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Off-campus development proposed

By MADDIE HANNA
Assistant News Editor

Arriving on campus, Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students are quick to lament that their new home lacks two major assets — sunny days and off-campus options.

Although they can't change the weather, Notre Dame and South Bend officials are targeting the second complaint by developing a new retail and residential district just outside Notre Dame's campus, a change that will benefit both students and the surrounding South Bend community.

"Our goal is to create a community neighborhood that students

can walk to — that really doesn't exist in the Notre Dame experience now," said Greg Hakanen, director of asset management and real estate developer for Notre Dame.

According to John Affleck-Graves, executive vice-president of Notre Dame, the new project will begin where Angela Boulevard meets Eddy Street at the soon-to-relocate Logan Center, and will continue all the way down to Napoleon Boulevard.

Affleck-Graves said he hopes to create a commercial district with one block of restaurants, stores and apartments followed by two rows of townhouses and another

see EDDY/page 6



RICHARD FRIEDMAN/The Observer

Signs mark the current intersection of Angela Boulevard and Eddy Street, where the administration proposes the development.

Kozlow to serve as CEA

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

Taking the first step in creating their administration's team for next year, student body president-elect Dave Baron and vice president-elect Lizzy Shappell have nominated Liz Kozlow to serve as their chief executive assistant.

Baron, who is the current CEA for student body president Adam Istvan and vice president Karla Bell, said he chose Kozlow for her work ethic and commitment to his campaign, for which she served as campaign manager.

"Liz's attention to detail, her effort put forth until the job is accomplished, her positive attitude and good-hearted nature made her perfect for the role," Baron said.

Though Baron was certain he wanted her for the position, Kozlow said she was not expecting the nomination.

"I wasn't expecting to be offered this position," she said. "I thought I would be in [Washington] D.C. next spring, but when they came to me and proposed CEA, I knew I wanted to stay."

Kozlow will begin her term April 1, at which time Baron and Shappell will assume the student body presidency and vice presidency. Kozlow, a sophomore living in Pasquerilla West, brings extensive student government experience to the post, as well as a close relationship with the soon-to-be president and vice president.

"We worked with Liz all year on Senate and she was

see CEA/page 6

Panel addresses humanitarian crisis in Sudan

Experts brainstorm new paths to peace

By MICHAEL BUSK
News Writer

Editor's Note: This is the first article in a two-part series focusing on the background of and possible solutions to the current crisis in Sudan.

Three experts on the humanitarian crisis in Darfur criticized the lack of international response to the war crimes there in a symposium Wednesday afternoon. The three also recommended the increased use of outside troops, arms embargoes and targeted sanctions against Sudan, and the prosecution of those who have perpetrated genocide through the implementation of the International Criminal Court.

John Prendergast, the former advisor to President Clinton on Africa, spoke harshly of the apathetic international reaction to the Darfur crisis, saying that the

United Nations, the United States and others have used diplomatic ploys to skirt the real, complicated decisions that they would have been forced to make otherwise.

"The international community deliberately portrays the situations on the ground as more complicated than they actually are," said Prendergast. "It's a very deliberate, very specific way of absolving yourself of responsibility in the short-run, to say it's just too difficult."

Larry Minear, director of the Humanitarianism and War Project at Tufts University, declared the international humanitarian response particularly lacking.

"I don't think there's anyone in the humanitarian community that would call the effort robust," Minear said. He said further that within approximately the first 12 months of the conflict, only six percent of affected Darfurians had received drinkable water from aid organizations and only eight percent had been given



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

The symposium listens as Frances Deng, former Sudanese ambassador to the United States, makes a point.

food.

Prendergast warned that the members of the U.N. Security Council and others would have to spend real political capital in order to secure lasting changes in the region.

"What you see the Security Council, the United States and the Europeans doing on a regular basis, you see them calling for cease-fires, rather than specifi-

cally owning up to the perpetrators, those who have perpetrated mass killings," said Prendergast.

The result of this diplomatic maneuvering, Prendergast said, was in fact the implicit justification of the Khartoum government's atrocities.

"The message is unambiguous-ly clear to the killers, that they

see SUDAN /page 8

World Trade Center engineer discusses work

By JULIE BENDER
News Writer

Amidst a candlelit dinner in the stadium press box Wednesday night, renowned structural engineer Leslie Robertson treated a select group of engineering students and professors to a lecture entitled, "The Merging of Structural Engineering and Architecture: A Short History of the Designs of Les Robertson."

Robertson, whose structural designs include the World Trade Center in New York City, the United States Steel Headquarters in Pittsburgh and the Bank of China Tower in Hong Kong, began the evening on a note of humility, refus-

ing to take personal credit for any of the structures he designed.

"These structures aren't the work of Mr. Robertson but of a group of people. People make great projects, not persons," he said as images of some of the world's most notable buildings flashed on the screen behind him.

Robertson doesn't even take credit for his own humility, saying that it's what he has learned from his work abroad in other cultures, especially in Asian countries where his work is highly revered.

"If there's anything I've learned from working in the Far East, it's

see ENGINEER/page 6

ROTC regarded in positive light

By EILEEN DUFFY
Assistant News Editor

Editor's note: This article is the second in a two-part series exploring the perceptions and realities of the ROTC program at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's.

Despite the Catholic Church's opposition to the war in Iraq, Notre Dame has maintained a strong commitment to the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, and students and faculty say they hold the program and its participants in high regard.

Professor David Cortright, a research fellow for the Kroc Institute for International

Peace Studies, said he believes Notre Dame is the ideal place for members of the armed forces to be educated. For example, he said, many students in ROTC take a course called "War, Law, and Ethics" in the theology department, teaching them about ethical principles that apply to avoiding and minimizing harm to non-combatants, as well as the Church's just war principles.

"I think we want an armed forces imbued with the best moral values and best education on critical and ethical issues," Cortright said. "We want our officers to be able to think critically — to not be robots in responding to crisis, but to apply independent criti-

cal thinking."

While ROTC students do participate in regular activities, freshman Caitlin Regan of Pangborn said she has noticed something extra in her ROTC classmates.

"I admire them; it requires a lot of dedication," she said. "Also, they always present themselves officially and respectfully."

Sophomore Michael Crowley said he was impressed by those in ROTC, noting that he didn't quite have their stamina.

"It's hard. They don't go out much and they have to get up early," he said. "They have to join the [armed forces] after

see ROTC/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

What would you say it is you do?

Lately I've been feeling an overwhelming urge to procrastinate. I'm sure we can all relate. Midterms and essays await me but the urge to pop in an episode of "The O.C." or search aimlessly through thefacebook.com seems much too tempting.

Steve Coyer

Some people might claim they never procrastinate and finish all their work promptly and on time. For the rest of us, we'd rather pull the all-nighter and not worry ourselves. So with apologies to Jeff Foxworthy, here's my top list of when "you know you're a procrastinator."

Sports Writer

10. You know you're a procrastinator when you'd rather watch Eliminate weekend in its entirety rather than starting that philo paper that you have due in two days.

9. You know you're a procrastinator if you try to start a research project but don't even make it to the library after you remember that you could be doing nothing instead.

8. You know you're a procrastinator if you put off until tomorrow what can be put off until the day after tomorrow just as easily.

7. You know you're a procrastinator if you decide to start studying but then remember that later that night Walker, Texas Ranger will be on TV. Clearly, you're not going to pass up Walker.

6. You know you're a procrastinator if you would rather watch Old School for the 100th time instead of reading the 100 pages that you're behind in that literature class.

5. You know you're a procrastinator if it takes you more effort to start a term paper ahead of time than it does to spend an entire day playing NCAA football on X-box.

4. You know you're a procrastinator if you can type conversations back and forth on AIM that total thousands of words before you dare start that 500-word essay.

3. You know you're a procrastinator if you've tried to start your work only to realize that it's Saturday and there was no reason to be working in the first place.

2. You know you're a procrastinator when you make a promise to get all your work done on Thursday night but then remember that your mouth feels dry and you need to quench your thirst for an extended period.

1. You know you're a procrastinator if you set out to finish your calculus homework but instead decide to start a new club on thefacebook.com and tell all your friends about it.

But there's still one more thing I forgot ... you know you're a procrastinator when you can put off doing an assignment and in a strange way feel good that you did. After all, we're only young once and that paper on Socrates can wait until 3 a.m. next week.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Steve Coyer at scoyer@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

Due to an editing error, midshipmen in Notre Dame's Navy ROTC program were mistakenly called "cadets" on pages 1 and 8 of the Feb. 23 edition of The Observer. The Observer regrets the error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: DO YOU THINK MARCH WILL COME IN LIKE A LION OR A LAMB, AND WHY?



Tony D'Amico
grad student
off-campus



Britt Kreiner
sophomore
Fisher



Greg Kilburn
grad student
Fischer Grad



Matt Murphy
freshman
off-campus



Andrea Fuentes
freshman
Walsh



Tim Smith
freshman
Fisher

"In like a lamb. Lambs are cute, fluffy and warm, just like I like my weather."

"What kind of question is that?"

"In like a lion, because my birthday's at the end of March and I am a lion."

"Like a lamb, so my friends can walk to my new apartment in T.C. because I got booted."

"Like a liger. It's pretty much my favorite animal."

"I don't think."



FRANCESCA SETA/The Observer

Senior Tiffany Muller watches as a nurse prepares to draw blood from her arm during Wednesday's blood drive in the Rolfs Sports Recreation Center.

IN BRIEF

A blood drive will be held today in Rolfs Sports Recreation Center from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. To sign up call RecSports at 631-6100.

Jason DeParle, a senior writer for The New York Times and the author of "American Dream: Three Women, Ten Kids, and a Nation's Drive to End Welfare," will give a talk entitled "Welfare to Work: A Closer Look at a Diverse Population in Transition" from 3 to 4:30 p.m. today in 102 DeBartolo.

The 1962 film "To Kill a Mockingbird" will be shown at 10 p.m. tonight in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center as part of the Spring ArtsFest 2005: Tolerance and Reconciliation. Call 631-2800 for tickets.

Sean O'Brien will give a lecture entitled "Passive Resistance: Michael Davitt and the Positivist School of Criminology" from 3 to 4:15 p.m. today in 424 Flanner Hall. The event is sponsored by the Keough Institute for Irish Studies.

Karen Richman will give a lecture titled "Haitian Vodou: Arts, Culture and Religion" Friday at 3 p.m. in the Snite Museum of Art.

The Notre Dame men's and women's fencing teams will participate in the Midwest Fencing Conference Championships Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse.

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

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

OFFBEAT

Dutch customs seizes elephant parts

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands — Dutch customs police have seized a shipment of African elephant body parts, including 22 feet, eight tusks, eight ears, three tails, a skull and an entire hide, officials said Wednesday.

The cargo, originating in Zimbabwe and bound for Germany, was halted at Schiphol airport in October without proper licenses. The find was announced this week following an investigation and will be permanently confiscated, spokeswoman Anita Douven said.

African elephants are an endangered species and can only be shipped with special licenses, but activists noted that illegal trade in animal parts is a huge industry.

"This is unusual — that there would be such a large find — but trade in ivory is sadly not at all rare," Rosa Hill of the International Fund for Animal Welfare said.

Docs work on monk who glued eyes shut

BANGKOK, Thailand — Doctors have partially restored the sight of an 81-year-old Buddhist monk who accidentally glued his eyes shut when he mistook

a tube of superglue for eye drops.

The doctors at Anghong Hospital, 100 kilometers (60 miles) north of Bangkok, used a chemical solvent, acetone, to dissolve the glue in the monk's right eye, a hospital spokesman said Wednesday. The two-hour operation was done Tuesday.

"His eye is not damaged, the right eye can see clearly after the operation and the doctors said the left eye also is not damaged," a hospital spokesman said.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 30 LOW 22	HIGH 25 LOW 13	HIGH 31 LOW 19	HIGH 37 LOW 23	HIGH 38 LOW 33	HIGH 35 LOW 15

Weiner addresses eating disorders, body image issues

By KAREN LANGLEY
News Writer

Student government's Eating Disorders Awareness Week continued Wednesday night with a lecture by author and speaker Jessica Weiner. Weiner's program, entitled "Do I Look Fat in This? Decoding the Language of Body Hatred," explored topics of eating disorders, body image and self-esteem through her own experiences and those of others.

Weiner has spoken at college campuses since she was an undergraduate and has toured professionally for ten years. Her book, "A Very Hungry Girl" was also featured on "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

According to Weiner, her struggles with eating disorders began in childhood. She described the development of her illness from the time when she was a young girl growing up in a home of very weight-conscious parents.

"There are three flavors of eating disorders: anorexia, bulimia and binge eating," she said. "Growing up, I struggled with all of them. I started dieting with my mom when I was eleven. I learned how to count calories at too young of an age. I was 14 years old and exercising for four hours every day, but I hid it all."

Weiner described bottoming out during her freshman year in college, only to experience an epiphany when she witnessed other women sharing their struggles with various problems.

"It was a pinnacle turning point for me. At that moment in time, I

had a name for what I was doing [exercise bulimia], and I knew that I wasn't alone. That was an amazing feeling," she said.

She noted the tendency of women to express themselves in terms of body image rather than emotions, noting that complaints about fatness frequently stem from other concerns and problems.

"Fat is not a feeling. It is a catchphrase and substitute for what we are feeling. The emotions we can feel are things like happiness, sadness and anger," she said.

According to Weiner, eating disorders represent an enormous and underestimated problem in the United States.

"While 10 million women and one million men have a diagnosed eating disorder, an estimated 25 million people in total have some form of an eating disorder," she said. "... Anorexia is the number one mental health disorder resulting in death, as 20 percent of those who struggle with this disease succumb to it. That is hundreds of thousands of women every year."

Weiner also pointed out that eating disorders are not limited to only women or to only white women; Latina and black women have shown huge increases in rates of eating disorders, she said.

While physically-focused pursuits, such as dance and athletics, may increase a person's chances of developing an eating disorder, Weiner said, an overarching cultural emphasis on weight and body image can create unbearable

pressure on individuals. She described America's "incredibly fat-phobic" culture, which allows destructive and restrictive behavior to fall under the category of health.

"Although I attended performing arts schools, a big part of the problem came simply from the fact that I grew up as a girl in the world. This is the last acceptable in America. Who wants to be fat in this country? Eighty percent of elementary school children surveyed said they were afraid of being fat," said Weiner.

This culture of fearing fat and worshipping health has created even more impediments to fighting unhealthy eating, according to Weiner. She noted that research for isolating a gene that could increase susceptibility to anorexia has been stymied due to lack of funds, while the American health industry nets \$80 billion each year.

"The need to talk about this issue is profound. Like many college campuses, [Notre Dame] is an incredibly tough school, and you all are perfectionists. There is incredible pressure on you," she said.

According to Weiner, one of the main ways to address the issue of low self-image is through careful use of language. Words of body hatred intensify the problem dramatically, she said. While refusing to speak in terms of body hatred might be difficult, Weiner noted that it is essential to any social change.

"Ghandi said to be the change you wish to see in the world. You



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Jessica Weiner lectures on the dangers of eating disorders and self-esteem, relating the topics to her own personal experiences.

have to be the one person in your group who does not bow to self-loathing body hatred," she said.

Weiner also emphasized the need for women to monitor the exposure they allow themselves to the media. She noted that no model, male or female, reaches a magazine cover without being airbrushed and worked over by an entire team of professionals.

"You are not supposed to look like her. She doesn't even look like her," Weiner said.

She advised students who have friends suffering from eating disorders to remember the importance of listening in a relationship. While they cannot solve their friend's problem, she explained that being there and caring is often the best approach to the situation.

Weiner emphasized that no person should be defined in terms of appearance and numbers. She recently refused to reveal her

weight to a New York Times reporter at the bottom point of her sickness, deciding instead to use terms that would not lead to any comparisons by readers.

"I like my friends who choose to resonate fully in their bodies and their lives," she said.

Weiner mentioned resources on campus for individuals struggling with eating disorders or anyone who might have questions. She cited the University Counseling Center as one venue for students to find support. She also mentioned a campus group called A Life Uncommon, which meets Wednesdays at 9 p.m. in room 316 of the Coleman-Morse Building.

"A Life Uncommon is an incredible group. It has become a viable, tangible presence on this campus," she said.

Contact Karen Langley at klangle1@nd.edu



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STUDENT SENATE

Representatives discuss postponing transition date

Changes to campaign funding, election day procedures debated

By AMANDA MICHAELS
News Writer

Senators discussed student government election and transition issues at their meeting Wednesday night, focusing for the majority of the time on the prospect of pushing the transition day to a later date.

James Leito, Siegfried senator and member of the Committee on Oversight, asked for the senators' opinions on a calendar that featured a May 1 transition date — as opposed to the constitutionally-mandated April 1 date — for all student government bodies besides the Financial Management Board and the Club Coordination Council. He said he wanted to assess the level of support for the measure before beginning the tedious process of changing all the dates in the constitution for presentation in resolution form.

Leito argued that adding an extra month to current leaders' terms and giving newly-elected officials an extra month to observe would make the transition process easier and more productive. He also reasoned that new representatives would have more opportunities to attend meetings before they themselves have to run them,

and experienced representatives would be given more time in which to wrap up their end-of-the-year projects.

Fisher senator Sujal Pandya opposed the change, arguing that the new leaders need the month at the end of the year to "get their feet wet," and that simply observing meetings for a month does not provide them an opportunity to do so.

"Being in a meeting in April entails that you're actually in the job, working," Pandya said. "It is important that you come to own the role before summer, or you will lose momentum coming into the new school year."

Pandya also asked that the senators take into consideration the opinion of the Hall President's Council, which has voiced its opposition to the date change.

Fisher Hall president Jacob Benedict was given the floor to offer his assent to Pandya's statement.

