father Edward Malloy. "We want to honor him for following Jesus, a carpenter's son, and heeding a vocation to serve his Lord in the workers of the world."

After being ordained a priest in 1940, Higgins completed graduate studies at The Catholic University of America. He

successfully pursued a master's degree in economics, and received a doctoral degree in political science from Catholic University.

Higgins' career began by serving the social action staff of the National Catholic Welfare Conference (now the United States Catholic Conference), where he was appointed director in 1954. In 1979, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops selected Higgins as the secretary for special concerns. He subsequently

retired to teach theology at Catholic University.

Organized labor has been Higgins passion throughout his career. Whether participating in rallies or speaking at international meetings, he became a leading advocate of organized labor.

"All my life, I've been in the field," he said.

His list of honors has been merely lengthened as the recent recipient of the Laetare Medal. He was awarded an honorary degree from Notre Dame, which was followed by a labor studies center named in his honor in 1993.

He published a book entitled "Organized Labor and the Church: Reflections of a Labor Priest" and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

The Laetare Medal, conceived in 1883 by University professor James Edwards with approval from then University president Father Edward Sorin, was established as an annual award for Catholics "whose genius has ennobled the arts and sciences, illustrated the

"The long career of George Higgins shows how an ardent embrace of Catholic doctrine intensifies the hunger and thirst for justice."

Father Edward Malloy
University president

ideals of the Church, and enriched the heritage of humanity."

The recipient of the Laetare Medal, chosen by

a committee headed by the University president, is announced in celebration of Laetare Sunday, the fourth Sunday in Lent. "Laetare," which is Latin for "rejoice," marks the upcoming Easter celebration.

Higgins continues to exemplify the values of the Catholic Church. He will be the 123rd individual to bear the medal that adorns the Latin phrase, 'Magna est veritas et prevalebit' — "Truth is mighty, and it shall prevail."

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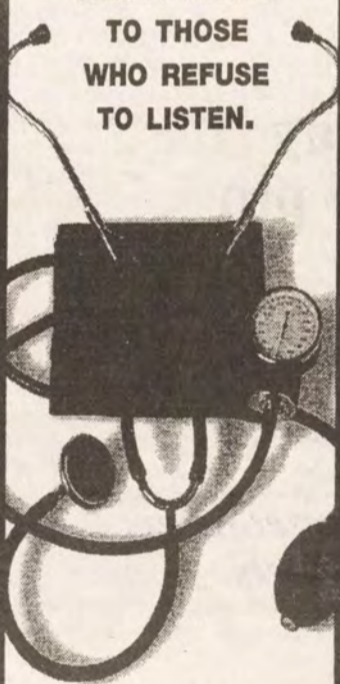
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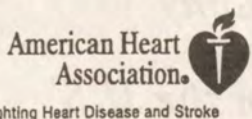
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WHO REFUSE
TO LISTEN.



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WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Somali leader to free workers: A top Somali faction leader on Thursday promised to release four U.N. workers once his men are granted safe passage to escort them to the airport. Hussein Aideed, chairman of a loose alliance of faction leaders opposed to the new government in Somalia, said a convoy carrying 11 international aid workers on Tuesday came under attack because the local militia was not informed that they would be in the area.

Alleged Mafia leader held in Canada: Gaetano Amodeo, an alleged Sicilian Mafia leader wanted in two 1992 killings in Italy will remain in detention until a deportation hearing next month, a Canadian immigration judge ruled Thursday. He is a native of Catolica Eraclea in Sicily.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Rep. Sisisky dies at 73: Rep. Norman Sisisky, a conservative Democrat who was a strong advocate for defense spending during nine terms in Congress, died Thursday. He was 73. Sisisky, a senior member of the House Armed Services Committee, died at his home in Petersburg two days after he was released from a hospital following lung cancer surgery, his office said. Sisisky made a fortune as a soft drink bottler in Petersburg and was elected to the House in 1982 after eight years in Virginia's House of Delegates.

House approves marriage tax cut: The House voted overwhelmingly Thursday to cut income taxes for most married couples and to gradually double the \$500-per-child tax credit, endorsing two major pieces of President Bush's \$1.6 trillion tax relief plan. The measure passed 282-144, which included 64 Democrats in favor.

INDIANA NEWS BRIEFS

Mother charged in shelter death: A South Bend mother of a 2-year-old boy found dead at a homeless shelter in January was charged Thursday with murder. Alkeia Blackmon, 20, was ordered held without bond. She is accused of killing her son, Christopher Blackmon, who stopped breathing a few minutes after they went to their room at the shelter following dinner on Jan. 14. The death in January resulted in new questions concerning the death of another son last year in Michigan City.

Market Watch March 29

Dow Jones	9,799.06	+13.71
Up:	1,489	
Same:	211	
Down:	1,559	
Composite Volume:	N/A	
AMEX:	861.45	-3.36
NASDAQ:	1,820.57	-33.56
NYSE:	588.68	-1.38
S&P 500:	1,147.95	-5.34

TOP 5 VOLUME LEADERS

COMPANY/SECURITY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
CISCO SYSTEMS (CSCO)	-3.17	-0.50	15.25
NASDAQ 100 INDX (QQQ)	-1.89	-0.75	38.95
SUN MICROSYSTEM (SUNW)	-7.26	-1.15	14.70
INTEL CORP (INTC)	-1.40	-0.38	26.56
AGERE SYSTEMS-A (AGRA)	+0.17	+0.01	6.03

YUGOSLAVIA

TV producer killed in border attack

Associated Press

KRIVENIK, Yugoslavia
An Associated Press Television News producer was killed in Kosovo on Thursday as he arrived to cover the deployment of NATO-led peacekeepers monitoring fighting between Macedonian troops and ethnic Albanian rebels.

Kerem Lawton, 30, a British national, died of shrapnel wounds he suffered when a mortar shell hit his vehicle in the village of Krivenik, about three-quarters of a mile inside the Kosovo border. NATO said one

other civilian also died; U.N. police said 16 other people were wounded in the assault.

Sylejman "Suki" Klllokoqi, an APTN cameraman who had left the car moments before it was struck, was uninjured.

A U.S. peacekeeper gave Lawton first aid at the scene. He was then taken by road, first to a local clinic and then to Camp Bondsteel, the U.S. military base in Kosovo, where he was pronounced dead on arrival with multiple head wounds. U.S. Capt. Alayne Cramer said the U.S. was unable to fly him out of the area

because of sustained fire.

"We are all grief-stricken at this loss," said Louis D. Boccardi, president and CEO of The Associated Press. "Kerem's courage and devotion to gathering the story reached beyond any words we can say. We weep with his family and his friends."

British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook said he was "deeply saddened" by Lawton's death, adding, "My thoughts are with the family."

A statement by the U.S. command described the projectiles used in the attack as mortars.

DENMARK



AFP Photo

An oil tanker with a hole on the starboard side remains afloat after it collided with a cypriot freightship in the Baltic Sea between Germany and Denmark.

Tanker, ship collide in Baltic Sea

Associated Press

COPENHAGEN

An oil tanker collided with a freighter in the Baltic Sea, spilling about 550,000 gallons of oil that authorities said was drifting toward Denmark on Thursday, with small slicks reaching the shore.

The collision ripped a wide gash in the side of the double-hulled tanker, which was carrying nearly 9.7 million gallons of oil, but the leak was stemmed in time to keep most of it inside.

Both the Marshall Islands-registered "Baltic Carrier" and the Cypriot

sugar freighter "Tern" remained afloat after the crash late Wednesday in international waters about 15 miles northwest of the German coastal town of Darsser Ort. Its cause of the collision was not immediately clear, and no injuries were reported.

The tanker, not fully anchored, had been leaking oil from its damaged compartment was pumped into undamaged parts of the ship. The freighter left the site on its own power and later reached the eastern German port of Rostock.

Winds as strong as 45

miles per hour broke the spilled oil into dozens of slicks that were pushed toward the Danish islands of Falster and Moen south of Zealand, the island where the capital, Copenhagen, is located.

"We will do all what we can to avoid a disaster," Danish Environment Minister Svend Auken told reporters.

The high winds and rough seas hindered cleanup efforts.

"The problem is that the waves and the winds make it impossible for us to use our tools" to scoop and contain the oil, said Frank Kiel Rasmussen, command-

er of the Danish vessel that led the cleanup, told Denmark's TV2 channel.

One of the larger slicks was about 500 feet long and 100 feet wide, while some of the smaller ones were about 110 square feet in area, authorities said.

Four Danish ships with oil containment equipment were trying to contain the slicks, aided by German and Swedish coast guard vessels.

The Danish Emergency Management Agency put floating barriers in the sea near the shore to try to keep oil from reaching rocky beaches.

Mori weaves culture and classics in writing

By NOREEN GILLESPIE
News Writer

Detailing her educational training and the discovery of the role her homeland could play in her writing, Asian-American author and poet K y o k o M o r i explained her emergence as an Asian-American writer Thursday.



Mori

Mori, a native of K o b e , Japan, settled in the United States at the age of 16 in Wisconsin. In a Japanese culture where Mori felt many women are pressured to marry, she wanted to pursue a writing career. She left her homeland because "there was nothing for me to do there," she told the audience in Carroll Auditorium.

"I wanted to study creative writing. In Japan, people don't go to school to learn to write — I don't know how people become writers. I don't think I could have learned [how to write] on my own."

Mori discovered her love of writing in high school, the beginning of an educational process that would lead her to discover she could incorporate her homeland in her memoirs, poems and novels. It was in college where she first began to become aware of the need for a strong setting in her work, she said.

"When I went to college, I started writing seriously," Mori said. "I wrote about people I thought I knew, girls on campus who were going through a crisis. The setting wasn't very strong. It could have been any college campus, and the young women I wrote about could have been any young women."

But recently emigrated from Japan, Mori was not yet ready to incorporate her memories of Japan into her writing. Instead, she focused writing about her present experiences in the United States, and "didn't really talk about the past," she said.

It was the desire to write about her grandmother, however, which catapulted Mori to take a more introspective approach to her writing and draw upon more personal experience. Interested in knowing what life was like for her grandmother, Mori began to write a poem about her grandmother, in which she tried to imagine what her life was like, she said.

That poem became the springboard for a series of writings about her grandmother, and subsequently, the inclusion of Japan in her work.

"Somehow, that wasn't

enough. It was just a snapshot — I wanted to write as story," Mori said. "I didn't know a lot about my culture that I came from, but I knew what my grandmother did every morning," Mori said.

Mori withheld from including her culture in her writing for much of her educational career, however, due to a lack of minority writers in the curriculum. Exposed to classics such as Hemmingway and Faulkner in the canon while earning undergraduate and graduate degrees, Mori supplemented her education by exploring work done as minority writers on her own.

"Everyone should read them — Hemmingway and Faulkner," she said. "But you come to a point where it is good to supplement that education, particularly if you are an Asian-American writer."

It took seeing examples by other minority writers for her to understand she could include her culture in her work, Mori said — despite the knowledge of writing she gained from modern American literature.

"It was only in my grad school years that I started to feel I had permission to write that way," Mori said. "...even though I didn't read it in the Norton Anthology of Literature."

Currently a resident of Cambridge, Mass., Mori is the Briggs Copeland Lecturer in Creative Writing at Harvard University. She is the author of the New York Times best young children's book *Shizuko's Daughter*. She has written several collections of poetry and memoirs, including *Polite Lies*, *A Dream of Water*, *Fallout*, and her most recent book, *Stonefield*, True Arrow.

Mori spoke at Saint Mary's as a part of Asian Pacific Island Heritage Month, sponsored by PAC. The last event of the month, a Mehndi tattoo demonstration, will occur today in LeMans' Reignbeaux Lounge from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Students live migrants' suffering

By ERIN LaRUFFA
News Writer

Inspired by a spring break Center for Social Concerns [CSC] seminar, a group of Notre Dame students held a teach-in Thursday night to raise awareness about the plight of migrant farm workers in the United States.

Over spring break, these 16 Notre Dame students spent a week in Florida on the CSC's Migrant Experiences Seminar in Immokalee, Fla.

As part of the seminar experience, the group picked oranges along with farm workers.

"Migrants line up around five in the morning," said junior Julie Hodek, who attended the seminar. She added that workers do not know if they will actually be able to get work each day.

"We experienced that too — not knowing if we would get work or not," she said.

Students also learned that the work was difficult and they pay was low, they said.

"We only picked for half a day, and it was very tiring," said Hodek.

However, the Notre Dame students were much better off than the other workers.

In fact, one seminar participant, junior Brian Noon, referred to the migrant farm workers as "indentured servants."

"We had the luxury of stopping for water," said Hodek, who added that typical workers rarely take breaks because part of the wages are based on how many bushels they pick.

After four hours of picking oranges, all 16 students added their wages together. Combined, they had earned only \$54.

"That just tells you how little the pay is for how hard you work," Hodek said.

Seminar participants also realized how poor overall living conditions were.

"I kept having to remind myself, 'OK, I'm in the middle of the United States,'" said Hodek. "Migrants don't have any benefits. They're not protected by any of the national labor laws."

Seminar participant, junior Joanna Garcia, said that these workers are often not able to afford to feed themselves off of work that helps feed the rest of the country.

The teach-in was just the beginning, however, for group's action back at Notre Dame. The group is planning to protest a local Taco Bell on April 8.

Other groups around the country, particularly in the south, have already begun protesting Taco Bell chains.

Protest organizers across the country are appealing to people in their teens and twenties because this demographic represents a significant part of Taco Bell's market.

Protesters chose to target Taco Bell, even though the company is not the farm work-

ers' direct employer. But Taco Bell is a major buyer of tomatoes from the workers' actual employer, 6 Ls Packing Co.

Noon explained that companies like Taco Bell hire middlemen that exploit workers, and protests on a national level are intended to force Taco Bell to encourage those middlemen to pay workers more.

"We don't want anyone to think Taco Bell is evil ... It's more that a lot of [corporations] don't really see how workers are exploited," he said.

"You show up at the dining hall, and there are all these tomatoes," said sophomore Chris Rupar, who also participated in the seminar. "We're asking you to be intelligent consumers ... Without the undocumented workers, we wouldn't have the tomatoes."

Such undocumented workers are a significant part of U.S. food production, Rupar added.

For the seminar participants, their experience reinforced their understanding of how migrant workers, many living as undocumented immigrants in the U.S., have little political power. And for that reason, students believe it is important to protest Taco Bell.

"We're the people with the political power, with the voice to speak," said Hodek.

"We're asking you to be intelligent consumers ... Without the undocumented workers, we wouldn't have the tomatoes."

Chris Rupar
sophomore

"We experienced that too — not knowing if we would get work or not."

Julie Hodek
junior

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Recycle The Observer.

Sanford shares local fears in Guatemala

By GEOFF BRODIE
News Writer

Reading a section from her current project entitled "The Grey Zone of Justice," Victoria Sanford of the Kellogg Institute and the department of anthropology told of the military stranglehold that has been choking the life out of the ethnic Mayan communities of Guatemala for many years Thursday afternoon.

As military bases began to spring up throughout the nation, paramilitary Civil Patrols called "Patrullas de Autodefensa Civil" [PAC] were established. The Civil Patrols is an institution that was installed by the military in the early 1980's in order to maintain control over the rural areas as a counter-insurgency measure.

Civilians "voluntarily" have to spend several days a month patrolling their village. Their arms are supplied by the military. These Civil Patrols wreaked unspeakable havoc and committed horrible atrocities across the country, Sanford said.

One such event was the Rio Negro Massacre. On March 13, 1982, 80 women and 100 children were ordered to march up a mountain and were brutally murdered.

Upon later exhumation of the gravesite, three of the victims were found to have been pregnant and many had been raped. Others had suffered gun shot wounds, head trauma, and machete wounds.

This was just one example of the horrors committed by the Civil Patrols and their military officials. According to Sanford, the military was responsible for 93 percent of all human rights violations in Guatemala, including the destroying of 626 towns and the displacement of 1,500,000 people.

According to many human rights leaders, those responsible for

Rio Negro and other massacres sit unscathed in their untouchable government positions. Many witnesses or survivors were too afraid to testify against those responsible because of death threats. Even judges chosen to hear the case against those officials who were named fled the country in fear of losing their lives as well. It began to seem that justice would never be served. But that was exactly the goal of the military and Civil Patrols.

"Social peace has priority over justice," said General Garcia, leader of military forces in Guatemala.

Finally in 1999, three military officials were found guilty of the

Rio Negro massacre. Many human rights activists believed that this was meaningless because those who gave the orders were not held responsible.

Sanford's perspective is much different.

In her 24 months of fieldwork in Guatemala from 1994-1999, Sanford was able to get the views of everyone involved, from peasants to prosecutors. She believes in what she calls "lateral impurity," those most responsible were those on a local level, because they had the most to gain.

"Local leaders are the ones who try to stop social changes in the community," said Sanford.

Those in charge of patrolling their own town received more benefits from ridding out their neighbor than a general residing at a military base far away. The peasants feared their local military commissioners much more than those on a national level.

"Military commissioners were usually the town butcher, because they were the ones who stole the cattle," said Sanford.

The struggle in Guatemala is one that is ongoing. And like most major problems, especially with human rights, change is going to have to come from the bottom on up.

"Social peace has priority over justice."

General Garcia
leader of military forces in Guatemala

Committee honors black scholars

Special to the Observer

The Black Alumni of Notre Dame scholarship committee proudly names juniors Anthony Greg Barber, Jr. of Amherst, VA and Enjuelle Trebreh Livingston of Houston, TX, as this year's Frazier Thompson Scholars, for excellence in academics and service to the African American and ND communities. Both will receive \$2,500 towards their student accounts in their senior year.

Frazier Thompson Scholars Award Recipients

♦ Anthony Greg Barber, Jr.

♦ Enjuelle Trebreh

Anthony Barber, a resident of Knott Hall and a finance major in the Mendoza College of Business, has achieved Dean's List honors every semester. After completing his major in finance, Anthony plans to pursue a career in

investment banking.

Eventually, he plans to earn an MBA and a PhD, en route to becoming a professor. Barber has also found time to excel in the area of sociology. He and a research colleague submitted a proposal and received a grant as part of an undergraduate research competition and the paper which investigates media coverage of race riots — has been accepted for presentation at the Midwest Sociological Society Conference.

Currently studying abroad in London, Anthony is the co-founder of First-Class Steppers of Notre Dame, and a member of the League of Black Business Students, Korean Student Association, ND Student International Business Council, and Finance Club.

Enjuelle Livingston, of Walsh Hall and the Mendoza College of Business, will earn a degree in finance and a supplementary major in sociology.

This Dean's List student and Sankofa Scholar plans for a career in financial consulting. Eventually, she plans to earn

an MBA, become a certified financial planner, and establish her own firm to help empower others. She recently received distinction as the 2000-2001 Morgan Stanley Dean Witter Richard B. Fisher Scholar. Livingston, named the 1998 Freshman of the Year at the ND NAACP Image Awards, has served as co-president of the League of Black Business Students and Tour Coordinator for the Voices of Faith Gospel Choir. Enjuelle has also held leadership or service roles for SARG [Student Alumni Relations Group], Campus Ministry, Upward Bound, and the First Year of Studies, among others.

