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Dunn named to University post

Rector replaces Gude in Student Affairs

By KAITILYNN RIELY
News Writer

Lyons Hall rector Sister Susan Dunn has been appointed Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, University officials announced Monday. Dunn will begin performing the duties of her new position July 1 — replacing Sister Mary Louise Gude, who will retire at the end of the spring semester.

Dunn will work under Vice President for Student Affairs

Father Mark Poorman and supervise the University's health, counseling and career centers. Poorman said Monday that the search for Gude's replacement was "fairly brief" and that Dunn quickly emerged as the preferred candidate.

"She is a splendid leader, a treasured colleague throughout the Student Affairs office," Poorman said. "[She is] dedicated to the dual mission

of the University, academic inquiry and personal formation."

Gude, who has worked at the University for 23 years, said she is confident Dunn has the experience to thrive in her new position.

"She has an extensive and varied background in student affairs," Gude said. "She's been here long enough that she really knows Notre Dame."

Both Gude and Dunn are involved with the University Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs — Gude as chair and Dunn as a committee member.

"[Dunn] will make her own

way and figure out what she wants to do as her own person," Gude said. "Given her experience, I think she's a very strong person. She has her own ideas about things."

Dunn said she is eager to begin working with Poorman and the other members of the senior staff.

"I was honored and humbled to accept the position," Dunn said. "The hardest part is having to leave Lyons Hall."

Dunn has served as rector of Lyons Hall for five years. She works part-time at the Center for Social Concerns

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Dunn

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

College town goal discussed

By KAREN LANGLEY
Assistant News Editor

In a few years, Notre Dame might be known not just as a university famous for its athletics, academics and Catholicism, but also as one with a great college town.

At least that's what student leaders suggested as they brainstormed ideas for the University's plan to construct a new development with a college-town atmosphere south of campus at Monday's Council of Representatives meeting.

Construction could start across Angela Boulevard as early as this summer, though students will not see full development for another two to three years, student body vice president Lizzi Shappell said.

Student government intends to participate in the project by helping to conduct market research to determine what types of eateries, retail establishments and other venues should be present in an off-campus center.

"[We want to know] what would make [the] whole area viable for students and community members," student body president Dave Baron said.

Shappell said while the University owns the land in question, the developer — who will receive the data collected by student government — is in

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Mooney delivers promising SMC update

College president says Saint Mary's is 'more relevant than ever'

By MEGAN O'NEIL
Saint Mary's Editor

Citing strong leadership development, increased application numbers and a commitment to diversify, Saint Mary's President Carol Mooney gave a largely upbeat progress report of the College Monday during a press luncheon in the President's Dining Room of the Student Center.

After assuming the presidency at Saint Mary's in June 2004, Mooney said Monday, she realized the wider community was largely unaware of the academic and personal success of Saint Mary's students. Occasionally she must answer the frequently posed question of whether a women's college remains relevant.

"My answer, of course, is absolutely," Mooney said. "I believe we are more relevant than ever."

The College is particularly strong in the sciences, Mooney said. Saint Mary's graduates have performed so well in medical school in recent years, she said, the College now receives requests for applicants from outside programs.

"We expect a lot from our students," Mooney said. "We don't coddle them. Their academic experience is rigorous."

Mooney said her 1972 class included many women who went on to exceptional careers. She attributed her own success to her experience at a women's college, saying "not only was I prepared [for life after college], I was super-prepared."

"I can say the leadership skills that got me where I am today I learned as [a student

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CHELSEA GULLING/The Observer

Saint Mary's President Carol Mooney speaks at a press luncheon Monday in the President's Dining Room of the Student Center.

Wait-listed study abroad hopefuls find process confusing

By KAREN LANGLEY
Assistant News Editor

Sophomore Paula Kim was surprised when she was wait-listed a week-and-a-half ago for the second of two international studies programs. She also realized for the first time how confusing the application process seemed.

Kim's concerns at being placed on the waiting lists for the Trinity College Dublin program (which notified students in January) and the program in Toledo, Spain, mirrors that of numerous students who remain unsure about the Office of International Studies' selection process — and the meaning of being placed on a wait-list.

"The way Notre Dame describes the application

process, they want every student who is qualified to go," Kim said. "I never really got the sense that applying to study abroad programs [was] so competitive."

Claudia Kselman, director of the Office of International Studies, described the process as extremely competitive — a feature that limits some qualified applicants from participating in a program.

"We have an incredible number of excellent applicants," Kselman said. "We just don't have room for them. We'd love to take more students."

Kselman said the Office of International Studies' is unable to increase the number of students who can participate due to "natural limitations abroad in terms of accommodations."

Up until now, Kselman said,

students have only been considered for their first-choice programs. Kim claims this fact is unclear to many students.

"That's an ambiguity," she said. "I don't know whether my being wait-listed at Trinity affected my being wait-listed at Toledo. Nobody knows exactly."

Wait-listed candidates are seen as "eligible to participate, but not as strong overall as the students who were accepted," Kselman said. Though the majority of applicants who were not accepted were placed on wait-lists, some students were rejected outright if the selection committee deemed them unqualified.

Joseph Stanfiel, associate director of the London Program, said no students have

see ABROAD/page 4



MATT SMEDBERG/The Observer

Notre Dame sophomore Nick Chambers reads his study abroad acceptance letter last week.

INSIDE COLUMN

**JPW
joys**

When do parents stop being the enemy and start to become friends?

Maybe it's the fact that I don't live at home for nine months out of the year now. Maybe it has something to do with the fact that we talk on the phone everyday, or that I'm just getting older. Maybe my stories of Notre Dame bring back my parents' memories of their time here.

Kate Gales

Associate Sports Editor

Or, as one friend put it, it's when you stop fighting with your parents, and start planning events to drink with them.

Whatever it is, JPW marked a change in my relationship with my parents. There is really nothing like introducing your parents to your life in college. It's not a hectic football weekend, with the band playing at every turn and NDSP roaming the parking lots around the stadium armed with breathalyzers. It's not a weepy Frosh-O goodbye or a frantic end-of-the-semester packing debacle.

For the first time, I had a weekend with nothing to do but enjoy the company of my parents. In some ways, it was a lot like other times here with my friends. But instead of a circle of girls dancing to "Livin' on a Prayer," it was my dad. Instead of running to DeBartolo in the clothes I slept in the night before, my parents accompanied me to meetings with my professors. Replace Fajita Friday at NDH with a banquet for 1,000 other juniors on the ice rink, and you have the Saturday night dinner.

In addition to meeting my friends, my parents also had the opportunity to interact with the parents of my friends. Some were familiar faces from tailgating the last few years; some were total strangers. Thrown together at a Saturday night party with nothing in common but tuition bills, my parents made conversation about everything from trips to Spain to trips to Mitchell, South Dakota. They cut moves on the dance floor, took pictures and beat me in college football trivia.

When my parents pulled away from Cavanaugh after the Sunday brunch, it felt a lot like Aug. 2003. But this time, they weren't abandoning me to a scary world of strangers who all had 4.0's in high school. They had made friends with my friends. It wasn't the worlds-colliding experience I had expected — instead, it brought together my family from home and the family I made here.

So thank you, Notre Dame, for giving us a weekend to appreciate our changing relationships with our parents. Thank you, friends, for your discretion around my family (joking, Dad, seriously). Thank you, parents of my friends, for your amusing dance moves (specifically, Mrs. Davenport and Mr. Jackson). But most of all, thank you, Mom and Dad. Not just for the groceries and the non-dining-hall dinners, but for making the trip out here. That's what parents do, I guess. But it's also what friends are for. And it's fun being friends as well as family.

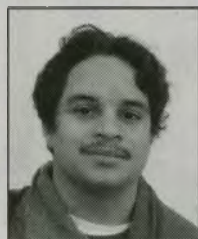
Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

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

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: HOW DID YOU STAY WARM THIS WEEKEND?



Avery Ambrose
freshman Keenan

"I stayed indoors and slept."



Caitlin Diffeley
senior Lyons

"Euro trash dance party at Legends."



Christian Robles
sophomore Alumni

"Stayed by my heater. Unfortunately, it only turns on when it wants to."



David Varga
sophomore Knott

"I rocked out hardcore."



Elizabeth Elliot
sophomore Welsh Family

"I played ultimate Jenga and bit the bag."



Jordan Gallo
sophomore Lyons

"I didn't — I've never been so cold in my life!"



DUSTIN MENNALLA/The Observer

Chris Morrissey peers down at a demonstration for Peace Week in front of O'Shaughnessy Hall Monday. Each boot represents an American soldier in the National Guard who has died in the war in Iraq.

IN BRIEF

The Faculty Forum "Engaging The Merchant of Venice: Academic Freedom and Anti-Semitism" will take place today at 5 p.m. in the Philbin Theater in the DeBartolo Center for Performing Arts.

Debbie Johnson Schibert, Chair of the Saint Mary's Board of Trustees, will speak as part of the "After Graduation: Your Saint Mary's Degree" at 6 p.m. Wednesday in the west wing of The Noble Family Dining Hall.

Wasted and Wounded II, a tutorial on Internet predators, will take place at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in O'Laughlin Auditorium.

The "Around the World Film Festival" will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Vander Vennet Theater in the Saint Mary's Student Center.

Bishop Thomas J. Gumbleton of Detroit will speak at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Carey Auditorium in the Hesburgh Library as part of the Catholic Think Tank lecture series.

Gabriel Meyer, author of "War and Faith in Sudan," will give a lecture at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in room 131 of DeBartolo Hall.

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

OFFBEAT

Girl's prosthetic legs stolen for second time

LOS ANGELES — For the second time in three months, a 16-year-old California girl who lost a leg in an accident has had her artificial limbs stolen.

Melissa Huff, an Arcadia High School student who uses a \$16,000 prosthetic limb to play softball for the school team and another one, valued at \$12,000, for everyday use, said both were taken from her bedroom Tuesday.

"I was picking up my little brother from school when my mom called me and

asked where I left the two prosthetic legs," Huff, who lives in the Los Angeles suburb of Temple City, told Reuters in an interview.

"I knew right then that it had happened again."

Lisa Huff, her mother, said she came home around midday on Tuesday and found the room shared by Melissa and her older sister a mess. Only the prosthetic limbs were missing.

Stripping away the mystery

AMSTERDAM — Amsterdam's famed red light district held its first ever

"open day" Saturday as its peep-shows and brothels gave crowds of wide-eyed visitors free entry to help shed the area's increasingly negative reputation.

Armed with a list of 25 establishments opening their doors and flinging back their red curtains, hundreds of tourists and locals seized the opportunity to see a prostitute's bedroom, watch a brief live peep-show or chat to a lap dancer.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 32 LOW 30	HIGH 27 LOW 25	HIGH 35 LOW 27	HIGH 40 LOW 22	HIGH 25 LOW 12	HIGH 18 LOW 5

Atlanta 53 / 40 Boston 43 / 26 Chicago 34 / 19 Denver 36 / 15 Houston 71 / 47 Los Angeles 64 / 43 Minneapolis 12 / 4 New York 43 / 28 Philadelphia 46 / 24 Phoenix 66 / 44 Seattle 48 / 34 St. Louis 47 / 28 Tampa 77 / 59 Washington 48 / 28

BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

Group approves funds for chemistry club's trip

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

Saint Mary's Board of Governance (BOG) officers approved a \$1,500 co-sponsorship for the Saint Mary's Affiliates of the American Chemical Society (SMAACS) at their meeting Monday night.

The funding will help finance the chemistry club's spring trip to an Atlanta-based science conference, executive treasurer Jillian Waters said. The co-sponsorship had already been approved by the Student Academic Council and needed the approval of BOG.

"BOG is not the only place they are asking for money," Waters said. "But it is probably going to be a costly trip for them."

In addition to fundraising, the Saint Mary's chemistry department has already agreed to pay for the group's airline tickets. However, if BOG approves the SMAACS co-sponsorship, the department would like to be reimbursed, Waters said.

Junior class president Heidi Goepfing questioned how sending just a few students to

the conference would benefit the campus as a whole.

Residence Hall Association president Jackie Wright voiced similar concerns.

"I personally feel this is quite a bit of money if it is only going to benefit seniors and their senior compositions," Wright said.

The Board had the opportunity to reduce the co-sponsorship by half, but chief of staff Monica Lindblom said the conference is credible and the College received a formal invitation to attend it.

Other Board members added that since chemistry is a male-dominated field, it would reflect highly on the College to send a delegation to the event.

"The least we can give them is \$750," student body president Kellye Mitros said. "Or we can give them up to \$1,500."

Health and wellness commissioner Meghan Lambourne moved to approve the \$1,500 request, and the motion was approved.

In Other BOG News:

♦ Elections commissioner Danielle Lerner announced that campaigning for class



CHELSEA GULLING/Observer
Board of Governance members discuss co-sponsorship for the Saint Mary's Affiliates of the American Chemical Society on Monday.

elections begins this week. Members discussed the effectiveness of the election process, noting student apathy as a concern as well.

One of the problems mentioned by several board members was the fact that seniors, although just months away from graduation, are still allowed to vote.

Mitros commented on the lack of turnout for the "Meet the Candidate" session held in the west wing of the dining hall for each election. She suggested broadcasting the discussion over the dining hall's public address system as they have done in recent years.

"Everyone had to listen to what they were saying, even if they weren't in the west wing

last year," Mitros said.

The strict campaigning rules were also questioned when Lindblom noted the rules regulating where candidates can place their advertisements.

"We can have people's 21st birthdays all over the place but we can't have important stuff," such as campaign ads, Lindblom said.

Lerner said changes to the election process cannot be made this year. However Mitros said student government officials could use the current elections to observe the pros and cons of the election process and make improvements for next year.

Contact Liz Harter at charte01@saintmarys.edu

Dunn

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and is a rector representative in the Campus Life Council.

She was uncertain about whether she would continue her involvement in these organizations once she takes on her new responsibilities.

Becky Lyman, an assistant rector in Lyons Hall, said she was sad to see Dunn leave the dorm but is equally convinced that Dunn will succeed in her new job.

"I'm thrilled for her," Lyman said. "I couldn't think of a better person. She'll be amazing, as she has been here."

Dunn has previous experience working at the administrative level.