"In Senate, a lot of your work is done in meetings, but HPC isn't like that," Benedict said. "The majority of the work is done within the dorms, when the president is planning. You don't get your feet wet at meetings, so an extra month wouldn't prepare new presidents at all."

Proponents of the change said starting a new term on April 1 makes continuity of projects during the summer break difficult, and it would be more beneficial for the student body to

have experienced leaders in office for an extra month at the end of their term, when productivity tends to be higher.

Its detractors, however, said an extra month of preparation for incoming representatives was not necessarily beneficial, and cautioned that not everyone would take advantage of the time anyways.

"Frankly, I came to three Senate meetings before I became senator, but I still didn't know what I was doing until a few meetings after I took office," Josh Pasquesi, Morrissey senator, said. "At least I had the benefit of being able to go to the old senator for advice."

Debate on the subject lasted for almost an hour, during which no consensus on the best plan of action was reached.

"If our success is hinged on setting a calendar right, we have bigger problems to deal with," Vijay Ramanan, chair of the Committee on Academic Affairs, said in closing.

The Committee on Oversight also presented three ideas regarding election campaigning to solicit the senators' input.

The first idea proposed a reimbursement for funds spent

by student body president, vice president and class council candidates during the campaign. Currently, candidates are permitted to spend up to \$200 on their campaigns, all of which they must procure on their own.

"There are kids on this campus that want to make a change, and it's unfortunate that they have to spend their own money to get the chance to do it," Leito said.

Vice president-elect and Badin senator Lizzi Shappell supported the idea, saying that she knew many interested students who declined to run after discovering the costs involved.

President-elect and chief executive assistant Dave Baron, however, said reimbursement was unnecessary.

"If you're going to run for office, you have to be willing to sacrifice your time, your effort and even your money," Baron said. "There are means and places out there already to provide for candidates who may not have the finances to pull the money from their own pockets."

The second idea was to take away the ban on campaigning on election day. Most senators stood in support of repealing the ban after Brian Coughlin,

director of Student Activities, explained that the restriction's original purpose was to prevent voter intimidation when students voted on paper ballots at locations in their individual dorms.

The final idea, to which no one voiced objections, proposed that voting begin at midnight on election day rather than 8 a.m., to accommodate for abroad students in different time zones.

In other Senate news:

◆ Senators Julie Pearce and Agus Galmarini told the Senate that during their discussion about football ticket distribution with the athletic department's director of ticketing Josh Berlo, they learned that included in a new campus system upgrade will be software that will allow students to purchase tickets online. Though this technology would not be in place until the 2006-2007, Pearce and Galmarini asked senators to see how their constituents felt about possibly purchasing football tickets over the summer instead of in the fall.

◆ Student body vice president Karla Bell said that U2's managers, Principle Management, had informed them that Bono and the band would not be able to fit a stop in South Bend into their spring tour schedule. However, a campaign to get U2 to come in the fall will continue, Bell said.

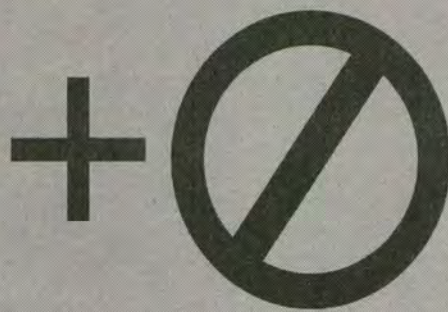
Contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@nd.edu

"It is important that you come to own the role before summer, or else you will lose momentum coming into the school year."

Sujal Pandya
Fisher senator



[Friday]



[Saturday]

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Queen's absence fuels speculation

LONDON — Buckingham Palace says Queen Elizabeth II won't be attending her son's wedding to keep the occasion "low key."

Fat chance.

"Queen's anger at wedding shambles," said London's Evening Standard newspaper on Wednesday, while The Sun headed its coverage "Royal bombshell."

Among royal watchers and wedding organizers alike, there was agreement that the impression of slipshod planning, a hint of queenly disapproval and lingering questions over the civil ceremony's legality were tipping the coming nuptials of Prince Charles and Camilla Parker Bowles toward farce.

"I'm actually quite shocked," said Emma Pattison, director of Zen Events, a firm of wedding planners. "They don't seem to have thought it through at all."

Leader signals willingness to resign

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Lebanon's pro-Syrian prime minister said Wednesday he was willing to resign in an effort to contain growing anger at his government and Damascus over the assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

Prime Minister Omar Karami made the offer to step down in a newspaper interview. "I am ready to resign on condition that we agree on a new government in order to avoid falling into a constitutional vacuum," he told the daily An-Nahar.

Karami said he will seek a vote of confidence in Parliament on Monday, when lawmakers meet to discuss Hariri's assassination in a Feb. 14 bombing in Beirut that also killed 16 others. The debate was requested by opposition legislators.

NATIONAL NEWS

Prosecutors say man not tortured

WASHINGTON — A Virginia man accused of plotting with al-Qaida to kill President Bush should be held indefinitely, federal prosecutors said Wednesday in court filings that also rejected his contention that he was tortured while held in Saudi Arabia.

At a court hearing a day earlier in Alexandria, Va., 23-year-old Ahmed Abu Ali offered to display scars on his back as proof that he was tortured by Saudi authorities. In their filing Wednesday, prosecutors said, "There is no credible evidence to support those claims."

Abu Ali never complained about his treatment during several meetings with an American diplomat in Saudi Arabia, according to the filing. Moreover, an American doctor examined him Monday and found "no evidence of physical mistreatment on the defendant's back or any other part of his body."

Govt. will pay more medical costs

WASHINGTON — Within a decade, the government will be footing the bill for nearly half the nation's medical costs, its share propelled higher by the new Medicare drug program, administration economists estimated Wednesday.

At the same time, total health spending — both private and government — will take an ever-larger portion of America's economic output, said the report from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

LOCAL NEWS

Zoo sees rare captivity birth

FORT WAYNE — Visitors to the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo will be treated to a rare sight when it opens for the season April 30: a baby striped possum.

It is believed to be only the sixth striped possum born in captivity, said Elaine Kirchner, zoologist and supervisor of the zoo's Australia After Dark exhibit.

"It's adorable," Kirchner said.

Zookeepers first discovered the birth in December during a routine physical on Alkira, a female striped possum, Kirchner said.

IRAQ

Interim leader challenges pick

Countering Shiite alliance, prime minister Allawi builds coalition to protect his job

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Ayad Allawi, the secular interim prime minister, said Wednesday he's putting together a coalition to try to hold onto the job in the next government and block the candidate of the dominant Shiite political alliance. Kurdish parties also weighed in with demands for top posts, setting up a possible showdown over the role of religion in a new Iraq.

Allawi's call for an inclusive coalition that would attract minority Sunni Arabs who form the core of the insurgency came as support for Ibrahim al-Jaafari, the leading Shiite candidate, began slipping in his United Iraq Alliance.

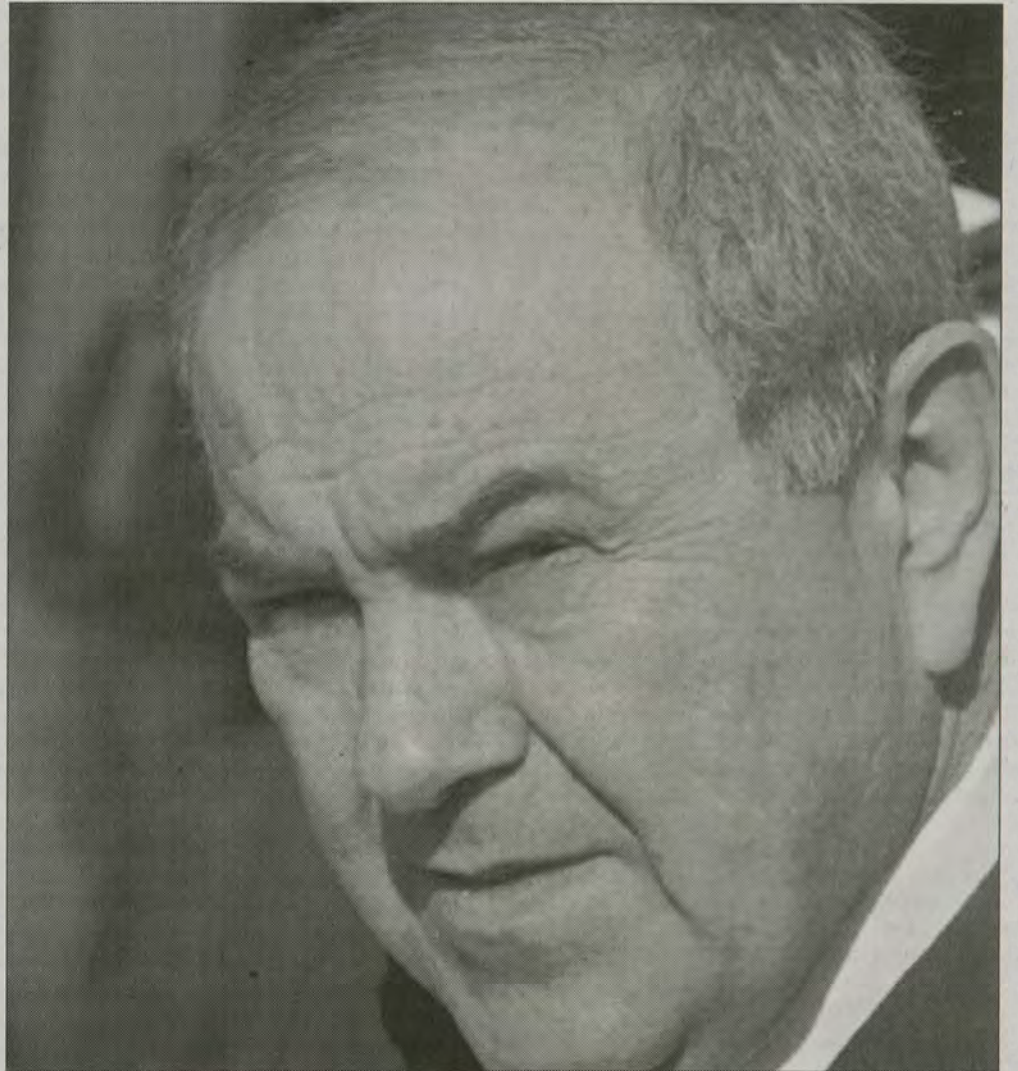
One day after al-Jaafari, 58, was nominated for the post of prime minister by the clergy-backed alliance, a Shiite political group that supports his one-time challenger, Ahmad Chalabi, threatened to withdraw its support.

The Shiite Political Council demanded that the alliance make amends after forcing Chalabi to end his pursuit of the prime minister's post by nominating one of the council's members for the largely ceremonial post of Iraqi president.

But the Kurdish coalition controlling 75 of the 275 seats in the National Assembly has long taken for granted that the alliance, which has 140 seats, will give the presidency to one of their leaders — Jalal Talabani.

"Regarding the nomination for the presidential post, no names were presented officially and we are running nonofficial discussions with all parties, especially with the Kurdish officials here in Baghdad," al-Jaafari spokesman Abdul Razaq Al-Kadhimi said.

The Kurds also issued a separate list of demands



Iraq's interim prime minister, Ayad Allawi, has begun the process of building a coalition in hopes of blocking Shiite Ibrahim al-Jaafari from obtaining his job.

that include reinforcing autonomy in their northern provinces.

A two-thirds majority of the assembly is required for approval of the presidency — the first step in a complicated process of filling the top positions. What this boils down to is that for al-Jaafari to become prime minister, he must win the approval of his own Shiite alliance, including Chalabi's supporters, and an additional 44 legislators.

Much is at stake. The next prime minister will oversee the drafting of a new constitution, and some fear al-Jaafari could lead Iraq toward an Islamic theocracy, or even a strictly

sectarian Shiite one. Allawi, Chalabi and the Kurds oppose efforts to codify or legislate religion.

Allawi, whose ticket won 40 seats in the assembly, said he considered al-Jaafari an "honorable man." But when asked if he feared that the alliance could impose Islamic rule in Iraq, Allawi said he opposed the creation of any form of Islamic government.

"We are liberal powers and we believe in a liberal Iraq and not an Iraq governed by political Islamists. But as a person he is an honorable man, fighter and a good brother," Allawi said.

Al-Jaafari is one of the interim government's two vice presidents and heads Dawa, a conservative Islamic religious party. He fought Saddam Hussein and took refuge in Iran for a decade in the 1980's, when Shiite clergy solidified their rule in Iran.

In forming his new coalition to unseat al-Jaafari, Allawi asked the Sunni Arab minority, which mostly boycotted the Jan. 30 elections, to play a role in the new government. Such a move could go a long way toward helping deflate the insurgency, mostly thought to be made up of Sunnis who once belonged to Saddam's Baath party.

States rebuke education overhaul

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — State lawmakers issued a scathing rebuke of President Bush's education overhaul on Wednesday, calling it a coercive, unconstitutional act that sets an unreachable goal of getting every child up to par in reading and math.

The National Conference of State Legislatures wants changes in the fundamental parts of the No Child Left Behind Act: how student progress is measured, how schools are punished if they fall short, and who decides when the rules are waived for struggling districts.

Overall, the proposal would give states significantly more power to administer the law.

As a bipartisan statement from all 50 legislatures, the report is significant for its sweep and tone, underscoring tensions over which level of government has final say over education. Schools are traditionally a state matter, but the federal role has grown much more aggressive as Bush and Congress have ordered higher achievement among all students.

The new report contends the law leads to unintended consequences and that the federal government is indifferent to them — the lowering

of academic standards, increasing segregation in school, and the driving away of top teachers from needy schools. It claims the government is also violating the Constitution by coercing state compliance.

Republican state Sen. Steve Saland of New York, co-chairman of the task force that reviewed the law, compared it to a "weed" that has stifled state innovation. Co-chairman Steve Kelley, a Democratic state senator from Minnesota, said the federal government is right to target the achievement gap among poor and minorities but wrong to meddle with the states.

Eddy

continued from page 1

commercial development up to the "Five Corners."

"You're not going to get a Gap, a Banana Republic, something like that. We might get a small boutique, some restaurants, a Pottery Barn, maybe a bookstore," Affleck-Graves said.

He also said that the townhouses would be independently owned and the apartments would not be marketed directly to students.

"This won't be like Turtle Creek," Affleck-Graves said.

Hakanen said that the University's role in the process would entail selling the proposed land to developers and not choosing retailers.

"It's up to developers to engage the tenants," Hakanen said.

According to Hakanen, the idea to develop emerged from Notre Dame officials' increasing dissatisfaction with the area immediately surrounding campus.

"The University watched, with growing dismay, the deterioration of the neighborhood," Hakanen said.

While Notre Dame's initial response was to acquire available property, Hakanen said a formal planning process began about three or four years ago along with the foundation of the Northeast Neighborhood Redevelopment Organization.

The NNRO, whose members include Notre Dame, the two hospitals, the Madison Center and the city of South Bend, incorporated actual residents while planning the new district, Hakanen said.

"It was important to get their input and approval in the actual process," Hakanen said. Consequently, he said, "there shouldn't be surprises [in the community] about this."

Both Affleck-Graves and Hakanen said that finding a developer for the project would not be difficult, a statement supported by the high turnout at presentations pitching the project one month ago in Chicago and yesterday in South Bend.

Affleck-Graves said the new district would be appealing residentially for a variety of reasons.

"I think many people want to live near campus," he said. "For young people, it's a good place to be, especially with the commercial district — South Bend doesn't have anything like that. That's attractive."

The timeline for the project will depend on how quickly developers commit, said Affleck-Graves.

"We would like this to begin pretty aggressively," he said, noting that the site would be available in July or August for development.

Students said they were pleased with the announcement.

"I think it will definitely have a good impact on the community," senior Amy Kern said. "It'll turn South Bend into more of a college town, and maybe decrease the separation there seems to be between South Bend and the rest of the city."

Kern said she hopes to see coffee shops and "some kind of laid-back places where students can just hang out, read or whatever."

Freshman Matt Detwiler of St. Edward's Hall agreed the district would benefit students.

"I think it is good for the students because it will encourage them to leave campus," said Detwiler, who said he wants to see new cafes and clothing retailers.

However, Detwiler pointed out that the district would not be close for all Notre Dame students, and that he hoped shuttle service would increase to the new destination.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

ROTC

continued from page 1

graduation. I would never want to do it."

Other students commended the ROTC program as a whole. Stanford Hall sophomore Patrick Cain said he liked ROTC since it "provid[es] an added incentive" for those interested in defending the country.

Sophomore Dan Sportiello said he admired the economics of the program, calling it a "simple exchange of tuition for military service," but also said he believes some "are only in the program because they have no choice," due to financial constraints.

According to Cortright, there has been an ongoing dialogue of monthly meetings between ROTC commanders and Peace Studies staff members since the Peace Studies program was established in 1986. During these "informal" dialogues, Cortright said, discussion has surrounded concerns relating to contemporary peace and security issues.

"We often find we don't differ that much in opinions ... a number of the officers share the same skepticism and concerns about U.S. policy as we the Peace Studies professors," Cortright said. "We definitely feel there are ways in which we share perspectives and ways in which we can learn from each other."

Sophomore Andrew Yi said that despite his anti-war sentiments, he has "great respect" for the program and its participants.

"I am grateful for their sacrifice and courage," he said.

Cortright, though, stressed the need for such a program, even on — or especially on — a Catholic campus.

"Unless we are advocating an absolutely pacifist position, as long as there is an army, it's better for it to be led by officers trained in ethical principles, who have a broader understanding of civilian values," Cortright said, "and who therefore will be more reflective of the society from which they come when they are out in military service."

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Engineer

continued from page 1

that you must be humble," he said. "... you learn about a culture through reading and through listening and experiencing what is around you, not by expecting people to listen to you."