The late Frazier Thompson '47 began the legacy of African American academic excellence at ND, as a pre-med student, track athlete, and Notre Dame's first African American graduate. Since 1997, nearly \$150,000 has been raised in his memory to support Frazier Thompson awards, primarily through contributions of African American Notre Dame alumni.

Opera presents Handel's "Xerxes"

Special to the Observer

The University of Notre Dame Opera will present Handel's "Xerxes" in two performances Friday and Saturday (March 30 and 31) at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall on campus.

Admission for the concert is \$6 for reserved seating and \$3 for senior citizens and students. Tickets are available at the LaFortune Student Center box office or by calling [219] 631-8128.

Founded in 1991, the Notre Dame Opera is comprised of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College students and is directed by Marc

Verzatt. Recently appointed coartistic director of the Lake George Opera Festival in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., Verzatt studied drama at Rutgers University and has directed opera, operetta and musical theater throughout the United States and Europe.

Conductor John Apeitos is a native of Australia and a graduate of Melbourne University with bachelor's degree in music. He is the resident conductor of the National Radio Symphony of Greece and has performed internationally as a conductor, piano accompanist and violinist. This marks the seventh year he has been invited to Notre Dame as associate professor and guest conductor.

NEWS BRIEFS

Nader to speak Sat. : Ralph Nader will speak at IUSB at 7 p.m. His talk, "Everyone Counts: Representing the Under-Represented" is free and open to the public.

Trinity School Fine Arts Day: The events will be at the Hammes Bookstore Sat. March 31. At 2:00 pm Caitlin Allen, ND student, will perform Irish dance and at 8:00 pm Nick Holavaty, ND student, John-Thomas Kelley coffee house.

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At least 17 people die in Colo. plane crash

Associated Press

ASPEN, Colo. — A private airplane crashed into a hillside Thursday at an airport in this ski resort town, killing at least 17 people, authorities said.

Seventeen bodies were recovered after the crash, said Joe DiSalvo, a spokesman for the Pitkin County Sheriff's Office. A flight plan for the Gulfstream III jet listed 18 people aboard, he said.

The chartered plane was flying from Los Angeles International airport, said

Allen Kenitzer, a Federal Aviation Administration spokesman in Seattle. He said he did not know whether any distress calls were made, or the history of the specific plane.

Wreckage was strewn over about 100 yards: Two passengers were still strapped to their seats when they landed on the highway, and one man was sprawled on a hillside.

Eyewitnesses saw the airplane go down northwest of the Sardy Field airport shortly after 7 p.m.

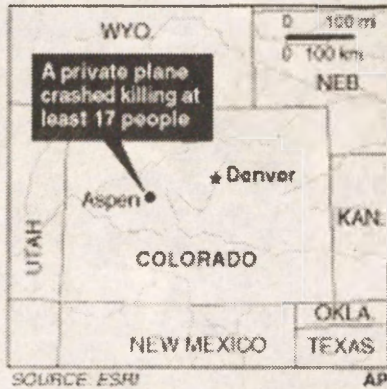
The airplane just missed landing on a runway, where debris was scattered, said Madeleine Osberger, who was driving near the airport. She said she saw the plane in what appeared to be its final approach before it crashed.

"Maybe two minutes later, I turned the corner and saw flames," said Osberger.

The National Weather Service reported light snow and mist in the Aspen area Thursday night.

The plane was registered to Airborne Charter Inc. at Burbank, Calif., said Bruce Nelson, an FAA operations officer in Los Angeles.

In Washington, a spokesman for the National Transportation Safety Board, Ted Lopatkiewicz, said Thursday night the agency would investigate.



Soft money ban nears Senate pass

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

The Senate swept away the last major obstacle Thursday to passage of campaign finance legislation as Sen. John McCain and his allies fended off a fresh attack on the bill's centerpiece, a ban on big-dollar donations to the political parties.

The vote was 57-43 to preserve the so-called soft money ban even if the Supreme Court rules that other key provisions of the legislation are unconstitutional.

"This bill is going to pass ... and if I were a betting man I'd bet it's going to be signed into law," said Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., the Senate's most outspoken foe of the measure designed to curtail the role of big money in politics.

At the White House, President Bush declined to answer directly when asked whether he would approve the bill. Instead, he told reporters he would sign any legislation that "improves the system" now in place.

The vote on the issue of constitutionality and the Supreme Court marked the latest in a nearly unbroken string of victories for a bipartisan coalition that has held together throughout nearly two weeks of turbulent debate.

"This is where the Senate takes a stand," said Sen. Russell Feingold, D-Wis., shortly before the vote. "This is the test." Forty-four Democrats and 13 Republicans rejected a proposal to direct the high court to lump three main provisions together when ruling on the bill's constitutionality. Among them were some Democrats

who had previously spoken on the other side of the issue, and lawmakers involved in the bill said Democratic leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota, played a key role in lining up votes.

"I believe that we've gone over the last hurdle, but I just don't know," McCain, R-Ariz., said a short while after the vote, and a few hours later came the official announcement that he was correct.

After making a stab at finishing the measure on Thursday night, the Senate agreed to take the final vote on Monday.

McConnell couched his concession with an announcement that he would join in a lawsuit challenging the bill's constitutionality. He added that passage would mark a "stunningly stupid" act that would disadvantage political parties and their candidates, while strengthening the hand of well-heeled, outside interest groups.

Previous attempts to push campaign finance legislation through the Senate have perished as the result of Republican filibusters.

But public outrage over the current system has slowly increased as the result of scandals in recent years. After President Clinton's re-election campaign in 1996, Congress held hearings over the coffees the president held at the White House for high-dollar donors, the fund-raising calls that Vice President Al Gore made from his office and allegations that the Chinese government had covertly made huge campaign donations in an attempt to influence American elections.

More recently, there has been much criticism of last-minute pardons issued by Clinton, one of which went to a billionaire fugitive, Marc Rich, whose ex-wife made six-figure donations to Democratic causes and the

ex-president's library fund.

In addition, McCain made the issue the centerpiece of a surprisingly strong White House bid in 2000, and Democrats picked up several Senate seats last fall, adding to the reservoir of support.

The main features of the bill would ban so-called soft money, the unlimited, loosely regulated donations that now flow to political parties — \$480 million in the last two years alone. The bill also would restrict late campaign broadcast advertising by outside groups as well as the parties that support or attack candidates but escape regulation because they stop short of explicitly advocating anyone's defeat or election.

"I believe that we've gone over the last hurdle, but I just don't know."

John McCain
Republican Senator from Arizona

The third main provision would ease 27-year-old restrictions on donations to candidates and parties for use in direct campaign activities.

The developments unfolded on the Senate floor as President Bush said he would sign any legislation that "improves the system" now in place. Bush refused consistently to embrace a soft money ban on individuals during his Republican presidential primary battle with McCain last year, but he and the White House have issued increasingly strong signals in recent days that his misgivings wouldn't rule out his signature.

Supporters of the measure already were pointing toward the battle for House passage. Democratic leader Dick Gephardt of Missouri, who has helped win approval for similar bills in the past, expressed reservations during the day about increasing contribution limits to candidates.

"Mr. Gephardt will have to, as others have, explain opposition to legislation he previously supported," McCain said pointedly at a news conference. "And perhaps he can do that."

Recycle The Observer.

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GERMANY

Nuclear waste trucks surprise protestors in storage sight

Associated Press

GORLEBEN, Germany
Under heavy police guard, a nuclear waste shipment reached its final storage site Thursday after a tumultuous trip across Germany that ignited protests and revived the nation's anti-nuclear movement.

Dozens were injured and protest leaders said 1,500 anti-nuclear demonstrators were detained as the train struggled from France through the heaths of northern Germany to the Gorleben dump. It was delayed for 18 hours at one point after demonstrators chained themselves to the tracks.

More than 8,000 police kept protesters at bay as trucks hauled the six containers from a rail depot through a forest on the final 12-mile stretch of its journey. The last leg of the trip passed without major incident.

Preceded by armored vehicles and water cannons, the convoy apparently caught exhausted protesters off guard by taking a different route from the last transport in 1997. Helmeted police ran alongside.

Germany's anti-nuclear movement, now well into its second generation of protest, nonetheless celebrated the revival of their campaign to drive up the costs of nuclear waste transport and force a quicker closure of German nuclear plants. They also

vowed to disrupt future shipments.

"We are here and nobody can overlook us," one of the protest leaders, Wolfgang Ehmke, told a windup rally. "This was not the end, this is just the beginning."

The train set off Monday from near a French reprocessing plant for spent nuclear fuel. Protests were sporadic along the 375-mile trip through Germany until the train reached the Gorleben area, where hundreds of militants clashed with police for two nights running.

On Thursday morning, about 200 protesters jeered and shouted in the freezing rain as the trucks swung into the fenced-off dump compound. Some held up a yellow banner reading "Stop atomic waste transports."

Police were surprised that the last stretch went smoothly. "Our forces were well-rested and did their job well, but the militants were tired out," police spokesman Holger Winkelmann said.

A tractor blockade and an attempted sit-down protest by up to 300 demonstrators in Laase, just short of Gorleben, were cleared before they could disrupt the convoy, police said.

Area residents who have fought the dump for years voiced anger about the tough police methods, but also drew strength from the revival of

"We are here and nobody can overlook us. This was not the end, this is just the beginning."

Wolfgang Ehmke
protest leader



AP Photo

Anti-nuclear activists watch as trucks carrying containers with spent nuclear fuel arrive at the Gorleben nuclear storage facility March 29 in northern Germany.

protests that were dormant since the last shipment.

"The way they push this through has little to do with democracy," said Brunhilde Butof, who had come from nearby Lueneburg to join the protests.

"Many people here define themselves through this experience," said housewife Gabi Blonski, 47, said of the local resistance. "I have three daughters, and they are growing directly into this."

On a muddy field in Dannenberg, site of the rail terminal where the train arrived

Wednesday, young protesters packed blankets and sleeping bags into vans and cars before leaving town. Some were already looking ahead to the next time.

"The fact that we held up the containers for so long will encourage those who thought, why bother?" said student Markus Bogalski from Bremen, 120 miles to the west.

Two nuclear waste shipments a year to Gorleben are scheduled under a German-French accord last January to resume transports after a three-year break, imposed by the previous

German government because radioactive leakage was discovered on some containers.

Germany sends spent nuclear fuel from its power plants to France for reprocessing under contracts that oblige it to take back the waste.

German Interior Minister Otto Schily warned protesters who blocked the shipment or caused damage that they risked criminal charges.

But as activists met at a Gorleben restaurant to review their struggle after the transport, they shouted: "Encore, encore."

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Bush stance on Arafat helps Israel

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

President Bush's tough stand on terrorism and his demand that Yasser Arafat speak out "loud and clear" against it are likely to be taken by Israel as a vote of confidence at a difficult time.



Bush

Unable to stop suicide bombers, accused of foot-dragging in peacemaking, denounced as racist by the young Syrian President Bashar Assad, Israel looked to Washington for support. It got it from Bush on Thursday.

The president was mildly critical of the force of Israel's retaliatory strike at Arafat strongholds on the West Bank and in Gaza, but he did not dispute Israel's right of self-defense. He backed Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in calling for security talks with the Palestinian Authority and he adopted Sharon's thesis that Arafat can curb the attacks on Israel.

"The signal I am sending to the Palestinians is stop the violence," Bush said at a news conference. "I cannot make it any more clear. And I hope that Chairman Arafat hears it loud and clear."

Secretary of State Colin Powell, at Bush's direction, quickly telephoned Arafat with the message.

Earlier, at his West Bank headquarters in Ramallah, Arafat was defiant.

"Our people will continue the Al Aqsa uprising until we raise the Palestinian flag in every mosque and church and on the walls of Jerusalem," he said after briefly inspecting his force's mobile homes that were scorched by Israeli bombardment Wednesday.

Now, however, the president of the United States has put him on the spot to pre-empt attacks by Palestinians, even those carried out by militant groups like Hamas that are not under Arafat's command.

"He's a major figure who's listened to, particularly when he speaks directly to people in the region," State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said.

Assistant Secretary of State Edward Walker, testifying before the House International Affairs subcommittee that deals with the Middle East, said officials have seen "absolutely no response" from Arafat to U.S. demands for an end to violence.

"We're perplexed. The jury is out on Mr. Arafat," he said. "We're prepared to work with him if he is prepared to work with us. Right now, we don't see it."

While Arafat has gained stature through the years in

Europe as well as the Middle East in his struggle to wrest territory and part of Jerusalem from Israel, his need for U.S. support remains essential to his cause.

But Bush not only made clear he is not about to push Sharon into land-for-peace talks the prime minister considers premature, the president again declined to invite the Palestinian leader to the White House.

Mideast leaders tend to give great weight to symbolism. And Bush has given them something to think about. Sharon was his first visitor from the region. The first two Arab leaders he has invited have peace treaties with Israel and are considered moderates

"Much as this administration would like to, it cannot avoid engagement in the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Robert Pelletreau
former U.S. ambassador to Egypt

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and King Abdullah II of Jordan.

But Bush said he had a "crowded calendar" and

implied an invitation to Arafat depended on whether he used his influence to stop the violence.

A day earlier, a pair of even-handed statements from the White House and the State Department pulled back from what had been virtually unqualified support and understanding for Israel and Sharon against world pressure in behalf of the Palestinians.

Clinton spurs ethics reform in senate

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

The chairman of the Senate Rules Committee is proposing that senators-elect abide by Senate ethics laws rather than wait until they are sworn in, a rule that might have stopped New York Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton from accepting some gifts as first lady.



Clinton

She supports the change, a spokesman said.

Sen. Mitch McConnell's measure would make senators subject to Senate rules — including a \$50 limit on gifts — as soon as they are certified the election winner. Currently, senators come under the rules only after they are sworn in, some two months later.

Also Thursday, Sen. Clinton agreed to co-sponsor legislation that would change the presidential pardon system, a measure inspired by her husband's actions just before leaving office.

The Clintons were criticized earlier this year when they left the White House with \$190,027 worth of furniture and other gifts. It is not known whether any of those gifts arrived in November and December, while she was a senator-elect.

Some of the gifts were

returned after questions arose over whether the items were intended as personal gifts or donations to the White House.

A McConnell aide said Thursday that the Kentucky Republican made his proposal without any particular lawmaker in mind. Clinton spokesman Jim Kennedy said she supports the idea.

McConnell quietly signaled his intention to change the rule last week as the Senate began debating campaign finance reform legislation. His spokesman Robert Steurer said it was now unlikely McConnell would push the change as part of the ongoing campaign finance debate, but could seek the change at a later date.

A change in Senate rules requires approval from two-thirds of the members.

"We think it's a great idea," said Gary Ruskin, executive director of the Congressional Accountability Project, a Washington D.C.-based watchdog group that has called for stricter Senate ethics guidelines.

The former first lady also faced criticism for the \$8 million memoir deal she signed as a senator-elect. Even if the McConnell provision had been in place, it would not have applied to her book deal because Senate rules exempt royalties from the chamber's ban on outside income.

The pardons bill by Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., would require those pressing for presidential pardons and commutations to register as lobbyists.

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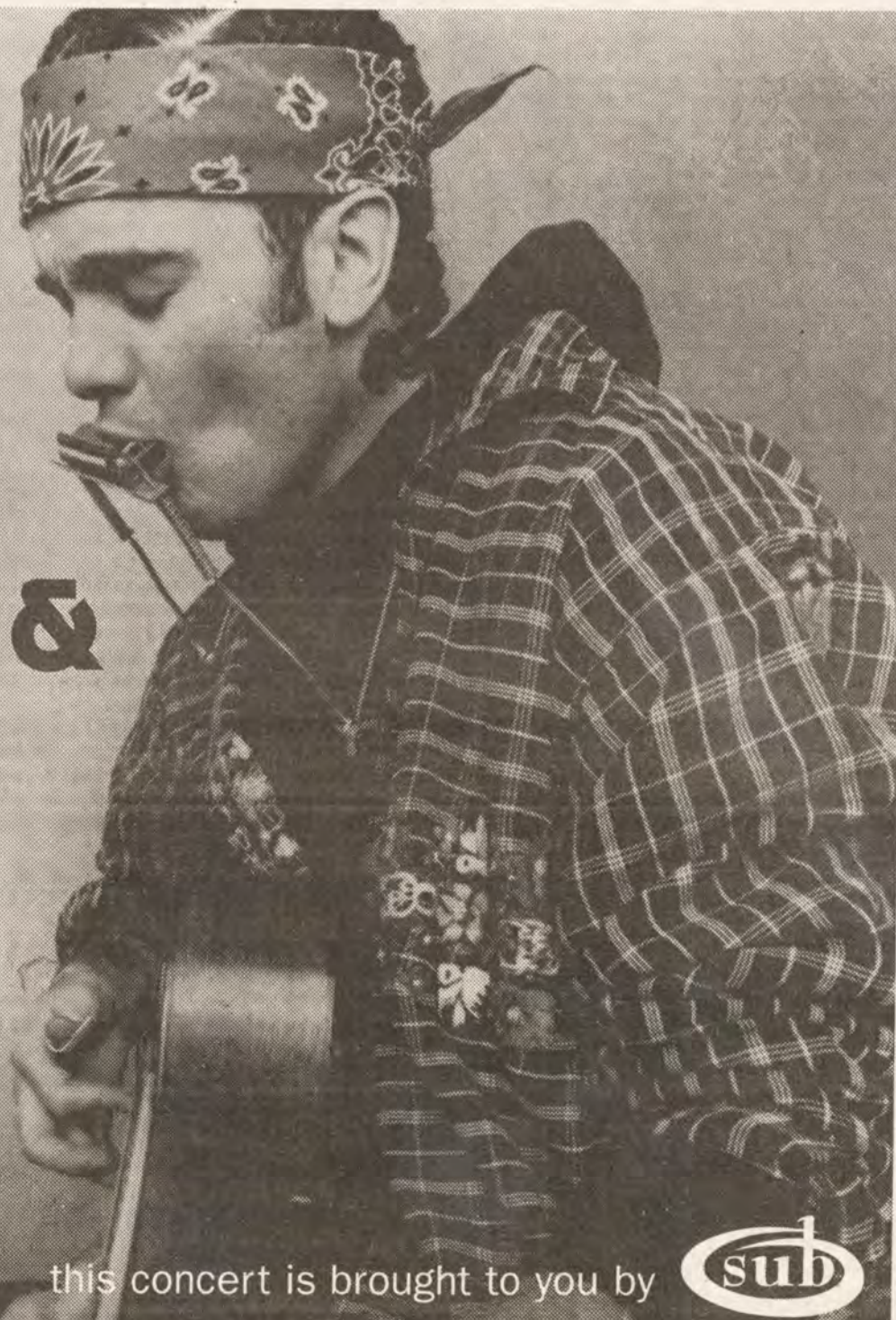
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VIEWPOINT

THE
OBSERVER

page 12

Friday, March 30, 2001

THE OBSERVER

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The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editor and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Mike Connolly.