She was the assistant dean of student affairs at St. Thomas Aquinas College in Sparkill, N.Y., before she came to Notre Dame in 2001.

Maddie Hanna and Mary Kate Malone contributed to this report.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

Recycle The Observer.

LEHMAN BROTHERS FINANCE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM INFORMATION SESSION

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COR

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charge of choosing how to use the property.

The market research will focus on topics such as the types of stores students frequent and their current shopping habits.

"For example, if students shop at J. Crew online, will they stop and shop at a J. Crew store if it opens south of campus?" Shappell said.

Shappell shared some suggestions about establishments in the development and inquired about representatives' thoughts.

"We want something neighborhood-focused, like a sports bar, retail clothing shops, restaurants and coffee shops," Shappell said. "We want to open it up for suggestions."

Club Coordination Council President Beth O'Shaughnessy asked about the intended atmosphere of the future development.

"Would it be something quaint, with coffee shops and little stores, or big-name stores?" O'Shaughnessy said.

Since the development will not be completed for a few years, sophomore class presi-

dent Erin Mulholland said the process of gathering student opinions should focus on current freshmen and sophomores.

"I think it's important to include in focus groups younger students who would be around when changes are made," Mulholland said.

Keough senator Rob Lindley, Jr. noted that a nearby development could increase already-growing student use of Transpo, the local public transportation system.

"The relationship we've built with Transpo, that's something we have to take advantage of," Lindley said. "Now if you have an attraction like college town as somewhere to go, that's even more of an incentive to use it."

Baron noted that before the Transpo agreement, Notre Dame students made up two percent of total Transpo riders in the city. Now, they comprise five percent of riders.

Shappell said student research will continue with focus groups and both qualitative and quantitative web-based research.

Contact Karen Langley at klangle1@nd.edu

"We want something neighborhood-focused, like a sports bar, retail clothing shops, restaurants and coffee shops."

Lizzi Shappell
student body vice president

Abroad

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received rejections from that program so far this year.

At this point, applications have only been evaluated for applicants' first-choice programs — a policy which Kselman said corresponds with the Office's desire to fit students with their first choice programs whenever possible.

"There's this terrible day when you get three or four wait-lists, but that's clear from the literature [that students are not accepted to a program while still being considered for their first choice.]," Kselman said. "People forget that."

As the Office of International Studies tallies accepted students' confirmations in the coming weeks, wait-listed students will begin to hear about spots in first-choice programs, followed by spots in their lower-ranked programs when first-choice spots are not available.

"There are definitely situations where students don't get their first choice but get their second choice," Kselman said. "I would encourage students to apply to more than one program. I would not put all my eggs in one basket."

Though both directors and students agree that applying to more programs increases a student's chances of being accepted to go abroad, students have expressed concern that the ordering of their preferences can affect their chances of acceptance to any program.

Sophomore Andrea Thompson, who was accepted

to study in Rome, said the possible problem of ordering preferred programs was her only critique of the selection process — though she admitted she did not know how to improve such a feature.

"[For] some people who do really want to study abroad ... their preferences can mess up their chances of getting in," she said.

Kselman said students applying to highly competitive programs should consider the way they order their preferences, though the office does try to match students with their first choices whenever possible.

Stanfield also said there was some merit to concerns about how programs are ordered on an application.

"Technically, it's true [a student could be shutout], if you take two extremely competitive programs" Stanfield said, citing high application rates this year to Rome and Dublin. "If you put Rome as a first choice and Dublin as a second choice, it's conceivable you won't get into [Rome or] Dublin."

He said the Office of International Studies tries to fit every qualified student with a program.

"We do try to ensure that qualified students get to go somewhere," Stanfield said. "We try to make sure no one falls through the cracks."

To increase the odds of getting in, Kselman advised students to include oft-overlooked programs in their application.

"I would encourage students to apply to less popular programs, like the programs in China and Japan," she said. "They'll have a greater chance

of going somewhere if they add a program like that."

Kim said some International Studies policies remain unclear to wait-listed students.

"One thing I really wish ... was that they gave more information to those who are on the wait-list," Kim said. "You are pretty much putting your whole life on hold for the next year, so it's hard not knowing anything."

Notre Dame students' drive and desire to plan for the future makes it especially difficult for them and their families to wait it out, she said.

"They just tell us we're on a wait-list and say, 'Don't call us, we'll call you,'" Kim said. "That sort of attitude is really tough on the students when you don't know how high you are on the wait-list or how many people are on it."

Students on the waiting lists will not be informed of their chances of getting into a program until they actually are offered a spot, Kselman said.

"We've notified students that we expect the process to be finished by spring break," she said. "On the other hand, there's always a chance over the summer or even during the fall semester [for spring programs] that slots will open up."

Kselman said the office could not release the numbers of students who applied or breakdowns of how many were accepted, wait-listed and rejected, while Stanfield said 373 students applied for 260 spots (130 per semester) in the London Program.

Contact Karen Langley at klangle1@nd.edu

SAINT MARY'S STUDY ABROAD INFO SESSION

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2006

500 pm DEBARTOLO HALL

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Semester Programs	DeBartolo Rm #
ROME, ITALY	204
MAYNOOTH, IRELAND	203
SEMESTER AROUND THE WORLD	120
SEVILLE, SPAIN	225
Pietermaritzburg, SOUTH AFRICA	202
DIJON, FRANCE	224



Saint Mary's Students on the Seville Program (Spring '05)

Summer Programs	DeBartolo Rm. #
MEXICO CITY SURVEY: Study of American Business	231
EUROPEAN STUDY PROGRAM	240
BUSINESS INTERNSHIPS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION	143
KOREAN CULTURE STUDY	223
ENVIRONMENTS OF ECUADOR	149
HONDURAS SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM	241

For Semester Programs:
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&
Deadline for Applications – March 21

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• If you are unable to attend an information session please contact the Center for Women's InterCultural Leadership at SMC cwil@saintmarys.edu

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Militants act, cut daily oil output

LAGOS, Nigeria — Militants holding nine foreigners hostage launched attacks Monday on a pipeline and a boat in Nigeria's swampy delta region, vowing to spread their campaign across the petroleum-rich south from where most of the African oil giant's crude is pumped.

Attacks on oil installations in recent days by the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta have now cut about 20 percent of daily oil output in Nigeria, an OPEC member and Africa's leading producer of crude.

The latest violence didn't cause further production cuts but helped send oil prices higher on international markets.

Leaders discuss future of Kosovo

VIENNA, Austria — Serbs and ethnic Albanians trying to resolve one of the toughest disputes left from the Balkan wars of the 1990s met Monday to discuss whether Kosovo should be independent or remain part of Serbia-Montenegro.

A spokeswoman for the chief U.N. mediator described Monday's session as "frank."

"The whole meeting was very constructive," said Hua Jiang, the spokeswoman for Martti Ahtisaari, the U.N. talks envoy.

Before the talks started at Vienna's Daunkinsky Palace, the Kosovo team's leader Lutfi Haziri, the province's minister of local government, had made his position clear: "We want to resolve the status as soon as possible. Independence is coming."

But Serbia's President Boris Tadic, speaking in Serbia's capital Belgrade, said the talks should concentrate on improving the life of the beleaguered Serb minority in the disputed province rather than deal with Kosovo's final status.

NATIONAL NEWS

Officials investigate church fires

GLENCOE, Ala. — A suspicious fire did minor damage to the exterior of a small church, but authorities said Monday it does not appear to be linked to a string of suspected arson cases that have damaged or destroyed 10 rural churches in Alabama.

The regional director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Jim Cavanaugh, said investigators believe the fire at the small church in Glencoe was started by someone from the area.

Johnny Chambers, acting chief of the Glencoe Police Department, said members of the joint federal-state task force investigating the cases were asked to review the blaze that occurred early Sunday at Chapman's Chapel.

Rice discusses Palestinian finances

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice talked Monday with other would-be Mideast peacemakers about the financial situation of the Palestinian territories after the Israeli Cabinet halted the transfer of hundreds of millions of dollars in tax money to Palestinians.

Later in the day, Rice was traveling to the Mideast in an effort to solidify Arab allies in Egypt and Saudi Arabia to send Hamas a message to moderate its views and to seek unity against helping fund the militant Islamic Palestinian leadership if it does not.

LOCAL NEWS

New proposal pushes graduation

INDIANAPOLIS — Lawmakers are considering a proposal that would make it more difficult for some students to drop out of high school — a legislative effort to help beef up Indiana's graduation rate from about 70 percent.

The bill would allow students between 16 and 18 years old to drop out only if they have a financial hardship, health reason or a court order permitting them to quit school. Currently, students between ages 16 and 18 can drop out for any reason with the consent of a parent and school principal.

Bush proposes new energy plan

President optimistic technological advances will lesson dependence on foreign oil

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Saying the nation is on the verge of technological breakthroughs that would "startle" most Americans, President Bush on Monday outlined his energy proposals to help wean the country off foreign oil.

Less than half the crude oil used by refineries is produced in the United States, while 60 percent comes from foreign nations, Bush said during the first stop on a two-day trip to talk about energy.

Some of these foreign suppliers have "unstable" governments that have fundamental differences with America, he said.

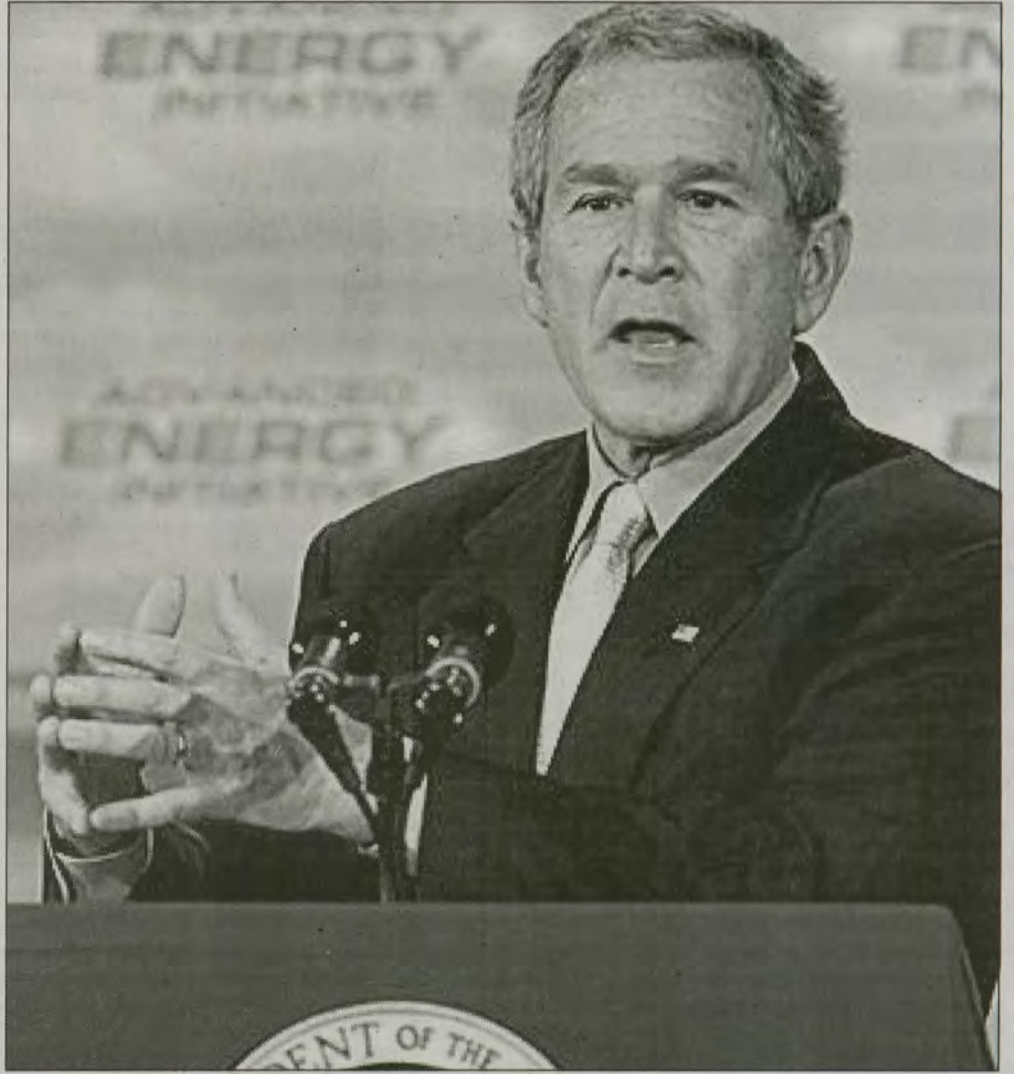
"It creates a national security issue and we're held hostage for energy by foreign nations that may not like us," Bush said.

Bush is focusing on energy at a time when Americans are paying high power bills to heat their homes this winter and have only recently seen a decrease in gasoline prices.

One of Bush's proposals would expand research into smaller, longer-lasting batteries for electric-gas hybrid cars, including plug-ins. He highlighted that initiative with a visit Monday to the battery center at Milwaukee-based auto-parts supplier Johnson Controls Inc.

During his trip, Bush is also focusing on a proposal to increase investment in development of clean electric power sources, and proposals to speed the development of biofuels such as "cellulosic" ethanol made from wood chips or sawgrass.

Energy conservation groups and environmentalists say they're pleased that the president, a former oil man in Texas, is stressing alternative sources of energy, but they contend his proposals don't go far enough. They say the administration must consider greater fuel-efficiency standards



U.S. President George W. Bush presented his energy proposals Monday at Johnson Controls, Inc. in Milwaukee, Wisc. Bush said the country needs to invest in alternate forms of energy.

for cars, and some economists believe it's best to increase the gas tax to force consumers to change their driving habits.

During his visit to Johnson Controls' new hybrid battery laboratory, Bush checked out two Ford Escapes — one with a nickel-metal-hybrid battery, the kind that powers most hybrid-electric vehicles, and one with a lithium-ion battery, which Johnson Controls believes are the wave of the future. The lithium-ion battery was about half the size of the older-model battery. In 2004, Johnson Controls received a government contract to develop the lithium-ion batteries.

On Tuesday, Bush plans

to visit the Energy Department's National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colo., to talk about speeding the development of biofuels.