Highlighting many of the structures he has designed for construction, Robertson spoke in detail about the design process and the complications engineers must deal with. Robertson said the goal of his company — Leslie E. Robertson Associates, R.L.L.P. — is simple structures with robustness.

"We build redundancy into our buildings, allowing them to remain standing if something should go wrong," he said. "We design so that if you take a tress out of any of our buildings, the building will continue to stand."

Though the World Trade Center was not the focus of this lecture, Robertson touched on the subject towards the end of the evening when questioned on the modern obstacles of structural engineering. Robertson said the Trade Center had actually been designed to withstand impact with low flying aircraft but, due to the speed and size of the planes on Sept. 11, the towers could not remain standing.

Robertson stressed, however, that engineers should not change their designs to be able to withstand the impact of high-speed planes. Robertson recalled that in the weeks following Sept. 11, engineers were questioning him about how to re-design their work in case of a terrorist attack.

"To me this is a non-issue," he said. "We should be spending our money on trying to make peace with the Middle East, not spending it on tactics for homeland security."

Robertson, who has received several honorary degrees for his work — including one from Notre Dame in 2003 — closed his talk by stressing the educational development of young people just starting out. Showing the designs of both undergraduate and graduate students, Robertson gave words of encouragement to the young engineers in the room.

"Everything you see and touch is engineered," he said. "To be a good engineer it is important that you be yourself, be frank with the people you collaborate with and know the fundamentals of engineering."

Contact Julie Bender at jbender@nd.edu

CEA

continued from page 1

one of our campaign managers," Baron said, calling her "a leader and a friend."

Following the approval of her nomination by the Council of Representatives, Kozlow will assume the role of communicator, advisor, organizer and coordinator for Baron's administration. Kozlow said she is confident in her abilities to meet these extensive expectations, but she noted that Baron's shoes would be hard to fill.

"If anything intimidates me about filling the position of CEA, it's following Dave and trying to achieve the same high standard he has set for the position," Kozlow said.

Having served as Istvan's CEA this year, Baron admitted the job is demanding.

In past years the CEA has been responsible for all press releases and publicity for the administration. This year, however, Baron and Shappell have created a new position whose chief role will be that of a communicator. This decision reflects Baron and Shappell's slogan calling for "One Student Voice, Eight Thousand Strong." Baron said he hopes the new position of director of communications will help to bridge the gap between the student body and their government leaders.

Baron said he believes Kozlow's unwavering determination to complete goals will allow her to redefine the role of CEA and guide it in a new direction.

"I have a preconception of what the role of CEA is, but Liz will change the position by her personality and her dedication to put forth the necessary amount of effort until the job is accomplished," Baron said.

Echoing the platform of Baron and Shappell, Kozlow said creating unity will be a common theme in all her work as CEA.

"We want to unite the students and make a significant impact in improving student life," Kozlow said. "When I think we've done that, I will be pleased."

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

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Stocks		
Dow Jones	10,785.22	+30.96
Up: 1,217	Same: 126	Down: 2,147
Composite Volume: 1,545,531,008		

AMEX	1,501.57	+3.80
NASDAQ	2,058.62	-2.72
NYSE	7,287.47	+14.97
S&P 500	1,201.59	+0.84
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	11,651.02	0.00
FTSE 100(London)	5,060.80	+3.60

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 100 TR (QQQQ)	-0.32	-0.12	37.35
INTEL CORP (INTC)	+1.65	+0.39	24.02
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-0.66	-0.17	25.48
SUN MICROSYS INC(SUNW)	+0.24	+0.01	4.16
CISCO SYS INC (SUNW)	-0.86	-0.15	17.30

Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	0.00	0.00	46.44
10-YEAR NOTE	0.00	0.00	42.60
5-YEAR NOTE	0.00	0.00	38.55
3-MONTH BILL	0.00	0.00	25.52

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GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-0.20	428.40
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.00	84.98

Exchange Rates	
YEN	105.5600
EURO	0.7656
POUND	0.5273
CANADIAN \$	1.2661

Defense calls on whistleblower

Woman testifies against former WorldCom chief accused of accounting fraud

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Lawyers for former WorldCom Inc. chief Bernard Ebbers began mounting a defense Wednesday, calling as their first witness the woman credited with blowing the whistle on WorldCom's massive accounting fraud.

Cynthia Cooper, the former head of internal auditing at WorldCom, told jurors that auditors at Arthur Andersen gave a "green light" rating to the company's accounting for 2000 and 2001.

In 2002, Cooper alerted the board of directors to irregular accounting practices, touching off the scandal that eventually sank WorldCom. Cooper later shared in Time magazine's Person of the Year award.

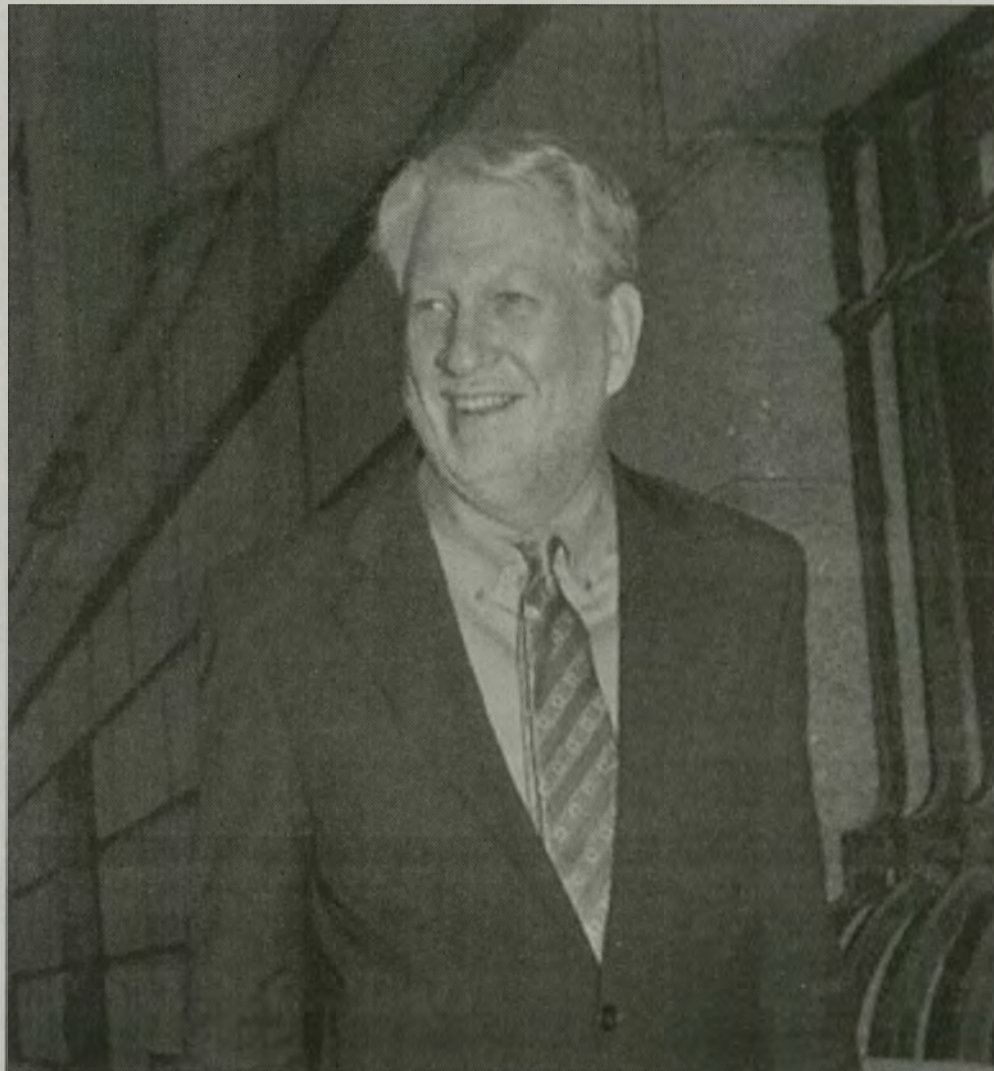
She testified after federal prosecutors rested their case against Ebbers, who is accused of overseeing the \$11 billion accounting fraud. The government called 14 witnesses over 16 days of testimony.

U.S. District Judge Barbara Jones denied a defense motion to clear Ebbers on all nine counts against him. Defense lawyers routinely make such a motion after prosecutors rest their case.

Defense lawyer Brian Heberlig argued the government had not proved criminal conduct because it failed to show WorldCom's books violated generally accepted accounting principles, commonly known as GAAP.

While the government could conceivably have offered such evidence, "We submit that was a failure of proof on this critical element," Heberlig told the judge.

Jones ruled the government had only to prove WorldCom made false statements in its financial statements — not necessarily that they had violated specific accounting



Former WorldCom CEO Bernard Ebbers exits Manhattan federal court Wed., Feb. 9. Ebbers is on trial for accounting fraud which when reported sank the company.

industry rules.

Cooper, who now runs her own consulting business, testified that WorldCom finance chief Scott Sullivan did not mention "anything uncomfortable" about company accounting when he attended a 2001 audit committee meeting.

Sullivan himself testified that by that time, he had already told Ebbers he thought it was wrong for accountants to make adjustments to hide expenses and falsely boost revenues.

Cooper was to return to the witness stand Thursday morning for more testimony. The defense team has not said in open court whether it

plans to call Ebbers himself as a witness.

Defense lawyers also want to call three former WorldCom executives as witnesses, but have been told those witnesses will plead the Fifth Amendment, presumably worried they might be prosecuted for what they say.

Jones denied a motion Wednesday to grant immunity to those three witnesses, but said she will consider the issue further.

The government's case rests heavily on Sullivan who testified that Ebbers ordered him to "hit our numbers" — a remark he said he interpreted as an instruction to carry out the enormous fraud.

Another government wit-

ness, former WorldCom controller David Myers, said Ebbers once apologized to him in a hallway for what the accountants had been forced to do.

A former Bank of America account manager also testified about the \$400 million in personal loans Ebbers took out, backed by WorldCom stock and later shored up by guarantees from WorldCom's board of directors.

The government contends Ebbers, worried about margin calls on the loans, was obsessed with keeping WorldCom's share price high and producing revenue and earnings figures that pleased Wall Street.

IN BRIEF

Consumer inflation shows increase

WASHINGTON — Consumer prices, helped by a second monthly drop in energy costs, were well behaved in January, but a weaker dollar and increases in crude oil prices this month could mean trouble ahead.

The Labor Department reported Wednesday that its Consumer Price Index edged up a tiny 0.1 percent in January after having been frozen with no change in December.

Both months were helped by big declines in energy costs, but that situation is expected to reverse in February and March as a rebound in world crude oil prices hits American consumers.

Some analysts projected that energy costs could push the February CPI up by as much as 0.6 percent with March consumer prices projected to surge as well, reflecting the fact that crude oil prices have climbed above \$50 per barrel again.

Analysts are also worried about the impact the U.S. dollar's three-year decline against other currencies will have on inflation, given the record levels of imported consumer goods Americans are buying.

Late starters can still save nest egg

NEW YORK — Many Americans know they haven't saved enough for retirement and, apparently convinced it's too late to catch up, do nothing about it.

Freezing like a deer caught in oncoming headlights isn't going to solve the problem. What's needed is to start immediately setting aside something — anything — to fund retirement, financial experts say.

The main reason that Americans, especially baby boomers, haven't put enough away for retirement is that they've been living beyond their means, said financial planner Alan Havar, who works at Abalos & Associates in Phoenix.

"If you're 45 or 50, and you haven't saved or you haven't saved enough, you have to seriously look at reducing your lifestyle," he said. "You have to spend less than you earn. You have to stop spending your retirement money today and start to save and save."

That's tough advice to follow, but Havar believes people can do it if they take the time to imagine the life they want in retirement.

Travelers not dismayed by prices

Associated Press

MIAMI — Alisa Skulpong considers herself pretty savvy about bargain vacations. So when she started looking for a seven-day cruise to Alaska this summer, she expected to pay around \$1,000, the amount she spent two years ago.

Skulpong was in for a surprise; the trip now costs \$1,400, even through bargain retailer Costco Wholesale Corp.

"If you're looking for a specific cruise itinerary, you need to book 10 months to a year in advance to get it. It's hard to get what you want at the price you want," said the legal assistant from Los Angeles, who booked the trip anyway. Cruise prices are climbing, but that's

not deterring vacationers who are buying tickets at a rapidly growing pace — extending the industry's rebound from the recession and Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks that devastated the travel business and forced cruise operators to slash their prices. About halfway through the heaviest booking quarter of the year, cruise lines say they are making reservations even faster than in 2004 despite the higher prices.

Passengers are inching closer to spending as much on tickets and extras on board as they did during the boom times of 1999 and 2000, analysts said. Carnival Corp. & plc, the world's largest cruise company, had its most profitable year ever in 2004 and expects to do better this year. No. 2 Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. and

smaller players also report strong demand.

"I think people are generally feeling optimistic about the economy. It's been nice and cold across the country, which always encourages people to take a [cruise] vacation," said Andy Stuart, NCL Corp. Ltd.'s executive vice president of marketing, sales and passenger services. NCL operates Norwegian Cruise Line, NCL America and Orient Lines.

Travel agent Joe Canino said his clients still seem willing to pay an extra \$500 or \$1,000 for the same trip they took a year or two ago.

"They question why it's higher, but it doesn't deter them," said Canino, a cruise expert at Hebron Travel in Hebron, Conn.

Sudan

continued from page 1

can kill whoever they want without consequence to their actions," he said.

Instead, Prendergast said, the United States and others should acquiesce to the authority of the International Criminal Court, which would investigate human rights abuses in Darfur and bring perpetrators to justice.

What makes the diplomatic situation in Darfur so sticky is that any meaningful international action requires the support of all five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — the United States, France, Britain, Russia and China. Although Prendergast, like the two other speakers, is in favor of targeted economic sanctions and the increased use of international peacekeeping troops in Darfur, he said four out of the five permanent members of the Security Council are currently supplying arms to the Sudanese government and directly or indirectly profiting from Sudan's crude oil exports. The result of this, he said, has been a lack of real economic sanctions and a weakening of the legitimacy of the few African Union troops currently on a peacekeeping mission in Darfur. Prendergast said the troops merely "have front row seats to the carnage," but are unable to do anything to stop it.

However, Juan Mendez, special advisor to U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, said that recently African Union troops have been given more jurisdiction to keep the peace in Darfur, to "protect people in imminent danger."

Under the old mandate, A.U. troops were allowed only to document the Darfurian carnage. Nonetheless, Mendez said that even the new mandate is insufficient, and like Prendergast, agreed that there was a tremendous need for more peacekeeping troops to protect Darfurian civilians. Such protections are most critical in Darfurian refugee camps on the Sudanese/Chadian border, where women, leaving the protection of their make-shift shelters, are at high risk of being raped by Janjaweed marauders, Mendez said.

A Darfur issue that looms large in the coming months is an impending famine in the region, quite likely because little to no planting has taken place since the conflict began almost two years ago. Jan Egeland, the U.N.'s emergency relief coordinator, said this week that as many as four million Darfurians are in danger of starvation in the coming months.

Another topic that recurred throughout the symposium was the issue of whether or not the crisis in Darfur should be considered genocide.

Mendez discussed the U.N. Security Council committee that

traveled to Darfur to investigate whether or not accusations of genocide were correct.

"It did not find a policy of genocide in the Sudanese government," said Mendez. "But it is still possible for a court to find certain Sudanese government officials guilty of genocide, although that would have to be done in a separate criminal court."

Francis Deng, the symposium's third speaker and former Sudanese ambassador to the United States, put the genocide issue in perspective, saying that although the U.N. has not officially declared that genocide had been committed, it has said that war crimes on par with genocide had taken place. Deng concluded that the language used to describe the crisis was less important — if something on the level of genocide had occurred, the international community had a responsibility to do something about it, he said.

Moreover, Deng continued, the

Khartoum regime has used the U.N.'s statement as a shield, declaring themselves inculpable since what happened was not officially declared genocide.

Echoing the sentiments of all the speakers, Mendez said that a solution to the crisis in Darfur would require a number of actions taken together.

"We need a package of measures," he said, "not simply sanctions, not simply strengthening the African Union, not simply employing the International Criminal Court. But with a complete package, with all of these taken together, we might just be able to save some lives."

Deng lectured primarily on the deeper cultural roots of the behind the violence in Darfur, explaining the complex role that race and ethnicity have played in the bloodshed, both recently in Darfur and in the southern part of the country.

"What is happening in Darfur is part of a struggle for the soul of the nation," he said. Deng

went on to say that the current Arab / black African dichotomy is a new one in Sudanese history and that the real differences between the two groups are few — that foreigners would have a difficult time differentiating between those called Arabs and those called Africans.

Deng traced the source of this racial distinction to British colonization of Sudan in the 19th century, when the British government irrationally tried to divide the nation culturally into the Arab North and non-Arab, African South. The result of this separation quickly caused a tense hierarchy to develop, with those considered Arabs being considered generally superior to those considered native Africans, he said. It is along these artificial lines that tensions between Arabs and non-Arab Africans have developed in Darfur, Deng said.