Reflections of American media violence

On Wednesday I visited an Austrian grade school in a town called Neustift, a ski-resort town 20 minutes outside of Innsbruck. I helped a teacher at the school present American mass media and film to a group of 12- and 13-year-old girls. (A lone boy sat quietly on the far side of the classroom.)

After the initial introductions we discussed American television, in particular the countless news programs that keep Americans informed. We then asked the students to create their own news program and to perform the show in front of the class.

The first presentation featured the murder of Monica Lewinsky by former President Bill Clinton. The anchors of the second group narrated the shooting of a teacher in New York by an American boy whose hatred of math motivated his actions.

Initially, the students' inquiries into the English words for murder and gun surprised me. I had not expected violent ideas to come from the mouths of adolescents around the same age as my sister. However, their imaginary shows simply imitated the programs that they watch each day on Austrian and American channels like CNN.

The activity also highlighted the students' conception of the United States and evidenced the increasing presence of violence in the classroom in both Austria and the United States. News programs and American cop television series have led many Austrians to liken American city streets to war zones. Movies laden with crime and drugs also contribute greatly to this impression. With the world-wide coverage of the recent school shootings, American classrooms have also developed a simi-

lar reputation.

I questioned both the teacher with whom I worked at the school, Mr. Wolfgang Bilewicz, and my advanced language professor at Innsbruck, Professor Sylvia Mayr, who also teaches at a local school, concerning their reaction to the recent school shootings and the presence of violence in Austrian schools.

Neither was shocked by the news of another school shooting in the United States. Both linked the violent actions of the young perpetrators to the easy availability of guns in the United States. Unlike many Americans, Austrians do not associate the possession of a gun with freedom and therefore have no understanding of the free flow of arms throughout American cities.

Weapon laws in Austria make the acquisition of a gun incredibly difficult. Citizens must first register with the police and present reason for obtaining a weapon. Most guns are generally owned only for occupational purposes.

A difference in culture helps to explain the European conception of American cities. As Professor Mayr explained, in Austria the topic of crime remains taboo. Discussions concerning sex in the public forum and the confrontation of sexual ideas in advertisements and other media occur frequently in everyday life.

In America and in American films crime exists as a drama open for public portrayal and discussion. Sex remains taboo. This reversal undoubtedly heightens the impact of the violence that the Austrian students view in movies and sitcoms and perhaps leads them to imitate the actions of the personalities, real and fictitious, in the media.

While an actual shooting in an Austrian school has occurred on only one or two occasions, Professor Mayr noted an increase in harsh verbal language and in instances of Austrian students bringing toy guns and gas pistols

to school. The prevalence of conflicts between native Austrian gangs and groups of Turkish immigrants has also elevated in recent years.

The increasing presence of violence in Austrian schools leads to the ongoing debate concerning the mass media. Do the news programs on CNN simply report reality that movies and television in turn imitate? Or do the news shows, through their designation of stories to report, create a reality whose truth film and television then support?

In Innsbruck and the surrounding communities, students do not experience violent crimes, particularly those involving guns, as part of their daily lives. The children's conception of murders and shootings derives from their depiction in the media. Gas-pistol wielding students here undoubtedly imitate television and film.

As I listened to the students' news programs, I was forced to confront the effect of the subject of my discussion, the American mass media, on their mentalities and ideas. I wondered to what extent the media has made the children accustomed to the idea of crime — an entity to which they should not be desensitized, since they do not experience it in their daily lives. I considered the harm to which that desensitization might lead in the future.

Yet at the same time Americans and Austrians cannot ignore the crime that does occur on city streets. They cannot disregard violent actions and deny their existence in the public forum. A solution does not follow the ignorance of a problem. And so the final question stands: Can the media address violent crime publicly without fostering it?

Joanna Mikulski is a sophomore who is currently spending the year in Innsbruck, Austria. Her column appears every other Friday.

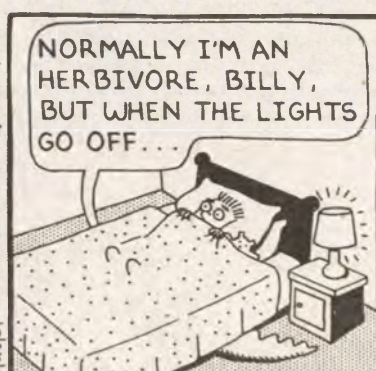
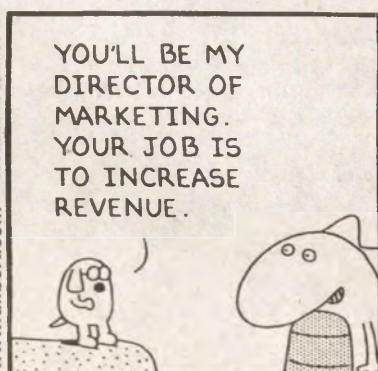
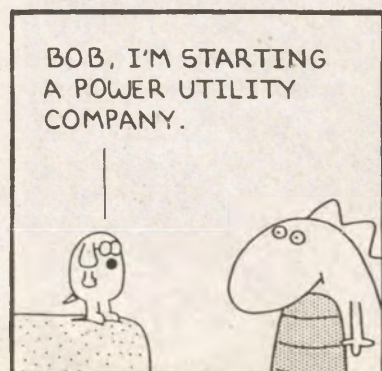
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Joanna Mikulski

Innsbruck
Stimme

DILBERT



SCOTT ADAMS

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Our understanding of how to live — live with one another — is still far behind our knowledge of how to destroy one another."

Lyndon B. Johnson
former president

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

New group promotes confidence in women

The problem is sprawling. Sometimes it's visible, sometimes not. Eating disorders and disordered eating is not only a growing crisis on campus, but throughout our country. We don't need to recognize this as a problem, we have to do something about it.

Having said that, I want to praise the new group, A Life Uncommon, and its founders. I want to thank any woman who was brave enough to walk into the meeting, acknowledging that she has issues with food. I want to encourage any woman who thinks she may be a disordered eater, who has friends that have these issues or just wants to know more to come.

Much of the battle of an eating disorder is personal struggle, yet another equally important part of the healing process is searching for the underlying disorder. We as women share many issues. If we are to save ourselves and our friends, we need to join together and find in us and in our society what it is that is destroying so many intelligent, beautiful and strong women.

A Life Uncommon allows one not only to share their pain but also to find hope in their power and amazing potential.

You may not have an eating disorder. You may think you don't even know anyone with such a problem. That does not mean you should ignore this issue.

So many things we say and do are

promoting the backwards thinking of the media. We cannot help but be influenced by the things with which we are surrounded. From Barbie to Seventeen Magazine to Victoria's Secret to Maxim, we are flooded with images of unhealthy and unrealistic women.

Girls, I know personally the daily struggle of looking in the mirror and fighting that negative voice in the back of your mind. I realize that many women have self confidence problems; what I am pleading for is an end to the negative self talk.

Let's discuss our concerns on a real level and affirm ourselves as much as we criticize. Claiming mid-dining hall meal that you are fat in front of your friends does neither yourself nor your friends any good.

Question yourself when you are tempted to talk about some girl you've

never even met, when you look through Cosmo, when you're having one of those ugly days. Who decided what was beautiful, what should be considered normal and that skinny was good? Who are we to judge?

Guys, I hope you think about the things you say to your girlfriends and girlfriends. You may be joking and we may laugh, but your comments about how wonderful that Playboy model is hit deeper than you think. If you don't want girls to ask you "Do I look fat in this?" you should make sure you are promoting only healthy feminine images.

I am disappointed to say that I know men on this campus who have honestly told one of their female friends (mind you she was tiny) that if she got fat they would no longer be friends with her. I, and many other women I'm sure, have great guy

friends that feel the need to constantly joke about our bodies. I trust that these are all in fun but I assure you that after a while they begin to sink in. As women at Notre Dame we are highly intelligent and we resent your underestimation of our value.

Whether eating disorders and negative body image are a part of your daily thoughts or not, I ask that you consider what I have said. Unfortunately, for the rest of my life I will consciously and subconsciously fight the temptation to starve my body.

Don't get me wrong, I love my body. I respect it a lot more than I used to. My point is that we all need to fight this. If we don't we will take on the beliefs of our surroundings without even thinking about whether those beliefs are right or wrong.

We need to fight for our daughters' generation, that they might realize they are not a cup size, a jean size, a weight or a BMI. Let us create a world that teaches girls to celebrate their minds, spirits and beautifully healthy bodies.

Lora Redford
junior
Pasquerilla West Hall
March 28, 2001



GUEST COLUMN



Uncovering motives behind the ban on hemp

Hemp, the favorite fiber of many a radical college student, remains a restricted crop in the United States for a simple, worrisome reason: Hemp threatens the budget of the Drug Enforcement Agency and powerful U.S. interest groups.

Since 1894, when Rudolph Diesel developed the diesel engine to run on hempseed oil, fuel industries have known that biodiesel (vegetable oil) is a cheap and effective alternative to petrochemical fuels.

Industrial hemp also can be used to produce fabrics, paper, building materials and other products that traditionally require cotton and timber.

The petrochemical, cotton, wood-based paper and timber industries know a threat when they see one, given that Congress pays the DEA to confiscate hemp plants — usually tens of billions of dollars annually as the agency wipes out plots of land used for hemp cultivation during WWII.

As a result, despite the environmental, ecological and economic advantages to growing hemp, the DEA opposes "any consideration of hemp as a legitimate fiber or pulp product."

Why should this concern you? First, traditional fuel sources are running out and biodiesel is on its way in. Opting out of participation in this new industry means continued reliance on foreign oil and all that comes with it.

Second, deforestation is harming biodiversity and increasing the greenhouse effect. As the bumper sticker says, we should let the trees grow and use hemp.

With a growing cycle of only 100 days, hemp yields four times the amount of fiber an average forest yields, and hemp paper can be recycled up to 60 more times than other papers because of the length of its fibers.

Finally, dangerous chemicals are accumulating in our water and soil. Unlike marijuana, hemp is grown in tightly spaced rows to maximize stalk, making herbicides unnecessary. Hemp also is naturally resistant to pests, and — consider-

EVANSTON, Ill.

Dana Lossia

The Daily
Northwestern

ing that 50 percent of the world's pesticides are sprayed on cotton — using hemp instead of cotton would prevent more ecological damage.

Furthermore, hemp paper is lighter and can be dyed more easily, decreasing the need for bleach, and therefore reducing the release of dioxin into the environment.

Although opponents of industrialized hemp equate it to marijuana, hemp cannot be used as a drug because it contains too little tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the chemical in recreational and medicinal marijuana that causes its pleasantly mind-altering effects.

The amount of smoke inhalation necessary to get high from industrial hemp would be insufferable to humans. Furthermore, no country that cultivates industrial hemp has experienced a rise in marijuana use.

But the DEA — unlike more than 30 industrialized democracies and several international treaties — classifies all *cannabis sativa* varieties, including industrial hemp and marijuana, the same way.

Current laws are in place because the DEA is unwilling to lose a major source of revenue and because of the power of cotton, timber and petroleum-based plastics industries. In other words, hemp's illegalization makes some people in the United States a lot of money. (The same can be said for marijuana, but that's another story.)

This issue impacts anyone who cares about the environment or the integrity of our political system.

If you want to support hemp sellers, begin at EcoFields at 1708 N. Wells in Chicago. Talk to the owner Patricia, too. There is much truth about American politics hidden in the tale of this amazing plant.

This article originally appeared in Northwestern University's newspaper The Daily Northwestern on May 28, 2000 and is reprinted here courtesy of U-WIRE.

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

Planes, trains and a

Scene writer Joe Larson shares his traveling trials and tribulations as he a

In the London Program, as in all other study abroad programs, there is time scheduled during each semester for the students studying abroad to travel to different locales than the ones they are exploring during their daily routines.

Joe Larson

Scene writer

So, like everyone else, I went on a little odyssey of sorts around

Europe. Accompanied by one Agent Pigpen and one Agent Funny Roommate, I set off on the trip we planned haphazardly on a Wednesday afternoon.

We were doomed from the start. During our three-hour wait, 10 minute talk session with the travel agent, blind deliberation about certain destinations and shoddy plans for getting places, we devised our plan and believed in it.

The travel agent said it was feasible — why would she lie? Our plan was to fly into Lisbon, Portugal on Friday and then ride the train up through Spain and France to Paris, where we could simply take the Chunnel (for those not down with the lingo, the Chunnel is a train that goes under the English Channel from Paris to London) back to London where we'd celebrate the greatness of our first European vacation.

In our heads, our trip was basically going to be the same one any superstar rock band on tour would have. We made no hotel reservations, no train reservations, we didn't even plan out where we were going to be on what day. Even rock bands do that. We just figured everything would "fall into place," as Agent Pigpen so wisely put it.

Things began smoothly. We arrived at the airport in London and went through customs. Pigpen, Funny Roommate and I were concealing no automatic rifles so everything was cool — until they told us we had to check our bags. Each of us had back packs that we thought would be pretty easy to store in an overhead

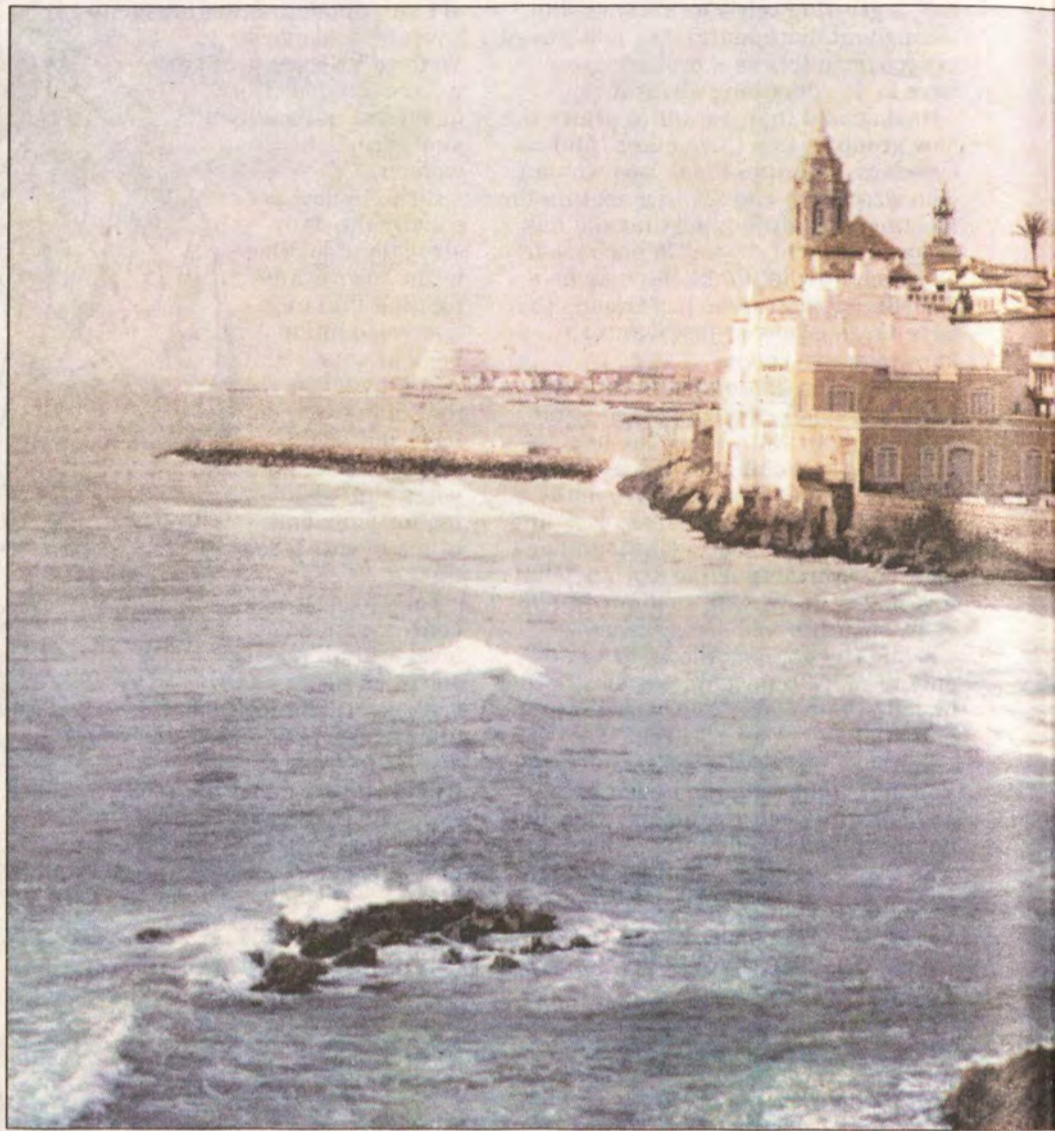
compartment, but British Airways agreed to disagree and sent us to a small room in the back of the airport where some little man who didn't speak English just kind of threw our bags on the conveyor and smiled at us. Okay, we thought, there goes our luggage, most likely never to be seen again. So we left the little man and the little room and headed for the terminal.

London's Heathrow Airport has an interesting system. Once you go through customs, there is a set of checkpoints that once you pass, you may not return. Deciding to make sure we knew where our terminal was, we inadvertently crossed every checkpoint Heathrow had to offer. Back to the beginning we went. We finally found the plane and arrived in Lisbon, and, surprisingly, our little man came through and our luggage was there.

It was a Friday night, so we decided to hit the town. Instead of consulting our "Let's Go" guidebook, we asked the receptionist, a man who looked like a cross between Papa Smurf and Don Knotts with four teeth (if you can picture that), where we could find a good time in Lisbon. He got a map and drew on it, and we followed it exactly for about two hours.

We found two bars, including one where we were the only patrons. We kept looking. Eventually, we heard loud dance music up the street and headed that way. The place at least had a few people in it. Only something about it was strange. If you made a sharp left after walking through the door instead of heading for the bar, you ended up in a department store.

The evening ended with us talking to the only other patrons of this psychedelic mix of fashion and dancing, several Italian girls who spoke very little English, if any at all. I was talking to one about Italy and after exhausting all other options, I asked her about her impression of "The Godfather." When traveling in Europe, you really should make a conscious effort not to establish



In Barcelona, Spain, one can take in the breathtaking views of the ports or visit to many historical and architectural masterpieces.

yourself to Europeans as a "stupid American," but it never fails, because you are, in fact, a stupid American.

After this awesome night of falling into stereotypes, we headed back to the hotel and I remembered that I had to share a bed with Pigpen. Maybe Axl and Slash had to do this, too.

The next day, we began walking around the city. After a bit more wandering around Lisbon, we decided to take the night train to Madrid, Spain.

After a seven-hour train ride, we were ready to go experience the Madrid nightlife we had heard so much about.