The lab, with a looming \$28 million budget shortfall, had announced it was cutting its staff by 32 people, including eight researchers. But in advance of Bush's visit, Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman over the weekend directed the transfer of \$5 million to the private contractor that runs the lab, so the jobs can be saved.

The department "has been informed that the NREL lab director will use these funds to immediately restore all of the jobs that were cut earlier this month due to budget

shortfalls," the department said in a statement Monday.

"Our nation is on the threshold of new energy technology that I think will startle the American people," Bush said. "We're on the edge of some amazing breakthroughs — breakthroughs all aimed at enhancing our national security and our economic security and the quality of life of the folks who live here in the United States."

Later Monday, Bush visited the United Solar Ovonic Plant, which makes solar panels, in Auburn Hills, Mich., outside Detroit. "This technology right here is going to help us change the way we live in our homes," Bush told reporters.

HAITI

Top election official flees country

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE — The head of Haiti's electoral council fled the country after opponents threatened his life and burned down his farmhouse nearly two weeks after disputed elections, an official said Monday.

Jacques Bernard, appointed three months ago to bring order to a council that was plagued by organizational problems and infighting, left Sunday and may have traveled to Miami, said Michel Brunache, chief of staff for

interim President Boniface Alexandre.

On Friday, Bernard had reported receiving threats and requested more security amid complaints about the vote count from the Feb. 7 elections, which returned former President Rene Preval to the office, Brunache said.

"He said he was afraid for himself and his family and said he wanted more security," Brunache told The Associated Press. "I was shocked when I heard he had left."

The U.N. peacekeeping mission in

Haiti said it didn't know Bernard's whereabouts.

Bernard had kept a low profile since the nine-member council declared Preval the president on Thursday, eight days after the long-awaited vote.

Preval, who received four times as many votes as his nearest rival, was declared the victor after the electoral council agreed to divide 85,000 blank ballots among the 33 candidates proportionally according to the votes they had received. That gave Preval the 51 percent he needed to avoid a runoff.

Mooney

continued from page 1

at Saint Mary's."

Mooney said Saint Mary's also has the most graduates from any women's college (four) in the House of Representatives, though most would guess Massachusetts institutions Wellesley College or Smith College held the distinction.

Application numbers for next fall are strong, Mooney said. The College has received 22 percent more applications than last year, the most at Saint Mary's in 17 years.

"We've adopted some different tactics in the admissions office [like the use of the Common Application for our applicants] that I think have been successful for us," Mooney said.

The College's endowment fund also has risen, albeit slightly. When Mooney took office 18 months ago, the endowment stood at roughly \$100 million and she publicly stated it was one of her top priorities to double it. As of Monday, Mooney said, the total was \$107.5 million.

In an effort to diversify the College's faculty and staff, Mooney said she implemented a policy that requires a member of a historically under-represented ethnic group be among the final pool of candidates for any position at the College. If there is no such candidate, Mooney said, there must be documentation as to why not.

The Saint Mary's Board of Trustees is also taking progressive steps to include alumnae of color, traditionally absent, among its ranks, Mooney said.

The challenge now, Mooney said, is to open the College to the larger community and publicize its students' accomplishments. Campus facilities are already being used for non-college sponsored events, Mooney said, and she hopes that will increase.

"I think the misconception that I would like to correct is that the community is not welcome on campus," Mooney said.

Mooney said big campus events, especially those sponsored by the Center for Women in Intercultural Leadership, generally have received appropriate attention from local media outlets.

"I think our newspaper coverage has actually been quite good," Mooney said. "We have realized in some sense we aren't always the biggest story in town because we aren't the biggest [school in town]."

College spokeswoman Melanie McDonald added that although journalists don't always have the time to do the research on certain types of stories, she would like to see coverage that is less event-driven.

"I think that it would be great to expand Saint Mary's [coverage] beyond events and who we are and what we are," McDonald said.

Responding to a question about "The Vagina Monologues" and academic freedom in light of the controversy at Notre Dame, Mooney clarified that the play has never been banned at Saint Mary's. Mooney attended "The SMC Monologues," skits written and performed

by members of the College community, during the weekend and said silencing students would not be an appropriate action to take at Saint Mary's.

"I believe ["The SMC Monologues"] are extremely powerful simply because they

"We expect a lot from our students. We don't coddle them."

Carol Mooney
Saint Mary's president

are our own stories," Mooney said. "I think they are more powerful than [using the words of other women]."

One of the biggest events for the College in the upcoming year will be breaking ground on the new academic building, Mooney said. The

unnamed building will be located on the far northeast corner of campus and serve as the primary academic facility on campus. Although fundraising has not been completed, the start date has tentatively been set for fall of 2006.

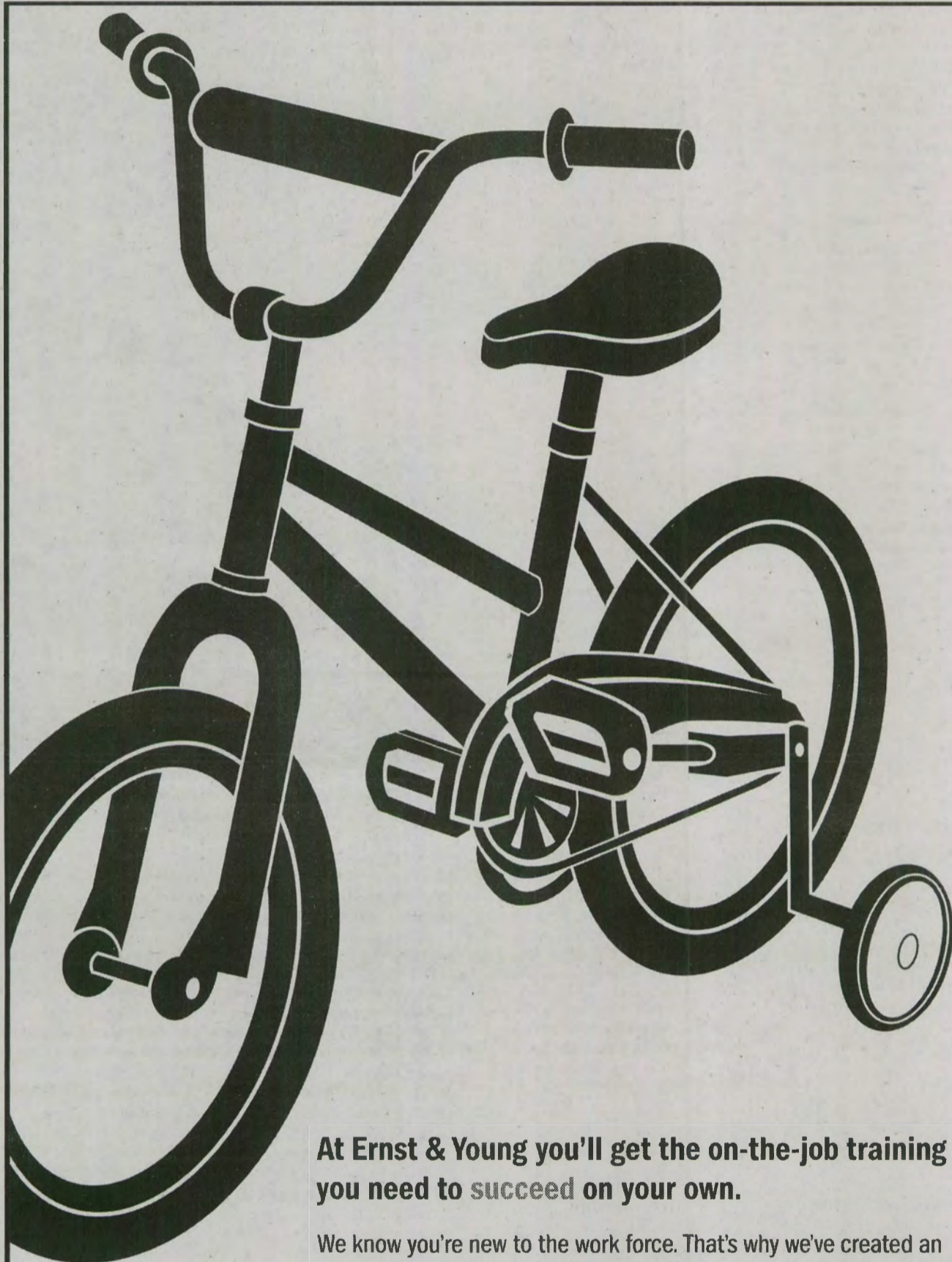
Two searches are currently underway to replace outgoing Vice President and Dean of Faculty Pat White and outgoing Vice President for Student Affairs Linda Timm, Mooney

said.

Members of the search committee expect to name a new dean of faculty by graduation on May 20, she said.

"The Vice President of Student Affairs is behind but we still hope to have that position [filled] before school starts," Mooney said.

Contact Megan O'Neil at onei0907@saintmarys.edu



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Stocks			
Dow Jones	11,115.32	-5.36	
Up:	1,852	Same:	141
Down:	1,424	Composite Volume:	2,129,207,450

AMEX	1,820.63	+10.57
NASDAQ	2,282.36	-12.27
NYSE	8,092.42	+5.68
S&P 500	1,287.24	-2.14
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	15,631.87	+193.94
FTSE 100(London)	5,863.00	+16.80

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
SIRIUS SATELLITE R (SIRI)	-6.90	-0.39	5.26
INTEL CP (INTC)	-3.47	-0.74	20.61
NASDAQ 110 TR (QQQQ)	-0.79	-0.33	41.21
JDS UNIPHASE CP (JDSU)	+3.73	+0.11	3.06
DELL INC (DELL)	-4.94	-1.58	30.38

Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	0.00	0.00	45.41
10-YEAR NOTE	0.00	0.00	44.27
5-YEAR NOTE	0.00	0.00	45.09
3-MONTH BILL	0.00	0.00	45.49

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+1.16	61.29
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+5.80	554.60
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+1.88	84.33

Exchange Rates		
YEN		118.4400
EURO		0.8378
POUND		0.5735
CANADIAN \$		1.1473

RadioShack president resigns

Edmondson steps down amid accusations of multiple resume fabrications

Associated Press

DALLAS — RadioShack Corp.'s embattled president and CEO, David Edmondson, resigned Monday following questions about his resume's accuracy.

The Fort Worth electronics retailer said that its board accepted his resignation and has promoted Claire Babrowski — executive vice president and chief operating officer — to acting CEO.

Leonard Roberts, RadioShack's chairman and Edmondson's predecessor as CEO, said the move was necessary to restore the company's credibility.

"One of the most important things we have as a corporation is integrity and trust and we know we have to restore that back to the public," he said.

Edmondson issued a brief statement Monday but did not discuss his resume.

"For the last 11 years, it has been my privilege to be associated with RadioShack," he said. "At this time the board and I have agreed that it is in the best interest of the company for new leadership to step forward so that our turnaround plan has the best possible chance to succeed, as I know it will."

Edmondson's troubles began last Tuesday when errors in his resume were reported by the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. The company's board said it stood behind its CEO, a decision Roberts said he now regrets.

On Wednesday, Edmondson said he took responsibility for the errors. Separately, RadioShack said it would hire outside lawyers to investigate errors in Edmondson's resume, including claims that he earned two college degrees for which the school he attended has no records.



RadioShack CEO and president David Edmondson, shown here at the company's headquarters in Texas, resigned Monday after facing accusations that he lied on his resume.

That investigation won't continue since Edmondson quit, the company said. Edmondson, 46, joined RadioShack in 1994 and had been CEO since May.

Edmondson had claimed that he received degrees in theology and psychology from Pacific Coast Baptist College in California, which moved in 1998 to Oklahoma and renamed itself Heartland Baptist Bible College.

The school's registrar told the Star-Telegram that records showed Edmondson completed only two semesters and that the school never offered degrees in psychology. The school official declined to comment to The Associated Press.

Edmondson said last Wednesday he believes that he received a theology diploma called a ThG, but not the four-year bachelor of science degree listed on his resume. He could not document the ThG diploma.

Roberts said company background checks did not include academic verification in 1994 as it does today.

Roberts said Edmondson's severance package will be less than \$1 million in a cash payout, but said more details will be released Tuesday in a regulatory filing.

The move did not surprise Stacey Widlitz, analyst for Fulcrum Global Partners LLC, though she

didn't think the change would come on a public holiday, as it did, when financial markets were closed.

"If you think about his tenure, it's not as if he's led a turnaround of this company," she said. "That being said, it would be difficult for the board, considering the things that have come out, to find a reason to keep him."

The company has since removed biographical sketches of its executives, including Babrowski, and replaced it with the following statement: "We are currently updating and validating all of the biographical information for each of our senior executives."

IN BRIEF

Governors challenge port decision

WASHINGTON — Two Republican governors on Monday questioned a Bush administration decision allowing an Arab-owned company to operate six major U. S. ports, saying they may try to cancel lease arrangements at ports in their states.

New York Gov. George Pataki and Maryland Gov. Robert Ehrlich voiced doubts about the acquisition of a British company that has been running the U.S. ports by Dubai Ports World, a state-owned business in the United Arab Emirates.

The British company, Peninsular and Oriental, runs major commercial operations at ports in Baltimore, Miami, New Jersey, New Orleans, New York and Philadelphia.

"Ensuring the security of New York's port operations is paramount and I am very concerned with the purchase of Peninsular & Oriental Steam by Dubai Ports World," Pataki said in a news release.

GM shuts down first of twelve plants

OKLAHOMA CITY — Some workers brought cameras to General Motors Corp.'s Oklahoma plant to take photographs of their work stations and co-workers before the last vehicle rolled off the line Monday, photos that will become treasured keepsakes in scrapbooks.

Others just brought their sadness. "It's a rough day," said GM spokeswoman Nancy Sarpolis in Detroit. "It's hard to see your co-workers go."

After 27 years, the last vehicle produced at the plant, a white Chevrolet Trailblazer EXT, rolled out Monday evening as GM shut down production in the first of 12 facilities the company plans to close by 2008 as it struggles to match production with market demand.

Detroit-based GM plans to cut 30,000 jobs. The Oklahoma City plant employs 2,400 — 2,200 hourly and 200 salaried — but economists said as many as 7,500 jobs could be affected including those at GM suppliers and secondary jobs, like hotel and restaurant workers.