Contact Michael Busk at mbusk@nd.edu

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- Dave Baron and Lizzi Shappell
- Members of the Mens Swim Team
- Kevin Corrigan, Men's Lacrosse Coach
- Professor Kristin Lewis
- Professor Bradley Smith
- Kyle Chamberlin, JV Leprechaun
- The Freshman Soccer Girls
- The ND Cheerleaders
- Br. Jerome Meyer, Knott Rector
- Sr. Sue Bruno, PW Rector
- Matt Russo and Sheldon Dutes
- John Lyons, Mr. ND
- Cheron Wilson, Ms. ND
- Greg Dalby and the Soccer Boys
- The Sophomore Soccer Girls

Second Course, 8:15 pm

- Mr. Chuck Lennon
- Dr. David Moss
- Mike Dury and the Baseball Guys
- Members of the Women's Swim Team
- Ms. Anne Nappoli, Badin Rector
- Ms. Candace Carson, Welsh Fam Rector
- Ms. Becca Davidson, BP Rector
- Karla Bell, Student Body VP
- Dave Rooney and Steve Mattingly
- Sarah Ball, BP President
- Liz Tran, BP RA
- Cory McDevitt, BP Asst. Rector
- Professor George Lopez
- Mr. Ken Dye, Band Director

Third Course, 9:00 pm

- Mr. Bill Kirk
- Professor Anre Ventner
- Professor Cunningham
- Mariel Zagunis
- Brady Quinn, Ambrose
- Wooden & John Carlson
- The Junior Soccer Girls
- Professor James McKenna
- Ms. Chandra Johnson
- Father Mark Poorman
- Father Theodore Hesburgh

Silent Auction Featuring Gift Certificates from Local Restaurants from 7:00-9:30 pm!
Performances by The Solid Underground at 7:45, and The Irish Dancers at 8:45!

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Thursday, February 24, 2005

THE OBSERVER

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Let the movie credits roll

This Sunday the 77th annual Academy Awards will take place, and if I had a vote for Best Picture, it would go to the acclaimed "Million Dollar Baby." Confidently directed and beautifully shot, the film manages to bring moral seriousness to the table without threatening to become a cinematic op-ed piece. It is, in short, a film for grown ups — a rare thing in Hollywood these days.

When a good movie comes along, the achievement should be acknowledged, lest the species become extinct.

Of the three key performers, Hilary Swank will doubtlessly garner the most attention. She gained 20 pounds, all of it muscle, to play a female boxer. Changing body type for a role has been fashionable ever since Robert DeNiro beefed up and won an Oscar playing Jake La Motta.

The psychological appeal for the audience is hardly mysterious; movie stars earn obscene amounts of money, and we like to know that they suffered for it.

Swank does a fine job, as does Eastwood, but in my opinion, Morgan Freeman's performance is what makes the film work.

"Team America: World Police" has not been nominated for anything, which is hardly surprising given that many of the people who were the brunt of the film's jokes will be sitting in the good seats at the Kodak Theatre on Sunday.

It is sometimes said that celebrities are America's aristocracy, and many of them certainly seem to have developed a sense of noblesse oblige.

The problem is that when film stars get involved in politics, they often give the impression that they have cast themselves as members of the Rebel Alliance taking on the Galactic Empire.

The results are usually embarrassing, and sometimes detrimental. In 1972, Jane Fonda toured North Vietnam, denouncing tortured American Prisoners of War as "hypocrites and liars." In an infamous radio broadcast, she suggested that Richard Nixon should read Ho Chi Minh's

poetry. Barbarella, it's safe to say, was truly out of her league.

Similarly, when actor Sean Penn spent time in Baghdad and announced that the best solution to Iraq's problems would be lifting the trade sanctions rather than deposing its tyrannous ruler, we can safely assume that neither Iraq's mass gravesites nor its torture chambers had been featured on his guided tour.

Stars are easily duped not because they are stupid — although Alec Baldwin won't be winning the Fields Medal for his work in advanced physics any time soon — but because they are vain. It is that vanity, that Messianic self-importance, that Team America mocks so effectively.

Matt Stone and Trey Parker are perhaps the only film-makers who could get away with this, because they are perhaps the only major American film-makers whose commercial success does not depend on the stars themselves.

One theory, auteur theory, treats a film's director as the analogue of a novel's author — in effect, as its sole creator. William Goldman pointed out some time ago that in order to hold this theory, it is necessary to have no knowledge about how films are actually made.

There was, Goldman wrote, only one American director who could justly be considered an auteur, since he served as his own producer, cinematographer, and editor, and produced work that displayed a unique vision of the world.

That director was Russ Meyer. Goldman had a point; anyone familiar with Meyer's oeuvre — a body of work that includes Vixen, Supervixens and Beneath the Valley of the Ultravixens — cannot help but be struck by its thematic unity.

In fact, one could randomly interchange scenes of any of Meyer's movies without them making any more sense.

Meyer died last year, and Stone and Parker have inherited his mantle, if not his penchant for homicidal go-go dancers. They write, direct, produce and even voice their own work. They just might be Hollywood's only auteurs.

Sadly, most of Team America's reviews never got past the question of where the

creators of South Park stood on Bush's War on Terror.

(Note to critics: if you complain about the increasing polarization of the political climate in the United States, and then after watching a film in which puppet celebrities are eaten by real cats, your first question is "Which side are these guys on?" then you are part of the problem.)

A film which should transcend partisan politics is "Hotel Rwanda," which has deservedly received nominations for its screenplay and both of its key performances.

Based on the true story of a Hutu hotel manager who managed to protect over a thousand Tutsis during the Rwandan genocide, it's a devastating film to watch, as well it should be.

In Rwanda, the few U.N. troops on the ground were instructed to keep the peace, but forbidden from firing a shot. The Tutsis sheltered in the hotel survived, but by the time the nationwide slaughter ended, the collective death toll approached a million corpses.

Watching the film, it is hard to believe that the world stood by and allowed the massacres.

Right now, in Darfur in the Sudan, the Sudanese government and militias are engaged in ethnic cleansing.

As in Rwanda, a relatively small international force could stop the bloodshed, although their capability to deter violence would require that they be permitted not merely to carry guns, but to use them.

Regarding Rwanda, people often say that genocide took place while the world looked on and did nothing. But that isn't right, for we did do something. We looked away. And we have no right to be shocked when this Sunday, as the killings continue, most of us will be watching the stars.

Peter Wicks is a graduate student in the Philosophy Department. Peter can be contacted at pwicks@nd.edu. More information about the situation in Darfur can be found at www.savedarfur.org.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

Do awareness weeks really raise awareness on campus?

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied, "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

Louise Haskins
English Poet

Need no credit card to ride this train

Much like my muse and new personal hero, Charlie Weis, I'm a bottom-line guy.

There's no room in my world for frills and ornamentation; just give me the basics, please. I'm a man who likes his coffee black, his blue-books blue, and his burgers delicious.

I have no tolerance for shades of gray or any desire to muddle in the mushy-mouthed middle ground. I don't try to call both sides of the coin or to have my cake and eat it, too. Like a veritable John Wayne, I pick one side or the other, and don't look back.

I want nice, simple one-to-one correspondences in my life; yes or no, good or bad, up or down, Ruben or Clay.

With me, things are black or white, not somewhere in-between. Basic, plain and simple; that's what I like.

Of course, understand that I'm not talking about applying this bare-bones philosophy to matters of life, love, taxes or politics. No, I'm directing my uncomplicated ethos toward the walls of O'Shag and the rash of fiercely competitive advertising that they've spawned.

You can imagine how painful it is for a man of my straightforward, plain-Jane tastes to walk down the normally sterile corridors this time of year. Bright, exciting posters have crawled out of the woodwork virtually overnight.

On your average day, I've been taunted by sprawling hot-pink banners with dark silhouettes of beautiful women. I've been mocked by long-dead literary figures urging me to learn their native tongue. I've seen enticing photos of exotic locales — all of them urging me to spend a semester studying in the places of dreams — Rome, Dublin and Florida State University.

These affronts to unadorned, old fashioned taste have all been carried on in amazing, blinding, enraging Technicolor.

While the Student Activities Office may approve just about anything these days, the Bob Masters Office of Poster Endorsement only likes two ads. We recommend that the remaining hundreds of needlessly colorful posters be removed immediately and

replaced with good old fashioned pen and ink.

The first ad that may remain features Mr. Worf from Star Trek. This advert, as I understand, was sponsored by the Department of Klingon Studies as a way to increase enrollment in their Introduction to Alpha Quadrant Language Systems course offerings. Not only does this rate highly on my Random Star Trek Reference meter but it's also printed in soothing black and white. So it stays.

The second poster I approve of is the "Love Is" advertisement sponsored by the Notre Dame Right to Life club. This ad struck me for two reasons. First, it's in beautiful black and white, much like Mr. Worf and much like the appealing simplicity I've argued for earlier in this column.

Secondly, the background of the poster contains absolutely beautiful poetry that I strained to read one evening while stopping to admire the ad's effortless elegance. For the record, Star Trek and poetry are about the only things I do indeed approve of.

Since I've recently hired a fact-checker for my column, this poster had a bit more surprise yet for me. I've discovered, after closer examination of the "Love Is" poster, that the Right to Life group was not quoting a Shakespearean sonnet, as I had originally assumed.

The selected ruminations on what love is featured in this ad are actually the words of Saint Paul in his first letter to the Corinthians.

In 1 Corinthians 13, Paul states that love "suffereth long, and is kind." Furthermore, love "beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things,

endureth all things." And, Paul adds, while the virtues of faith, hope and love always remain, "the greatest of these is love."

I'm sure all of us have been reminded of Paul's touchingly beautiful assessment of love at various points in our lives. I know it was a popular selection for the readings at many of those all-school Masses we'd attend twice a week at St. Matt's.

But there was something there in the basic, black and white, simple presentation of the "Love Is" poster that made Saint Paul's words even more poignant this time around. Contrasted against the sea of gaudy attention-seeking ads, Paul's thoughts — in nonchalant white lettering — stood solidly on their own merit, without need of artifice or dressing-up.

Rather, the natural beauty of his incredibly poetic articulation of love shone brighter than any hot pink placard ever could.

But that's just me. I remain a realist. I understand some need the stimulation of neon colors, laser light shows and ear-shattering sounds to get a point.

That's why I'm closing this column with an endorsement of Huey Lewis for Commencement speaker.

Those to whom Paul's simple graces are lost will hopefully get the same idea, more or less, from rockin' out to "The Power of Love" at maximum volume.

Bob Masters is a senior English major. He can be contacted at amasters@nd.edu.

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



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Proud to be a transfer student

I would like to respond to the implications made in "True Life: I'm a transfer student" in Tuesday's edition of the Observer. I am offended that the perspective offered in this article gives the impression that all transfers are those who didn't get in to the University the first time around. This fosters the stereotype that they weren't good enough, or are less worthy of the hard-working reputation Notre Dame students have.

I was recently conversing with a fellow transfer student who referenced our transfer orientation luncheon. When one of the Admissions officers welcomed us by asking, "Where have you been all year?!", the student had mumbled, "You didn't let us in!" Although this may be the sentiment among some transfer students, it is not applicable to all.

I transferred last fall, but not as a result of being previously rejected. Rather, I had applied early decision to a small liberal arts school near my home on the East coast. My decision to come to Notre Dame was a result of the realization that I had changed, and the school I chose in high school no longer fit my academic needs or my character.

The aforementioned speaker also told us that after orientation, we would no longer need to introduce or think of ourselves as "transfers." In retrospect, maybe this was only a suggestion as their way of saying "try to fit in ... I know the presumptions made about transfers."

But personally thinking that transferring was a result of growth and need for change, not a reflection of insufficiency, I thought it meant we were as much a part of the Notre Dame family as those who were here before us.

I am not ashamed that I am a transfer student; in fact, I feel unique in the perspective I bring, having experienced another college, to a University most people have wanted to attend since they were five. I consider myself lucky that I discovered a wonderful school in my search for change. I was only disappointed to see the transfer student stereotype perpetuated; we are here now, and regardless of how we did it, that should be all that matters.

Katherine Hayes
 Junior
 Howard Hall
 Feb. 23

U-WIRE

Applying science to love

The Weather Girls harmonize, "It's rainin' men ... It's rainin' men / every specimen / tall blonde dark and lean / rough and tough and strong and mean," in one of the last great anthems of the disco era.

The lyrics lead me to believe that one of the girls must have experienced what I like to call The Pack Phenomenon (TPP). She probably went for months, perhaps even years, without a man in sight — not a single prospect — and trapped in a veritable dating desert.

One day, she fell in love, and the herd instinct took over. Suddenly, in the middle of her Sahara, "It's rainin' men." My TPP theory, arrived at by carefully conducted, completely unscientific research, is that men are highly evolved pack animals. They are capable of smelling female desperation from 14,000 miles away, but able to deftly perceive the scent of contentedness from a world-wide radius.

Therefore, when a woman falls in love, she becomes the irresistible target of the entire bunch. Immediately, her phone starts ringing. There's the 3 a.m. call from her ex-boyfriend, the call from the crush she's had for two years, and, invariably, calls from every guy who has ever asked for her number. From near and far, they come out of the woodwork. I know TPP happens; I have both observed and experienced it.

However, my largest question remains unanswered. How does the word get out? Smoke signals? My favorite hypothesis is that being in love causes a supersonic SOS sign (She's not Single) visible to former and would-be suitors. My postulation explains the phone calls, but becomes problematic when other factors are considered: Campus cat-calls, random run-ins with gorgeous hunks and truck drivers' abject admiration, to name a few.

I concluded there must be something more that makes a woman in love glow like a Lite Brite in a

dark closet: The Boyfriend Brilliance Effect (BBE). According to my rationale, the BBE generates luminescent confidence. This confident glow is what compels previously passive men to action; it catalyzes The Pack Phenomenon. (Disclaimer: I do not have any data regarding reversal of gender roles, but I think we can safely assume the inverse is also true).

Attempting to bend my theories into logical analysis, I looked to the business school. Supply and demand had a lot going for it, but relationships are difficult to compare to commodities. I was sadly disappointed with probability and statistics — apparently my perceived cause and effect is labeled an unrelated correlation. Biology explained physical attraction, but defining the element that turns a dowdy dame into a glamour girl still eluded me. Frustrated, I discarded intelligent investigation and pondered the million-dollar idea of bottling the Boyfriend Brilliance Effect — sort of a man-rain dance in pill form. Utterly impossible ... or was it?

I recognized in my hurry to analyze, I had forgotten to even consider psychology's placebo effect. In case you aren't familiar with it, the placebo effect occurs when you take a pill believing it to be effective when, in fact, it is simply a sugar pill. Research (the real, scientific kind) shows that the consequences of simply believing in a treatment are profound. It might be impossible to bottle the intangible effects of being in love, but believing that you exude a high level of glowing confidence and self-contentment — despite current relational status — could quite possibly have the same end result (TPP), with no boyfriend required. So dust off your sense of self-reliant spunk and see what the universe sends your way. Let it rain.

This column originally appeared on Feb. 23 in The Lantern, the daily publication at the Ohio State University.

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

ALBUM REVIEWS

Ludacris coasts but still satisfies

By KENYATTA STORIN
Assistant Scene Editor

Another Ludacris album, another million sold. At this point, Ludacris could probably come out with a folk album and it would still fly off the shelves.

Ludacris' latest platinum album, "The Red Light District," is not all that different from his past work, but that is not necessarily a bad thing. Although Ludacris' songs are always rather simple in scope — think money, partying, women, marijuana, etc. — more often than not, his distinguished, charismatic flow and knack for coming up with sharp, witty one-liners more than make up for his lack of original content.

While Ludacris is not the best rapper out there, he is certainly one of the wittiest and

funniest.

And he is never one to take himself too seriously, as shown on "Number One Spot," where Ludacris raps to a remix of the "Austin Powers" theme, spouting references to the movie with lines like, "Causin' lyrical disasters, it's the master / Make music for Mini-Me's, models and Fat Bastards," while also taking the time to take a shot at Bill O'Reilly, "Hi Mr. O'Reilly! / Hope all is well, kiss the plaintiff and the wifey." Although "Austin Powers" jokes are a bit dated and clichéd nowadays, Ludacris makes the film references sporadically enough to pull them off without becoming annoying. He shows he can be serious every now and then too, like on the introspective "Child of the Night," where he raps, "It seems like the whole world is out for sinkin' my boat / But with God as my navigator I'll be stayin' afloat." Ludacris is



Photo courtesy of mtv.com

"The Red Light District" has much better production than Ludacris' last album, "Chicken-N-Beer."

also impressive on the chill, feel-good jam "Spur of the Moment," the Timbaland-produced "The Potion" and the old school "Virgo" with Nas and Doug E. Fresh.

"The Red Light District" also benefits from good production from not only big-name producers like Timbaland and Organized Noize ("Blueberry Yum Yum"), but also lesser known ones like The Medicine Men ("Get Back") and Polow Da Don ("Pimpin' All Over the World"). This is a nice improvement from Ludacris' last album, "Chicken-N-Beer," which suffered from mediocre production by no-name producers.

Unfortunately, there are still times when Ludacris' charisma cannot overcome his banal content, like on tracks such as "Put Your Money," a forgettable song with DMX about gambling and "Two Miles an Hour," an uninteresting song about cars.

However, by far the worst cut is "Who Not Me," which features horrible rappers Small World and Dolla Boy, along with a dull, uninspiring verse by Ludacris himself.

Like most successful rap stars, Ludacris has lost some of his edge and drive over the course of his career. He still boasts and brags that he is one of the best, but as evidenced by tracks like "Who Not Me" and "Put Your Money," he does not put his all into every song. And although he is usually clever and humorous, the lack of originality in his song content prevents "The Red Light District" from being as good as it could have been. That being said, it is still entertaining, and fans of his past albums hoping for more of the same will get exactly what they are looking for.

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The Red Light District Ludacris

Def Jam



Legend has solid studio debut

By BECCA SAUNDERS
Assistant Scene Editor

Alicia Keys and Lauren Hill have some new competition, but it is not from another female artist. No, this is a fresh face of R&B and hip-hop. John Legend has grown in popularity in the past months following the release of his first album on Columbia records, "Get Lifted." The album has been a moderate success both commercially and critically, but it deserves all the praise it receives.

"Get Lifted" is an even mix of slow and fast R&B songs with a touch of hip-hop and a bit of soul. Legend's textured voice covers a vast vocal range and his strong sense for melody and music composition is consistently shown throughout the 14 songs on "Get Lifted."