We got dressed up. I'm not talking about dressed up like we're going to the Boat Club, I'm talking like money, like the bomb. Black shirt, black pants, black shoes, dark gray socks (my black ones weren't cleaned for the trip). But I stopped short of the hair gel, I refuse to sell out that far.

But then we ran into a problem: it was Sunday night. None of the big clubs were open and the bars were empty. We went out and tried to have fun anyway.

Now, Pigpen and I speak a little Spanish (very little) and Funny Roommate took German so he had no chance. We met some girls from Moscow who didn't speak English, but spoke Spanish. Pigpen and I both tried about three different Spanish sentences, all three trailing off in the middle because of forgotten vocabulary words, before retreating to the warmth of the bar.

The next day was Monday and we did

more sightseeing. We saw the Plaza Major, Plaza de Santa Ana (where Hemmingway used to hang out), all on the way to El Prado Museum, which is the biggest tourist attraction in Madrid.

After walking all the way down to El Prado, we learned that all the museums close on Mondays.

Defeated, we took a siesta (which, by the way, is the greatest invention in the world) and got ready to go out. Funny Roommate was too tired, so it was just

Pigpen and me. We planned the night according to the "Let's Go" guide and, once again, simply couldn't find a busy, fun place to go. The highlight of the evening was Pigpen and me in a Hawaiian-style tiki bar, having drinks out of large, painted vases

whose contents are still unknown. The ridiculousness of this scene simply cannot be recreated in words.

Next, we left the beaten path for a town called Segovia, where we met with a friend, Agent Ben. Segovia is wonderful. It has the oldest Roman aqueduct in the world — somewhere around 3,000 years old. The views of the Spanish countryside are breathtaking. Ben did a great job showing us the Spanish culture we simply couldn't find by ourselves.

We drank sangria, ate paella and drank a lot of wine. Our train left at 8 a.m. the next day. We were in pretty bad shape. Pigpen lost our alarm clock. I lost jeans and a T-shirt.

Our connecting train was in Madrid following a two-hour layover. We finally saw El Prado. We got on the train and,

In our heads, our trip was basically going to be the same one any superstar rock band on tour would have.



The El Prado art museum in Madrid, Spain is the city's largest tourist attraction. Be forewarned, though, the museum is not open on Mondays.

AFP Photo

autobuses ... kind of

and his friends set out to take a trip around Europe while abroad in London



AFP Photo

some of the bustling discotheques found in the Olympic Village. Barcelona is host

due to the sudden motion of the train, I was forced to evacuate the contents of my stomach into a trash can in the middle of the car.

The funny thing was that as I emerged from the trash can, a little old Spanish woman muttered something in Spanish and handed me a plastic grocery bag. Either the lady said "Take this in case you need to throw up again," or "Could you throw this away for me?" I'm not sure, but I took the bag with me.

Then, we were off to Valencia, where another friend of ours was studying. This is Agent Susan.

When we got to Valencia, which is supposed to be a beautiful beach city, it was raining and cold. Susan informed us that "this is the first day it has rained all year."

Well, that's about right, I figured.

After spending four days in Spain I feel I'm allowed to make a few broad generalizations. The first one, Spain just kind of seems to be under construction. Each city we went to was filled with scaffolding and construction sites. It kind of took away from the picturesque nature of it.

Also, everything you order to eat there comes with fried eggs.

Pork chops and fried eggs. Chicken and fried eggs. Omelets with egg yolk on them.

It's just inescapable. You can even get pizza with an egg on it. It's weird.

Another thing, in Spain, you have to buy a lot of bottled water. So that costs money. Then, you have to pee. Except, you have to pay for that, too. I'm starting to see their evil ploy to suck the pesetas out of your pocket faster than you can say "Donde esta el bano?"

On Thursday, we traveled to

Barcelona. We got there and soon found a hostel. We went there and soon found to the big statue of Christopher Columbus pointing at something which I assumed was America, but our guide-book whimsically pointed out that good old Cristobol was really pointing at Libya — builder's mistake. I guess even national landmarks can be wrong. I didn't feel so bad about our trip now.

Due to our never-ending quest to find this crazy Spanish nightlife that continually eluded us on the trip we decided to, once again, get all dressed up and go out. (By now, our clubbing clothes have been worn and crammed in and out of our bags for a week, so we don't look quite as money as maybe we did in Lisbon, but still pretty money.)

We visited an Irish bar and people were speaking English! Yes! This was extremely exciting because I could barely stand looking at — let alone standing within 10 feet of — Funny Roommate and Pigpen. We'd all been feeling this way.

Here is where we met the most beautiful woman in the world (and her two nice enough friends). They hailed from Sweden and spoke English; we all joked around for awhile and it was great.

After closing out the bar, we decided to keep the night going (even though the Swedes had backed out) by going down to the Olympic Village, which was supposed to harbor some of the coolest nightlife in Barcelona.

Armed with directions and a napkin-drawn map from the bartender, we went. Morale was high at this point. We had just conversed with other people and could now stand each other's presence. That didn't last long. We got down to the pier and, unfortunately, took an

early right where there were a few bars.

We thought we had found the Olympic Village. Wrong. The place we entered looked more like a half-full Benchwarmer's. The only difference was the two dancers on two different pedestals across the room. Nice, but not enough. The next night, we found the Olympic Village and the awesome clubs we had been searching for the night before.

Better late than never? No.

Then, we saw all of Gaudi's architectural work in Barcelona. The Park Guiel and the Familia Sagrada are absolutely beautiful.

Here's where the trip's swinging pendulum of fatal errors began to progress with a 12-hour momentum. We were faced with a 12-hour night train ride to Paris. Again, we never planned the trip and now we've realized we had to be home in two days.

We needed to get to Paris and this was the only option. The second leg of the trip was a five hour ride starting at 12:30 a.m.

Again, due to the loss of the alarm clock, we were forced to sleep light (which is basically not at all) in order to be ready to get off the train.

Now in Paris, and we were annoyed. It was a long trip and many things would be nice.

1. A shower. We were making the French smell good.

2. About three days of sleep.

3. A place to stay for the night.

4. Someone in our group who speaks French. (I was deemed the spokesman for the group because I had French class once a week in the fourth grade).

Any one of these four things would have helped the situation. Of course, the

pendulum was at full speed now and we are pretty much screwed.

Failing to find a suitable place to stay, we decided to see Paris in one afternoon and then hop on the train back to London.

Okay, to the Louvre. We were standing in line for the Louvre in relatively good spirits, considering our state of affairs and the mind-bendingly strong cup of coffee we've just had.

Then, like Tyrell to our Princes of England, some security guard came into view and told us that we could not

bring big bags into the Louvre.

We were embarrassingly forced to leave the line and wander around in disbelief.

No Venus De Milo. No Mona Lisa. No bathroom to wash up in.

In our rejected state, we wandered through the garden towards the Champs-Elysees. After walking to the site of 1,343 beheadings during the Reign of Terror we stopped. Pigpen says, "Let's just go home." I can't believe it, but I agree. Seeing Paris without seeing the Louvre is like visiting the campus of Notre Dame without seeing Stepan Center.

Simply unacceptable.

Interesting that we decide to end our trip where 1,343 people's heads were lopped off by a guillotine.

So, true to the rest of our trip, we got to the train station and had to wait two and a half hours for the train back to London. So, there you have it.

Six cities, eight days.

I know now that six cities in eight days is too ambitious. Some would go as far as to say it was stupid.

Some would say the moral of the story is to plan better, but I already know I need to do that. I'd like to think it's an interesting look at different culture than our own. Also, it's an experience that makes you feel like an American, stupid or not. A lot of people argue about whether or not we have it better or worse than European countries. I'd just like to point out that the problem is that we just have it different.

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

In Spain, you have to buy a lot of bottled water. So that costs money. Then, you have to pee. Except, you have to pay for that, too.



AFP Photo

Departing from the bustling city of London, our Scene writer and his friends visited six cities in eight days, including Lisbon, Madrid, Barcelona and Paris, among others.

NCAA BASKETBALL

Ryan named new Badgers coach

Associated Press

MADISON, Wis.

Bo Ryan was Plan B for the Wisconsin coaching job after Utah's Rick Majerus turned it down.

"I don't know if I was my wife's first choice, either," Ryan said. "But we've had a great marriage."

Ryan was hired as the Badgers' new coach on Thursday, although he won't sign his contract until the Board of Regents meets next month.

Terms won't be made public until then, but his compensation package is expected to be about \$2 million over five years, double what he was making at Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

"We were looking for a coach with a national reputation, someone right for this team," Chancellor John Wiley said. "We found the right coach right here in Wisconsin, and we're delighted to have him."

Ryan, who won four NCAA Division III national championships in 15 years at Wisconsin-Platteville before moving to Milwaukee two years ago, takes over a team that has reached the NCAA Tournament four times in the last five years and went to the Final Four under Dick Bennett a year ago.

Ryan, 53, replaces Brad Soderberg, who wasn't retained after going 16-10 after Bennett retired in November. The

Badgers lost in the first rounds of the Big Ten and NCAA tournaments this season.

Athletics director Pat Richter said Ryan was a better man for the job than Soderberg, 38, largely because of experience and also because he has more name recognition in college basketball, which should help recruiting.

Ryan said he would keep assistant coach Tony Bennett, Dick's son, and hoped to bring his top assistant, Rob Jeter, over from the Panthers. Jeter, however, might be a candidate to replace Ryan at Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

"It's a win-win," said Jeter, who played four years for Ryan at Wisconsin-Platteville and has assisted him for seven seasons.

Tony Bennett, like Jeter, a 31-year-old rising recruiting star, said he'll serve as a bridge between the old regime and the new one.

"I heard some people say it's to appease my father; I don't think so," Tony Bennett said. "But, I think it's important to have some continuity and also to keep this team intact."

Ryan indicated he wanted to continue playing the other

Division I programs in the state. Wisconsin-Milwaukee is on next year's schedule.

Ryan is a former Badgers assistant who wanted the job in 1992 but was beaten out by Stu Jackson, who left for the NBA in 1994 and was followed by Stan Van Gundy. Bennett replaced Van Gundy in 1995.

"I am so happy for this opportunity," Ryan said. "To be a Badger is great. To be a successful Badger is even better."

Richter said Ryan emerged as the only serious candidate on Monday after Majerus withdrew from the running to stay at Utah.

Ryan's record in two years at Wisconsin-Milwaukee was 30-27, a turnaround for the Panthers after five dismal seasons when they were 31-105 before his

arrival.

Richter's criteria was a coach with a national reputation and state ties, things that could attract better athletes to Madison.

"Don't let the gray hair fool you," Ryan said. "Energy's not a problem. Recruiting, not a problem. We can sell. We have a lot to sell. We have one of the finest academic institutions in the country."

"We were looking for a coach with a national reputation, someone right for this team."

**John Wiley
Chancellor, University of
Wisconsin-Madison**

Knight's new team will play IU in 2002

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS

Bob Knight could be back in Bloomington in late 2002 — if Indiana and Texas Tech keep their date to play at Assembly Hall.

Indiana athletic director Clarence Doninger, who signed the deal in 1999, said he expects the game to be played although no date has been set.

"I don't know why it wouldn't be," Doninger said. "It's scheduled and I don't know any reason why you wouldn't play it."

Knight led the Hoosiers to 661 wins and three national championships during his 29-year tenure as Indiana coach before being fired Sept. 10 for violating the university's zero-tolerance behavior policy after he grabbed the arm of a freshman student.

Knight accepted the job at Texas Tech last week.

Doninger once was Knight's attorney, but the two became embroiled in a

rift that went public last spring when Knight was under a university investigation into allegations that he choked a former player.

Since the firing, Knight has been an outspoken critic of Doninger, who is retiring in June after 10 years as Indiana's athletic director.

Texas Tech agreed to a two-for-one deal in which the Hoosiers visited Lubbock, Texas, for the opening of the United Spirit Arena in 1999.

Texas Tech traveled to Bloomington last season for the Indiana Classic. The final game of the deal is scheduled for late 2002 and would put Knight on the visitors bench at Assembly Hall.

"It would be interesting," Doninger said. "But that's a long way off."

Texas Tech athletic director Gerald Myers did not return telephone messages left for him Thursday by The Associated Press.

Doninger said there has been no discussion of a buy-out and that he expects the game to go on as scheduled.

"In my 10 years as athletic director, I cannot recall a single instance of a school buying out a contract for anything other than a conflict," he said. "I don't know any reason why you wouldn't play it."



Knight

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MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Yankees trade Hill to Angels

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Glenallen Hill seemed to sense there was no place for him on the New York Yankees.

He turned out to be right. Hill, a key addition as the Yankees won their third straight World Series last year, was traded to the Anaheim Angels on Wednesday for Double-A outfielder Darren Blakely.

"He was fine," Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "I think he was just happy that something was done. He's been hanging around here for a week or so knowing somebody was going to go."

After making the deal, Anaheim released Jose Canseco, in camp with the Angels on a minor league contract but slowed by injuries this spring.

"He's someone we have more confidence in right now," Angels general manager Bill Stoneman said. "He's a very competitive guy. He's going to be a good fit for this team."

Hill, 36, was acquired by the Yankees from the Chicago Cubs last July 16 and hit 16 homers in 132 at-bats for New York, including 10 in his first 51 at-bats.

But his role became superfluous when New York signed free agent outfielder Henry Rodriguez, acquired backup Michael Coleman from Cincinnati last week and shifted Chuck Knoblauch from second base to left field.

"He's in a great situation now because he is going to be able to DH," Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said. "I can't have that with Chuck out in left field. That locks (David) Justice in the DH here, and Glen because just a right-handed pinch-hitter."

Rodriguez has missed the past couple days because of back stiffness, but hopes to resume swinging a bat Thursday.

In addition to its three starting outfielders, New York also has Shane Spencer, recovering from knee surgery, and Clay Bellinger, a backup for both the infield and the outfield.

"Other changes in the Yankees' lineup have created a crowd at certain positions that obviously required some moves to reach a functional 25-man roster," said Hill's

agent, Tom Reich. "This a guy who made a huge contribution to last year's championship but that's baseball in the new millennium."

Hill, who hit .333 with 29 RBIs for New York, gets a \$1.5 million salary this year.

The trade drops the Yankees' projected opening-day payroll under \$109 million, which probably will be below both the Boston Red Sox and the Los Angeles Dodgers. The Yankees led the major leagues last year with a \$113 million payroll.

"It shaves a little of it off, but this was just because we had a glut of outfielder," Cashman said.

Acquired for pitchers Ben Ford and Oswaldo Mairesna, Hill was among eight players brought in last season when the Yankees struggled, part of a group that included Canseco, Dwight Gooden, Justice, Denny Neagle, Luis Polonia, Luis Sojo and Jose Vizcaino.

Only Gooden, Justice and Sojo remain, and Gooden is not assured a spot on the pitching staff when the Yankees open the season at home against Kansas City on Monday.

Canseco, 36, is 23rd on baseball's career home run list with 446. Injury prone in the past, he split last season with Tampa Bay and the Yankees, hitting .252 with 15 home runs and 49 RBIs in 98 games.

"Jose worked real hard getting himself into shape," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. "It was just a matter of us getting a guy that can be a little more durable with an explosive bat. We feel that Jose can still hit; it's just a matter of his durability."

The 1988 AL MVP is a career .266 hitter with 1,358 RBIs in a major league career that started in 1985 with Oakland. He later

played for Texas, Boston and Toronto.

Blakely, 24, hit .237 with 16 homers and 54 RBIs at Double-A Erie. He will start the season at Double-A Norwich.

The Yankees also accepted back Rule 5 draftee Brandon Knight from the Minnesota. The right-handed pitcher was sent to Triple-A Columbus.

"I think he was just happy that something was done. He's been hanging around for a week or so knowing somebody was going to go."

Joe Torre
New York Yankees manager

Jeter's status still undetermined

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla.

Derek Jeter played in another minor exhibition game Wednesday but didn't know if the New York Yankees would let him play on opening day.



Jeter

One day after manager Joe Torre said he was "leaning" toward placing the 2000 World Series MVP on the disabled list, Jeter went 1-for-4 for Triple-A Columbus against Syracuse. He also was hit by a pitch.

After the Yankees lost 7-3 to the Cincinnati Reds on Wednesday night, manager Joe Torre said an MRI on Jeter's strained right quadriceps showed improvement and that shortstop might play the field Friday in a minor league game.

"The way I look at it, I'll be ready opening day."

Derek Jeter
New York Yankees player

Torre said. "The gap is closing."

Although no final decision about placing Jeter on the disabled list has been made, Torre continues to take a conservative approach.

"It's going to be a tough choice," Torre said. "I tend to be overly cautious here. We can't make an emotional decision. We'll see over the next few days."


Jeter, sidelined since March 16, picked up his running intensity Wednesday.

"I ran a little harder today than I did yesterday," Jeter said. "The way I look at it, I'll be ready opening day. They can tell by what I do whether or not they think I'm ready. We'll see happens."

Jeter, who signed a \$189 million, 10-year contract during the off-season, knows he's

running out of time to play on opening day.


"If I don't run full out by Saturday, I can't play Monday," he said. "You don't go into a season running half speed."



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Sunday vs. Seton Hall (2) 11 am

Notre Dame Tennis

Men - Today vs. Illinois 3 pm

Women - Friday vs. Iowa 4 pm

Sunday vs. William & Mary 11 am

TRACK AND FIELD

Track teams split to compete at Stanford, ASU and Purdue

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Associate Sports Editor

The snow has almost disappeared from the infield of the track. The temperature is slowly but steadily rising. The sun is poking through the clouds more and more each day. It can only mean one thing.

It's time for the outdoor track season to start.

After a two-month long indoor season, both the mens' and womens' track teams will kick off the outdoor season tomorrow at meets across the nation.

A small group of distance runners will be traveling to California to compete in the Stanford Invitational, while a number of middle-distance athletes and sprinters will join several field event athletes at the Arizona State Invitational. The rest of the team will head to West Lafayette to compete in the Purdue Invitational.

The Irish are splitting up the team this way to maximize the competition for their athletes. For example, the long-distance runners will be competing against a slew of national-class runners at Stanford in what may be an early-season preview of the outdoor NCAA championship meet later this summer.

Ryan Shay headlines the list of five Irish athletes who will be competing at Stanford. Shay, who placed ninth in the NCAA indoor championships three weeks ago, will be competing for the first time this season in his specialty event, the 10,000-meter run. At last year's Olympic Trials, Shay placed 10th and was the only runner to finish who had college eligibility remaining, making him a favorite to capture the NCAA outdoor title this year.

The Irish men will also be sending long-distance specialists Todd Mobley and Sean McManus. The top women runners, Jennifer Handley and Chrissy Kuenster, will join them.

Liz Grow headlines the list of female athletes heading to Arizona State. Grow placed eighth in the 400-meter dash at the NCAA indoor championships and shifts her focus to qualifying for the outdoor national championships Saturday. Although she failed to defend her 400-meter indoor Big East title last month, she still can win her second consecutive outdoor Big East title in one month.