"It's obviously a sad day for the state of Oklahoma," said Mike Seney, senior vice president of The State Chamber, a statewide business and industry group.

Governor presents housing plan

Associated Press

LAKE CHARLES, La. — Gov. Kathleen Blanco outlined a \$7.5 billion rebuilding, relocation and buyout plan Monday for thousands of residents whose homes remain damaged or destroyed after last year's hurricanes.

It is Louisiana's first comprehensive housing proposal since Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast in August, followed a month later by Hurricane Rita.

"In the not too distant future, I predict the sounds of hammers and saws will be ringing through all of our communities as our homes are rebuilt," Blanco said.

Assistance would be capped at a

maximum \$150,000 per homeowner under the proposal. But direct relief is still months away, and homeowners receiving the aid could be taking on more debt to rebuild.

The draft faces scrutiny from local officials, state lawmakers and the affected residents; and it depends in large part on federal dollars awaiting congressional approval.

But the plan represents a significant step in using billions of already available federal recovery dollars.

About \$4.2 billion of the money proposed for the program has been recommended by the White House but hasn't yet been approved by Congress. Any plan for spending the federal aid that Louisiana already has received — and any additional housing money appro-

riated by Congress — would require approval from the Legislature and federal officials.

An estimated 128,000 owner-occupied homes had major damage by the storms and 210,000 more received minor damage, according to Blanco's Louisiana Recovery Authority, which heard the proposal at its meeting in Lake Charles, a southwest Louisiana town that was heavily damaged by Rita.

The Blanco administration plan would provide money to repair or rebuild damaged homes and to relocate people who want to build elsewhere in Louisiana. For those who don't want to relocate or build in Louisiana, the plan would buy them out at 60 percent of the pre-storm home value.

PALESTINE

Leader of Hamas to be appointed Prime Minister

Associated Press

GAZA CITY — Hamas presented a pragmatic former university administrator as its choice for Palestinian prime minister Monday and the Islamic militant group reached out to Fatah and other factions to join a broad-based Cabinet that might stand a chance of gaining international approval.

Officials said Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas would give Ismail Haniyeh his formal letter of appointment on Tuesday, a step toward installing the first government to be headed by Hamas, which swept parliamentary elections last month.

Haniyeh, 43, told reporters after meeting with Abbas that he would try to form a joint government with Fatah, the traditional Palestinian ruling party that Hamas trounced in the election, "that can shoulder its responsibilities in the political area and internal issues." So far, Fatah has refused to join.

He also criticized Israel's decision over the weekend to freeze the transfer of tax funds to the Palestinian Authority after Hamas took control of the parliament.

"The Israelis are trying to starve innocent people by taking money from our taxes, and we are going to fight this by all legal means," he said. "This collective punishment will not break the determination of the Palestinian people."

Hamas, which calls for the destruction of Israel and is responsible for dozens of suicide bombings, is trying to persuade other Palestinian factions to join a coalition, hoping to persuade the world that the new Cabinet represents all the Palestinians and should not be the target of a boycott.

Another Hamas leader, Mahmoud Zahar, met with other militant factions Monday — Islamic Jihad and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine — to try to gain their support.

Islamic Jihad leader Sheik Nafez Azzam said the group, which boycotted the election, would not join the government. The PFLP, which won just three seats, did not give an answer.

It had been expected that Haniyeh, a relative moderate by Hamas standards, would receive the official appointment on Monday. Palestinian officials did not explain the delay, but Abbas has been pressing Hamas to moderate its anti-Israel positions and

"This collective punishment will not break the determination of the Palestinian people."

**Ismail Haniyeh
Hamas member**

accept the idea of peace talks. Hamas has refused.

The Israeli Cabinet decided Sunday to stop the transfer of the roughly \$55 million a month it collects in taxes and tariffs on behalf of the Palestinian Authority. But the Cabinet declined to adopt tougher restrictions proposed by some Israeli security officials, including sealing off the Gaza Strip from Israel, barring thousands of Palestinian laborers from entering Israel and eliminating all trade with the impoverished area.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice talked Monday with partners in the so-called Quartet of Mideast peace negotiators about the financial situation of the Palestinian territories and their new leaders, a State Department spokesman said.

The conversation between Rice and representatives of Russia, the European Union and the United Nations "covered issues of support to the Palestinian people," spokesman Noel Clay said.

Business professors scarce

Diminishing supply and rising demand increase teacher pay

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Business schools are getting a lesson in supply and demand when it comes to teachers.

The schools have been competing for students for years as the number of master in business administration programs at universities has soared. Now the schools also are competing for a dwindling supply of doctoral business faculty to teach those students.

Major accrediting groups and business school officials say the diminishing supply of people with doctorates in business and the rapidly increasing demand for their services globally have pushed doctoral salaries through the roof. It's also forced business schools to devise ways to effectively compete for doctoral faculty and find alternatives for filling vacant faculty positions.

"There are two to three times the positions available as there are people to fill them," said Richard Sorensen, board chairman for the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International. The Tampa, Fla.-based organization accredits collegiate business schools offering undergraduate, master's and doctoral degree programs.

Business education experts say a continuing shortage of doctoral faculty in business will hurt the quality of research and teaching and leave future business executives less prepared for leadership roles in a global economy.

Roger Jenkins, dean of the Richard T. Farmer School of Business at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, described the shortage as severe.

"There is a huge cut in the supply and no turnaround in sight," he said.

Those in business education say that several factors have combined to create the imbalance.

Besides the growing number of business schools in the United States, there has been an explosion of such schools in other countries — schools that are seeking American-trained faculty with doctoral degrees.

There are 80 AACSB-accredited business schools outside of the United States, compared with 21 five years ago, said Sorensen, who is also dean of the Pamplin College of Business at Virginia Tech.

Jenkins said budget cuts to state universities have led many schools to cut back their doctoral business programs, which are among the most expensive degree programs. The schools bear most of the cost of those programs, providing teaching stipends and tuition waivers to students who spend four years or more earning doctoral degrees.

"The number of Ph.D.s coming out of the large institutions has been decreasing about 20 percent a year for the past three to four years," said Jenkins.

The expense and time required for a doctoral degree also discourages students who can make much higher salaries in business.

A 24-year-old with an MBA can look at spending at least four or five years on a graduate assistant's stipend or go into business with a starting salary of perhaps

\$60,000 or more, said Ashland University management professor Richard Symons, president-elect of the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs, a business education accreditation organization in Overland Park, Kan.

Brett Smith, 36, of Oxford, is finishing his doctoral degree at the University of Cincinnati and will start teaching full time at the Miami business school in the fall. He said he was always interested in teaching, but went into business for economic reasons after getting his MBA. He said he might not have been able to seek the doctoral degree if he didn't still draw income from businesses he owns.

"It's a big choice when you are already out in the working world and married with children. A lot of people would love to teach, but can't afford the financial sacrifices," said Smith, whose starting teaching salary will be about 60 percent to 65 percent of what he was earning in business four years ago.

Retiring baby boomers with doctoral degrees who have been teaching for decades also are contributing to the doctoral faculty shortage that is expected to increase at least over the next decade.

Business schools are taking measures to remain competitive and searching for alternatives to fill some vacant faculty positions.

Some, like Miami, are adding student fees to provide more money for facilities and for competitive salaries for new doctoral faculty. Total annual compensation for those new hires can range from \$100,000 to \$180,000 — often much higher than salaries for business Ph.D.s who have been on school faculties for years.

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Rep. governors question Bush

Security outsourcing plan said to put U.S. security in jeopardy

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Two Republican governors on Monday questioned a Bush administration decision allowing an Arab-owned company to operate six major U.S. ports, saying they may try to cancel lease arrangements at ports in their states.

New York Gov. George Pataki and Maryland Gov. Robert Ehrlich voiced doubts about the acquisition of a British company that has been running the U.S. ports by Dubai Ports World, a state-owned business in the United Arab Emirates.

The British company, Peninsular and Oriental, runs major commercial operations at ports in Baltimore, Miami, New Jersey, New Orleans, New York and Philadelphia.

"Ensuring the security of New York's port operations is paramount and I am very concerned with the purchase of Peninsular & Oriental Steam by Dubai Ports World," Pataki said in a news release.

"I have directed the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to explore all legal options that may be available to them in regards to this transaction," said the New York governor, who is still in the hospital recovering from an appendectomy.

Ehrlich, concerned about security at the Port of Baltimore, said Monday he is "very troubled" that Maryland officials got no advance notice before the Bush administration approved an Arab company's takeover of the operations at the six ports.

"We needed to know before this was a done deal, given the state

of where we are concerning security," Ehrlich told reporters in the State House rotunda in Annapolis.

The state of Maryland is considering its options, up to and including voiding the contract for the Port of Baltimore, Ehrlich said, adding: "We have a lot of discretion in the contract."

Pataki is also asking the federal government to "share all critical relevant information made available to the Council on Foreign Investment during the course of the review of the purchase," a reference to the federal panel that approved the deal.

New York's legal options could include canceling the lease for operation, effectively shutting out Dubai Ports World from port activities. P&O signed a 30-year lease with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in 2000 to operate the Port Newark Container Terminal.

The governors are the latest elected officials from both parties to complain about the deal.

House Homeland Security chairman Peter King, R-N.Y., has been one of the most vocal, saying secret assurances obtained by the government don't go far enough to protect the nation's seaports.

Democratic New Jersey Sen. Robert Menendez joined the chorus of complaints on Monday.

"We wouldn't turn over our customs service or our border patrol to a foreign government," Menendez said during a Monday news conference in Newark. "We shouldn't turn over the ports of the United States, either."

Menendez said he and Sen.

Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., will introduce legislation prohibiting the sale of port operations to foreign governments.

Bush administration officials, including Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff and Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, have defended the decision.

During a stop Monday in Birmingham, Ala., Gonzales said the administration had a "very extensive process" for reviewing such transactions that "takes into account matters of national security, takes into account concerns about port security."

Critics have cited the UAE's history as an operational and financial base for the hijackers who carried out the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. In addition, they contend the UAE was an important transfer point for shipments of smuggled nuclear components sent to Iran, North Korea and Libya by a Pakistani scientist.

Frustration about the ports takeover put two Maryland gubernatorial candidates on the same side of an issue.

During a campaign stop in Bladensburg, Md., Monday, Baltimore Mayor Martin O'Malley was adamant that the operations of his city's port not be turned over to the Arab-owned company.

"I believe that President's Bush's decision to turn over the operations of any American port is reckless," said O'Malley, who is seeking the Democratic nomination to oppose Ehrlich in the Maryland governor's race. "We are not going to turn over the Port of Baltimore to a foreign government."

"We wouldn't turn over our customs service or our border patrol to a foreign government."

**Sen. Robert Menendez
New Jersey**

Historian sentenced to three years in jail

Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — Right-wing British historian David Irving was sentenced to three years in prison Monday after admitting to an Austrian court that he denied the Holocaust — a crime in the country where Hitler was born.

Irving, who pleaded guilty and then insisted during his one-day trial that he now acknowledged the Nazis' World War II slaughter of 6 million Jews, had faced up to 10 years behind bars. Before the verdict, Irving conceded he had erred in contending there were no gas chambers at the Auschwitz concentration camp.

"I made a mistake when I said there were no gas chambers at Auschwitz," Irving testified, at one point expressing sorrow "for all the innocent people who died during the Second World War."

Irving, stressing he only relied on primary sources, said he came across new information in the early 1990's from top Nazi officials — including personal documents belonging to Adolf Eichmann — that led him to rethink certain previous assertions.

But despite his apparent epiphany, Irving, 67, maintained he had never questioned the Holocaust.

"I've never been a Holocaust denier and I get very angry when I'm called a Holocaust denier," he said.

Irving's lawyer said he would appeal the sentence.

"I consider the verdict a little too stringent. I would say it's a bit of a message trial," attorney Elmar Kresbach said.

State prosecutor Michael Klackl declined to comment on the verdict. In his closing arguments, however, he criticized Irving for "putting on a show" and for not admitting that the Nazis killed Jews in an organized and systematic manner.

Irving appeared shocked as the sentence was read out. Moments later, an elderly man identifying himself as a family friend called out "Stay strong, David! Stay strong!" before he was escorted from the courtroom.

Irving has been in custody since his November arrest on charges stemming from two speeches he gave in Austria in 1989 in which he was accused of denying the Nazis' extermination of 6 million Jews.

Irving, handcuffed and wearing a navy blue suit, arrived at the court carrying one of his most controversial books — "Hitler's War," which challenges the extent of the Holocaust.

Throughout the day, Irving sat quietly and attentively in the stifling courtroom.

Irving's trial was held amid new — and fierce — debate over freedom of expression in Europe, where the printing and reprinting of unflattering cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad has triggered violent protests worldwide.

"Of course it's a question of freedom of speech," Irving said. "The law is an ass."

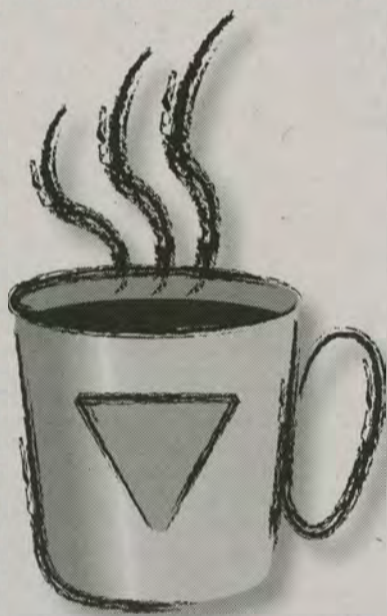
The court convicted Irving after his guilty plea under the 1992 law, which applies to "whoever denies, grossly plays down, approves or tries to excuse the National Socialist genocide or other National Socialist crimes against humanity in a print publication, in broadcast or other media."

Austria was Hitler's birthplace and once was run by the Nazis.

"He is everything but a historian ... He is a dangerous falsifier of history," Klackl said, calling Irving's statements an "abuse of freedom of speech."

Klackl said the Austrian law does not "hinder historical works."

"You have to look at each case individually," he said. "The point is, what is someone trying to do? It's the intent."