Legend has always had big plans for his future. This is most obviously shown by

his choice for his last name, which was formerly Stephens and has since been changed to Legend. An English major from the University of Pennsylvania, Legend spent nine years as the music and choir director at Bethel A.M.E. Church outside Philadelphia at one point early in his career, according to his Web site. Legend speaks of his musical formation in the context of gospel singing.

"I always loved the feeling when people responded to my singing and playing, so I was already making little gospel records in high school," he said. "I was ambitious and just loved being onstage."

"Get Lifted" shows the spectrum of Legend's musical talent. The first half of the album is generally faster, with more of a hip-hop feel. A couple of songs showcase this hip-hop element more than others, particularly "Number One" (featuring Kayne West) and "I Can Change" (featuring Snoop Dogg). Although those songs



Photo courtesy of mtv.com

Not every song is great on "Get Lifted," but it is still a fine start to John Legend's career.

are the heaviest in hip-hop influence, they are also two of the best songs on the album. Conversely, some of the remaining best songs on "Get Lifted" are in the second half of the predominantly slow songs. "Ordinary People" and "Stay With You" are both slow songs that basically feature Legend and a piano, and those two elements are entirely enough to constitute musically, lyrically and melodically strong songs.

While the balance between Legend's ability to create both fast and slow R&B is clear on the very balanced "Get Lifted," one of the high points of the album comes in the very soulful, "It Don't Have To Change" (featuring the Stephens Family). Backed by the voices of his own family, the gospel and soul sound of "It Don't Have To Change" makes it a stand out song on "Get Lifted."

Lyrical, the album is above average. Legend falls into the trap of cliché lyrics at times, such as in "Alright," a faster

song on the album when he sings, "Good Lord, you got body for days." At other points in the album, Legend redeems himself with stronger lyrics such as in "Refuge (When It's Cold Outside)" when he sings more philosophically, "You know and I know / Friends come and friends go / Storms rise and winds blow / But one thing I know for sure ..." and he goes into a description of a relationship that comes from a much deeper place than a "body for days."

Not every song on "Get Lifted" is great, such as the weaker "Alright" and "Let's Get Lifted Again," but the album is certainly a strong beginning for any artist. Legend may have some areas to improve, but overall "Get Lifted" is a solid album with a unique male R&B sound. He's no legend yet, but he just may be on his way to becoming one.

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Get Lifted

John Legend

Sony Urban Music/Columbia



ALBUM REVIEW

Duo fashions sublime carnival of kitsch-pop

By MATTHEW SOLARSKI
Scene Music Critic

Multiply two quirky songwriters by three languages, and one arrives at this — the sixth full-length from Berlin-based pop culture mavens Stereo Total. The duo, comprised of ostensible husband-and-wife Francoise Cactus and Brezel Goring, has been churning out albums of charming,

infectious electro-pop at an alarming rate since 1995. Stereo Total's latest, the slyly named "Do the Bambi," proves a delightful addition to this lineage.

Simply put, this is a ridiculously fun record, rife with hooks, grooves, keyboard flourishes and all the touches that make pop music, well, popular.

Cactus' sultry vocals flirt with the perky instrumentation, seamlessly transitioning from German to French

to English and back again, sometimes within the same song. The English lyrics admittedly have that slightly-off-beat quality that often surfaces when non-natives approach the language, but this serves as yet another part of the charm of "Bambi." In fact, they are frequently clever, such as when Cactus writes off her penchant for nudity by claiming, "it's just my birthday suit."

Indeed, several of the tracks here dabble in surprisingly sophisticated lyrical subject matter that belies the hook and bells and whistles underlying it. "Orange Mecanique," for instance, culls elements from the soundtrack to Stanley Kubrick's "A Clockwork Orange," together with a selection from Anthony Burgess's text and fashions them into a spooky — even danceable — three-minute pop ditty. And not one but two of the selections on "Bambi" draw their inspiration from Jean Luc-Godard's twisted 1969 invective against mass culture, the film "Weekend." On yet another track, "Cinemaniam," Cactus treats listeners to a cinephile's laundry list, at one point rhyming Julie Christie, Jacques Tati, Warren Beatty and Visconti. And one

cannot help but delight in the telling assonance of the pithy "Europe, Neurotic."

Making its domestic start on indie micro-label Bobsled Records, based out of mini-metropolis Aurora, Ill. (of "Wayne's World" fame, among other distinctions), Stereo Total's idiosyncratic brand of mirth eventually found the ears of the venerable Kill Rock Stars label. The one time home of Sleater-Kinney, Bikini Kill and others, Kill Rock Stars released the stellar "Musique Automatique" in 2001 and now "Do the Bambi."

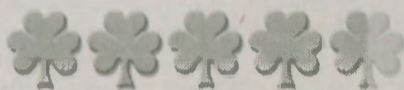
"Bambi" is addled by but one major misstep — a rather wretched number nested in the very center of the opus, "Hungry!," which features a guest "rap" by Hawney Troof and an obnoxious bap-ba-dah chorus. "Hungry!" is just atrocious enough to chip a half-shamrock off an otherwise sublime record. Graciously, in this age of TiVo and iPods, one can skip "Hungry!" and revel in "Do the Bambi's" eighteen other gems.

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Stereo Total

Do the Bambi

Kill Rock Stars



Oscar diversity at a peak

Associated Press

Black comedian and Oscar host-to-be Chris Rock confessed recently that he had seldom watched the Academy Awards, except in 2002 when he tuned in to see the historic triumphs of Halle Berry and Denzel Washington.

"Come on, it's a fashion show," he said half-jokingly in a magazine interview. "What straight black man sits there and watches the Oscars? Show me one. And they don't recognize comedy and you don't see a lot of black people nominated, so why should I watch it?"

This year he is not only watching but hosting a show in which a record number of minority performers are vying for top honors.

Four blacks — Jamie Foxx, Don Cheadle, Morgan Freeman and Sophie Okonedo — and a Latina actress, Colombian native Catalina Sandino Moreno, have amassed a total of six nominations.

And "Ray," the biographical drama about soul music legend Ray Charles, is the first film with a predominantly African-American cast to be nominated as best picture since Steven Spielberg's "The Color Purple" two decades ago.

Author George Alexander, whose book "Why We Make Movies" explored the work of black filmmakers, said this year's nominations reflect the long-overdue strides blacks have made in Hollywood since Hattie McDaniel broke the Oscar colour barrier in 1939 with her Academy Award-winning supporting role as Mammy in "Gone with the Wind."

"We're seeing that actors who have enormous talent but who perhaps hadn't had the opportunity to be leading men, have stepped up to the plate and gotten those opportunities, like Jamie Foxx," Alexander told Reuters.

Moreover, black actors are being recognized this year for performances in overtly heroic roles that transcend

race.

Foxx, the first African-American to garner two nominations in a single year, is considered a favorite to win the best actor prize for his title role in "Ray," playing the legendary musician who overcame blindness, bigotry and drug addiction to become one of America's most beloved entertainers.

"We have been so flooded with so many negative things in our community," Foxx told the London Times. "For something positive like this to happen it makes those kids and everybody just say, 'Man, maybe I can do it like Jamie Foxx did.'"

Foxx in good company

If he wins, Foxx would be only the third black named best lead actor, following Sidney Poitier for the 1963 film "Lilies of the Field" and Washington three years ago for "Training Day."

Foxx also picked up a nomination as best supporting actor for playing a kidnapped taxi driver opposite Tom Cruise as a contract killer in "Collateral."

In the race for best actor, Foxx faces another black performer nominated for a breakthrough leading role, Cheadle, who in "Hotel Rwanda" plays a real-life hotel manager who helped save some 1,200 people from mass murder. Okonedo, a British-born newcomer of Nigerian descent, earned a nod as best supporting actress for playing his wife.

The nominations of Foxx and Cheadle for best actor mark only the second time in 77 years of Oscar history that two blacks are competing in that category at the same time. Washington and Will Smith went head to head three years ago.

Regardless of who wins this year, the Oscar attention accorded Foxx and Cheadle is likely to thrust both first-time nominees to the Hollywood forefront.

Meanwhile, veteran actor Freeman is hoping to finally take home a statuette from the fourth Oscar bid of his career, a nomination for his supporting role as the elderly manager of a boxing gym



Jamie Foxx has two nominations, including best actor, for "Ray." "Ray" is the first film with a predominately African-American cast to be nominated for best picture since Steven Spielberg's "The Color Purple" two decades ago.

and the voice of reason in Clint Eastwood's "Million Dollar Baby." He was previously nominated for roles as a pimp in "Street Smart," a chauffeur "Driving Miss Daisy" and a prison inmate in "The Shawshank Redemption."

The lone minority actress up for an Oscar this year is the previously unknown Sandino, making her feature film debut as a drug mule in the Spanish-language drama "Maria Full of Grace."

Racial diversity has been slow in coming to the Oscars.

It took 10 years after McDaniel's triumph for a second black performer even to be nominated — Ethel Waters

for the 1949 racial drama "Pinky" — and nearly a quarter of a century for Poitier to win his landmark Oscar for "Lilies of the Field."

Only six Oscars have gone to black actors since then, and no more than three had been nominated at once before now.

Part of that is a function of limited opportunities in Hollywood for blacks, who were long been relegated to clownish parts in comedies or to menial and criminal roles in dramas.

Blacks have also fared far worse behind the camera at the Academy Awards. Only one, John Singleton, has been nominated as best director, for "Boys N the Hood" in 1991.

NBA

Sixers acquire Kings' Webber in six-man deal

Thomas, Williamson,
Skinner dealt from
Philly to Sacramento

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The Sacramento Kings traded Chris Webber to the Philadelphia 76ers late Wednesday night, parting ways with the cornerstone of their renaissance in a stunning six-player deal that dramatically reshaped both teams.

The Sixers acquired Webber, one of the NBA's elite power forwards and a five-time All-Star, along with reserve forwards Matt Barnes and Michael Bradley. Philadelphia sent forwards Brian Skinner, Kenny Thomas and Corliss Williamson to the Kings, who finally divested themselves of Webber's mammoth contract after years of rumors and speculation.

Geoff Petrie, the Kings' president of basketball operations, acquired Webber from Washington before the 1999 season in a deal that transformed Sacramento into an interesting, contending team. The Kings then re-signed Webber to a seven-year deal worth approximately \$127 million in 2001.

Webber has played exceptionally well in recent weeks, averaging 21.3 points, 9.7 rebounds and 5.5 assists per game — though he isn't the athlete he was before undergoing serious knee surgery following the 2003 playoffs.

"The message that we're sending is that we went out and got a player who's averaging 21 and 10 to go along with our young players," Philadelphia

president Billy King said at a news conference late Wednesday night.

After scoring 30 points in the Kings' 114-104 win over Atlanta on Tuesday night, Webber acknowledged the annual uncertainty over his future with a shrug — but the forward, who has three years and \$62 million left on his contract, clearly didn't believe he was about to be traded.

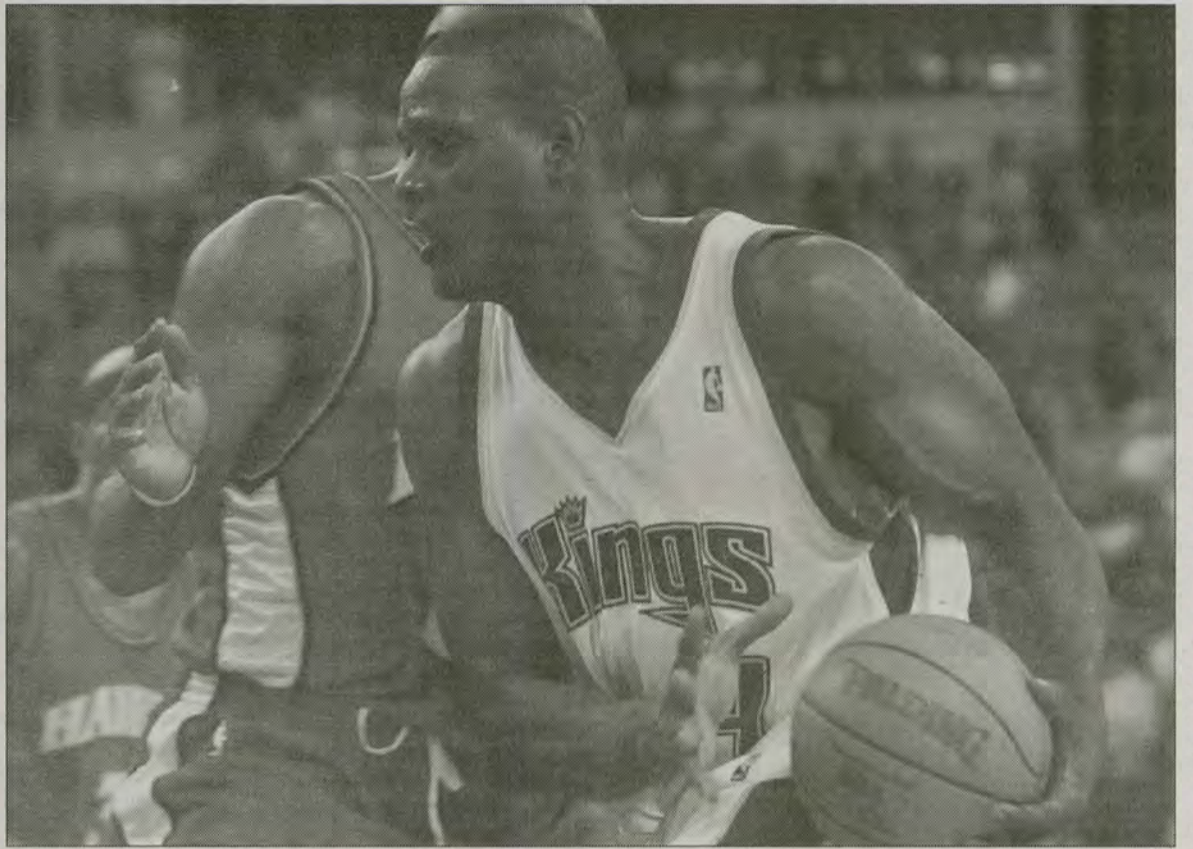
"It's something I live with," Webber said. "It gets very old, but there's nothing you can do about it. If I believe everything I read and everything I hear, I'd be on an emotional roller-coaster."

Though both Webber and Peja Stojakovic denied rumors of a rift between Sacramento's stars, Stojakovic demanded a trade from the Kings last summer for unclear reasons.

The Kings had no intention of granting his request, but Stojakovic — the NBA's second-leading scorer last season — hasn't been the same player since Webber returned from surgery last season, looking tentative and deferring to Webber on offense.

King was looking to make a deal to improve the Sixers' frontcourt as they make their playoff push. The Sixers are 26-27 and just a half-game behind Boston for first place in the Atlantic Division, and Webber's pairing with Allen Iverson should be one of the Eastern Conference's most potent duos.

The Kings have the NBA's seventh-best record at 34-20, and the deal is a tremendously risky move by Petrie, who had never made a significant in-season trade before this season. He has made two in recent weeks: The Kings acquired Cuttino Mobley



Kings forward Chris Webber looks to pass during Sacramento's 114-104 win over Atlanta Tuesday. Webber and two teammates were traded to Philadelphia Wednesday.

from Orlando for Doug Christie last month.

The Kings were in Dallas on Wednesday night preparing for a game against the Mavericks — the first in a six-game road trip, their longest of the season.

King insisted he wouldn't part with any of his prized nucleus of young players to make a deal and he didn't have to.

Thomas had fallen out of favor with first-year Sixers coach Jim O'Brien, while Skinner was a free-agent bust. Williamson was a valuable sixth man off the bench, but none of them have the pedigree of

Webber.

Williamson, a first-round draft pick by the Kings in 1995, played five years in Sacramento before being traded to Toronto for Christie following the 1999-00 season.

The Sixth Man of the Year in 2001-02 with the Pistons, Williamson has a career average of 11.8 points and 4.1 rebounds per game. He is averaging 10.8 points and 3.7 rebounds in 22 minutes per game this season.

Thomas, in his sixth year in the league, is averaging 11.3 points and 6.6 rebounds this

season after averaging a double-double — 13.6 points and 10.1 rebounds — last season for the Sixers.

Skinner, who will be playing for his fifth team in seven seasons, missed about a month earlier this season with an injured left knee and is averaging only 2.0 points and 2.6 rebounds.

Barnes, a Sacramento native, has been a seldom-used reserve for the Kings this season, though he took Peja Stojakovic's spot in the starting lineup recently. Bradley was acquired earlier in the season.

NCAA BASKETBALL

BC falls at Villanova, suffers second defeat of season

Associated Press

VILLANOVA, Pa. — Villanova's fans may have to stop storming the court. After all, wins over ranked teams are suddenly becoming routine for the Wildcats.

Randy Foye scored 23 points and the 23rd-ranked Wildcats survived a nine-minute stretch without a field goal to beat No. 3 Boston College 76-70 on Wednesday night.

The enthusiastic fans stormed the court like they have for two other home wins over top-25 teams, chanted "Tournament!" and shook hands with coach Jay

Wright.

"We're learning how to win," Wright said. "It gives them confidence and experience that's invaluable."

The Wildcats (18-6, 8-5 Big East) beat their fourth top-25 team of the year, including a win over then-No. 2 Kansas last month, and bolstered their chances of making their first NCAA tournament appearance since 1999.

"We were confident we could come in and play well, but we're still not thinking about the NAAs," said Curtis Sumpter, who played with a sore knee and scored 18 of his

20 points in the first half. Kyle Lowry added 11 points for the Wildcats.

Craig Smith led a second-half rally for Boston College [22-2, 11-2] and finished with 18 points, while Jared Dudley had 15.