But Grow is not the only top sprinter heading to Arizona State. She will be joined by a trio of young, talented runners: Ayesha Boyd, Kristen

Dodd, and Kymia Love. The foursome have set their sights on qualifying for the outdoor national championships in the 4x400-meter relay. They missed making the indoor championships by a mere three-hundredths of a second.

Tameisha King, Jamie Volkmer, and Jill VanWeelden will represent the Irish in the field events. King will be entered in the long jump and may compete in the 100-meter hurdles as well. Meanwhile, Volkmer and VanWeelden will be entered in the pole vault. Volkmer may also compete in the triple jump as well.

Freshman Megan Johnson, who has proven herself capable in the mile run during the indoor season, will shift to the slightly shorter 1,500-meter run beginning Saturday.

On the mens' side, the Irish will send a quality group of sprinters to compete at Arizona State. Tom Gilbert and Travis Davey will definitely compete in their best event, the 100-meter dash. Freshman sensation James Bracken, who surprised Irish coaches in the indoor season with his success in the 400-meter dash, will probably stay in the 400 for Saturday's meet.

Javelin specialists Mike Magadin and Matt O'Brien will compete in their first event of the season this weekend. O'Brien was the top javelin specialist for the Irish last spring, while Magadin, who competed in six meets last year, showed considerable promise by placing fifth or better five times.

Andrew Cooper, the reigning Big East indoor high jump champion, will also kick off his outdoor season at Arizona State. Cooper, who surprised many people with his victory in the Big East championships a month ago, will be the only high jumper competing for the Irish.

Freshman Godwin Mbagwu will probably compete in the long jump and the triple jump at Arizona State. He had his best performance in his first collegiate meet, narrowly missing the NCAA provisional cut, but couldn't break his personal best the rest of the season.

Middle-distance specialists Sean Zanderson and Kevin Somak will also be competing in Arizona this weekend.

The rest of both teams will travel to West Lafayette to compete in the Purdue Invitational on Saturday. The Arizona State Invitational begins today and continues through Saturday, while the Stanford Invitational takes place on Saturday only.



ERNESTO LACAYO/The Observer
Liz Grow, along with other teammates will head to Arizona State University this weekend. Grow will be shifting her focus to qualifying for the outdoor national championships.

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High school players live up to hype

Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C.

Eddy Curry's nickname is 'Baby Shaq.' He lived up to it in the McDonald's All American high school game.

The 6-foot-11, 290-pound Curry had 28 points and David Lee added 21 as the West rallied from a 15-point deficit to beat the East 131-125 Wednesday night.

The East led 75-60 at halftime but Curry scored 31-of-63 shots, and Curry scored eight points during a 20-6 West run late in the third quarter. Curry gave the West its first lead at 96-94 on a dunk with 1:06 left in the third.

Curry, who has committed to DePaul but is still considering a jump to the NBA, was 12-for-21 from the field. He also had eight rebounds and four blocks.

"I can't say that Eddy Curry came up big, because Eddy Curry was big when he was born, but the guy played like a giant," West coach Robert Hughes said. "It surprises me that he has that much strength, he's that agile and plays, without getting fouled, with a tiny bit of hostility."

Memphis recruit Dajuan Wagner, who became the first son of a former McDonald's All American to play in the game, led the East with 25 points. His father, former NBA player Milt

Wagner, played in the 1981 game with Michael Jordan.

The first quarter featured sounds rarely heard at all-star games — groans.

The highlight-reel dunks and no-look passes typical of this game were replaced by both teams setting up in halfcourt offenses.

The East's Rashaad Carruth actually called out a play on the first possession of the game and one fan asked if the players were allowed to dunk late in the first quarter.

The teams combined to miss eight straight shots to open the game and the first point didn't come until 1:30 in, when Curry hit a free throw.

The first dunk didn't come until the West's Josh Childress broke free underneath with 15 seconds left in the first quarter, but teammate Kelvin Torbert followed with a rebound slam at the buzzer and the pace picked up from there.

The East made 29 of 49 shots in the second half while the West shot 36 percent, including 3-for-16 from 3-point range.

"Pretty doesn't win basketball games," Hughes said. "You have to get your fingernails dirty."

Torbert, who's headed to Michigan State, had 21 points.

The game featured 24 of the top high school seniors in the country chosen by a seven-

member selection committee and an advisory panel of scouts and media members.

Three players — Ousmane Cisse, DeSagana Diop and Wayne Simien — were hurt and didn't play. Tyson Chandler, who is considering a jump to the NBA, did not make the trip.

North Carolina recruit Jawad Williams had a tough first game at Cameron Indoor Stadium. He was booed loudly by the Duke fans during introductions, then took an inadvertent elbow and broke his nose midway through the third period.

Williams, who finished with 11 points for the West, had one of the best dunks of the night, taking a rebound with one hand and windmilling it down just before he was hurt.

"I felt bad for him," said Duke recruit Daniel Ewing, who roomed with Williams this week. "He hurt his nose earlier in the week and I was kind of joking with him that it might be broke. It's just a freak accident that happened to him."

Future Florida teammates Lee, James White and Kwame Brown combined for 57 points. White had 19 and Brown 17 for the East. Lee was 9-for-13 and had 13 rebounds.

Julius Hodge, who will attend North Carolina State, had 17 points for the East.

TENNIS

Williams avenges prior defeat, beats Hingis

Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla.

Venus Williams is 6-foot-1 and looked even taller Thursday, playing high-wire tennis and rising above the debate about fixed matches and racist fans to defeat her most irksome rival.

Williams gambled by swinging all-out on shot after shot, and the strategy worked. She controlled the rallies, kept defending champion Martina Hingis on the defensive and won 6-3, 7-6 (6) in the semifinals at the Ericsson Open.

"That is my game, to hit the ball," Williams said. "Any time that I try to play otherwise, I become an average player."

She avenged the most lopsided loss of her career, a 6-1, 6-1 drubbing against Hingis at the Australian Open semifinals in January.

In Saturday's final, Williams will bid for her third Key Biscayne title against the winner of Friday's match between No. 4 Jennifer Capriati and No. 7 Elena Dementieva.

No. 8 Pat Rafter beat Roger Federer 6-3, 6-1 in 58 minutes and will next play the winner of the quarterfinal match to be completed Friday between No. 3 Andre Agassi and Ivan Ljubicic. It was suspended because of rain with Agassi trailing 3-1.

Controversy engulfed the Williams family following Venus' withdrawal from the Indian Wells semifinal against her sister Serena on March 15. There was speculation she ducked the match, and when the crowd booed the family, her father, Richard, said the jeers were racially motivated.

The Slovakia-born Hingis disputed his allegation as "nonsense," saying she could counter with a charge of racism against crowds in the United States because they're pro-American.

Williams defended her father and denied fixing

matches but otherwise tried to stay out of the debate.

"For me it's not really very difficult, because in my opinion all these things going on around me are not very important," she said. "Tennis is not all and everything for me, so I really have been able to keep my game under control."

Playing with a bandage on each knee, the third-seeded Williams showed no effects of the knee tendinitis that she cited for her withdrawal at Indian Wells. She took the offensive from the start and hit 51 winners but also 51 forced errors, numbers that even she found startling.

"Oh my God. Really?" Williams said. "Maybe I need to go to an 11-step program for unforced errors."

Her father, watching from the front row, liked his daughter's zealotry play. When she took a big swing at an easy backhand and slammed it into the net, they grinned at each other.

"It was kind of weird," Hingis said. "She didn't really give me too much timing. It was like she hit a winner, and then she made a stupid mistake."

Hingis had distractions of her own: She's expected to testify Monday in the Miami trial of a man charged with stalking her at last year's tournament.

As for the more mundane matter of tennis rankings, Williams is gaining on Hingis, who has been No. 1 for 183 weeks. Next week Williams will climb from third to second for the first time, moving ahead of Lindsay Davenport.

"She always comes up with some great tournaments," Hingis said. "So the other question is, can she keep it up? Can her body keep it up? You see all the bandages, like the wrist and legs, and last week she retired, so you don't know."

Williams said she looks forward to taking April off but expects to be ready for the final.

"I'm OK," she said. "If I was hurting too much, then I wouldn't play."

With the help of a fast start, she needed only two sets against Hingis, who let a game point slip away in each of the first three games and fell behind 4-0. There were 56 points played before Hingis finally won a game, and she double faulted to lose the first set.

The second set was tighter, but Hingis missed a chance to serve it out at 5-4. She held a set point at 6-5 in the tiebreaker, but Williams smacked overhead and forehand winners for a 7-6 lead, then closed out the victory when Hingis pushed a backhand wide.

Williams extended her winning streak on Key Biscayne to 17 matches. She won the tournament in 1998 and 1999, then was sidelined last year by wrist tendinitis.

"If I could play every tournament like I do the Ericsson," she said, "I'd be undefeated."

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WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish return home to face William and Mary, Iowa

By STEVE KEPPEL
Sports Writer

It's been road trip after road trip for the women's tennis team in the past weeks, and they are finally returning home this weekend to take on Iowa and William and Mary. Notre Dame returns to the Courtney Tennis Center with a 15-4 record, as well as a number seven ranking. The Irish had won nine of their last 10 before a disappointing loss to 9th ranked Tennessee last Sunday. Previously on a roll, the Irish had won five in a row before the 6-1 defeat by the Volunteers.

"Naturally, we were disap-

pointed, but after a loss we are usually all the more ready to come out and do well," said junior Nina Vaughan.

The Irish have been working hard this week and are very determined to win the rest of their matches and get a high seed in the NCAA tournament.

"I feel sorry for Iowa and William and Mary," said Becky Varnum. "It was a hard loss against Tennessee, but it inspired us to really work hard. The last three days have been hard workouts to get us match tough," said Varnum.

"Every time we go out on the court [for practice], we are very intense and work very hard," added Vaughan.

First up for the Irish are the

Hawkeyes of Iowa, who are 7-5 and 2-2 in the Big Ten. The no. 36 Hawkeyes are 4-4 on the road this season and are lead by the Bulgarian duo of Toni Neykova and Deni Alexandrova. The Irish hold a 5-1 advantage over the Hawkeyes with their only loss coming in the 1999 NCAA tournament.

"We definitely have memories against Iowa," said Vaughan referring to the 1999 loss. "This is a big weekend. We're ready."

"We're definitely going to be out to get them," said Varnum. "Psychologically, Iowa is tough, and we will fight hard against them, after

a loss or not."

On Sunday, the Irish women will go against a determined William and Mary team. William and Mary is 6-7 coming off a win over Richmond and a loss to second ranked Duke last weekend. The 42nd ranked Tribe is lead by senior standout Lindsay Sullivan, who is one win away from breaking into the school's top ten wins list. Sullivan could give recently struggling Michelle Dasso a run for her money this weekend at the number one singles spot.

"They are definitely a good team capable of playing above their rank William and Mary always plays well. We are

expecting to have a really good match with them," said Varnum. "Their whole team is pretty solid."

This weekend marks the first time in three weeks that the Irish have played at home. They currently have a 10-3 record on the road this spring but have only one loss at the comfortable confines of the Courtney Center.

"It's been tough playing on the road all the time," said Varnum. "We are really excited to play at home Every time we get a home match it seems a little special to us and hopefully we will get some great support from the fans this weekend."

NCAA BASKETBALL

Cincinnati basketball coach asks for contract extension

Associated Press

CINCINNATI

Bob Huggins, who has built University of Cincinnati basketball into the school's featured athletic program and taken the team to the NCAA Tournament for 10 consecutive years, wants a contract extension. He asked athletics director Bob Goin on Wednesday if they could discuss extending Huggins' coaching contract. They are to talk after the spring recruiting period ends. Huggins, 47, who is mentioned annually as a possible candidate for NBA coaching jobs, said he wants

to stay at Cincinnati. He said he is weary of the annual rumors that he might leave, and said they hurt his efforts to recruit players.

"I've been here for 12 years, and every year people have been killing us (in recruiting) saying I'm not going to be here the next year," Huggins told The Cincinnati Enquirer on Wednesday.

Huggins noted that he signed a 10-year contract with the university in 1995.

"I am optimistic that we will be able to work out the details that will have him coach the UC basketball team for years to come," Goin said. "It is my intention that Bob Huggins

remain as Cincinnati's basketball coach."

Last year, Huggins turned down an opportunity to coach the NBA's Los Angeles Clippers. On Sunday, a column in the Akron Beacon Journal mentioned Huggins as a candidate to coach the Cleveland Cavaliers should Randy Wittman not return.

"No one's talked to me," Huggins said.

"It's crazy. And all that does is let other people say, 'He's not going to be there,' which is ridiculous."

Goin said Huggins' request to discuss a contract extension came during a conversation

"I've been here for 12 years and every year people have been killing us [in recruiting] saying I'm not going to be here next year."

Bob Huggins
Cincinnati head coach

Wednesday. Huggins didn't specifically call a meeting to discuss the subject.

Huggins' contract runs through June 30, 2005, with a base

salary of \$150,000. After next season, he can collect an annuity expected to be worth more than \$1 million.

He receives an additional \$215,000 from radio, television, public relations and speaking activities. Conference USA regular-season title (\$10,000), for defeating three Top 25 teams (\$30,000) and for advancing to the NCAA Tournament's field of 16 teams (\$55,000). That \$460,000 package does not include money from summer camps or from his deal with Nike, the athletic shoe-maker.

In 12 seasons at Cincinnati, Huggins' teams are 301-96.

NIT

Peterson and Tulsa win NIT championship

Associated Press

NEW YORK

If Buzz Peterson's tenure at Tulsa only lasts one season, he made sure it would be a successful one.

Marcus Hill scored 24 points as the Golden Hurricane won the NIT championship for their first-year coach, beating Alabama 79-60 Thursday night.

Kevin Johnson added 16 points, including two baskets in an 11-0 run that put the Golden Hurricane (26-11) up 59-40 with 9:28 to play.

After nearly blowing a 20-point lead and a pair of 18-point advantages earlier in the tournament, Tulsa led Alabama (25-11) by at least eight points for the final 24:36 to win its second NIT title.

The previous championship came 20 years ago, when the Golden Hurricane beat Syracuse 86-84 in overtime in Nolan Richardson's first year as coach.

Peterson, who tied Richardson's school record for wins in his first year, also might follow a tradition started by the Arkansas coach, turning success at Tulsa into a big-time college coaching job.

Richardson, Tubby Smith, Steve Robinson and Bill Self

have all left the cradle of coaches in the past 16 years for better jobs, with Richardson and Smith winning national titles after their stints with the Golden Hurricane.

Peterson, who spent the previous four seasons as the head man at Appalachian State, is at the top of Tennessee's wish list and could interview for the Volunteers' opening as early as this weekend.

If he gets the job, he will leave a talented team behind, with seven of its top nine players returning. Hill, one of the few seniors on the team, ended his career with a school-record 100 wins.

Greg Harrington scored 11 points and Charlie Davis added a season-high 10 for the Golden Hurricane.


Tulsa used its superior quickness to frustrate Alabama, deflecting passes and pressuring the ball constantly.

The Tide shot only 33 percent for the game compared to 53 percent for the Golden Hurricane.

The Golden Hurricane held Alabama's leading scorer, Rod Grizzard, scoreless for the first 33 minutes. Grizzard had his shot blocked when he went inside and threw up airballs. from 3-point range.

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WOMEN'S TENNIS

Belles look to extend winning streak against Aquinas

By KATIE McVOY
Associate Sports Editor

The Saint Mary's tennis team is looking to extend its winning streak to seven matches as it takes on Aquinas College and MIAA competition Adrian College on Saturday.

The Belles recently wrapped up a tough victory over Div. I Valparaiso on Wednesday and hope that the confidence from that win will carry them through this weekend.

"We'll be very confident

because Valpo was Div. I and [Aquinas and Adrian] are Div. III," team co-captain Annie Knish said. "We have beaten both teams in years before and we are expecting to do well against those teams."

The 5-0 Belles will compete in their first MIAA match of the season at 9 a.m. on Saturday against the Bulldogs of Adrian College. The 0-2 Bulldogs come into the match with less experience than the Belles, who spent a week in Arizona over Spring Break preparing for the season.

Saint Mary's has just begun outdoor practices in South Bend, due to the weather, and they are looking forward to starting conference play. Last season they finished with a conference record of 5-2.

"Right now we're undefeated, so we're feeling pretty good about the season and we're getting used to practicing outside," Knish said. "We're looking forward to playing in the conference, especially Hope, Calvin and Albion."

Saint Mary's also sports a better record than the Aquinas

Saints, who will enter Saturdays match with a record of 4-2. Aquinas' two losses came at the hands of Ferris State and Embry-Riddle in late February and early March.

Saturday could provide some solid doubles play, as several of Aquinas' wins have come from wins by all three doubles teams. Head coach Dee Stevenson attributed Wednesday's win to some solid doubles play by his Belles.

"We have good doubles teams," he said. Knish will play No. 1 singles followed by

Natalie Cook, Jeannie Knish, Kaitlin Cutler, Kris Spriggle and Elisa Ryan at 2,3,4,5 and 6 singles respectively.

Knish and Cook will team up for No. 1 doubles, Jeannie Knish and Cutler for No. 2 singles, and Ryan and sophomore Trisha Jones will round off the Saint Mary's roster.

Action kicks off at 9 a.m. outside of Angela Athletic Facility, weather permitting. Should rain be a factor, the match will probably be moved to indoor facilities at Notre Dame.

WOMEN'S CREW

Irish beat Creighton, prep for MSU

By JEFF BALTRUZAK
Assistant Sports Editor

The women's rowing team will continue its season this weekend, taking on Michigan State on the Grand River in East Lansing, Mich., on Saturday before returning to their home course in Mishawaka on Sunday to face Dayton.

The Irish are coming off a sound defeat of Creighton last Sunday. The Irish first and second varsity eights, as well as the first novice boat competed

against the Bluejay's first varsity boat.

The race location had to be changed from an area near Prickett Park in Mishawaka to a more sheltered stretch of river near the Notre Dame boathouse due to brutal conditions, with 15 mph winds combined with freezing temperatures.

Because of the location change, the race was a head-style competition, with staggered boat starts. The Notre Dame first varsity boat of Katherine Burnett, Casey Buckstaff, Becky Luckett, Diane

Price, Ann Marie Dillhoff, Michelle Olsgard, Ashlee Warren and captain coxswain Clare Bula ran the 1500 meter course in 5:22 to win the race.

The second varsity Irish boat coxed by Erin Kiernicki containing Katie Besson, Kerri Murphy, Erica Drennen, Courtney Mercer, Melissa Alberding, Megan Feely, Anne Starks and Leah Ashe placed second at 5:35.

Creighton was next at 5:50, followed closely by the Notre Dame's first novice boat five seconds behind.

The Irish had previously opened the season over spring break with a match race with Tennessee in Knoxville on Mar. 17.

After training all week in on Lake Loudin, the Irish dominated the first varsity eight race, beating Tennessee by 15 seconds on the 2000-meter course head to head.