Coffee and Conversation

For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students at Notre Dame

Tuesday, February 21
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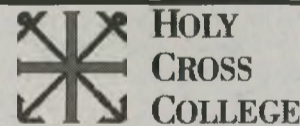
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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 12

Tuesday, February 21, 2006

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Ad absurdum

Absurdity and eccentricity make life worth living. They are the weird quirks unique to a human person, experience or event. Mardi Gras is almost here; there will be music, dancing and of course, the parties. It is a holiday based around floats, beads, costumes and booze. What could be more ridiculous and beautiful at the same time? Mardi Gras captures the lust for life that should possess us all, from time to time of course. This rings particularly true this year at Mardi Gras. New Orleans has been ravaged by Hurricane Katrina and is in the process of rebuilding one of America's most beautiful cities from a flooded wasteland. Yet the party will go on, and it will be one incredible party.

The concept of the party is one of the greatest human inventions. The party is the perfect example of the absurd, which is why people instinctively refer to a good party as "ridiculous." To understand the party is to understand the absurd. Reveling is a conscious decision to forget about the cares of life and enjoy the fact that, despite it all, we are alive and have the ability to realize happiness, if but for a moment at a time. It is the liberation that spices the dish of life. Social conventions are scattered as ashes upon the sea of exuberance. Pretension and reserve wither away, and a visceral experience rises from their fetid corpses. At least that is what happens at a good party; bad parties do have their share of people too self-important to let go of their prejudices, pride or pretension. To each their own, but who would want to go to some event inspired by the

Victorian era or those wretched Puritans, who were nothing but deleterious for this country?

Music is the most crucial element to any party. It uplifts the spirit and brings people together. Music is not by nature absurd, but at a party is often used as an instrument thereof. The spontaneous karaoke that occurs invariably at any party is often one of the more enjoyable experiences of the night. Music also provides the energy and raw power to proffer an environment where people feel free to let go and bring out their inner nature. The Rolling Stones said it best on "Rocks Off" from their "Exile On Main Street" album, when Mick Jagger snarls, "The sunshine bores the daylight out of me." Despite being a dedicated sun-worshipper, it's the night where the real excitement comes.

Dancing is a noble hobby that is present within the party. Taken objectively, the decision to gyrate the body in generally absurd motions is a ridiculous concept. Yet put to music, and most importantly enthusiasm, it becomes a wonderful experience. Yes, many of us, especially this writer, often look far more than comical when attempting to dance. The act of the dance allows one to express himself or herself, and different dances can convey the wide range of human emotions — e.g. the tango is clearly the dance of fire and passion, to "hippy dance" to the Grateful Dead is to know freedom and to rock out to Led Zeppelin is to understand power and freedom.

Just have enough enthusiasm and confidence, and dancing becomes a sublime experience. Absurdity is transformed into beauty; the act of dancing confirms the duality of our

existence. Actions of ethical neutrality merely "are" until people assign categorizations to them. Nothing is inherently absurd if taken apart from the context of people's judgments. When one learns to love the absurd, he or she is helping to peel away the mists of his or her own perceptions. These perceptions of otherness are what make people feel uncomfortable or awkward.

The human is an absurd creature by nature, yet his desire to live as a social creature causes him to fall into self-denial. Society has a clear interest in melding its limbs into a cohesive unit that can act in concert. When one no longer denies, conforms or hides, he experiences liberation. Since all people, except hermits, live within societies, absurdity must of course be balanced by a general affability and ability to cooperate with others. The

[Mardi Gras] is a holiday based around floats, beads, costumes and booze. What could be more ridiculous and beautiful at the same time?

absurd and the social are not mutually exclusive; rather, they are complementary and tend to produce rather colorful characters. Ultimately, it is these characters that make up the life of a fest and indeed make life festive. People are the most important ingredient to any situation. So go forth and embrace that which is wild, ridiculous and embodied within Mardi Gras.

Ian Ronderos is a senior majoring in the Classics with a supplementary major in Ancient Greek and Roman Civilizations. Having retired from the College Republicans and adopted independent politics, he has entered the private life of peaceful contemplation. He can be contacted at irondero@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

'Collateral damage' unacceptable

The war in Iraq has had a devastating human toll. The collection of boots currently on display on South Quad dramatically shows the scale of the tragic loss of U.S. soldiers. These deaths are in themselves tragic. However, what the news media, and certainly in the U.S. government, fail to point out is that for every American life that is lost in Iraq, more than 13 Iraqi civilians — men, women and children — are killed as a direct result of the conflict. This adds up to more than ten times the number of people killed in the Sept. 11 attacks.

Some of these civilians are killed by roadside bombs. Many are killed in the crossfire between coalition troops and insurgents. Still others die when a coalition mortar hits the wrong target — or when the United States deems a target valuable enough to justify incurring "collateral damage." As of March 2005, an estimated 37 percent of civilians, nearly 10,000 people, were killed by coalition forces alone.

The common factor in Iraq has been the view by the

insurgency, the coalition and the American public of Iraqi civilians as expendable. In response to a question about civilian casualties, General Tommy Franks simply replied, "We don't do body counts."

We should.

Whether for or against the war, we must all agree that the civilian deaths should be included in the moral calculus, with a weight equal to that given American fatalities. We must educate ourselves and others about the tremendous toll the war has had on ordinary Iraqis. Finally, we must put pressure on the government to start taking civilian casualties seriously. Only when an Iraqi person is seen as equal to an American can our country make a sound moral decision about its involvement in Iraq.

Dan Hougendobler
junior
St. Edward's Hall
Feb. 20

OBSERVER POLL

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It seemed rather incongruous that in a society of supersophisticated communication, we often suffer from a shortage of listeners."

Erma Bombeck
syndicated columnist

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Time to reexamine Jewish-Christian relationship

"Now is the winter of our discontent." The opening lines of Shakespeare's "Richard III" surely describe the intense discussions in *The Observer* and on our campus about its Catholic character. During this week, our campus community will have the opportunity to see a performance of "The Merchant of Venice," as well as a personal meditation on its principal character, Shylock, and a series of films that focus on the problem of Anti-Semitism.

University President Father John Jenkins assured us that Notre Dame would never have a publicly sponsored showing of the "Oberammergau Passion Play" or anything that promoted Anti-Semitism because it would not comport with the Catholic character. His words are reassuring to me and to other Jewish members of the faculty. Notre Dame is committed to the message of *Nostra Aetate*, the document on non-Christian religions that appeared in the final session of the Vatican II Council.

Yet, the problem is more complex, isn't it? Put in historic perspective, the 19th-century idea of racial anti-Semitism had a long pre-history in the art and literature of Christian Europe. "The Merchant of Venice" participates in many of those negative images. Scholars may claim that the play is not "anti-Semitic," but it surely utilizes caricatures of Judaism that were part and parcel of Christian judg-

ments about Judaism. Why would Shylock demand a pound of flesh? Jews were reputed to consume the blood of Christian children — an accusation against Jews since the mid-12th century. Why were Jews separated from Christians into the Venetian ghetto? Because Christians perceived that they were "dangerous" and could corrupt Christian religion. The idea of the merciful God of Christianity is set in stark contrast to the vengeful God of the Israelites worshiped by Shylock and his kin. This theological dichotomy has still not disappeared from many Christian theological circles.

Contemporary American Christians associate anti-Semitism with Nazi ideology and its racist doctrines which declared Jews to be non-citizens of the Reich. The Nazis were racist in their approach to Jews and Judaism. This may permit the audience at Notre Dame to declare that the Nazis were not Christians and distance themselves from the play.

Jews have a very different perspective. They see a more direct link between how Christian thinking about Jews prior to the Vatican II Council and anti-Semitism. Jews were the target of an economic boycott during the first months after Hitler came to power. When the head of the Jewish community, accompanied by Father Bernard Lichtenberg of the Berlin Cathedral, approached Bishop Betram of

the German Bishops Conference, the reply was, "This is a matter of economics, of measures directed against an interest group which has no very close bond with the Church." Jews were just another economic interest group that had no kinship to Christianity. The link between Jews as an economic menace in the Nazi boycott found no resistance in the Bishop's letter. During the past 40 years, there has been a lively and constructive conversation between our two religious communities about how closely Christian anti-Judaism and modern anti-Semitism are conjoined.

I hope that these issues will be part of our campus culture this week. Jews and Judaism are rarely part of the public discourse on this campus. During the 40th anniversary of *Nostra Aetate* in Oct. 2005, there was no public discussion of that document. When the first academic symposium for first-year students took place on the topic of peace in the Middle East, there were no Jewish speakers and no readings assigned by Israeli authors. When the *Passion of St. John* is read during Holy Week, will the students and faculty think about how these readings have been understood by past generations of Christians — and how those sentiments have led them into very un-Christian attitudes? At the very least, maybe our community will ask itself, "What does it feel like to be Jewish at the University of

Notre Dame?"

The answer to that question may lead us to the deeper inquiry: How shall Christians understand the statement by Pope John Paul II that God's covenant with the Jewish People has "never been revoked?" Is it possible that at this Catholic University some of our theologians and scholars will find a response to the call of Pope Benedict XVI when he declared at the synagogue in Cologne during World Youth Day that, "Jews and Christians should come to respect one another and love one another?" The answer will come about through a dialogue between human beings who live in different faith communities and have very different vocabularies.

I surely hope that a play that has become synonymous with the worst stereotype of the Jew may lead us deeper into a discussion of Catholic character. The basic decency and fairness of our faculty and student body are capable of hearing a variety of voices which have been, and continue to be, excluded. By listening to the voices of those who cause us inner pain and challenge, can this community move beyond the comfortable walls that provide false protection by making the Other into an object?

Rabbi Michael A. Signer

Abrams Professor of Jewish Thought and Culture
 Feb. 20

U-WIRE

Mental illnesses shouldn't be taboo

Every morning I wake up and take 50 mg of Lamictal. It's a mood stabilizer that is intended to help me control my emotions, or at least keep them from shooting up and down uncontrollably. I'm manic-depressive and have been for a number of years now.

Travis Doyle

Originally, I had decided that it was something I could work through on my own. This was a bad idea, but I did it anyway because I was "strong" and I could "handle it on my own." Meanwhile, my emotional instability was exhausting those I loved and those who loved me. Eventually, my freshman year, a friend dragged me to get help. While I hated it at first, it was the most wonderful thing anyone has ever done for me. Probably the biggest reason that I was afraid to seek help was that I was afraid that I might actually need it. Nobody admits to being depressed, schizophrenic, bipolar or having anything of the like. For some reason this is a social taboo. Even having these disorders is a social taboo. The social fear of this type of disorder goes back to a time when there wasn't treatment for these problems. If someone was classified with any problem like this, they would be simply labeled as crazy and people would do their best to avoid them. For some reason, that social stigma remains. But there are some other facts to take into account now. For instance, according to WebMD, 15 percent of people suffer from clinical depression at some point in their lives. This doesn't include bipolarism, schizophrenia, anxiety or any other disorder (although some of them tend to overlap, i.e. anxiety causing depression and vice versa). Unless you live under a rock and only leave to pick up a copy of the DA on

West Virginia University
 The Daily Athenaeum

Fridays, because my columns are that cool, you know somebody who suffers from one of these problems. So what do you do when you think you have a friend who suffers from something you can't understand (and he probably can't either)? Well, if he's not already seeking help, I recommend you encourage him to do so. Be supportive, be comforting, but remember that you don't have to be his emotional crutch — there are trained professionals for that. If he doesn't want to take medication, then encourage him just to talk to someone. If he should be on medication, he'll come around — and realize how much happier he can be. I know that one of the reasons that I was afraid to take medication was because I thought it would change me. Psychiatric drugs will not change your personality. If somebody tells you that they will, kick them. Make the world a better place for your kids. If somebody changes in any way because of medication, it is because he wasn't himself in the first place. Treatment provides a way for people to take a clear look at their lives, possibly for the first time in years. If someone changes his personality in some way, it's because he wants to and, for the first time in a long time, can. If you or anyone you know thinks they have some form of disorder, go talk to someone. I can already tell you what will happen. You will be told you're all right, that you do have some sort of problem that they can treat, or that you simply have some stress that they can help you with. In fact, the only way they can't help you is if you're perfectly fine.

This column was originally published on Feb. 17 in *The Daily Athenaeum*, the daily newspaper at West Virginia University.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON





Reviewing for dummies

Writing a movie review is kind of like ice skating; you see everyone out there slipping and sliding and you think, "That looks easy!" Then you give it a try and realize that, whoa, it's actually a lot harder than it looks.

Anyone who's ever tried writing a movie review realizes that it's a pretty tough thing to do. It isn't enough to say, "This movie sucks!" or "This movie rocks!" A good review is a well-reasoned argument, even though the basics of it seem pretty simple: "Did you like the movie? Tell why or why not. Be brief."

That last point is important — if brevity is truly the soul of wit, then a good review should feel in spirit like a gospel choir. Remember, though, that good films deserve more words than bad films. Nobody wants to read a 3,000-word discourse on "Big Momma's House 2," especially because it probably means you expended more effort reviewing it than the filmmakers did making it.

We have a saying around The Observer office: "You're not Roger Ebert, so don't try to write like him." This is a little misleading, because it's not to say that the once-rotund Chicago Sun Times writer isn't a good critical role model. Readers respect Ebert's opinion because he's a seasoned professional with years of experience and a Pulitzer Prize for film criticism (the first of its kind). These same readers are less inclined to care about the opinion of a college kid who can't remember when George Lucas was considered a good filmmaker — unless said kid's writing is particularly articulate and well-reasoned.

Ebert gets away with stuff Observer critics couldn't. Some of his highlights include:

"Armageddon" reportedly used the services of nine writers. Why did it need any? The dialogue is either shouted one-liners or romantic drivel. 'It's gonna blow!' is used so many times, I wonder if every single writer used it once, and then sat back from his word processor with a contented smile on his face, another day's work done." ("Armageddon," July 1, 1998)

And while something like that is cleverly insightful and could thus be approximated by an Observer critic, some of his other stuff couldn't:

"I hated this movie. Hated hated hated hated hated this movie. Hated it." ("North," July 22, 1994)

See, that's the writing of a Pulitzer-Prize winner. Get that far in your career,



Brian Doxtader
Assistant Scene Editor

and then you can make such base judgment calls. Until then, there are a few basic guidelines for a good review, and I try to follow them in everything I write.