The Wildcats, coming off a win over then-No. 17 Pittsburgh on Sunday, used 70 percent 3-point shooting in the first half to take a halftime lead they stretched to 13 points early in the second half. When Jason Fraser made a layup at the 13:15 mark, the Wildcats led 57-47 and seemed in control.

The Eagles — who rallied

from halftime deficits to win eight times this season — started their run while Villanova went into a field goal drought that stretched just over 9 minutes.

Steve Hailey capped a 12-2 spurt with a 3-pointer that pulled the Eagles to 62-60 with 6:23 left.

Foye banked a 6-footer for a 67-64 lead, ending the long stretch without a field goal.

The Wildcats never lost the lead thanks to 8-of-10 free throw shooting during that span. They were 36-of-41 overall from the line.

"It's very difficult to win a

game when the opposing team shoots 41 free throws," Boston College coach Al Skinner said. "We just didn't make the plays that were going to tie it and make them feel uncomfortable. We never got over the hump."

No, but they gave the Wildcats a scare.

Hailey pulled BC to 67-66 with a jumper, but fouled out on the next possession. He finished with 11 points.

Foye pushed the lead to 73-68 with an arcing baseline jumper that nearly skimmed the shot clock on the way down.

Last month, the Eagles escaped with a 67-66 win.

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MLB

Red Sox will receive rings while Yankees visit Fenway

Ex-Cub Sosa begins first spring training with Orioles

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — The Boston Red Sox will ring in the home portion of their schedule by getting their World Series rings at their home opener April 11 before a full house of 35,000 fans — and the New York Yankees.

"I'm sure I'm not going to help them hand them out," Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter said to laughter at New York's camp in Tampa. "But they deserve it. I'm sure they've been looking forward to this for a long time. So let them do it."

Boston became the first major league team to overcome a 3-0 deficit in a postseason series, doing it against their biggest rival in the AL championship series last October. The

Red Sox then swept St. Louis in the World Series.

"This is the kind of quality problem I hope we're going to be able to have with some frequency," Red Sox president Larry Lucchino said. "sit around at spring training and decide just when, oh when, do we give out the World Series championship rings."

Yankees owner George Steinbrenner had no complaints about the ceremony being held while New York is at Fenway Park.

"The Red Sox won their rings. They earned them," he said in a statement. "They have the right to pick the date at which they present them, and it's not a personal affront to our players."

To accommodate fans who didn't get tickets to opening day, the rings will be displayed at a welcome-home dinner attended by players that same night and at a display on the Fenway Park field along with the World Series trophy and

the ball Doug Mientkiewicz caught for the last out of the Series.

"Even though the fans are not getting it, they have to feel like they're receiving one because they all deserve it," David Ortiz said. "They supported us a lot through the years."

In Fort Lauderdale, Fla., as a way of introducing himself to his new teammates, Sammy Sosa slammed about two dozen baseballs far over the center-field wall during his first workout with the Baltimore Orioles. Before he was done, nearly half the squad interrupted their drills to watch the show.

"Sammy, we're going to run out of balls!" joked outfielder Larry Bigbie, who watched in awe as one shot after another soared onto an airfield behind the practice field.

"They'll be parking the planes in the hangars from now on," Bigbie said later.

The Chicago Cubs were relieved to get rid of Sosa after



Red Sox first baseman Kevin Millar, right, gets fitted for his World Series Championship ring Tuesday in Ft. Myers, Fla.

his troubled 2004 season, and the Orioles are delighted to have him. During his stay in Chicago, Sosa battled with Mark McGwire in a memorable home run duel in 1998, went to the All-Star game seven times and was the 1998 NL MVP. But he contends that the corked bat and his early departure from the ballpark ruined an otherwise wonderful relationship.

"For the 13 years I was in Chicago, I only made two mistakes. That's pretty good," he said. "If I had known that leaving early last year would have caused such a controversy, I would have never done it. My manager told me I had a day off. But what can I say?"

In Lakeland, Fla., Ugueth Urbina said he planned to report to spring training, even if his kidnapped mother still was being held. He didn't want to show her captors that he was weak. Now that Maura Villarreal is safe following a rescue operation Friday,

Urbina said an indescribable weight has been lifted from his shoulders.

"I feel like I'm 18 years old," the Detroit Tigers reliever said, speaking publicly about the ordeal for the first time.

Villarreal, 54, was rescued by Venezuelan police during an 8-hour raid that left two of her abductors dead, two captured and seven others as fugitives. Police described the kidnapers as Venezuelan and Colombian drug smugglers.

She was held for 5 months, 18 days in a camp that police called a drug-traffickers' hideout in Venezuela's southern mountains.

Urbina and his two brothers, Ulmer and Ulises, were at a loss.

"There wasn't much we could do. We'd never been in this situation, and we didn't know where she was," Urbina said. "Where can you go to try to find her? She could be anywhere. It's hard."

Saint Mary's College
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GOLF

Wie, Creamer leading rejuvenation of LPGA

Eight teens competing in this weekend's SBS Open in Hawaii

Associated Press

KAHUKU, Hawaii — Michelle Wie and Paula Creamer quickly shoot down any notion of a rivalry brewing between the teen stars.

"We don't talk about that kind of thing," said Creamer, who will make her first LPGA Tour start as a pro Thursday at the season-opening SBS Open. "We talk more about girl stuff, I guess."

The LPGA is banking otherwise, touting the talented youngsters as the future faces of women's golf.

The pair was featured in an LPGA press release this week entitled "Rivalry in the making," and were the only golfers with scheduled news conferences Wednesday.

Creamer and Wie are among eight teens playing in the 54-hole event. Others include the 18-year-old twins Aree and Naree Song.

"I really don't think about rivals," said the 15-year-old Wie, who is making her 18th

LPGA Tour start. "I just think about my own game and what I have to do better."

"It's just me on the golf course," she said. "It's always going to be me fighting against myself."

Creamer, 18, agreed.

"Right now, I'm trying to think about this golf tournament," she said. "There are 132 people in the field. She is just one of those other players out in that field."

The inaugural SBS Open marks the return of the LPGA Tour to Wie's home state. The last LPGA tournament in Hawaii was the 2002 Takefuji Classic, where Wie became the youngest to qualify for an LPGA Tour event at the age 12.

"It's really nice to play at home," said the soft-spoken 6-footer who can outdrive many male pros. "I was talking to my mom and said, 'Oh wow. This is my fourth year out here.' It's pretty cool how time has passed."

The \$1 million SBS Open played at the Turtle Bay Resort's 6,563-yard, oceanside Palmer Course marks the first of eight LPGA Tour events Wie will enter this season.

But she has already faced some heavy competition.

The high school sophomore missed the cut in the PGA Tour's Sony Open last month then withdrew from the Hawaii Pearl Open because of a pulled muscle in her left forearm.

Wie wore tape on her wrist Wednesday but said it feels much better.

"I think I practiced too much. Hitting too many balls," she said.

She seemed more bothered by the B she earned in English last semester, which prevented her from getting straight A's.



Michelle Wie prepares for the 2005 LPGA SBS Open at Turtle Bay Resort in Kahuku, Hawaii Wednesday. AP

NCAA BASKETBALL

Temple coach Chaney suspended one game

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Temple coach John Chaney suspended himself Wednesday for one game and apologized for putting a player in against Saint Joseph's a day earlier for the sole purpose of rough play and quick fouls.

Chaney offered the self-imposed one-game suspension after meeting with Temple president David Adamany and athletic director Bill Bradshaw. He will be replaced on the bench by assistant Dan Leibovitz for Saturday's game against Massachusetts.

"I would like to apologize to Saint Joseph's University, its fans, student-athletes and head coach Phil Martelli for my reprehensible behavior during Tuesday night's game," Chaney said in a statement. "I spoke with Coach Martelli today to voice my apology to him and his team."

Upset by what he thought were illegal screens by Saint Joseph's that were not being called by the officials, Chaney turned to seldom-used 6-foot-8, 250-pound Nehemiah Ingram to "send a message."

Ingram started throwing his arms around and tossing elbows, once connecting hard to the chin of Hawks center Dwayne Jones, and had a hard foul on John Bryant that left him sprawled on the court for several minutes.

Ingram fouled out in four minutes.

"I'm sending a message," Chaney said after the game. "I'm going to send in what we used to do years ago, send in the goon."

Atlantic 10 commissioner

Linda Bruno supported the decision.

"Coach Chaney's behavior was uncharacteristic of the way he runs his program and I expect that a similar occurrence will not happen again," Bruno said.

Chaney's only other career suspension came in 1994. Temple suspended the Hall of Famer for one game after he publicly threatened to kill then-Massachusetts coach John Calipari.

Congregation of Holy Cross



During the meal he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. "Take this," he said. "This is my body."
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NFL

Cowboys reunite ex-Patriots Bledsoe, Parcels

QB will share Dallas backfield with ex-ND standout Julius Jones

Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — Drew Bledsoe set passing records and reached the Super Bowl as a young quarterback playing for Bill Parcells in New England. Nearly a decade later, the duo will try doing it again with the Dallas Cowboys.

Bledsoe signed a three-year contract Wednesday, one day after he was released by the Buffalo Bills. Financial terms were not immediately available.

Bledsoe knew last week that he was going to be cut and within days decided he wanted to be reunited with Parcells. Once the Bills filed the paperwork, the Cowboys quickly showed they also were eager to strike a deal.

Parcells called Bledsoe — and told him he'd be the starter — while team vice president Stephen Jones called the quarterback's agent, David Dunn. Owner Jerry Jones then spoke with Bledsoe and Dunn, and the pair flew to Dallas on Wednesday and held an afternoon news conference.

"I was very hopeful that this would be the opportunity for me," said Bledsoe, already sporting a tie that nicely matched the team's colors. "I'm very thankful it happened as

quickly as it did. I'm very excited to be a Dallas Cowboy. I can't wait to go home and dress my kids with the little stars and get rid of all the old gear from the other team."

Bledsoe was smiling as his jab at the Bills drew laughs, but he also was seriously disappointed about how things turned out in Buffalo. He mentioned needing time to get over his anger toward the team for handing his job to youngster J.P. Losman without an on-field competition and later added that he hopes to prove them wrong.

"There's no question that is a motivating factor," said Bledsoe, who proved something to the Patriots by throwing for more than 4,000 yards and making the Pro Bowl the season after they traded him to Buffalo. "It's not THE motivating factor. THE motivating factor is that I want to stand on the field and hold up that trophy at the end of the season."

Jones repeated several themes throughout the news conference: That signing Bledsoe was supported by himself and everyone else in the organization [meaning not just Parcells] and that having Bledsoe makes Dallas an immediate contender despite having gone 6-10 last season.

"We think we got the very best option available to us," Jones said.

Bledsoe's attraction to Dallas began with Parcells, the coach

who chided him so much during his first four years in the NFL. That the quarterback once told his father, "I can't wait until Sundays because I can get on the field and he can't be yelling at me. You're out there in front of 70,000 fans and it's the quietest it's been on the field all week."

Yet as the years passed, Bledsoe learned to appreciate Parcells' gruff style. They even developed somewhat of a friendship, with Parcells occasionally calling Bledsoe when times were tough — such as 2001, when he was injured, lost his job to Tom Brady and eventually was traded to the Bills. Bledsoe said Parcells also called him during his first year in Buffalo to wish him good luck.

Parcells, who didn't attend the news conference, showed what he thought of Bledsoe by making him the top overall pick in the 1993 draft, starting him as a rookie and letting him throw a league-record 691 passes his second season. Two years later, the Patriots reached the Super Bowl but lost to Green Bay. Parcells then left for the New York Jets.

Bledsoe led New England to the playoffs the next two years, but hasn't started a playoff game since 1998. The Bills went 23-25 over his three seasons and never made the playoffs. They came close last season, rebounding from 0-4 to 9-6 going into the finale, which is



Quarterback Drew Bledsoe smiles at a press conference after signing with the Cowboys Wednesday in Irving, Tex.

why he was so upset Buffalo gave up on him.

Now Bledsoe's main emotion is excitement over his new teammates. He knows Terry Glenn from their six seasons together in New England and Parcells says he'll love tight end Jason Witten. Bledsoe also is looking forward to playing with running back Julius Jones and receiver Keyshawn Johnson.

"I can't wait to go sit down with Bill, sit down with [pass

game coordinator] Sean Payton, and start talking about what we're going to do," Bledsoe said.

While the 33-year-old Bledsoe is eight years younger than predecessor Vinny Testaverde, his arrival means Drew Henson must wait even longer if he's to become Dallas' quarterback of the future.

Last spring, the Cowboys outmaneuvered many teams to land Henson.

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Thursday, February 24 at 8:30 p.m.
Log Chapel, Notre Dame

INSIDE/OUTSIDE: DEATH ROW IN WORDS AND IMAGES

February 24-27
O'Shaughnessy Hall, Notre Dame

"OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING: TWO FATHERS & FORGIVENESS"

Sunday, February 27 at 5:30 p.m.
West Wing in Noble Dining Room Saint Mary's College

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Monday, February 28 at 9 a.m.
Marian Catholic High School, Mishawaka

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY FORMER GOVERNOR GEORGE H. RYAN OF ILLINOIS

"The Death Penalty: A System of Justice and Reconciliation"
Monday, February 28 at 7 p.m.

Decio Mainstage Theatre, Notre Dame

"OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING: TWO FATHERS & FORGIVENESS"

Tuesday, March 1 at noon
Coleman Morse Lounge, Notre Dame

"OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING: FROM RAGE TO RECONCILIATION"

Tuesday, March 1 at 7:30 p.m.
Little Flower Catholic Church 54191 Ironwood, South Bend

INSIDE/OUTSIDE: DEATH ROW IN WORDS AND IMAGES

March 1-11
St. Joseph County Library, Main Branch, South Bend

NATIONAL DEBATE ON THE DEATH PENALTY: A PANEL DISCUSSION

Wednesday, March 2 at noon
Stapleton Lounge, Saint Mary's College
Wednesday, March 2 at 4:15 p.m.
Hesburgh Center Auditorium
Hesburgh Center for International Studies, Notre Dame

THE LARAMIE PROJECT

by Moisés Kaufman
directed by Anton Juan
Decio Mainstage Theatre
Thursday, February 24 at 7:30 p.m.
Friday, February 25 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 26 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 27 at 2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 1 at 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, March 2 at 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 3 at 7:30 p.m.
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The 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard has become an icon of intolerance. In response to the brutal event, *The Laramie Project* captures the turbulent emotions of the residents of Laramie, Wyoming, haunted by the reality that they had raised the sons who could show such hate. It is a story of great sadness, great beauty and, perhaps most importantly, great revelations.

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Sunday, February 27 at 2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 1 at 7:30 p.m.
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AROUND THE NATION

Men's College Basketball ESPN/USA Today Top 25

	team	record	points
1	Illinois (31)	27-0	775
2	North Carolina	22-3	736
3	Boston College	22-1	699
4	Oklahoma State	20-3	669
5	Kentucky	20-3	627
6	Wake Forest	22-4	591
7	Kansas	20-4	557
8	Arizona	23-4	551
9	Michigan State	19-4	548
10	Duke	19-4	546
11	Louisville	23-4	456
12	Utah	23-3	406
13	Washington	21-4	397
14	Alabama	21-4	348
15	Syracuse	22-5	346
16	Gonzaga	21-4	339
17	Pittsburgh	18-5	247
18	Pacific	22-2	245
19	Connecticut	17-6	222
20	Wisconsin	17-6	194
21	Charlotte	19-4	137
22	Oklahoma	20-6	124
23	Cincinnati	19-6	116
24	Villanova	17-6	48
25	Texas Tech	16-7	23

Women's College Basketball ESPN/USA Today Top 25

	team	record	points
1	LSU(40)	24-1	1,000
2	Stanford	23-2	926
3	Duke	25-2	920
4	North Carolina	22-3	833
5	Tennessee	21-4	823
6	Ohio State	25-3	819
7	Michigan State	24-3	754
8	Baylor	21-3	752
9	Rutgers	20-5	682
10	NOTRE DAME	23-4	641
11	Connecticut	18-6	587
12	DePaul	23-3	544
13	Texas	17-7	498
14	Texas Tech	19-5	468
15	Minnesota	20-6	440
16	Temple	22-3	335
17	Kansas State	18-6	318
18	Georgia	20-7	302
19	Vanderbilt	19-6	294
20	Iowa State	19-5	266
21	NC State	19-6	150
22	Maryland	18-7	139
23	Boston College	17-7	111
24	Penn State	18-8	89
25	Gonzaga	24-2	69

Central College Hockey Association

team	conference	overall
Michigan	21-3-2	24-7-3
Ohio State	20-5-1	23-8-3
Northern Michigan	13-7-4	16-9-7
Nebraska-Omaha	12-10-4	16-12-4
Bowling Green	12-9-3	15-11-4
Miami (Ohio)	11-12-3	15-15-4
Alaska Fairbanks	10-13-3	11-14-3
Michigan State	9-21-3	14-14-4
Lake Superior State	7-11-6	8-17-7
Ferris State	6-14-4	11-17-4
Western Michigan	6-16-2	11-17-2
NOTRE DAME	3-18-5	5-23-6

around the dial

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Wisconsin at Michigan State, 7 p.m., ESPN
Marquette at Cincinnati, 9 p.m., ESPN2
Gonzaga at Portland, 11 p.m., ESPN2

NBA

Philadelphia at NY Knicks, 7 p.m., TNT
Sacramento at Dallas, 9:30 p.m., TNT

NFL



Randy Moss breaks away from Green Bay Packers cornerback Al Harris after catching a pass in the NFC wild-card game. Moss' agent reported that the Minnesota Vikings are trading the receiver to the Oakland Raiders.

Agent: Moss going west to Oakland

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Randy Moss is heading for Oakland, the receiver's agent said Wednesday.