Notre Dame ended up sweeping Tennessee, including a varsity four race where the Irish won by 11 seconds, and three novice races.

NCAA BASKETBALL

Amaker takes reins of Michigan hoops

Associated Press

ANN ARBOR, Mich.

Tommy Amaker took charge of Michigan's hobbling basketball program on Thursday, with hopes that his youthful enthusiasm and recruiting savvy can revive the Wolverines' championship ways.

"This is a program that stands for excellence," the 35-year-old Amaker said. "This is everything you can ask for in the collegiate environment."

"I'm honored to be able to call myself the University of Michigan head basketball coach."

Amaker agreed to a multi-year contract with Michigan, according to a news release handed out before a scheduled news conference.

Details on Amaker's contract were not immediately released. Reports earlier Thursday said Amaker would receive a guaranteed contract of \$500,000-\$600,000 per year and, with incentives, could earn as much as \$900,000 per season.

Michigan had contacted Rick Pitino about its opening, but he chose to coach at Louisville.

Amaker replaces Brian Ellerbe, who was fired two weeks ago after posting a 62-60 record in four seasons,

including a 25-9 mark his first year. The Wolverines were 12-19, 15-14 and 10-18 the past three seasons and didn't finish better than eighth in the Big Ten.

Amaker, who will turn 36 in June, was 68-55 in four seasons at Seton Hall. The former Duke star led the Pirates to four postseason appearances, the highlight being a surprising trip to the round of 16 in last year's NCAA Tournament.

In talking about the Michigan team, Amaker said: "We're going to talk about being passionate in our program. ... We're always going to be prepared. In everything we do, we're going to be honest with one another."

"We're going to be Michigan."

Michigan's assistant coaches were not fired along with Ellerbe, but it will be up to the next coach whether they will be retained.

Terence Greene, one of the three assistants, had positive things to say about Amaker on Wednesday.

"He's one of the brightest young minds in the business," Greene said. "He's a great recruiter and he relates well with people. I played against him when I was at DePaul and he was at Duke and he's been a first-class guy ever since I met him."

Michigan State coach Tom Izzo has known Amaker since they were both assistant coaches recruiting NBA star Chris Webber, who went to Michigan in 1991.

"I think it's a great hire. He's a good recruiter and a good coach, who relates well with people," Izzo said.

Izzo believes Amaker will help make the Wolverines competitive enough for the Michigan State-Michigan rivalry to be one of the best in college basketball, making it comparable to Duke and North Carolina's rivalry.

"That's what it's all about," Izzo said.

Seton Hall was ranked as high as No. 7 early in the season, but the team fell apart down the stretch and didn't qualify for the Big East post-season tournament until it beat Connecticut in its regular season finale.

The Pirates finished 16-15



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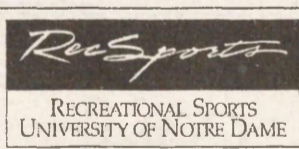
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Baseball

continued from page 28

normally consisted of single runs, not offensive break-outs.

"I don't think we've been aggressive enough," said catcher Paul O'Toole. "We've had our chances, and we haven't taken advantage of them."

Part of the reason for the offense's slow start lies with Notre Dame's inconsistent production across the order. While some hitters like freshman Steve Sollmann, sophomore Brian Stavisky, and senior Andrew Bushey have been red hot this season, both hitting over .345, others like senior shortstop Alec Porzel and O'Toole have struggled at the plate thus far, hitting .191 and .239 respectively.

The trials at the plate have put pressure on the hitters to produce. "It's not said, but [the pressure] is something that's going on for all the hitters," said O'Toole. "We're the only part of the team that's lagging right now, and we want to go out and prove we can score runs, and take the pressure off the pitchers to pitch shutouts or one-run games."

Seton Hall offers an opportunity for the Irish to gain some confidence at the plate against a pitching staff that has lost games, not won them, this season.

This weekend the Irish pitching staff faces a Seton Hall squad that averages seven runs a game, but that figure is misleading. The Pirates scored 18 runs on little-known Manhattan College, and 16 runs on even more obscure Long Island University.

They have yet to face a team as well-armed as the Irish, with pitchers like starters Aaron Heilman, and Danny Tamayo and reliever Matt Laird, all who have ERAs under two.

The Irish (17-4-1) enter the weekend on a customary high note, having dismantled Toledo on Wednesday 6-1. The encouraging result of the game was the

Irish's production at the plate, with every starter getting a hit on the road to a 14-hit performance.

Seton Hall, on the other hand, comes to Frank Eck Stadium on the heels of an unimpressive 5-3 victory over Monmouth University (5-18). The Pirates sport a 5-2 record in Big East play, with multiple victories over Pittsburgh and Villanova.

The Irish are looking to improve their record in Big East play, having dropped two heartbreakers to Virginia Tech last weekend in Blacksburg, Va., while pounding Pittsburgh at Pittsburgh. The Hokies twice overcame 2 run deficits in the final inning to secure victory.

With their first home Big East series just 24 hours away, the Irish know Seton Hall won't be a walk in the park.

"Seton Hall usually has a strong team," said O'Toole. "They're usually up there in the Big East standings, and anyone can beat anyone."

MEN'S GOLF

Ratay, Kent lead team to Johnny Ray Invite

By KEVIN BERCHOU
Sports Writer

In Augusta, it's signified by azaleas in full bloom and the sports masters at their best; while in South Bend, it's introduced by 40 degree temperatures and college's young guns trying to secure a spot in the NCAA Tournament they've long been shut out of.

Either way, it is the arrival of golf season, and this year the Notre Dame men's team hopes it's finally time inch its way back into the tournament.

The last year Notre Dame played in the NCAA Tournament was 1966. Jack Nicklaus was prince, Arnold Palmer was "The King" and the world had yet to see the moon, or Tiger Woods for that matter.

Thirty five years later, head coach George Thomas is optimistic that his team can rebound from a tough fall season to capture that elusive tournament bid.

"I am very optimistic about the coming year," Thomas said. "We are definitely more talented than the way we played in the fall."

Fueling Thomas' optimism is the return of his top two players, senior Alex Kent and junior Steve Ratay, both of whom boast scoring averages that rank among Notre Dame's all-time top five.

Kent's sterling 73.92 average is the best in school history, while Ratay is close behind, carding a mere 75.46 strokes per round.

"Alex is a premier player with great experience. He and Steve [Ratay] really compliment each other well," Thomas noted.

Though Kent has historically been the better player, it was Ratay who led the team's fall campaign, finishing as the low man in three of four events including the Wisconsin Invitational where he fired rounds of 71-70-71 to take medallist honors.

"Steve is as good a golfer as we'll see this spring. He is very dedicated to improving his game. He's our leader and team captain and has worked hard to get ready. I expect him to be a formidable force this spring," Thomas said.

Adding to Notre Dame's optimism is the return of senior Kyle Monfort who sat out last season. Monfort will likely shoot from the third spot, while Pat Schaffler will occupy the lineup's fourth spot, giving the Irish quite a quad at the top of the lineup.

"Kyle's return really makes us much stronger. He gives us another strong golfer at the top of the lineup," Thomas said.

The team's success, however, could hinge on Thomas' ability to find the right mix of talent to fill out his lineup.

Six golfers will compete for the last two spots, and Thomas is hopeful that this year his squad can finally be strong from top to bottom.

"Those spots are really important in the lineup, especially if one of the top players has a bad round. We never really came up with a consistent fifth and sixth man in the fall," Thomas said.

After finishing a respectable but unspectacular 18th in the rain-shortened El Diablo Intercollegiate last weekend, 26 strokes behind winner Toledo, Notre Dame will be looking for more birdies and less bogeys this weekend when they head south to tee it up in Johnny Owens Invitational in Lexington, Kentucky.

The Irish shot makers are not kidding themselves, though. They realize that the tournaments on the spring slate serve essentially one purpose: to get ready for the Big East Championships. After taking three titles in four years, the Irish choked at last year's spring tournament, The Masters, the first year the conference champion received an automatic berth to the Big Dance.

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WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish look to improve at weekend invitational

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Sports Writer

The Irish golf team will leave the icy links of South Bend and travel to Williamsburg, Virginia this weekend to compete in the William and Mary Invitational.

The Irish got off to a slow start earlier this year at the Carolina's Collegiate Classic in late February, finishing last in a field of 22 teams. However, they were competing against many Southern and East Coast teams that have the advantage of playing golf nearly year-round. In Northern Indiana, the Irish are forced to spend most of the winter hitting indoors or training in the weight room while Southern teams are gaining real playing experience on the course.

The team has begun to bounce back, however, as shown by its progress in the Snowbird Invitational held in Tampa. In this second tournament, the team placed a respectable ninth in the field of 17 teams.

Their success in the tournament was mostly evident in the way they placed as individuals.

Four players placed in the top 20, led by freshman Shannon Byrne and sophomore Terri Taibl who finished

in a tie for 12th place with a two-round score of 158. Close behind were senior captain Shane Smith and sophomore

Shelby Strong, who tied for a seventeenth place finish with scores of 160.

Byrne has been extremely impressive this spring season, earning top team honors in both of the first two tournaments. Her sudden success, along with strong play from her teammates, has taken some of the pressure off of the senior Smith, who lead the team in the fall season with a team-low 79.82 scoring average.

As the Irish move through the season, they look to improve their performance in each tournament. The team really has an opportunity to make a name for itself as a contender in the NCAA Central Region with a solid outing this weekend in Virginia. Many of the teams in Notre Dame's region will be participating in this tournament, including the host team and favorite William and Mary.

This contest is the first of three in a row that will be very important for the Irish in regional play, traveling to Indiana University next weekend and then to the University of Illinois the following weekend.



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MEN'S LACROSSE

Irish will rely Ulrich's offense for win over Ohio State

By MIKE CONNOLLY
Sports Writer

If the Ohio State Buckeyes stick to their past game plans this Sunday in their match-up with the No. 7 Notre Dame men's lacrosse team, they will try to shut down Irish star David Ulrich.

Two years ago that plan worked as the Buckeyes held the then-sophomore to just a single assist in a 5-4 upset of the Irish.

The same box-and-two zone defense that bottled up the Irish attack in 1999 failed in 2000, however. While Ulrich scored a goal and dished two assists, the rest of the Irish offense exploded for 13 goals — including five by Tom Glatzel in a 13-4 Irish victory.

Despite their success against the Buckeye defense last year, the Irish expect to see that same strategy in their Great Western Lacrosse League opener. Although the Irish seemed

to have solved the Buckeye defense, Ulrich is the one makes the offense go.

"It didn't really work last year when we implemented a zone offense," said midfielder Todd Ulrich, David's twin brother. "Dave is the key for us on offense. He instigates the offense for us."

If the Buckeyes continue to focus their defense on David Ulrich, the Irish expect the rest of their attack and midfielders to contribute.

"We're all pretty capable of beating their defense," Todd Ulrich said. "We've been able to score a lot offensively."

If the Buckeyes manage to shut down the Irish attack, they will be the first team to accomplish that feat. In all six of their games, the Irish have scored nine or more goals while allowing their opponent to score more than 10 goals only once.

The one time the Irish allowed more than 10 goals, however, was last week's loss to Hofstra. Coming off their first

loss of the season, the Irish are more concerned with cutting down on mental mistakes than anything the Buckeyes might throw at them.

Last week against Hofstra, the Irish say mental breakdowns and fundamental mistakes led to their 11-10 overtime loss.

"We just have to stick to our plan and work on fundamentals," Todd Ulrich said. "We made a lot of fundamental and mental breakdowns. We just weren't making plays last week."

The Irish hope to improve their clearing game against the Buckeyes, according to Todd Ulrich. When the Irish have made a stop of defense, they have been unable to move the ball up the field to their attack.

"The thing we have really been screwing up is our clearing game," Todd Ulrich said. "When we actually get the ball on offense we have been getting pretty good positions."



ERNESTO LACAYO/The Observer
The Irish will expect the Ohio State Buckeyes to focus their defense on star offensive player David Ulrich in this weekend's match.

NASCAR

Law will keep autopsy photos confidential

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — With the widow of race car driver Dale Earnhardt at his side, Gov. Jeb Bush signed a bill Thursday to keep autopsy photos closed to the public unless a judge approves their release.

The law sprang from an out-

cry over the Orlando Sentinel's request to see Earnhardt's autopsy photos. Teresa Earnhardt led the protests, saying she wanted to protect her family's privacy.

The measure, passed unanimously in the Senate earlier Thursday, makes it a felony to release the records improperly, with a maximum sentence

of five years in jail and a \$5,000 fine.

Bush thanked the Legislature for handling the bill in what he called record speed.

"A tribute to the speed of Dale Earnhardt," the governor said.

The new law is certain to be tested in the courts because such photos had been open as part of Florida's Sunshine Law, the most liberal public-records rule in the country.

The law will not affect the Sentinel's effort to see the pictures, which was handled in mediation. A court-appointed expert has reviewed them and will issue a report that will go to the widow and the newspaper.

Earnhardt was killed in a crash on the last lap of the Daytona 500 in February. His widow won a court order to keep the autopsy photos private. A day later, the Sentinel went to court and, citing the open-records law, asked that the newspaper's medical expert be allowed to see the shots.

The newspaper said it had no intention of publishing the photos; it wanted to examine the pictures for its reporting on NASCAR safety.

Racing fans bombarded Bush, legislative leaders and the Sentinel with thousands of e-mails, letters and telephone calls, protesting media efforts to see the photos.

The Sentinel and other news organizations plan to challenge the law as unconstitutional.

"This is a sad day for Florida residents," said Ray Marcano, president of the Society of Professional Journalists and assistant managing editor for production at the Dayton

(Ohio) Daily News. "Florida has taken a giant leap backward by weakening what had been the nation's best open-records law."

Marcano's group, along with the American Society of Newspaper Editors, supported the push to keep the public records law from being changed.

"I'm just so disappointed that lawmakers would give this kind of bill special treatment when bills for education and social issues don't seem to get it," Sentinel attorney David Bralow said on the newspaper's Web site.

Thom Rumberger, attorney for the Earnhardt family, said the media's fear is misguided.

"A reading of this bill clearly, clearly specifies that anybody who as a just cause and needs to see those records can get them," Rumberger said. "But now, you can't just walk

in there and say, 'I want to see records.'"

Similar legislation is awaiting the governor's signature in Georgia and is under consideration in North Carolina, South Carolina and Louisiana.

"We have said from the beginning that if one news organization is granted access to these private and painful images of my husband, others will request access, and sooner or later they would be published on the Internet and elsewhere," Mrs. Earnhardt said at the bill signing.

The president of a Web site and a student newspaper at the University of Florida are pursuing their own court cases for access to the autopsy photos.

"I'm just so disappointed that lawmakers would give this kind of bill special treatment when bills for education and social issues don't seem to get it."

David Bralow
attorney

Tennis

continued from page 1

Smith, ranked 91st, may have suffered for an uncertain first set.

"Casey was tentative in the first set. When someone's not one hundred percent, you feel like you shouldn't play your game," said Bayliss. "But if you don't step up and hit with authority, you end up playing into his hands."

Junior Javier Taborga, ranked no. 93, was defeated by no. 70 ranked Philip Stolt 6-4, 3-6, 6-2. "As it went on, I was able to use my forehand more, but he put a lot of pressure on my serve," said Taborga. "And if Casey or I had won, we would have been able to win the match."

Notre Dame's only two triumphs came from junior Aaron Talarico and sophomore Brian Farrell at no. 4 and 5 singles. Farrell defeated Michael Calkins 7-6, 6-0, and Talarico beat Mike Kosta 6-3, 7-5.

Farrell's win makes his record 13-2 for dual match competition.

"[Brian Farrell] really deserves a lot of credit. And Aaron has been a rock. He's a point we've really come to count on," said Bayliss.

Senior Matt Daly took his first loss of the season against the Illini in a tough set against Nathan Zeder, 7-6, 7-5.

Only five matches remain in the regular season, but the Irish still hope to earn the right to host a regional match by maintaining a top 16 ranking.

"The other two times we've lost, we've come back in the next match, and that's what we have to do against Miami," said freshman Luis Haddock-Morales.

Facing the Hurricanes' 90 degree environment could be an adjustment. "Beating Miami at Miami will be more difficult than beating Illinois here," said Bayliss. "There are a lot of excuses, but can we win? Are we good enough to win? Yes. It will be a war."

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FOOTBALL

Davie: Too early to choose frontrunner for quarterback



ERNESTO LACAYO/The Observer
With eight games under his belt, freshman Matt LoVecchio may have an advantage over the other two freshman quarterbacks to win the starting job in the fall.

By KATHLEEN O'BRIEN
Senior Sports Writer

Bob Davie may not know who will be quarterbacking the offense or who will wind up as the prime receiving target come September, but Davie knows he's got a talented pool of players to pick from.

"It's a little too early," said Davie about picking a frontrunner at quarterback. "So far, it's confirmed exactly what we've thought — that those two quarterbacks that we didn't see a whole lot of are extremely talented. We really have three guys, I think it's kind of remarkable, that they're just freshmen and we can watch them throw like that."

Matt LoVecchio, the starter for most of the 2000 season, split reps with fellow freshmen Carlyle Holiday and Jared Clark in Thursday's practice. Davie plans to divide reps among the trio throughout spring practices.

"Exactly even, it's dead even with reps," Davie said. "Clark has great velocity on it. I'm impressed with Carlyle and the level he's throwing the ball right now."

LoVecchio's still got an edge, with eight games beneath his belt.

A positive for the Irish is that all three quarterbacks are capable of employing the same offensive style.

Last year, Notre Dame found itself in a quandary when Arnaz Battle suffered a season-ending injury, forced to completely remake its offense with no option-ready quarterback to replace Battle. This year, even if an injury should occur, the Irish should be able to maintain the same offensive plan.

"We went into the season thinking Arnaz Battle was the quarterback," Davie said in a press conference. "We were thinking we were going to have to be a heavy option team. We worked on a lot of triple option last spring that we really never got to use. We don't have that situation anymore. We have three quarterbacks that are the same. Our style of offense, we can lock into right now, and it's going to remain the same, knock on wood."

Battle will see the ball from another angle next season, after switching to the wide receiver position during the off-season. Along with juniors David Givens, currently out with a hamstring injury, and Javin Hunter, Battle should get a lot of looks at wide receiver. Current freshmen Ronnie Rodamer, Omar Jenkins and Jerome Collins will join in the receiving corps.

The one thing all the receivers have in common — they're all looking good in practice.

"Good news and bad news," Davie joked. "Either we're better at receiver or we have to

continue to improve at corner[back]."

Practicing indoors at Loftus with no pads, throwing and catching was a little easier for the Irish than in a game situation. But Davie was still happy with what he saw.

"I am pleased with the way we're throwing and catching the ball," Davie said. "I think some of the young players, and I put Arnaz in that category, they catch the ball pretty well. We are throwing and catching the ball at a pretty high level for this early."

Rodamer, who did not see action in 2000, is a strong deep option for the quarterback in question.