1) Don't be stupid and don't be obvious. Seriously. Remember during the Fiesta Bowl when Troy Smith said that the best thing about Ohio State is that it's in Ohio? Not exactly a bastion of insight. Similarly, if the most insightful thing you can say about "Alien vs. Predator" is that there are aliens fighting predators, you're not exactly going to instill a reader's respect for your review. And please, avoid the obvious. If you think your audience knows it without being told, then they probably do. Your review shouldn't aim for the indisputable. It should go without saying that "Schindler's List" is great cinema and "Freddy Got Fingered" is not. So don't say it.

2) Avoid hyperbole. While "The Wedding Planner" is the greatest movie ever! Ah! may truly be your opinion, there are a thousand better ways to phrase it, most of which will be considerably more effective. On a related note, try to avoid absolutes, especially clichés like "greatest film of all time" or the like, because we all know that "Raging Bull" is without doubt the finest American film of all time.

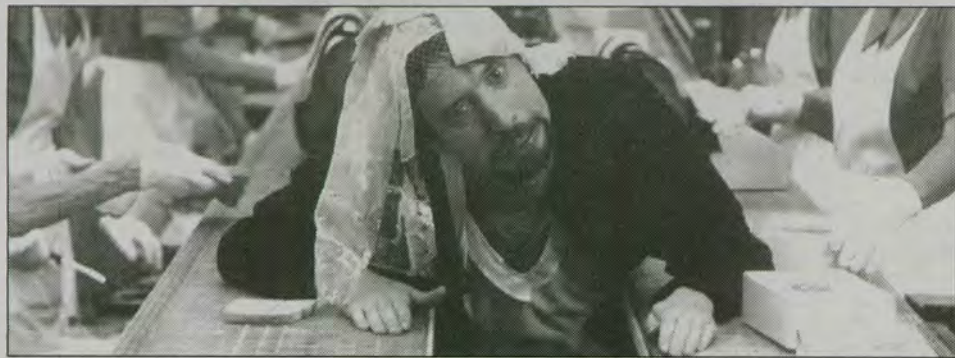
3) Don't be afraid to express your own opinions. It's like that episode of "Seinfeld" in which Elaine was the only person who didn't like "The English Patient." Life's like that sometimes. You're not going to like every critically-acclaimed and/or commercially-successful film. On the other hand, you're probably going to like some films that are unpopular. It's okay to feel this way so long as your opinions are expressed in a way that allows a reader to understand exactly where you're coming from.

On a similar note, be sure to scale your reviews accordingly — most reviewers give films too much credit. I myself have been guilty of this from time to time. In retrospect, 2.5 stars for "The Ring 2" was actually a gift worthy of the Magi. More important than that little star rating (or clover rating, in our oh-so-cleverly-Irish case) is the body of the review itself. The rating should reflect your general opinion, but the text is your more detailed justification.

And that's it. Writing reviews can actually be fun and rewarding. And don't worry about critics of critics. So long as you express yourself well, it's unlikely that anyone is going to slam your opinions. Unless, of course, you really think that "Freddy Got Fingered" is a better film than "Schindler's List."

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



Tom Green stars in the critically-panned film, "Freddy Got Fingered." Reviewing films like this 2001 bomb can be entertaining if the critic avoids common pitfalls.

DVD REVIEWS

'Sin City: Recut' up

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Critic

"Walk down the right back alley in Sin City, and you can find anything."

So the film ends. Pick the right chapter of the "Sin City: Recut, Extended, Unrated" two-disc DVD set, and fans can find whatever dark delight their twisted hearts desire. For viewers who like their violence bloody and their fiction pulpy, the film absolutely delivers as an over-the-top romp through the muck and mire of Sin City's vast criminal underworld.

Housing the original theatrical version of the film on the first disc, the second splits the film up into its three distinct storylines, which follow the exploits of Sin City's three male protagonists, and also features the theatrical cut's prologue and epilogue — "The Customer is Always Right," featuring Josh Hartnett — spliced together.

"That Yellow Bastard" chronicles the adventures of Hartigan, played by Bruce Willis, an aging cop who rescues a child named Nancy Callahan from a fate worse than death committed by hands of a vicious serial pedophile (Nick Stahl).

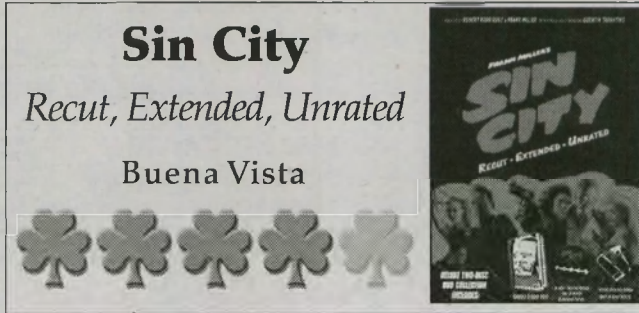
After growing up and filling out, the now stunning Nancy (Jessica Alba) is again threatened by the vile Yellow Bastard now known for both his noxious odor and banana hue.

In "The Big Fat Kill," Clive Owen plays Dwight, a gun-toting player who protects his girlfriend Shellie (Brittany Murphy) from the advances of the abusive Jacki Boy (Benicio del Toro). After an unfortunate and bloody misunderstanding in Old Town, Dwight finds himself on a cover ops mission to protect his old flame Gal (Rosario Dawson) and her fellow femme fatales.

During "The Hard Goodbye," Mickey Rourke stars as Marv, a bar-brawling knuckle-dragger looking for bloody revenge after his one-night-stand lover Goldie (Jaime King) is murdered. Marv's break-faces-first, ask-questions-later approach to getting answers eventually leads him into a confrontation with Kevin (played by Elijah Wood), a cannibal with creepy blue peepers.

Given that "Sin City" was originally a series of graphic novels created by Frank Miller, the true genius of the film "Sin City" lies in the ability of visionary director Robert Rodriguez (along with Miller as a co-director) to encapsulate the comic book aesthetic. Rodriguez doesn't adapt the "Sin City" graphic novels to the big screen so much as bring the panels of the graphic novels to life.

He does an especially great job of capturing the comic-book feel in shooting the visual hyperbole of Sin City — appendages are blown off, fists smash through solid



Hollywood trio po

By MARK BEMENDERFER
Assistant Scene Editor

Tim Burton. Danny Elfman. Johnny Depp. By themselves, they are unique, entertaining facets of Hollywood. But when their considerable talents are combined into a single picture, the results are often magical.

"Edward Scissorhands" is considered to be a classic, and "Sleepy Hollow" is a solid, entertaining film. So when their collaboration was announced for "Tim Burton's Corpse Bride," expectations were high.

Meant as a spiritual successor to "Nightmare Before Christmas," the movie explores similar themes and moods. A principal theme found in both is that appearances are not everything, as some of the spookiest characters are also the friendliest.

The movie revolves around Victor Van Dort, voiced impressively by Depp. Victor is set to marry Victoria Everglot (voiced by Emily Watson) in an arranged marriage. Both of their families stand to profit from the union, and their future marriage appears to be going according to plan, despite the pair never having met.

But through Victor's nervous bumbling, he

is dismissed from the wedding rehearsal to learn his lines. Entering the woods to rehearse, he accidentally encounters the Corpse Bride.

Voiced by Helena Bonham Carter, the Corpse Bride is at first a creepy, suspicious character. She immediately pulls Victor into the land of the dead, a place where ghastly apparitions are a daily occurrence. Pursuing Victor relentlessly, she manages to lose various limbs and parts in the process, a trait that fails to endear her to him.

As the film progresses, Victor finds himself warming up to the cold bride. But wrinkles in the plot unfold when Victoria finds herself in a less-than-desirable position after her fiancé pulls a "Runaway Bride" less than 24 hours before her wedding.

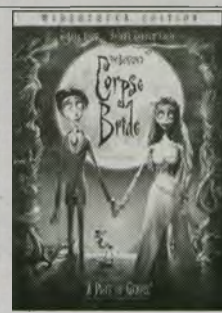
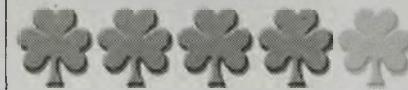
Fun and entertaining, the film sports deeper characters than the aforementioned "Nightmare Before Christmas." Each of the protagonists has an overall plan supported by realistic goals and dreams. Victor's motivations never raise any questions, despite the absurd nature of his love triangle.

"Corpse Bride" also succeeds as a musical supported by charming songs that should delight audiences, despite their ability to strike a dark note at times. "Remains of the Day" and "According to Plan"

are a few of the musical highlights and are visually-pleasing spectacles to watch. A piano duet performed in the latter part of the film between Victor and the Corpse Bride also stands out, despite the lack of any vocals. There is even a music-only track among the DVD's special features for those interested in Burton's choice of images and sounds.

Tim Burton's Corpse Bride

Warner Home Video



s ante on noir action



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Mickey Rourke plays the unstoppable Marv in "Sin City." Director Robert Rodriguez has released an extended DVD version that elaborates on each of the character's stories.

brick walls and bullet holes are mere flesh wounds which serve more to mildly inconvenience than to incapacitate the protagonists.

Even the film's color scheme perfectly mimics the experience of turning pages at the local comic book store. Shot mostly in black and white, Rodriguez dashes on splashes of color to great effect, such as Dwight's bright-red throwback Converse sneakers or Kevin's haunting blue-eyed stare.

Gritty voice-overs by the main characters round out the film noir experience, as the audience really gets the feel of "the big city" while traversing through the seedy bars and dark back alleys of

Sin City. Rodriguez is in his element as he descends into the grimy underworld of Sin City.

The rest of the DVD box set comes complete with a pair of commentary tracks by Rodriguez and various members of the cast, in addition to 47 minutes of featurettes covering Frank Miller, guest director Quentin Tarantino and the film's extensive use of special effects.

All in all, "Sin City: Recut, Extended, Unrated" contains enough sinful pleasure (and extra-feature goodies) to make even the most lapsed Catholic Notre Dame student contemplate confession.

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu

wers 'Corpse Bride'

There are a number of special features found on the disk, which expound on several facets of the film. They feature Tim Burton and the stars who provided the voices, describing the processes that were required in the completion of the film. However, none of the special features shed any new light, as the tricks to claymation have been chronicled already in many different venues. Minor details are revealed, such as the process of animating the Adam's apple on Victor's throat, but nothing that really adds to the

depth of the film.

"Tim Burton's Corpse Bride" is a fun, visually-entertaining movie. Running only 77 minutes, it stands on the short side when compared to standard Hollywood fare. Despite this hindrance, the film still manages to entertain and is another charming union of Burton, Depp and Elfman's considerable talents.

Contact Mark Bemenderfer at mbemende@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Victor, left, is set to marry the Corpse Bride in Tim Burton's latest Hollywood film. This marks the fourth collaboration between Johnny Depp, Tim Burton and Danny Elfman.

PLAY PREVIEW

'SubUrbia' tackles hard issues

By ANALISE LIPARI
Scene Writer

It would seem to the average viewer that life in the suburbs is the ultimate in 21st century disaffection. Modern films such as "American Beauty" and "Edward Scissorhands," or even Nicholas Ray's classic "Rebel Without a Cause," examine these smaller towns as hotbeds (or, rather, lukewarm-beds) of hypocrisy, inertia, dissatisfaction, oppression or all of the above.

This weekend, another look at the suburbs and their inhabitants comes to campus in the Washington Hall Lab Theater — Eric Bososian's "SubUrbia," performed by the Student Players.

Directed by Notre Dame senior Cameron Rains, "SubUrbia" is a look at 12 hours in the lives of a few token Gen-Xers with little to do other than stand outside a local 7-Eleven. Jeff, Sooze, Bee Bee, Pakeezah and the rest are average in most respects as they go through the motions of their daily lives as part of the MTV generation.

This routine, however, is jarringly interrupted by the arrival of Pony, a former high school geek who has reincarnated himself as a rock star. The way that each character reacts to his success, or rather to his escape from the lethargy of the everyday, is for Rains the essence of the work.

"'SubUrbia' is a story of characters who are trying to escape, to be free, to do something with their lives," Rains said in an interview with The Observer. "The thing is that none of them can get out, the street corner is a cage to their being. Everyday, they will gather at the corner and do seldom more than wax philosophical about the price of Oreos or the current state of world hunger."

What's interesting for the average Notre Dame or Saint Mary's student, however, is that the honesty of the characters' musings and struggles is very much in tune with their own common experiences. College students could have trouble understanding the motivations of characters more likely to walk out of the convenience store in "Clerks" than the hallways of DeBartolo. But for the cast, this is less likely than it seems.

"It's sort of a flip side of the Domer coin," actor Stephen Hoepflinger said. Hoepflinger plays Tim, a former Air

Force cadet and fellow street-corner frequenter.

"What makes it personal for me is that I see it as what would happen to Notre Dame students if they didn't go to college, if they just stayed home and didn't try to do anything with their lives," Hoepflinger said.

Other cast members see the play as a chance to examine these current times, with a tough look at the conventions of the average American small town.

"The show centers around themes of unfulfilled ambition, idleness and the subsequent frustration and despair," Jennifer Betancourt, who plays Sooze, said. "It is an account of their lives which are spent in front of their local convenience store and their failure to find meaning in an age of conflicting values."

By looking closely at the conflict and inherent apathy of these times and these lives, however, the play deals with deeper themes that stretch across our own boundaries.

"The play also deals a lot with racism, violence, sex and other controversial and contemporary topics," said Elise Yahner, who plays Pony's publicist, a rich girl getting a taste of the suburban life during her client's visit home. "Among all of this is humor, so this play has it all."

American playwright Eric Bogosian wrote "SubUrbia" after writing a string of powerful one-man shows. Rains sees this, the playwright's first ensemble piece, as something extremely relevant for its current audience.

"[The play] has become a driving force in my life, because I believe that the characters carry with them messages that resonate deep within the members of our generation," Rains said. "We find characters really asking the question that we as college students and adults are forced to confront, 'What am I going to do with my life? And is there really something better?'"

To Rains, the play couldn't be timelier in light of the recent discussions of academic freedom and Catholic character.