Dante DiTrapano, Moss' agent, told the Associated Press that the Minnesota Vikings and the Raiders had "come to an agreement on Randy playing for Oakland next year."

Neither the Vikings nor the Raiders would confirm the deal, which was first reported by the St. Paul Pioneer Press on its Web site.

"We have had discussions with the Oakland Raiders, but there's nothing to announce," Rob Brzezinski, the Vikings' vice president of football operations, told the Associated Press.

Raiders spokesman Mike Taylor

declined comment on the trade reports.

DiTrapano said he didn't know the terms of the deal, but the Pioneer Press reported the Vikings would get linebacker Napoleon Harris, along with the seventh overall pick and a late-round pick in the upcoming draft.

The deal cannot become official until March 2, the start of the NFL's fiscal year.

"It's just like any other contract. There's a meeting of the minds between the people who negotiate for the Vikings and the people who negotiate for the Raiders," DiTrapano said. "It just hasn't been reduced to writing yet and it won't be until March 2."

The flamboyant Moss had been the subject of trade rumors following this

past season. He struggled with a hamstring injury, but still finished with 13 touchdown catches. He was fined \$10,000 for pretending to pull down his pants and moon the Green Bay crowd during Minnesota's NFC Wildcard playoff win. He also drew criticism for leaving the field with 2 seconds left in a regular-season loss against Washington.

DiTrapano said Moss was "very pleased to be going to Oakland and looking forward to playing with a team that's promised they're going to throw the ball deep a whole lot to him and having a chance at winning the Super Bowl."

On Tuesday, the Raiders re-signed Jerry Porter, their star wide receiver to a contract worth \$20 million over five years. Porter could have become a free agent on March 2.

IN BRIEF

House committee advances plan for new Colts stadium

INDIANAPOLIS — A proposal to fund a new stadium for the Indianapolis Colts through a mix that includes hotel and gambling tax increases and a surcharge on game tickets advanced out of an Indiana House committee Wednesday.

The move keeps the legislation alive even though Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson and others had concerns about the details of the plan.

The House Ways and Means Committee voted 17-5 to advance the bill, which would provide \$44 million a year to replace the RCA Dome with a 63,000-seat, retractable-roof stadium that has been estimated to cost between \$550 million and \$700 million.

Legislators and Peterson said it was important for the bill to be out of committee to meet a Tuesday deadline for legislation to be passed by

the House.

"It keeps the issue alive," Peterson said, adding that the specifics of the bill are not important at this stage.

Dolphins release Fiedler, Freeman, Wooden, Williams

MIAMI — The Miami Dolphins released quarterback Jay Fiedler on Wednesday, ending his five-year run as the much-maligned successor to Dan Marino.

Last season, Fiedler started just seven games for the Dolphins (4-12), going 1-6 while throwing for 1,186 yards, seven touchdowns and eight interceptions.

Fiedler spent much of the 2004 season on the injured list with a herniated disc. Fiedler was due a \$2 million roster bonus in March.

The Dolphins also released safeties Arturo Freeman and Shawn Wooden, and defensive end Jay Williams.

In five seasons with the Dolphins,

Fiedler was 36-23 as a starter, throwing for 11,040 yards, 66 touchdowns and 63 interceptions. He ranks as the franchise's third-leading passer behind Marino and Bob Griese.

Shaq out until after Heat return to Miami

INDIANAPOLIS — Shaquille O'Neal won't play before doctors examine his injured knee in Miami on Thursday.

Heat coach Stan Van Gundy said the team trainer doesn't think O'Neal's injury is serious.

Miami's next game will be at home on Saturday against Orlando. Van Gundy wouldn't speculate how long O'Neal might be out.

O'Neal left the game against Chicago on Tuesday night after landing awkwardly early in the first quarter. He fell onto Bulls forward Othella Harrington, after going up for an alley-oop pass from Dwyane Wade, and stayed on the floor for several minutes holding his knee.

THE SPRING RECRUITING SEASON IS HEATING UP

Don't get burned. Check out these events!

Big East Career Fair

March 8, 2005

Sheraton Hotel & Tower, New York

811 7th Avenue

10 am - 4 pm

LIVE!



Will you be in NYC for Spring Break?

Join students from other BIG EAST colleges to meet employers such as:

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bloomberg | <input type="checkbox"/> Katz Media | <input type="checkbox"/> AIG | <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce One |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Verizon Wireless | <input type="checkbox"/> Morgan Stanley | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital IQ | <input type="checkbox"/> Sherwin-Williams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Farm Insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> Linens 'N Things | <input type="checkbox"/> Allegis Group | <input type="checkbox"/> The Hartford |

For more information and online registration, visit : <http://www.eventmanagement.com/bigeast2005/>

Don't miss the Big East e-Fair!

March 21 - April 15

ONLINE!

Visit virtual employer booths and search for jobs at www.monstertrak.com. To get started, create an account, log in and click on the Big East logo.

Big10Plus Career Connection LIVE!

April 8, 2005

Ida Noyes Hall, University of Chicago, Hyde Park Campus

12 pm - 4 pm (CST)

A career fair in Chicago featuring a diverse array of employers who are seeking candidates graduating in May 2005 and undergraduate students pursuing summer internships.

Big10Plus Virtual Career Fair ONLINE!

February 21 - March 11

Visit www.monstertrak.com, create an account, log in and click on the Big 10+ logo.

One of the largest virtual career fairs in the country, the Hire Big10Plus consortium offers a variety of full-time and internship postings for students with all majors.



Employer registration is currently underway. Previous participants include:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| CBS | American Express | Goldman, Sachs, & Co. | Ecolab, Inc. |
| McGraw-Hill | Aon Corporation | Kohl's | Maytag |
| Stryker Medical | Eaton Corp. | Cintas Corp. | ...and many more! |

For more information on these and other Career Center events

VISIT: <http://careercenter.nd.edu/>

EMAIL: epruitt@nd.edu

CALL: 1-4060

Sobieraj

continued from page 24

in each of the last three years. With a strong showing in the upcoming NCAA finals he is poised to join an elite group of only 21 Notre Dame student athletes who have received that honor four times, a club that includes eight fencers. Because of his previous experience in the National Finals, Sobieraj feels more prepared for this year's championships.

"I think [the previous experience] helps, actually," he said. "I had troubles the first time, but now I can know what to expect."

Sobieraj also has many international accolades under his belt. He is a defending champion of the North American Cup, and he is currently a member of the national team in his native Poland, having served as a part of the squad that placed 4th in the 2003 World Championships and is being considered to be part of the country's Olympic contingent in 2008.

"He's a high class athlete. He's a top international fencer, and, naturally, by his record he's a star," Irish head coach Janusz Bednarski said.

Because of his success and experience, Sobieraj is seen as both a leader and a go-to-guy in pressure situations.

"He is the person who creates the situations for everybody. Because of his abilities, they put him in a hard position, force him to be observed by everybody. He, by his class, is used by others to [shoulder lots] of the responsibility," Bednarski said.

However, Sobieraj does not back away from his roles as captain.

"I think I can provide some help, some advice to the guys on the team, especially technical things," he said. "I can

show people how to win and how to prepare for bouts."

The importance of preparation is something Sobieraj began to realize early in his fencing career.

"At first [when I started fencing], I didn't realize that psychology played as big a role in fencing [as it does]. You have to be mentally prepared to figure out opponents, and they call it physical chess," he said.

Sobieraj first began playing this brand of chess at the age of 12 in his hometown of Krakow, Poland, following his mother's suggestion.

"My mom was the chief of the fencing club [in Krakow] and she told me there was a fencing club in

my hometown and that I should try it. I tried it, and stayed for the next 10 years," he said.

Over the course of those years, Sobieraj became so successful in part because he began mastering the mental aspects of the sport. Bednarski said he is impressed with his fencer's competitive IQ.

"He's smart in bouts, using his intellectual side to read opponents by quick analyzing," he said.

This intellectual side is another facet of himself that Sobieraj has cultivated. He has an appreciation of literature, primarily that of Europe and

Poland, and is especially fond of the work of writers such as Dostoevsky and Joseph Heller.

"I read a lot and enjoy reading," Sobieraj said.

Beyond its prestigious fencing program, Notre Dame attracted

Sobieraj because of its academic reputation.

"I have gotten a very good education, and I think I have learned a lot. That's the reason I came here, and hopefully, it will pay off and be useful in the future," he said.

In the course of their time together, Bednarski has seen Sobieraj's academic advance-

ment firsthand.

"He came as an athlete, and he became an educated person," Bednarski said.

Sobieraj plans to use that education to possibly pursue an MBA and enter the business world at home in Krakow.

"I want to stay in Poland," he

said. "Four years away from home is kind of a lot for me."

However, Bednarski is confident that his star is not quite ready to focus on what comes after Notre Dame fencing.

"I hope he will use the chance to get a gold medal [in the NCAA finals]," Bednarski

said. "He's one of the best fencers in the NCAA and he should try this year to get the medal he didn't get [the last 3 years]. Let's hope he has the drive to do this."

Contact Eric Retter at eretter@nd.edu

"It would be nice to get an individual ring."

Michal Sobieraj
Irish fencer

"He's one of the best fencers in the NCAA, and he should try this year to get the medal he didn't get [the last three years]."

Janusz Bednarski
Irish coach

You've been hearing all about the Vagina Monologues

Want to know about the experiences of real women in this community?

Come to the first ever SMC MONOLOGUES and find out!

Saturday, February 26th at 7pm and
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All monologues are written and performed by women in the Saint Mary's Community
Adult, sensitive material intended for mature audience

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Sponsored by SMC C.A.R.E.



The Office of Student Affairs is now accepting nominations for the

Denny Moore Award

For Excellence in Journalism

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

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

For a nomination form, please visit our website at:

<http://osa.nd.edu>

Nominations are due by Friday, March 4, 2005.

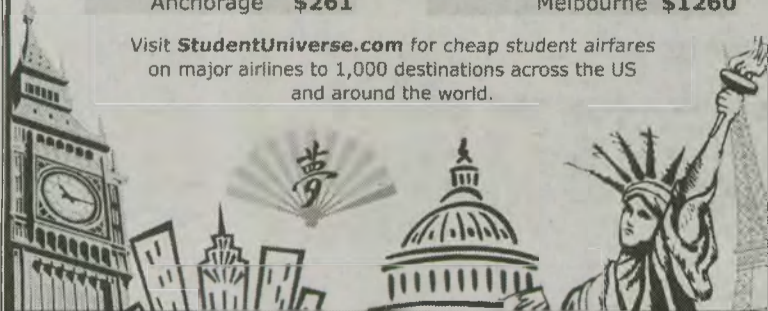
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MEN'S SWIMMING

Kegelman's career is one big broken record

Sophomore already holds numerous team and conference marks

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

If winning races is an art form, then call Tim Kegelman the Michelangelo of swimming. "He knows how to win," coach Tim Welsh said. "Not

everyone knows how to win, or else everyone would be winning every race. You've got to give everything you've got to the race at hand. That's what he does. That's why he wins."

At last weekend's Big East Championships, Kegelman



Kegelman

added a number of wins to his already impressive resume, including titles in the 200 individual medley (1 minute, 49.62 seconds), the 400 freestyle relay (3:16.93) and the 100-yard butterfly — an event in which he also holds the Big East Championship record with 48.06.

But the accolades didn't end there.

The sophomore also set school records in the 200- and 400-yard medley relays.

Teamed with junior Doug Bauman, junior Tim Randolph and senior Frank Krakowski, Kegelman's relays clocked 1:30.12 and 3:16.93 respectively.

Later on, Kegelman combined efforts with Randolph, Krakowski and sophomore Louis Cavadini to set school records in the 200-yard free relay (1:20.64) and 400 free relay (3:00.02).

Kegelman was also named all-Big East in the 200-yard medley relay, 200-yard free relay, 200-yard individual medley, 100-yard fly, 400-yard medley relay and 400-yard free relay.

Additionally, invitations to the NCAA championships in the 200-yard individual medley, 100-yard fly, 400 medley relay, and 200 free relay are pending.

But despite so many awards to his name, the unassuming Kegelman chose to focus on the team's success.

"It's exciting to be part of a team that has so much talent," Kegelman said. "I think all of the records we broke and the awards we got were just a sign of how much depth the team has. We were following through with the work we have done all season."

Kegelman's performance was especially characteristic of his performances and hard work this season, Welsh said.

"He is always a vital part of the team's success," Welsh said.

"His swims in the Big East were tributes to his gustiness and competitiveness."

Welsh said the meet against then-No. 17 Pittsburgh, last year's Big East champion, was also testament to Kegelman's capabilities and potential as a competitor.

Touching the wall .04 seconds ahead of Pittsburgh Darryl Washington in the meet's final event, Kegelman clinched the win for the Irish. As anchor of the 400-yard freestyle relay, which consisted of Krakowski, Cavadini and sophomore Nick Fanslau, Kegelman secured the first place finish with a time of 3:04.13.

The win in the 400-yard freestyle relay was just the icing on the cake. Earlier in the meet, Kegelman claimed a win in the 100-yard butterfly (49.17) and placed second in the 200-yard fly.

With the toughest dual meets of the season and the Big East Championship behind him, Kegelman is looking forward to the NAAs. Welsh said he is confident Kegelman will make the team proud in the competition.

"He has the heart of a champion," Welsh said. "And I think he'll rise to the occasion if given the opportunity. He's a great representative of the team and of Notre Dame."

Contact Ann Loughery at alougher@nd.edu



McGlinn's
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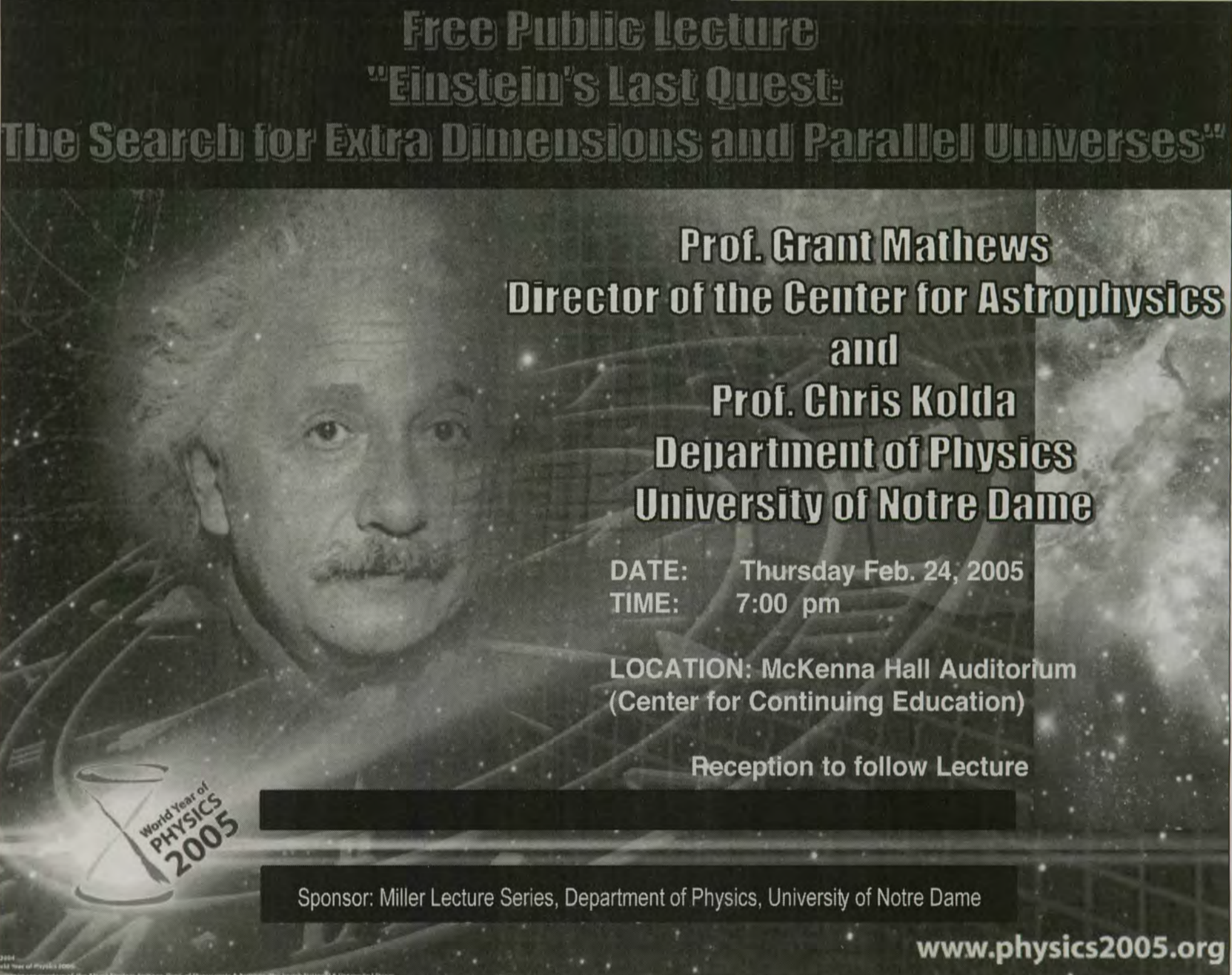
DATE: Thursday Feb. 24, 2005
TIME: 7:00 pm

LOCATION: McKenna Hall Auditorium
(Center for Continuing Education)

Reception to follow Lecture

Sponsor: Miller Lecture Series, Department of Physics, University of Notre Dame

www.physics2005.org



2004
2004 Year of Physics 2005
Illustration courtesy of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Dept. of Microscopy & Imaging, The Johns Hopkins University & University of Texas

Schedule

continued from page 24

Notre Dame's scheduling in the near future and the necessary work to accomplish such a task, the "neutral" game would not fit into the mix until at least around 2009, Heisler said.