"He's a guy that goes up and catches the deep ball," Davie said. "He has good hand and eye coordination. He doesn't have blazing speed, but I don't know that you have to."

The Irish are going through 10 minutes of option every day, partly to gear up for the season opener against Nebraska.

Notes

◆ Recruit Dwight Ellick is not even on campus yet, but Davie already likes what he's hearing about the quick cornerback from Florida.

"I'm excited," Davie said. "Dwight Ellick, I guess, has really had some tremendous track times down in Tampa."

LATIN EXPRESSIONS

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O'Laughlin Auditorium

St. Mary's

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Salsa, Troop ND, 1st Class Steppers, ND Mariachi and much more!

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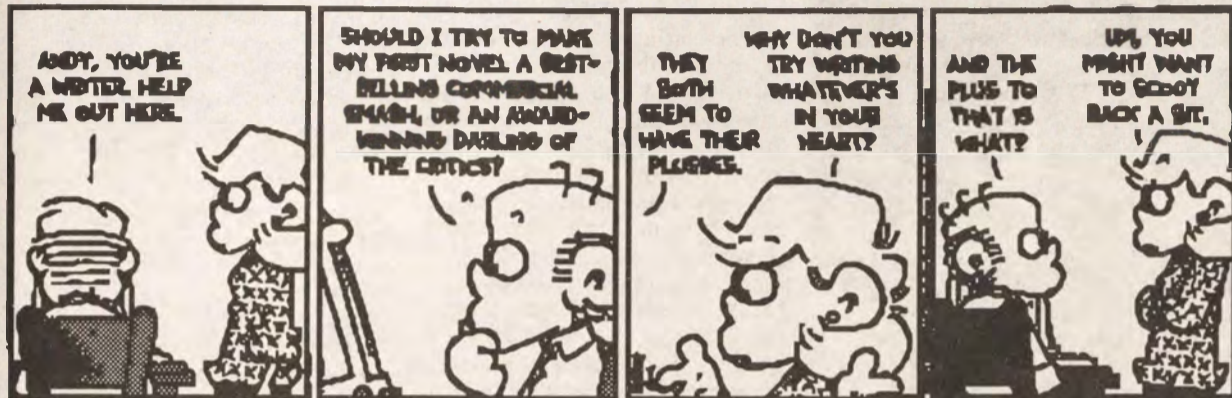
FOURTH AND INCHES

TOM KEELEY



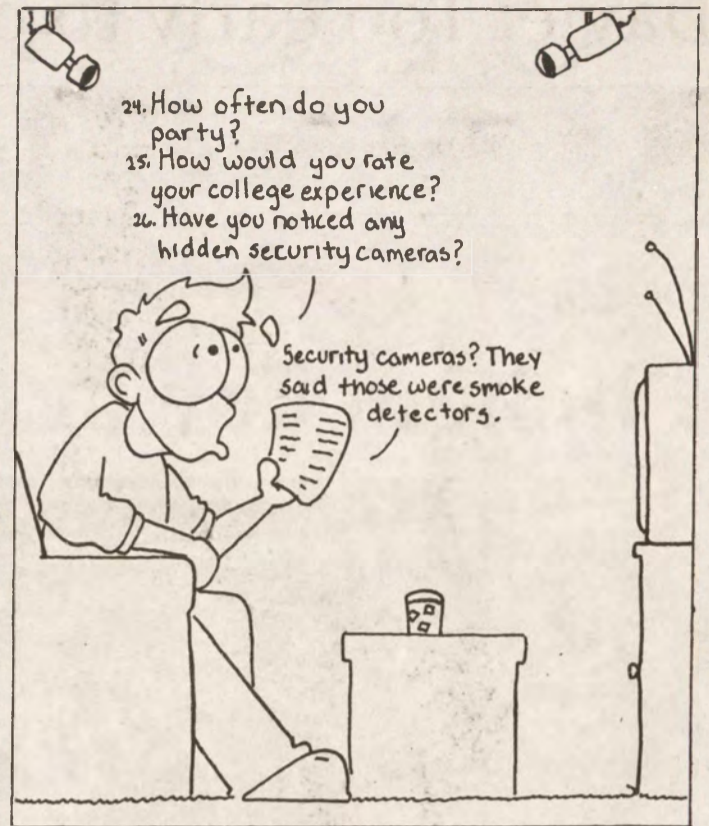
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BILL AMEND



THINGS COULD BE WORSE

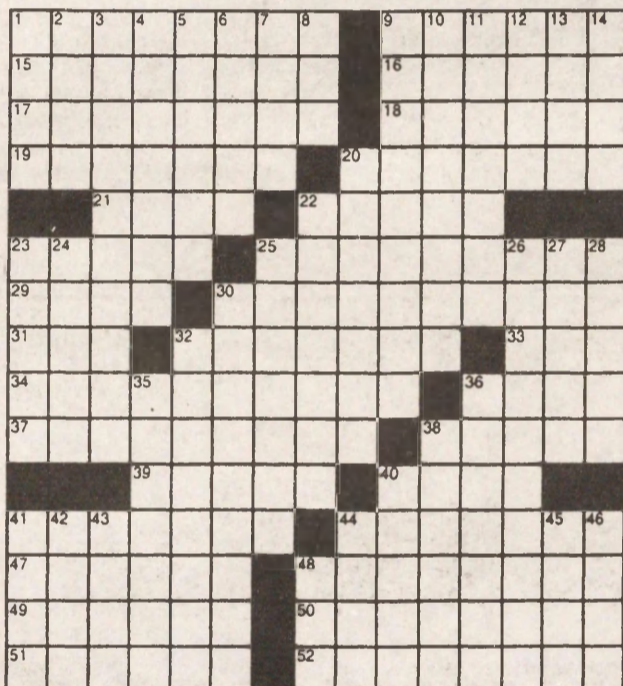
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Senior Survey

CROSSWORD

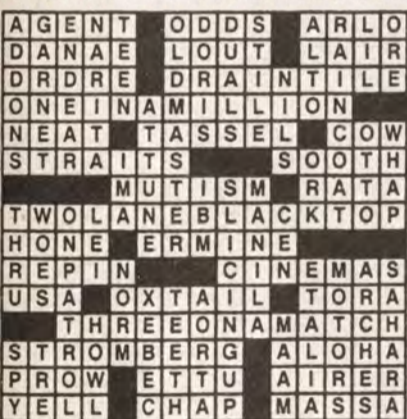
- ACROSS**
- 1 It's connected to a bowl
 - 9 Course before une salade, maybe
 - 15 A priest, not a beast
 - 16 Kickoff
 - 17 Trouble spot for Indiana Jones
 - 18 Like beachgoers vis-à-vis indoor types
 - 19 Confiscate, legally
 - 20 Blenders
 - 21 Busbies, boaters and billycocks
 - 22 Roadside establishment
 - 23 Door
 - 25 1953 Eartha Kitt hit
 - 29 Squalor
 - 30 Pole star?
 - 31 Chiller
 - 32 It's north of New York City
 - 33 Berkshire abode
 - 34 Old film magazine photos
 - 36 Alpine Museum city
 - 37 Checkered
 - 38 Georges who wrote "Life: A User's Manual"
 - 39 Rudimentary
 - 40 "Star Trek" navigator
 - 41 Gilda Radner character
 - 44 Like some speech sounds
 - 47 Inuit outerwear
 - 48 Money in a classic song title
 - 49 Start of a #1 Beach Boys title
 - 50 "Nature's pharmacy"
 - 51 Smart one
 - 52 One who doesn't take the high road
- DOWN**
- 1 False front
 - 2 Holiday
 - 3 Georgia bloomers
 - 4 City where Alka-Seltzer was first made
 - 5 Like a cold shower?
 - 6 Snacks served with cerveza
 - 7 Throw off
 - 8 Tangle
 - 9 Sovereign
 - 10 Change colors, in a way
 - 11 Curly strand
 - 12 Daughter of James II
 - 13 Will of Hollywood
 - 14 Fozzles
 - 20 Foozle
 - 22 Like opium poppy leaves
 - 23 ___ of Nantes
 - 24 Specialty
 - 25 Gush



Puzzle by Bob Klahn

- 26 One who's homeward bound
 - 27 Unconventional
 - 28 "No Strings Attached" pop group
 - 30 Explorer of sorts
 - 32 Start of certain addresses
 - 35 Inner walls of fortification ditches
 - 36 Buy, so to speak
 - 38 Infused with enthusiasm
 - 40 1066 loser
 - 41 Root words
 - 42 Super's apartment, often
 - 43 Hundreds of centavos
 - 44 ___ Crane, Vera Miles's role in "Psycho"
 - 45 Big plot
 - 46 "The Jumblies" poet
 - 48 Softhead
- Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Joan Crawford, Chaka Khan, Moses Malone, Ric Ocasek, Amanda Plummer, Keri Russell

Happy Birthday: You need to concentrate this year. Learn to say no to those who lean on you too much. You can make headway if you are strong and adamant. You have a soft heart and often miss out because you are so busy helping others. Organize your priorities and don't let anyone lead you astray. It's time to call in some favors from those you've helped in the past. Your numbers: 5, 19, 23, 27, 33, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Lady Luck is in your corner. Get involved in investments that you know will pay off. Real estate will be profitable. Involvements with institutions will turn out as planned. ○○○○

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): What a great day to get out, join groups or attend seminars. You will make new friends and expand your knowledge, but don't let anyone talk you into a joint financial venture. ○○○○

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your family will put demands on you that will be difficult to handle. Be reasonable but let them know just how much you can and can't do. Don't be gullible; ask questions if you have doubts. ○○

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Get creative. You will be happiest while working with your hands or dealing with children. If you don't already have a hobby, today is an excellent day to start one. ○○○○○

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): It's time to revamp your financial plans. You will have to do some fancy

footwork if you want to continue to live the lifestyle you've become accustomed to living. ○○○

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep children busy with creative endeavors. Your night should be geared toward the one you love. Let your feelings be known. ○○○

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Use your creativity to help you do your job uniquely. Don't let colleagues drag you into the office politics. Stay on the fringes and do the best job possible. Your professionalism won't go unnoticed. ○○○

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Pleasurable activities should be on your dance card. A trip or a gathering of close friends will start the weekend off right. You need to learn how to enjoy yourself. ○○○○○

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Past partners may get in touch with you just to see how you are and what you're up to. Don't be fooled by their warmth and generosity. Reservations will be warranted. ○○

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Aggressive communication will get you what you want. Your partner will back down and listen to your concerns. Clear the air and you'll feel much better about yourself. ○○○○

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't be too quick to follow the crowd. It's better to sit back and observe. Losses are likely if you get involved in business ventures. ○○○

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your emotional sensitivity may get you into trouble. Don't put the blame on others. It's time to do a little soul-searching. Don't let relatives or friends become involved in your private affairs. ○○

Birthday Baby: You are sweet, sensitive and creative as long as things are going your way. You have a twinkle in your eye and a personality that will win you the admiration of both family and friends. You have great ideas and a powerful sense of who you are and what you want. (Need advice? Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvice.com, eugenialast.com, astromate.com.)

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Why did the rooster cross the road?

- G.Love and the Special Sauce** Tonight, 7:30 Students 10\$ nonStudents 15\$
- The Samples** Thursday, April 5 Students 10\$ nonStudents 15\$
- SUB Movies
- Vertical Limit** 101 DeBartolo, Tonight and Tomorrow 8:00 & 10:30
- Remember the Titans** 101 DeBartolo, Tonight and Tomorrow 8:00 & 10:30

So he could be a party animal (at the Stepan Center) on the other side.



www.nd.edu/~sub

SPORTS

The Final Stretch
Niele Ivey and the Notre Dame women's basketball team are in St. Louis for a matchup with Connecticut.
 Irish Insider



SOFTBALL

Pitchers key in doubleheader sweep of WMU



WILSON/The Observer

The pitching of Jen Sharron helped the Irish sweep Western Michigan University Thursday in a doubleheader. The Irish improved their record to 22-3, the best start for the team in school history.

By PETER FRASSO
 Sports Writer

Pitchers Jen Sharron and Kristin Schmidt allowed only one run in 13 innings, and right fielder Jenny Kriech went 5 for 8 with two stolen bases and four runs scored, leading the Irish softball team to a dominating doubleheader sweep of Western Michigan on Thursday by scores of 7-1 and 8-0.

"I knew we were capable of that," said Coach Liz Miller, who has led the Irish to the best start in school history. "We had a lull for three or four innings, but we finally put them away. They've had a rough start, and we have a lot of veterans on our team."

No. 11 Notre Dame improved their record to 22-3. They have won four in a row since losing their third game of the season to Cal State Fullerton back on March 18.

Game one pitcher Jen Sharron had a no-hitter through five, but struggled in the top of the sixth, loading the bases with no outs before getting out of the jam only allowing a single run.

"Except for one inning, it was the best I've seen Jen pitch since the South Carolina game," commented Miller. "She had great control, threw real hard, and had great movement."

"I just went out there with the mentality that I would dominate every pitch and every bat-

ter," said Sharron. "It's good to know that if someone hits a good pitch, the defense is behind me."

Sharron finished off the Broncos with a 1-2-3 inning in the seventh to claim her 11th win.

"I felt good about how I pitched today," added Sharron. "It's a great game to gain momentum going into the Big East this weekend."

Kristin Schmidt, the starter for game two, finished with a flurry, striking out the last six batters she faced.

"I could have made a few more outside corner pitches better, gotten a few more called strikes," said Schmidt. "I can always expect better, but overall I did pretty good."

"Kristin's been on a roll, and it continued tonight," added Miller.

The shutout, win number nine for Schmidt, was secured when the offense scored three runs in the bottom of the sixth, prompting the umpire to call the game due to the eight run mercy rule.

"Jenny was very tired due a large load of academics this week," said Miller. "She was really pressing, and was very focused. I had to pull her aside and tell her she was doing great. She's an excellent baserunner, and a dominant player."

Lizzy Lemire and Danielle Klayman both went 3 for 6. Leading slugger Jarrah Myers added two hits.

BASEBALL

Sluggers face Seton Hall in Big East games

By JEFF BALTRUZAK
 Assistant Sports Editor

In this age of pumped-up power hitters and five home run games, the No. 13 Notre Dame baseball team is an anomaly, winning with pitching despite an offense that has struggled to put together big innings at the plate.

If there was ever a series to put Notre Dame's hitting back on track, this weekend's three games against Big East opponent Seton Hall would be it. The two teams

will mix it up twice on Saturday and once on Sunday at Frank Eck Stadium.

The Pirates enter the weekend at 11-10, with a lackluster pitching staff giving up 5.18 earned runs a game. Opponents are hitting .279 collectively against Seton Hall, an average higher than five starting Irish hitters.

Notre Dame has not put together four and five run innings that often this season, and their offense has

see BASEBALL/page 24

MEN'S TENNIS

Irish seek to regain slot in rankings

KATIE HUGHES
 Sports Writer

Bienvenido a Miami. And goodbye to their first 10-match winning streak since 1993. The Irish head off to Miami this weekend after a 5-2 loss to the Fighting Illini of Illinois yesterday, ready to regain their place in the rankings.

"None of the guys have experienced a top 10 ranking before. We didn't get here by letting things come to us. We scratched and clawed, as a lot of teams here over the years have had to do," said Bobby Bayliss, head coach.

In doubles competition, the 20th ranked team of Javier

Taborga and Aaron Talarico were defeated by Illinois' no. 7 ranked team of Amer Delic and Graydon Oliver, 8-3. The Irish

no. 2 doubles team of Luis Haddock-Morales and Casey Smith lost 8-3, and the no. 3 doubles team of Matt Daly and Brian Farrell lost 8-4.

"Illinois is one of the better teams in doubles, and they exposed our weakness today," said Bayliss. "We need to work on returning the first serve, and volleying

with more depth and precision. That's easy to say. Now we just have to go do it."

"If we don't work on doubles, it will hurt us in the NCAA's," said junior Javier Taborga.

In singles competition, Illinois' no. 20 ranked Graydon Oliver wasn't up to par today, struggling with flu-

like symptoms throughout the match.

"None of the guys have experienced a top 10 ranking before. We didn't get here by letting things come to us."

Bobby Bayliss
 Tennis head coach

see TENNIS/page 25

SPORTS AT A GLANCE



Baseball vs. Seton Hall Saturday, 12:05 p.m.



at Miami Sunday, 11 a.m.



Final Four vs. Connecticut Today, 9 p.m.



Softball vs. Adrian Saturday, 3 p.m.



vs. Iowa Friday, 3 p.m.



Men's Lacrosse at Ohio State Saturday, 1 p.m.



Golf at William and Mary Today

IRISH INSIDER

Friday, March 30, 2001

The Drive Home

preview pg. 2

Niele Ivey pg. 3

Unsung heroes pg. 4



Huskies vs. Irish: Final round from St. Louis

By NOAH AMSTADTER
Sports Editor

The first time it was an upset predicted only by the most optimistic of Irish fans.

The second time, they played an epic battle deemed an "Instant Classic" by ESPN.

Tonight, the Notre Dame women's basketball team meets Connecticut in the only suitable destination for the two top-ranked teams in the nation — the Final Four in St. Louis.

"I think we are always ready for the challenge of playing Connecticut," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said Wednesday. "I think it was a great series this year, and certainly, we look forward to one more opportunity to play them."

While the surging Irish are strong as ever, Connecticut excelled in the East regional despite playing without Svetlana Abrosimova and Shea Ralph.

Abrosimova suffered a season-ending foot injury in a Connecticut's regular season loss to Tennessee. Ralph tore her ACL in the Huskies' March 6 victory over the Irish in the Big East championship game.

That loss came less than two months after then-No. 3 Notre Dame clobbered an undefeated and top-ranked Connecticut squad 92-76 on Jan. 15. It was the first win for the Irish in 11 tries versus the Huskies.

"I think it could be difficult if we had lost both games," McGraw said. "I think you talk about how hard it is to beat a team three times, but when you beat them 11 times in a row, I don't think that you worry about winning that third game."

Ruth Riley set the tone for the Irish in both games. At home, Riley scored 29 points — including a perfect 13 of 13 from the free-throw line — and grabbed 11 rebounds. Kelley Siemon added 15 points and eight rebounds just

two days after suffering a broken hand.

In the rematch at Storrs, Riley had 23 points while Siemon added 16. Sue Bird led the Huskies with 15 points, including a majestic jump-shot at the buzzer.

Connecticut freshman Diana Taurasi earned Most Valuable Player honors at the Big East Tournament and hasn't stopped since. The Los Angeles native led Connecticut with 17 points, 10 rebounds and four assists in the Huskies' 67-48 Elite Eight romp of Louisiana Tech on Monday. McGraw believes Taurasi's Big-East-Tournament performance gave the guard the right attitude to succeed in March Madness.

"I think that was sort of a springboard for her," McGraw said. "She has played really well in the NAAs. And especially with Shea Ralph out of the lineup, she has more of the scoring role, which is a job I think she's comfortable with. Even as a freshman, she is a very, very poised player."