"'SubUrbia' is a show that stresses the importance of Notre Dame's academic freedom and stands as an example as to what students and faculty may be forced to lose," Rains said.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of Cameron Rains

Three actors play out a scene in the Student Players sponsored "SubUrbia." The production addresses contemporary issues and is set in modern times.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Syracuse upsets No. 14 West Virginia, 60-58

No. 22 Sooners hold on, edge Texas Tech

Associated Press

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Terrence Roberts gave the Syracuse Orange a jolt when they needed it most.

The junior forward broke out of a three-game slump with 16 points and 10 rebounds, and Syracuse beat No. 14 West Virginia on Monday night, its first win this season over a ranked team.

"When we play as physical and as active and energetic as we were, it's hard to stop us," said the 6-foot-9 Roberts, who had a total of 10 points and 12 rebounds in the three previous games. "Everyone was so calm and patient. We knew we could get whatever we wanted."

Roberts, who had given the Orange a 58-55 lead with a dunk over Kevin Pittsnogle, took a feed from senior guard Gerry McNamara and hit a hook shot in the lane with 2:25 remaining for what turned out to be the winning basket.

It was the fourth loss in five games for West Virginia (18-8, 9-4 Big East), which won its first eight games in the conference. Syracuse (19-8, 7-6), which had been reeling with five losses in six games, has won three of its last four.

Eric Devendorf had 17 points for the Orange, who won despite one of the worst shooting games in the Carrier Dome of McNamara's career. He finished with five points on 2-of-14 shooting but had nine assists. Center Darryl Watkins had 10 points and nine rebounds.

"It was the biggest win so far this year, and the reason was because we were so active in our zone," said McNamara, whose lone 3-pointer gave him 372 for his career, ninth in NCAA history. "In the second half, we just shut them down."

West Virginia came in averaging over 72 points per game and was second in the NCAA with 10 3-pointers per game. The Mountaineers finished 12-for-33 from long range, but the ball didn't fall when it counted most.

After Pittsnogle hit a 3 to tie it at 58-all with 3:57 left, he missed twice, Mike Gansey missed another, Joe Herber committed a turnover, and Patrick Beilein missed from way behind the 3-point line as the Syracuse zone stretched the shooters on the perimeter.

"They were causing havoc," said Beilein, who scored all 18 of his points on 3-pointers but

went only 1-of-3 from beyond the arc in the second half. "They were really extended. We just got mixed up on what we were running, which caused us to panic a little bit. It was a deep shot I had to take."

"They weren't going to give us a 3," said West Virginia coach John Beilein, who fell to 0-8 in his career against Syracuse. "We should have put it inside, but nobody was there."

The one time the Mountaineers tried, Herber couldn't handle a hard pass from Pittsnogle, and it slithered through his hands out of bounds under the basket for a critical turnover with 72 seconds remaining.

"The last two possessions we did not do what we wanted to do," John Beilein said. "We were running a certain pattern, and one time we got confused. It just takes one person to get confused, and it throws everybody off. That's just the way it goes. We'll learn something from it. It's hard to do that in that atmosphere."

Pittsnogle led West Virginia with 20 points, but Gansey, who was 5-of-6 on 3-pointers against Connecticut on Saturday, missed all six of his shots from long range against the Orange and finished with eight points.

Both teams were playing on just one day's rest, the Mountaineers coming off an 81-75 home loss to then-No. 1 Connecticut and the Orange fresh from an important 79-66 home win over Louisville.

After Watkins converted a give-and-go with McNamara to give Syracuse a 47-44 lead midway through the second half, the lead changed hands three times before the Orange defense clamped down.

The Mountaineers, third in the Big East in free throw shooting at 74.1 percent, never even took one on Monday. Syracuse officials said that had not happened to any team since the Carrier Dome opened in 1980.

No. 22 Oklahoma 71, Texas Tech 70

Kevin Bookout didn't even use his good hand to give No. 22 Oklahoma a victory over Texas Tech.

"Amazing thing is he tipped it in with his left hand, and it's broken," Sooners coach Kelvin Sampson said of winning rebound basket with 4.5 seconds left Monday night.

It was the only field goal for the Sooners (18-6, 9-4 Big 12) in the final 8 minutes and it came just over a minute after the Red Raiders (14-13, 6-7) had closed

a 10-2 run to take a 70-68 lead.

Michael Neal had 18 points for Oklahoma, while Jarius Jackson led Texas Tech with 27.

Jackson's 3-pointer with 1:30 left wiped out a 10-point deficit and brought the Red Raiders into a tie at 68.

Martin Zeno made two free throws with 1:08 left to give Texas Tech a 70-68 lead.

David Godbold of Oklahoma was fouled going for the rebound of his missed 3-pointer and made the second of two free throws with 55 seconds to play.

Darryl Dora of Texas Tech missed a short jumper and Oklahoma grabbed the rebound and called a timeout with 23 seconds left. Terrell Everett dribbled down the clock before driving for a jumper in the lane that bounced off the rim before Bookout, who finished with 12 points, converted the rebound.

Jackson missed a final shot for the Red Raiders.

The Sooners finished with a 45-24 rebound advantage.

"We felt like if there was an area we could dominate, it would be the boards," Sampson said. "It's comforting to know we don't have to shoot well and we have a chance to make second and third shots."

Texas Tech coach Bob Knight wasn't going to blame the loss on the final offensive rebound.

"Any time a game is won at the end, you tend to put too much emphasis on what happens at the very end," he said.

Texas Tech took a 46-44 lead on a four-point play by Jackson. The Sooners went on a 16-4 run that included three straight 3-pointers from the same spot by Neal and another by Godbold to go up 60-50 with about 8 minutes remaining. Tech answered with a 13-6 run to pull within 66-63 on a three-point play by Zeno with 3:42 left.

"You look up and we're up 10, we miss a 1-and-1, we miss three free throws and it's like 'How do you lose a lead?'" Sampson said.

Knight said Neal was tough to stop.

"When you shoot the ball moving as hard as you can going towards the sideline and you make it, there isn't a hell of a lot of defense you can use that's going to stop it," he said.

Sampson said Oklahoma's offense centers around Neal and his quick release.

"Everything we had, we were running for Michael Neal," he said. "He's not the best athlete on the floor but he's a good basketball player."

Taj Gray had 13 points and 13 rebounds for Oklahoma, while



Syracuse's Louie McCroskey, left, pressures West Virginia's Alex Ruoff during the Orange's 60-58 win Monday.

Everett added 10 points.

No. 5 Gonzaga 81, Pepperdine 71

Adam Morrison scored 26 points and J.P. Batista had 16 points and 13 rebounds as No. 5 Gonzaga won its 14th straight game, a victory over Pepperdine on Monday night.

Gonzaga (23-3, 12-0) clinched its sixth straight West Coast Conference regular season title when Loyola Marymount lost to Portland earlier Monday. The Bulldogs clinched a share of the title on Saturday when they beat Loyola Marymount.

The 14-game winning streak matches No. 6 George Washington for the longest in the nation, and Gonzaga has won 21 consecutive conference games.

Tashaan Forehan-Kelly had 25 points for Pepperdine (7-17, 3-9), which has lost five straight overall and 10 in a row to

Gonzaga.

Pierre Marie Altidor-Cespedes added a career-high 17 points for Gonzaga.

With Kobe Bryant, Reggie Miller and a host of NBA scouts in the crowd to watch Morrison, the nation's leading scorer had a relatively quiet night, going 7-for-17 from the field and 11-for-17 from the free throw line.

Morrison, who had a career-high 44 points on Saturday, came into the game averaging 29.4 points, a half-point ahead of Duke's J.J. Redick. Morrison missed his first five shots on Monday, hit the next five in a row, then missed five more before making his last two.

Batista, who averages 19.5 points per game, was coming off a season-low six points.

Gonzaga opened a double-digit lead to start the second half, but Pepperdine closed to 52-48 on a layup by Willie Galick with 11:56 to play.

CLASSIFIEDS

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AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, February 21, 2006

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 16

Men's NCAA Basketball Coaches Top 25

	team	record	pts.
1	Duke	25-1	770
2	Villanova	21-2	730
3	Memphis	24-2	706
4	Connecticut	22-3	700
5	Gonzaga	22-3	645
6	George Washington	22-1	594
7	Texas	22-4	568
8	Illinois	22-4	497
9	Florida	22-4	483
10	Pittsburgh	20-4	473
11	Tennessee	19-4	457
12	Ohio State	19-4	431
13	Boston College	21-5	428
14	NC State	21-5	366
15	West Virginia	18-7	298
16	Michigan State	19-7	280
17	UCLA	20-6	263
18	Kansas	19-6	233
19	Washington	20-5	19
20	Oklahoma	17-6	178
21	North Carolina	17-6	167
22	Iowa	20-7	147
23	Georgetown	17-7	141
24	LSU	18-7	99
25	George Mason	21-5	48

Women's NCAA Basketball Coaches Top 25

	team	record	pts.
1	Duke	22-1	764
2	North Carolina	23-1	727
3	LSU	22-1	726
4	Maryland	22-2	662
5	Tennessee	22-3	621
6	Connecticut	22-3	614
7	Ohio State	21-2	607
8	Rutgers	19-3	591
9	Oklahoma	21-4	508
10	Purdue	20-3	502
11	Baylor	17-5	421
12	Stanford	18-5	396
13	Georgia	17-6	387
14	Michigan State	19-7	335
15	DePaul	20-5	308
16	Minnesota	17-6	302
17	Arizona State	20-5	301
18	BYU	20-2	216
19	New Mexico	16-6	197
20	Boston College	19-6	183
21	Vanderbilt	17-8	177
22	Temple	18-6	118
23	Texas A&M	19-5	106
24	Louisiana Tech	18-4	104
25	Bowling Green	20-2	33

MIAA Women's Basketball

	team	overall	conf.
1	Hope	24-1	16-0
2	Calvin	21-3	14-2
3	Albion	17-8	9-7
4	SAINT MARY'S	11-14	9-7
5	Olivet	12-13	8-8
6	Alma	12-11	7-9
7	Adrian	9-15	4-12
8	Kalamazoo	7-16	4-12
9	Tri-State	2-23	1-15

MLB



Curt Gowdy spends a moment to honor the former Red Sox great Ted Williams shortly after Williams' death on Nov. 9, 2002. Gowdy, the former announcer for the Red Sox and NBC, died Monday of leukemia at age 86.

Former Red Sox announcer dies at 86

Associated Press

FORT MYERS, Fla. — He was the smooth voice of sports history, a welcome companion who brought listeners Ted Williams' last home run, the first Super Bowl and dozens of other dramatic moments.

Curt Gowdy, who died Monday, told generations of Americans about the games they loved from the broadcast booths at 13 World Series, 16 All-Star baseball games, numerous Rose Bowls and the 1976 Montreal Olympics.

"He was the first superstar of sports television because he did all of the big events," veteran NBC broadcaster Dick Enberg said. "He's the last of the dinosaurs. No one will ever be the voice of so many major events at the same time ever again."

Gowdy died of leukemia at his winter home in Palm Beach. He was 86. It all started as he sat on a box, with his microphone on another box, for his first play-by-play — a six-man football game in Cheyenne, Wyo., in subzero temperatures in 1944.

Before cable television

spawned a new breed of announcer — those who use shouts and hip phrases instead of subdued sounds and straightforward description — Gowdy was a star who just wanted to tell a story, a well-liked man who stayed that way as his fame grew.

He brought a warm feel to the broadcast booth, his commentary full of good humor and enthusiasm.

He once said, "I tried to pretend that I was sitting in the stands with a buddy watching the game, poking him in the

ribs when something exciting happened. I never took myself too seriously. An announcer is only as good as yesterday's performance."

In his 1960 essay "Hub Fans Bid Kid Adieu," published in *The New Yorker*, John Updike said Gowdy sounded like "everybody's brother-in-law."

Gowdy spent 15 years as the Boston Red Sox main play-by-play announcer from 1951-1965. He left the Red Sox for a 10-year stint as the baseball broadcaster on NBC's "Game of the Week" through 1975.

around the dial

MEN'S NCAA BASKETBALL

Illinois at Michigan, 7 p.m., ESPN
Xavier at Dayton, 7:30 p.m., ESPN2
Alabama at Arkansas, 9 p.m., ESPN

WINTER OLYMPICS — TURIN
8 p.m., NBC

IN BRIEF

Czech cross-country skiing coach fired for error

TURIN, Italy — The Czech Republic fired cross-country coach Kvetoslav Zalcik on Sunday after he inadvertently submitted the wrong name for the final leg of the men's Olympic 4x10 km relay race.

"It's a very hard mistake he made, and the result is he got fired and he will go home," Czech Olympic Committee spokesman Jan Martinek told The Associated Press.

Martinek said the Czech Olympic team discussed possible options "for this bad situation that occurred after the race. It's a really bad result for the Czechs." Ultimately, officials decided to dismiss Zalcik, who Martinek said had been in the job for 10 years.

Zalcik accidentally wrote in sprint specialist Dusan Kozisek instead of Milan Sperrl for the fourth and final leg.

Kozisek, who doesn't normally ski distance events, was in bed in nearby

Sestriere when the squad left for Pragelato and had to hustle to the venue and borrow skis to compete. He arrived at the Pragelato Plan course about 30 minutes after the relay started.

Kostelic sets women's Olympic record for medals

AN SICARIO, Italy — An ailing Janica Kostelic didn't even plan on skiing the super-G. She did, though, and the Olympic record book will never be the same.

Kostelic's silver Monday was her sixth Alpine skiing medal — her second in as many races here and a new career record for a woman.

The 24-year-old Croatian still has a pair of events to go, health permitting. "For now I have six and we will see. Even if I quit now I would be happy," Kostelic said.

Her four golds — one here and three in Salt Lake City in 2002 — are another record.

Austrian Michaela Dorfmeister followed her downhill victory with her

second gold medal of these games, covering a relatively easy super-G course in 1 minute, 32.47 seconds.

New look Marlins open spring training in Florida

JUPITER, Fla. — Josh Beckett's old No. 61 now belongs to someone named Reggie Abercrombie.

A.J. Burnett's No. 34 is worn by a rookie pitcher, Scott Olsen.

And wearing Carlos Delgado's No. 25 is the new manager, Joe Girardi.

There was a different look to the Florida Marlins on the first day of spring training Monday, when pitchers and catchers worked out and worked on learning each other's names.