Until the legislation is reviewed, Notre Dame athletic officials will look into playing the "neutral" game in the Southeast or Southwest regions of the country, areas in which the school and team receive less exposure.

"The prospect of these neu-

tral site games - if you call them that - were appealing for a couple of reasons," Heisler said. "One, we'd be able to go to some places in the country that weren't routinely being seen by our football program, which could be a positive in terms of recruiting."

"Also, just the number of alumni and fans in some of these areas where Notre Dame doesn't go every season, or even every few seasons, would have a chance to see the team."

Heisler mentioned the states of Texas and Florida as possible locations where the Irish could find a suitable venue for the game. Notre Dame athletic officials present a general

plan at this point because they must do significant amount of work to determine the feasibility of their desires.

"[We haven't really done] that much," Heisler said. "At this point, we really need to create more of a business model for ourselves. We want to make sure that we're clear in terms of how we can set these up and what the expectations would be."

Notre Dame most likely would want to control the television rights - meaning the game would go to NBC - and the "bulk" of the ticket sales should the game happen, Heisler said.

"Our feeling right now is we would expect these [games] to not be that much different than a home game," Heisler said, "except we'd be playing it somewhere else."

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

Borton

continued from page 24

but this year, she said she has handled her aches and pains the best.

"I feel that I have to realize that I'm going to be injury prone and chronic pain, and I have to play through that," Borton said. "I think I'm stronger, maybe healthier. I still have the pains, but I'm used to it."

Batteast, the only other senior on the Irish roster, said her teammate has taken the pressure off of her this season.

"I's really done a lot," the All-American said. "I'm only averaging about 6.5 rebounds this year because she's getting a lot more. She's been more of a presence down on the block, she's been scoring and she's been consistent this whole year"

Borton, whose 56.7 field goal percentage would lead the Big

East if she had made enough shots to qualify, leads the Irish by example, as she is one of the less outspoken leaders on this Notre Dame team.

"I think most of the time Megan [Duffy] is more of the vocal leader, just because she's the point guard, she's a natural leader," Borton said. "I'm more of a quiet leader, I believe, as a post, so hopefully they follow my lead just by my actions and not by my speech."

And after averaging just 5.8 points and four rebounds per game last year, the senior is having the most fun since she made the choice between Connecticut and Notre Dame four years ago.

"I think it's been the best season so far in my four years," Borton said. "I really enjoy all my teammates, and I think we have a great atmosphere here with the team chemistry."

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

Game

continued from page 24

on both the East and West squads.

Legendary coach Morgan Wooten, who won more than 1,200 games at DeMatha

High School in Hyattsville, Md. is the chairman of the selection committee, while Wooden served as an advisor.

Current Irish men's basketball coach Mike Brey played for Wooten and later became an assistant coach at his alma mater.

Ryan Ayers and Kyle McAlarney, two other high school seniors joining Brey's team in the fall, were named to the 100 finalists for the McDonald's boys' team. Chandrica Smith, the other early signee for Irish women's basketball coach Muffet McGraw's class of 2009, was also a finalist.

On the girls' teams, Texas has three incoming freshmen playing in the game, while Georgia, Maryland, Duke, California and Oklahoma each have two.

On the boys' side Duke, North Carolina, Kansas each

have three signees on the team while Oklahoma State, Washington each have two.

Schrader will join current Irish players Courtney LaVere and Crystal Erwin as McDonald's All-Americans.

Zeller is the first Notre Dame recruit to be named to the McDonald's team since Torin Francis played in the game in 2002. Chris Thomas, the only Mr. Indiana in basketball to attend Notre Dame, participated in the game in 2001.

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu

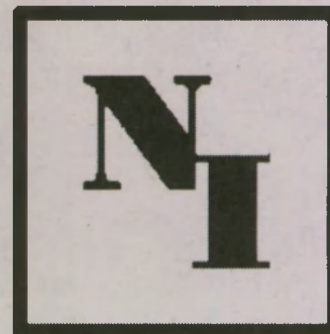
Way to turn 21 Katie...
Sooner than Immediately!



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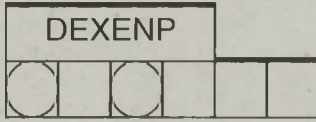
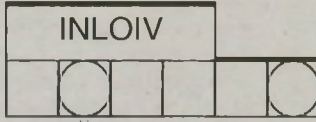
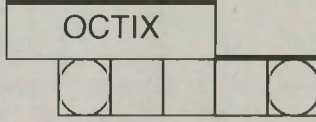
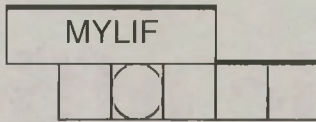
JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

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



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

Answer here: A

○	○	○	○	○
---	---	---	---	---

 "

○	○	○	○	○
---	---	---	---	---

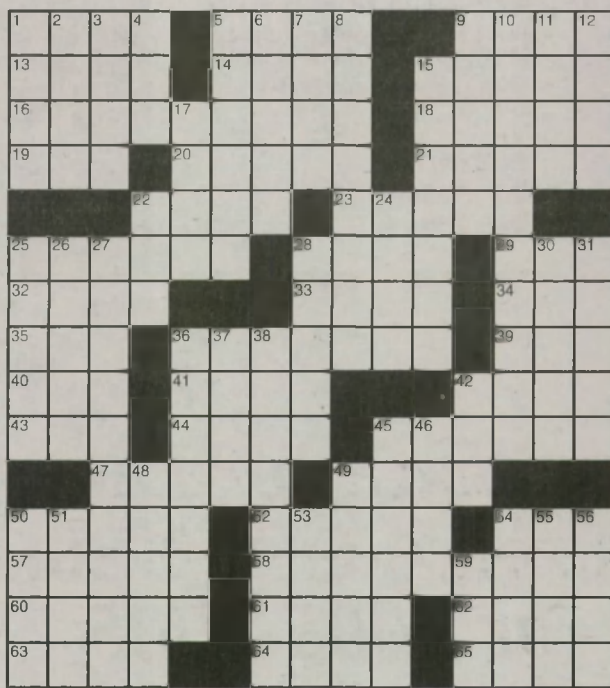
 " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: RIVET MANGY FEEBLE AIRWAY
Answer: When they vacationed on the posh island, they were surrounded by — WATER

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Visibly wowed
 - 5 Hindu noble
 - 9 Interest of Fermi
 - 13 Teed off
 - 14 ___ Bator
 - 15 Big brand of office labels
 - 16 Setting for a romantic dinner
 - 18 Roman household deities
 - 19 Plugs
 - 20 Cushion site
 - 21 Guinness adjective
 - 22 It may be made by a falling rock
 - 23 Microscopic menace
 - 25 Sunning spots
 - 28 Seamstress' cry upon making a mistake?
 - 29 5 Series or 6 Series
- DOWN**
- 32 Hick
 - 33 Top-notch
 - 34 Manfred B. ___ half of Ellery Queen
 - 35 Uris hero
 - 36 Key to answering 16- and 58-Across and 10- and 27-Down
 - 39 Bygone polit. cause
 - 40 Bowler
 - 41 Unwonted
 - 42 Move a little
 - 43 Smith and Gore
 - 44 Vicious
 - 45 "Look, ma, no cavities!" and others
 - 47 Spill
 - 49 Sidekick
 - 50 What water in a pail may do



- Puzzle by Robert Zimmerman
- 26 Of sound
 - 27 Quarter's value
 - 28 Adventured
 - 30 Kind of raise
 - 31 Has on
 - 36 Bad-mouths
 - 37 Datum
 - 38 Rug choice
 - 42 Elegiac
 - 45 Kevin and Francis
 - 46 Provo neighbor
 - 48 It's a plus
 - 49 Pie choice
 - 50 Stick
 - 51 Olin of "Chocolat"
 - 53 Skye, for one
 - 54 Wing, say
 - 55 Poet Akhmatova
 - 56 Big cat
 - 59 Inflation measure?: Abbr.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



- 10 Difficult stage
- 11 Some rocks
- 12 Classic computer game
- 15 Royal grandfather of Spain's Juan Carlos
- 17 She loved Narcissus
- 22 Secure
- 24 Pilot with flight attendants
- 25 European capital, to natives

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.
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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Patricia Richardson, 54; John Sandford, 61; Johnny Winter, 61; Peter Fonda, 66
Happy Birthday: You've been a little confused, and your life has been up and down. The roller coaster ride isn't over, so hold on tight but don't fight it. The more you give in to what's happening around you, the better you will do in the end. Change can be good and will, in your case, bring about some interesting revelations this year. Your numbers are 6, 19, 28, 31, 38, 44
ARIES (March 21-April 19): Not everyone will be on your team, but the ones who are will work just as hard as you. You are on a quest to make it to the next level, and with all the support you are getting you should be able to reach whatever goal you set. *****
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't complicate matters. Take the simplest route and you will discover that life isn't that difficult. Don't let your personal life interfere with getting things done. The more you accomplish, the less you will have to deal with on the side. **
GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You must react quickly and get things done. Too much talk will slow you down and lead to opposition. Change can be expected, and although it may not be what you want, it will turn in your favor. ****
CANCER (June 21-July 22): Not everyone will want to hear about your dilemma, and, really, things aren't as bad as you think. You should be intent on getting ahead financially and not wasting time lamenting over something you can't change. Good things are headed your way.***
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Consider what is dragging you down and holding you back. If you can focus on the good instead of the bad, you will do that much better. Think outside the box and you will come up with a really good plan. ***
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take a long, hard look at your game plan. You may have to alter some of your goals in order to be successful. Talk to people who have the information that will help you move forward instead of spinning your wheels. **
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You are probably thinking too big. Back up and size down. You can be a big fish in a small pond and achieve happiness, security and a better lifestyle. Don't undermine yourself. ****
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get on with what you feel is right and stop waiting for others to come to you. Nothing will be accomplished if you don't take the initiative and make things happen. You are in a highly creative cycle so don't miss a beat. **
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may think you know what you want, but when you get it, you will probably change your mind. Take a breather and spend a little time having fun with friends or your lover. This is not the day for serious discussions. *****
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can and will accomplish, but not if you take on so much that you end up moving in circles. Partnerships can be formed, so drum up support to help you achieve your goals. It's all in the way you play the game today. ***
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Travel, learning and trying to get ahead should be your intent. You can accomplish something you've been trying to get out of the way for some time. Have faith in what you are capable of doing. Let the past go and move into the future. ***
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): It's time to make whatever change is necessary to lift the burdens you have gathered along the way. A shift in the way you live and approach responsibilities will lead to a much happier future. ***
Birthday Baby: You are intelligent, quick to change, and very adaptable. You are entertaining and creative -- a poet, a romantic and a very unpredictable individual.

Check out Eugenia's Web Sites at astroadvice.com and eugenialast.com.

THE OBSERVER

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

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FOOTBALL

Athletic officials evaluate schedule

Proposal to extend the college football season opens doors for Irish

By PAT LEONARD
Associate Sports Editor

Next season's Notre Dame football schedule is all but set in stone. Though the Irish cannot make drastic scheduling changes for the near future, program offi-

cialists are planning to add one home game per season and play a possible "neutral-site" game should the NCAA vote in April to extend the college football season to 12 games.

Regardless of the NCAA's decision, the Irish athletic department wants to add an extra game at Notre Dame Stadium.

"We're trying to get to the point where we would be able to play seven home games routinely in South Bend," Senior Associate Athletic Director John Heisler

said. "I think if you look at some of the other major Division-I programs, whether it's Ohio State or Oklahoma, they may not be doing it every year, but they're certainly trying to do it on a fairly regular basis."

Pending the result of April's meeting, the Irish also would like to investigate the possibility of playing one game each season at a neutral venue that would give the team and the University more exposure, Heisler said.

Heisler, athletic director Kevin

White and others will be working until April to prepare a researched proposal on plans for structuring Notre Dame's schedules to seven home games, four road games and one "neutral-site" game should the NCAA approve the increase to annual 12-game seasons, Heisler said.

The legislation, which will be sponsored by the Big East and Big Twelve conferences, would take effect beginning in 2006. Due to

see SCHEDULE/page 22

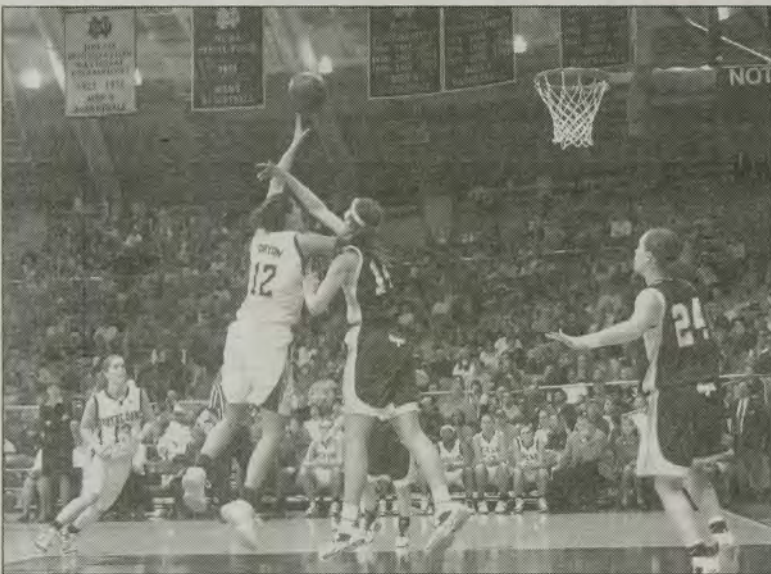
2005 Football Schedule

- 9/3 - at Pittsburgh
- 9/10 - at Michigan
- 9/17 - Michigan St.
- 9/24 - at Washington
- 10/1 - at Purdue
- 10/15 - USC
- 10/22 - BYU
- 11/5 - TENNESSEE
- 11/12 - NAVY
- 11/19 - SYRACUSE
- 11/26 - at Stanford

MIKE HARKINS/ObsERVER Graphic

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Borton gives Irish experienced leadership



GEOFF MATTESON/The Observer

Irish center Teresa Borton, one of only two Notre Dame seniors, is second on the team in rebounding and third in scoring.

One of two seniors, starting center leads team by example

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

Teresa Borton had a choice in 2001 — play for defending champion Notre Dame or play for the team who had won it all the year before, the Connecticut Huskies.

Borton chose Notre Dame, and since she has been with the Irish, the team has played seven games against Connecticut, splitting the season series with the Huskies the past two years.

"It's been pretty exciting every

time we get to play them," Borton said. "Sometimes we win, and sometimes they win. That shows that it was a really competitive choice because both teams are great basketball programs, but I think we have much better academics."

In her final year in an Irish uniform, Borton has emerged as one of the team's most consistent performers. The 6-foot-3 center is averaging a solid 8.8 points per game, third on the team behind only All-American Jacqueline Batteast (17.7 points per game) and point guard Megan Duffy (11.7 points per game). Borton is also second on the team in rebounding with 5.9 per game, behind Batteast's 6.6. She is also fourth in the Big East with 1.59 blocks per game.

But Borton, who will play her

last home game at the Joyce Center Saturday afternoon, doesn't see herself as a star on this Notre Dame team.

"I consider myself a role player," Borton said. "I do little things. I'm not the star player, but that's all right, I don't like that role. Getting a win — that makes me happy."

Borton, who was highly touted coming out of high school, has finally found a way to play through the aches and pains of college basketball. As a junior last year, the center had pre-season surgery to correct Haglund's Deformity, a bone protrusion in the heel that affects the Achilles tendon in the ankle. She has not missed a game through her four years,

see BORTON/page 22

ND BASKETBALL

McDonald's All-Americans named

Two ND signees are chosen for March 30 game at the JACC

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

Two Notre Dame basketball signees will play on the Joyce Center court months before donning an Irish uniform.

Lindsay Schrader and Luke Zeller were named to the 2005 McDonald's All-American high school basketball teams, according to a Wednesday afternoon press release.

Both games are set for

March 30.

"Any athlete would be honored to simply get nominated, but to get selected for the McDonald's All American Game ... as a young athlete, there's just no better feeling," chairman of the game and legendary coach John Wooden said in the release. "McDonald's All American players are leaders on and off the court. It's not just athletic

talent that makes them role models, but the contribution that they make to the lives around them."



More than 2,500 high school players were nominated for the game with 48 being selected —

24 boys and 24 girls with 12

see GAME/page 22

FENCING

Dominant epeeist looks to cap career

By ERIC RETTER
Sports Writer

It's lonely at the top. Michal Sobieraj knows, and he would like to have that solitude again this spring after the NCAA finals.

Sobieraj, the senior epeeist and elder statesman of

the squad, is ready to cap off his already impressive career on a high note.

"It would be nice to get an individual ring," he said.

An NCAA individual title would be the final piece in the growing trophy case of his collegiate career. In addition to winning a national team championship as part of the 2002-2003 team and placing 3rd and 2nd in the NCAA the last two seasons, Sobieraj has been named an All-American



Sobieraj

see SOBIERAJ/page 20

SPORTS
AT A GLANCE

MEN'S SWIMMING

Kegelman mounts early success

Sophomore Irish swimmer wins individual awards while setting records along the way.

page 21

NCAA BASKETBALL

Temple's Chaney suspends himself

The Owls' head coach apologized Wednesday for "reprehensible behavior."

page 16

GOLF

Wie heads field in SBS Open

Fifteen-year-old Michelle Wie leads eight teenagers into the weekend open.

page 16

MLB

Red Sox to receive rings in opener

Boston's World Series champions will receive rings in an opener against the Yankees.

page 15

NCAA BASKETBALL

Villanova 76 Boston College 70

The Wildcats joined Notre Dame as the only teams to beat the 22-2 Eagles this season.

page 14

NBA

Sixers get Webber in six-player deal

Sacramento Kings forward Chris Webber was sent to Philadelphia with two teammates for three 76ers.

page 14