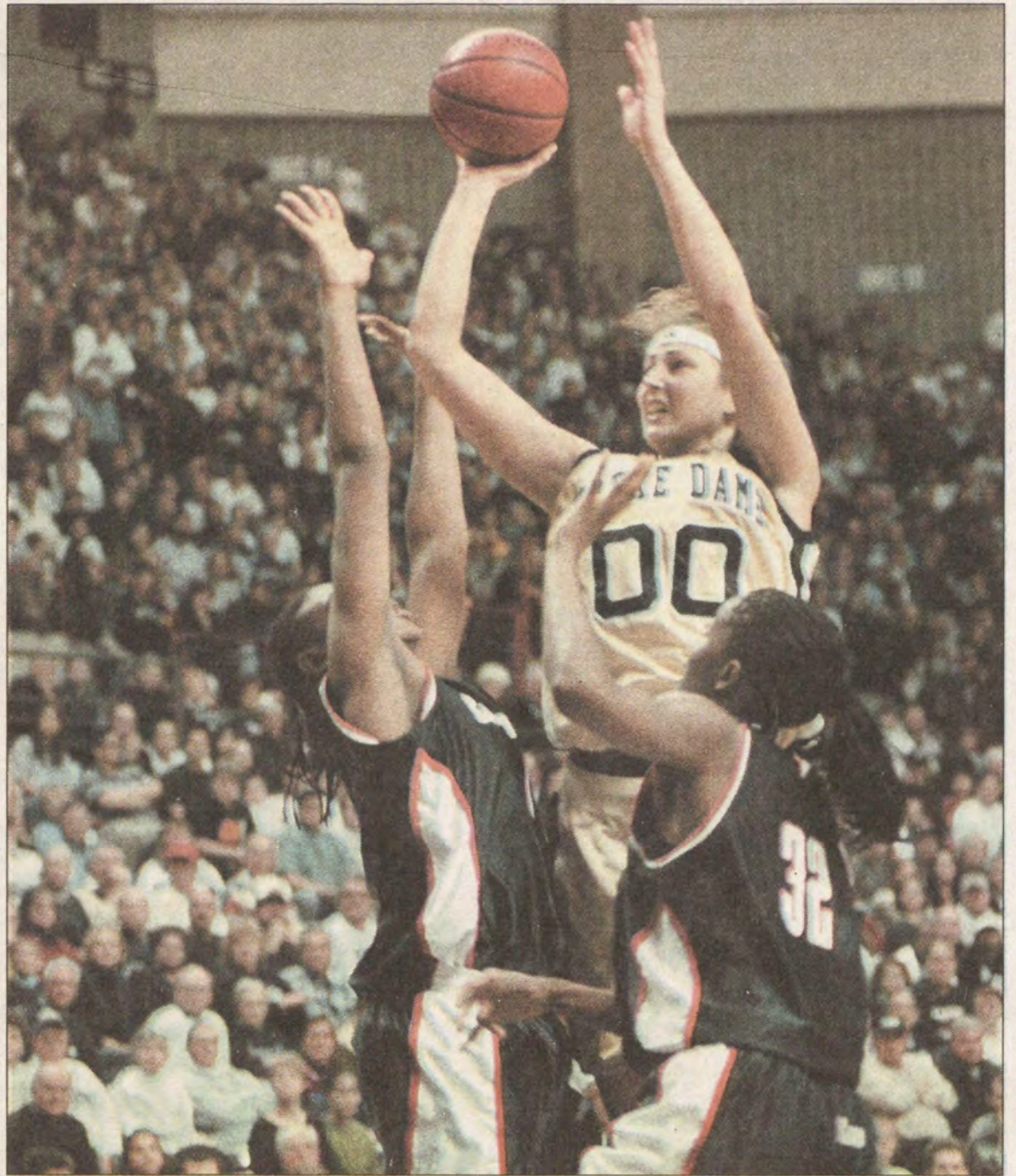
With shooters Ralph and Abrosimova out, Connecticut fields a taller lineup. Asja Jones, Swin Cash and Kelly Schumacher are all rebounding specialists.

"I think that makes them a better rebounding team," McGraw said. "I think they are still a very good defensive team. They seem to be playing more halfcourt defense than fullcourt defense. So I think that they have made some great adjustments."

Should the Irish walk away victors tonight, they will take on either Purdue or Southwest Missouri State for the national championship on Sunday.

The Boilermakers return to the Final Four after winning two years ago. The Bears stormed through the Western regional to earn their first trip to the dance since 1992.

Purdue is led by Katie Douglas, Kelly Komara and Camille Cooper. The Boilermakers topped Xavier 87-78 Monday to advance



JOSE CUELLAR/The Observer

Irish center Ruth Riley shoots over two Connecticut defenders during the Irish loss to Connecticut in the Big East Championship game. Riley scored 23 points in the defeat.

towards a possible rematch with the Irish, who won the last meeting of the two Indiana teams 72-61 Dec. 9.

"I think it's great," Riley said. "It shows what kind of players come out of Indiana. It shows a lot for Hoosier basketball."

The Bears boast the nation's

top scorer, Jackie Stiles. The 5-foot-8 guard put in 32 points before fouling out as SMS topped Washington 104-87 Monday night.

No matter what happens, McGraw is thrilled with her team's effort this season.

"It really has been such a special year for me in a lot of

ways," McGraw said. "I think the chemistry of this team has been so tremendous. They have been so much fun to work with. I wish I would have kept a journal or decided to write a book at the beginning of the year"

Two more wins, and she'll have quite a story to tell.

Sizing up the bracket



Purdue versus Southwest Missouri State:

Jackie Stiles, the nation's most prolific scorer, leads the surprising No. 5 Bears, scoring 31 points per contest. Purdue stars Katie Douglas and Camille Cooper pushed the Boilermakers past Xavier in the Elite Eight.



Notre Dame versus Connecticut:

Battle No. 3 decides this Big East war. In two meetings this season, each team has won one home game. The Huskies are led by Sue Bird, Swin Cash and Diana Taurasi after losing stars Shea Ralph and Svetlana Abrosimova to injuries.



Semifinals - Friday, 7 p.m.

Finals - Sunday, 7:30 p.m.

Semifinals - Friday, 9:30 p.m.

Irish leader ends career where she started

♦ Ivey's search for national title takes her back to hometown

By NOAH AMSTADTER
Sports Editor

Gary Glasscock heard about a child prodigy.

The buzz within St. Louis girls' basketball in the early '90s concerned a little girl from the inner-city. Glasscock, the girls' basketball coach at St. Louis' Cor Jesu Academy, listened to rumors of a sixth-grader who was sinking half-court shots on a regular basis.

Her name: Niele Ivey.

Tonight, the grown-up prodigy returns to St. Louis as the starting point guard on a 32-2 Notre Dame team that takes on Connecticut at 9 p.m. in the Women's Final Four semifinals.

"It's a great feeling to know that I'm going home," Ivey said. "It's something that I thought about at the beginning of the year. That's where all my family and support is."

Glasscock remembers a middle-school Ivey not much different from the first-team All-Big East guard Notre Dame fans are familiar with.

"She played on just an average team with average girls and she got all of them involved in the game just as she has done at Notre Dame and here at Cor Jesu," Glasscock said.

When Ivey finally reached eighth grade and had to pick where to spend her high school years, the choice was an easy one. She was raised Catholic, attended Catholic grammar schools and her family was impressed by what Cor Jesu had to offer. Glasscock didn't even have to recruit her.

"It was a very spirited high school," Ivey said. "It was run by the Sacred Heart nuns so there were a lot of Christian values. It's kind of a family [atmosphere]."

If Cor Jesu was a family, Ivey quickly became the favorite daughter. As the Chargers bolted to a 31-0 record and the Missouri Class 4A state championship, Ivey led the team — a team with one player taller than the 5-foot-8 Ivey — with averages of 18.1 points, 6.9 rebounds and five steals. As a senior, Ivey improved her averages to 24 points and eight rebounds per contest.

During her junior year championship run, Irish coach Muffet McGraw first watch Ivey play. The

Notre Dame head coach attended the Missouri Class 4A girls' basketball playoffs. The Chargers were on the court, led by their fiery point guard.

"The thing that really drew me to her was her attitude and demeanor on the court," McGraw said. "She's such a great leader. She was inspirational to her team. She was always talking and getting them together."

The contest was close — every shot essential to assure victory. Ivey continued driving to the basket. Cor Jesu won the game, en route to a Class 4A state championship. Ivey hit a perfect 13 of 13 free-throw attempts down the stretch to ice the win.

"She was highly motivated, worked extremely hard," McGraw said. "She was much more defense-oriented in high school than she was a shooter. I just really was just looking for somebody that could lead our team in that kind of way and she fit it perfectly."

The Irish coach wasn't going to let this one get away.

McGraw and her recruiting partner, Notre Dame assistant Carol Owens, kept their eyes on the guard throughout the summer.

Although NCAA rules forbade the duo from actually speaking with the

rising high school junior, the duo traveled everywhere from small towns in Missouri to pickup games at the Boys and Girls Club of St. Louis to watch Ivey play.

"We tried to go everywhere she was," Owens said. "Muffet from the start knew that she was going to be a very special player."

When Ivey reached her senior year and Notre Dame was able to make contact, the Ivey family and the Notre Dame family quickly gelled into one.

"I really bonded with Niele immediately on the phone," Owens said. "Cor Jesu is similar in schools and what she was looking for."

In the end, it was Ivey's mother, Theresa, that sealed the decision.

"Muffet and I came on the home visit," Owens said. "Niele surprisingly was quiet at the time. She was very quiet until she got to know us. Her mom said she knew that that's definitely the place and the people she wanted her."

Mrs. Ivey, who works for a gourmet foods company, even cooked for the two coaches.

"Her mom's a great person, and a great cook," Owens said. "We had pound cake. I could have had like three pieces."

But Ivey's "March to the Arch" has

"We tried to go everywhere she was. Muffet knew that she was going to be a special player."

Carol Owens
Irish assistant coach



JOSE CUELLAR/The Observer

Niele Ivey drives around Connecticut's Tamika Williams during the Huskies' 78-76 win over the Irish in the Big East Championships. Notre Dame takes on Connecticut tonight in the Final Four.

not come without a few bumps in the road.

The fifth-year senior was granted an extra year of eligibility after a torn anterior cruciate ligament in her right knee her freshman season in 1996-97 limited her to five games.

The 1996 USA Today Missouri Player of the Year came back to start in 19 of her 31 appearances in 1997-98. The next season, she solidified her starting role and earned third-team All-Big East recognition after averaging a career-best 13.2 points to go along with a conference-best 44.8 percent from behind the 3-point arc. Then disaster struck — again.

Notre Dame was 24-4 on the year, taking on conference-rival Rutgers in the Big East Tournament semifinals. With 14 minutes remaining, Ivey went down. It was her ACL again, only this time she tore her left.

The rehabilitation was once again long and grueling. But six months after the injury, Ivey was back on the court. Rather than feeling sorry for herself, Ivey recognizes the positives that have come out of her two ordeals.

"I gained a lot of determination and motivation from the injuries," Ivey said. "It's made me realize that basketball isn't the only thing in my life. I became closer to my family. A lot of special people have come into my life because of it. I think it's a blessing in disguise."

After the second injury, Ivey once again came back stronger than ever. She averaged 11.2 points and six assists per game in 1999-2000, moving up to second-team All-Big East. The Irish advanced to the Sweet 16.

This season Ivey served as a team captain, increased her scoring aver-

age to 11.8 points and upped her assist average to seven per contest. She is taking the Irish to their second Final Four ever, their first since 1997, the year of Ivey's first injury.

The 23-year-old's efforts earned her the Frances Pomeroy Naismith Award, an honor presented to the nation's top female senior player standing 5-foot-8 or under.

"Any kind of accolades or awards I receive I get excited about the hard work I put in to basketball," Ivey said. "To get recognition is a great feeling."

While many fans focus on the efforts of All-American center Ruth Riley, Irish assistant coach Coquese Washington says Ivey is invaluable to the team's success.

"Niele's a natural leader. She's definitely the heart and soul of this team," Washington said. "Everybody feeds off of Niele. I think this team as a whole just plays a lot more relaxed a lot more loose and they're able to make shots and plays."

While Ivey hasn't starred in St. Louis since 1996, she is far from forgotten. Cor Jesu designated Tuesday "Niele Ivey Day" at the all girls, Catholic high school. Blue paper jerseys adorned with Ivey's number "33" line the center hallway of the building. Paper shoes — 33 of them, of course — list Ivey's various accomplishments and honors, both prep and collegiate.

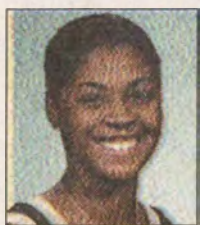
The shoes follow a large blue "Road to the Final Four" in the school's gymnasium. Each step on the road represents a Notre Dame game this season.

Ivey's final shoe places her at the end of that road — in St. Louis for the Final Four.

Right back where she started.

one-on-one

WITH NIELE IVEY



Ivey

position: point guard

year: fifth-year senior

awards: 2001 Frances Pomeroy Naismith Award, 2001 third-team All-American, 2001 All-Big East first team

notables: Ivey has overcome a torn ACL in each leg to become one of the top point guards in the country. She broke current Irish assistant coach Coquese Washington's record for career steals and is second on the all-time Irish assist list.

birthdate: Sept. 24, 1977

hometown: St. Louis, Mo.

dimensions: 5-foot-8

If she were president of the U.S., the first thing she'd do would be: paint the White House black.

The Notre Dame student-athlete she admires most is: Adam Sargent

The best thing about being a student at Notre Dame is: the friendships you make

The best thing about playing basketball at Notre Dame is: running out to the "Victory March," running the show and making history in St. Louis

Since being at Notre Dame she's learned: to fight and overcome

Unsung heroes play pivotal role in Irish success

The bandwagon is getting heavy. With the win over Vanderbilt, the Irish advanced to the Final Four and captured national attention.

Finally. The following people have been part of this team since the beginning of the season, before the Connecticut win, before "experts" believed Notre Dame could challenge for a national title, before every national publication ran a Ruth Riley feature.

Apologies to the 107 or so other "behind-the-scenes" types who have helped make this season run so smoothly.

Practice players

Chris Dillon wears a Ruth Riley-like white adidas headband but the off-campus senior wants to play like Diana Taurasi.

"I think I'll be [Connecticut freshman point guard] Diana Taurasi today," said Dillon, who wore the headband again during Wednesday's practice. "I'll be able to shoot from anywhere I want."

Notre Dame students Dillon, Reggie McKnight, Tom Krizmanich, Kyle Heroman, John Moravec and Kevin Mumford practice with the Irish and help them prepare for

upcoming opponents. "Those guys are great," Ruth Riley said. "They help us out a lot."

For McKnight, a four-year varsity soccer player, the daily afternoon competition helps him stay in shape. It also helps to quiet the critics of his basketball game, namely Riley and Niele Ivey.

"They've been ragging on me since freshman year," McKnight said. "I figured I might as well be around a team [after soccer]."

Any predictions for Friday's highly anticipated trilogy? "On a neutral site," Dillon said, "we'll beat them by 15." Spoken like a true teammate.

Senior managers

They spend several hours per day preparing for trips, practices and games. They attend every game, home and away. They have little free time during the season.

Meet the managers. "Those are the real people who keep the show running," strength and conditioning coach Tony Rolinski said.

This year's senior managers, Jaime Morales and Gretchen Schumer, worked with the football team last season and started their current positions in Dec. 1999.

"Our main job is to let the coaches coach and the players play," Morales said. "We'll worry about the other stuff."

The other stuff for Schumer, the head equipment manager, includes running practice, ordering equipment and preparing the locker room before and after games. Morales, the per-

sonnel manager, arranges all the travel plans (hotels, meals, and flights) and handles a lot of day-to-day operations.

"It's been basketball and school work, lately, with basketball taking up most of my time," Morales said. "Things have been stressful at times. But it's worth it. Being on that floor in Denver and now being in St. Louis. It's definitely worth it."

Marketing/promotions assistant

Heather Maxwell will be busy on Friday night.

Maxwell, a first-year marketing/promotions assistant, follows the same routine 45 minutes prior to every contest. She meets with Murphy McGraw (Muffet's son) and applies blue and gold paint on the 10-year old's face.

"He always wants it some special way," Maxwell said. "That's my official duty."

If only her job was that simple. Wonder who organizes the halftime shows, the on-court activities during the timeouts and the countless other creative ideas that helped attract record crowds this year? It's Maxwell.

"My ideas usually start with 'Wouldn't it be funny?,' " Maxwell said. "One of my favorites was Beach Day (the theme for the Jan. 15 Connecticut game). During the game, I saw a guy walking around with Speedos on, his head painted and goggles on his head. It was fun."

The job is not all fun, though. For a typical home game, the 1999 University of Indianapolis graduate arrives in her office at 8 a.m. and leaves around 10 p.m.

But she's not complaining. "I got in trouble during the first game," Maxwell said. "Niele [Ivey] hit a 3 and I did the 3-point signal [with both arms raised over her head]. It's hard not to be biased."

Strength and conditioning coach

When Rolinski enrolled at Penn State in the mid-1980s, he understood the obvious.

"If I even thought about stepping on the football field, I would have been a tackling dummy," Rolinski said. "I decided to use my mind instead of my body."

Smart choice. After stints at Pittsburgh and Duquesne, Rolinski joined the Irish strength and conditioning program in 1998.

Rolinski works with the women's team all year. Most players stayed in South Bend this summer and all were given a 12-week program to follow. Once school starts, Rolinski meets with them three times a week. Four weeks prior to the first official practice day (Oct. 15), Rolinski begins an on-court conditioning program.

It meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 7 a.m.

"They'll complain," Rolinski said. "Any human would. But they understand it's worth it."

Said Riley: "He's definitely one of the guys that has helped me out the most since I've been here. He helped with every aspect of the game, both mentally and physically."

Administrative assistant

She has a basketball name. Jeri Lucas. It's pronounced the same as Jerry Lucas, the former NBA great.

But don't expect Lucas, the team's administrative assistant, to recite her namesake's biographical information.

"I don't know too much about him," Lucas said.

She knows how to assist one of the nation's best teams, though. Lucas began working at Notre Dame in the cashier's office in 1981, then went to Student Residences before switching over to her current position in March 1994.

"I didn't really know how athletics worked," Lucas said. "I was totally green."

Seven years later, only Lucas's fingernails are green. Like the coaches, players and others associated with the program, Lucas painted her fingernails green at the beginning of March.

She handles many of the day-to-day operations, oversees the banquet, does paper work for recruiting and Notre Dame summer camps, answers telephones and has countless other responsibilities.

Lucas also greets every visitor with a smile and chats with any one who enters the office.

"Working for Muffet and the team is great," Maxwell said. "I do anything they ask me."

Except one thing. Hand out extra tickets for this weekend's games.

There's none left. *The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.*

Congratulations

Notre Dame Women's Basketball!

Final Four 2001

From the Student Union