"Fortunately we have names on the jerseys," said Girardi, one of many newcomers on a team filled with them. Seven everyday regulars and three top pitchers departed in a payroll purge, and the new manager began his search for replacements with a rigorous workout — at least by baseball standards.

NBA

Races heat up for scoring title, playoff seeds

Mavericks, Bryant top headlines as the season resumes on Thursday

Associated Press

Being one of the best in the West might not be good enough for Dallas.

Finish second in their conference, and the Mavericks likely open the second round in San Antonio. Win the West and Dallas still probably gets the

defending champions in the conference semifinals — but might have to go through Kobe Bryant just to get there.

In case anyone forgot, Bryant scored 62 points in three quarters of a game against the Mavs this season.

"You can get an eight seed and it'd be the best seed you ever had, and get a one seed and be dreading the matchup, so it doesn't really matter," Mavericks guard Jason Terry said. "We're definitely going to

be in there, but home-court advantage is nice."

At least the Mavericks have secure playoff position. Despite their individual brilliance in the first half, Bryant and Allen Iverson have no such guarantees.

The races for the West and scoring titles will be among the biggest story lines when the NBA returns from the All-Star break to start the second half of the season Tuesday night.

For some, such as the Pistons

or All-Star game MVP LeBron James, the focus is on building on strong first halves and avoiding the kinds of late-season struggles that cost James a playoff spot last year.

But for others, there's plenty of work to do.

The Mavericks (41-11) have the best record in the West, but they are only a game ahead of San Antonio. Because both teams play in the Southwest Division, the team that finishes second can earn no better than

the No. 4 seed.

Neither wants to be the team that has to open the second round in the other's arena.

"That's a tough situation, but it is how it is set up and people are going to have to play for it," Spurs All-Star Tim Duncan said. "We're going to try to play and play for that No. 1 spot and try to work it from there."

Lurking as a potential first-round opponent for one of them are the Lakers. Seeing Bryant would be particularly scary for the Mavs, who have allowed him to average 43 points against them in three games, including that 62-point night.

"We tried a lot of things that game, but he's just that good," Dallas' Dirk Nowitzki said. "When his shot is on he's so tough to guard. So we've got to pressure up on him, but then he's got one of the quickest first steps that I've ever seen and he just goes by you. He's the toughest matchup probably on the perimeter in the league."

Bryant is averaging 35 points, with Iverson at 33.2 and James at 31.2. The NBA hasn't had three players average 30 or more points since 1982, when George Gervin beat out Moses Malone and Adrian Dantley to win the scoring title.

That hasn't translated to nearly enough wins for Bryant or Iverson. Three teams are within 2 1/2 games of Los Angeles for eighth in the West, while Philadelphia is just two games ahead of Chicago for the East's last playoff spot.

"I want to win a ring," Iverson said. "I want to have the opportunity to get back to the Finals, but I just have to take it one day at a time, and understand that it can happen — and I always believe that. Once I stop believing the goal can be accomplished, there is no need to keep dressing up every night. All that matters is us getting into the playoffs, because then, anything can happen."

James appears ready to get his chance. A late-season collapse kept Cleveland out of the playoffs last year, but with a better supporting cast surrounding one of the NBA's most talented players, a repeat seems unlikely.

"They got a more experienced team than they did last year," Wizards guard Gilbert Arenas said. "He's in his third year now, the players he's got around him is in their third, the young ones. So they got older pieces now that won't let that happen."

The trade deadline is Thursday, and one look at the Pistons shows the difference the right deal can make. They acquired Rasheed Wallace at the deadline two years ago, and all they've done since is win a title, nearly repeat last year, and get off to one of the best starts in league history this season.

"It definitely helped our team," said Ben Wallace, one of Detroit's four All-Stars. "I think it helped everybody on our team get better. He played a major role in us winning a championship, so we're glad it happened."

A pair of intriguing returns are on tap for the second half. The Hornets play their first of three games in New Orleans on March 8 when they host the Lakers.

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WINTER OLYMPICS — TURIN

Miller still looking for first Olympic medal

Pre-games star has struggled in his first four downhill events

Associated Press

SESTRIERE, Italy — All those Olympic medals Bode Miller insists he can live without? Turns out he also believes they could just as easily be his.

Instead, they're going to other skiers — and other countries.

Miller is down to one final chance at the Turin Games after tying for sixth in the giant slalom Monday, when Benjamin Raich ended his own string of Olympic disappointments by leading a gold-bronze Austrian finish.

Through four of five men's Alpine races, Miller has finished no better than fifth place in the downhill. He was leading the combined when he was disqualified; he didn't finish the super-G after slamming into a gate.

"If things went well," he told The Associated Press, "I could be sitting on four medals, maybe all of them gold."

Asked if a common thread could tie together his results at these games, Miller offered a race-by-race assessment.

In the downhill, he said, "the other guys just found more speed." He accepted "pilot error" as reasons for his problems in the combined and super-G. In the giant slalom, Miller said, he had "a little bit of bad luck" in the first run, when he hit a rock early, then made a trio of errors in the second.

After each run Monday, the 28-year-old from Franconia, N.H., doubled over, hands on knees, gasping for air.

"Against those guys right

now," he acknowledged as he walked away from the hill and toward his private RV, "that won't do."

Twelfth after the opening giant slalom leg, Miller did ski a strong second leg. For several skiers, he even watched from the leader's perch at the bottom of the mountain, mugging for the camera, sticking his tongue out, chatting with another skier.

Then, one by one, Miller's rivals bested his time.

Raich had the fastest second run and finished with a total time of 2 minutes, 35 seconds on a course drenched in sun following two days of heavy snowfall. Joel Chenal was 0.07 back for France's second medal of the Olympics, and Austria's Hermann Maier boosted his personal take to two medals with the bronze, 0.16 off the pace.

Until Monday, Raich was having his own problems at Sestriere.

He wasn't picked for Austria's downhill squad, straddled a gate when he was seconds from gold in the combined and was 21st in the super-G. Still, he said he felt no extra pressure.

"I do not have to prove to anybody anymore that I know ski racing," said Raich, who won two bronzes at Salt Lake City four years ago.

About an hour after he and Maier won gold and bronze, Austria raised its Alpine haul to nine medals when Michaela Dorfmeister and Alexandra Meissnitzer finished 1-3 in the women's super-G, a few mountains away.

The United States, meanwhile, is stuck on one medal: Ted Ligety's gold in the men's combined. He'll be among the favorites in Saturday's slalom,



U.S. downhill skier Bode Miller clears a gate during the second run of the Giant Slalom Monday. Miller took sixth in the event.

the last Alpine event and Miller's last medal hope.

Ligety missed a gate in the giant slalom's first leg, as did Miller's co-headliner on the U.S. Ski Team, lower-key Daron Rahlves.

Owner of 12 World Cup wins and a 2001 world title, Rahlves was thought to be a serious medal contender at his final Olympics. Yet the 32-year-old Californian will retire with nothing better than a seventh-place finish from seven races over three Winter Games.

"I really felt like we had a chance, where we could bring

medals back down in every event. I'm just shaking my head at it right now," Rahlves said. "If you get a gold medal in the Olympics, it doesn't matter what else you've done."

Miller, one of the few stars from any nation entered in all five Alpine races, leaves little doubt he doesn't share that philosophy.

Over and over, he's said it's more important whether he feels good about a race than whether he was good enough to beat everybody else. He calls satisfying "my subjective criteria" his biggest concern —

rather than the "objective result" measured by the clock. It's more true to the Olympic spirit, he's said.

"He's of the mind-set he wants to inspire with great skiing," U.S. Alpine director Jesse Hunt said, "and he's not really focused on the results."

His father, Woody, had a different take, saying Miller's attitude is more like "What am I going to do with a gold medal?"

"He has this ambivalence with succeeding," the elder Miller said, sitting in the stands at Monday's race. "It's part of who he is."

Austrian ski coach leads police on chase, crashes car

Walter Mayer had been banned for 2002 blood doping charges

Associated Press

The banned Austrian ski coach at the center of a doping investigation at the Turin Olympics crashed his car into a police roadblock Sunday evening after leading authorities on a bizarre chase.

Walter Mayer was slightly injured in the accident, in which he struck an unoccupied police car set up as an impromptu barrier in the town of Paternion in the southwestern province of Carinthia, about 15 miles from the Italian frontier and some 250 miles from Turin, police said. He was taken into protective custody.

Mayer was returning to his native Austria just hours after Italian authorities searched Austria's biathlon and cross-country team quarters for banned substances. Police acted on a tipoff that Mayer — who was accused of blood doping at the 2002 Olympics while he was Austria's Nordic team coach — was with the team.

Italian police seized blood analysis equipment during the raids, as well as syringes, vials of distilled water, asthma med-

ication and other substances, the national news agency ANSA reported, quoting unidentified investigative sources. One Austrian athlete threw a bag out of a window containing needles and medicines, and Mayer apparently left the scene in a minivan, ANSA said.

The chain of events in Austria started when Mayer pulled over to the side of the road and took a nap in his car, a police statement said.

A suspicious local resident alerted police that a man was sleeping in a car with the engine turned off, and when officers arrived on the scene to wake him up, Mayer sped away, striking and slightly injuring an officer, the statement said.

The officers on the scene then called for backup, and authorities parked an empty police vehicle across the highway as a roadblock. Mayer slammed into the squad car, totaling both vehicles.

Police said Mayer refused to take a blood-alcohol test, which an officer requested after Mayer showed signs of intoxication.

It was unclear whether he would face criminal charges, and authorities declined to say whether they searched his vehicle for doping substances or equipment. Mayer's driver's license was provisionally sus-

pending.

The Austrian Ski Federation said Sunday night it had ended its relationship with Mayer, effective immediately. In a brief statement, federation president Peter Schroecksnadel cited the accident as the reason. He did not elaborate.

In the first ever doping raid by police on Olympic athletes, Italian authorities said they seized materials in the search on the Austrians' private lodgings. Six skiers and four biathletes were roused and taken for out-of-competition tests by the International Olympic Committee, hours before some were due to compete.

No one has been arrested, and test results of seized materials were pending.

"To be completely frank, I find it infuriating that someone like Walter Mayer shows up here," Austrian Chancellor Wolfgang Schuessel said from Sestriere in an interview with state broadcaster ORF Sunday evening.

"Dozens of Austrian athletes have been preparing for their whole lives to reach this summit, and then something like this happens," he said.

Mayer and Volker Mueller, the German chiropractor who prescribed blood treatments in 2002, were banned by the IOC from the Turin Olympics and the 2010 Vancouver Games.

WADA doping control officers went to the Austrian cross-country training camp in Ramsau last month and found

similar doping equipment, WADA and IOC officials said.

WADA then learned that Mayer — who was not accredited for the games — was with the team at the Turin Games and notified the IOC, which tipped off Italian police.

"The fact he was in the same area as the athletes created quite some concern to us," IOC medical commission chief Arne Ljungqvist said.

The Italian national news agency ANSA quoted unidentified judicial sources as saying Mayer had been put under investigation by magistrates on suspicion of encouraging the use of banned substances.

Austrian officials said Mayer had been in Italy in a private capacity and had no official connection with the team.

"I find it infuriating that someone like Walter Mayer shows up here."

Wolfgang Schuessel
Austrian Chancellor

Biathlon coach Alfred Eder confirmed that Mayer spent the night in the athletes' accommodations, but only the night after he arrived.

At a news conference, Ljungqvist held up a postcard showing Mayer in an Austrian Olympic biathlon team photo. He said that while Mayer's presence in Italy didn't break the IOC ban, it violated the "spirit" of the decision to keep him out of the games.

The involvement of police is in line with Italian law, which treats doping as a criminal offense. Any doping case would be investigated and prosecuted by Italian magistrates.

The raids came just before midnight Saturday, when police swarmed a home rented by the biathlon team near the mountain hamlet of San Sicario; a similar search was conducted at quarters in nearby Pragelato. The athletes were taken by IOC doping control officers to nearby Sestriere for tests.

Officers "confiscated material of various origin ... which will have to undergo laboratory analysis," Col. Angelo Agovino, commander of the Carabinieri police force in Turin, said. He did not elaborate.

Heinz Jungwirth, general secretary of the Austrian Olympic Committee, said "certain medicines" were confiscated.

WINTER OLYMPICS — TURIN

U.S. women's hockey takes Olympic bronze

American team skates past Finland 4-0 for medal round victory

Associated Press

TURIN, Italy — Katie King wishes she could've thrown her gloves in the air like a graduation cap and jumped into a pile of her teammates on the ice.

Instead, she and the rest of the U.S. women's hockey team had to settle for some hugs — and a bronze medal.

King scored two of her three goals in the first period to give the Americans a three-goal lead and they glided to a victory over Finland on Monday, playing in a third-place game they would've rather watched on TV from their dressing room.

"It's hard to be excited because we came for gold," forward Kim Insalaco said. "We were living in disbelief the last two days, and we had to get over it. We wanted to play in the 8:30 game tonight."

"That's going to be there for a while, and it's going to be hard to get over."

One game too late, the U.S. hustled to loose pucks, finished checks and showcased superior talent in a dominating performance.

After time expired, the Americans gathered around goaltender Chanda Gunn, embraced, slapped backs and

raised sticks to the crowd.

"It was subdued after the game, but we're happy to go home with at least some hardware," said King, who added that she had played in her final game.

What do they have to show from the consolation match? As three-time Olympian Angela Ruggiero said Sunday, America's women's hockey veterans — herself, King, Tricia Dunn-Luoma and Jenny Potter — now have a complete set of Olympic medals: gold from Nagano, silver from Salt Lake City, and now bronze from the Turin Games.

Expecting to face Canada in Monday night's gold-medal game, the American women ended up vying for bronze after the biggest shocker in women's hockey history: Sweden's 3-2 shootout win Friday.

"I am glad we had a couple of days after the semifinals," U.S. coach Ben Smith said. "We had a chance to regroup."

Though it fell to an anticlimactic game, the Americans played with inspiration, harassing the Finns and celebrating each goal.

One game too late.

Finland found itself smothered offensively — even with an extra skater — harassed by backchecking forwards and stingy defenseman. Despite having a power play early in the second period, the Finns didn't get a shot on Gunn for more than 11 minutes.



Finland's Evellna Simila gets tripped by the United States' Krissy Wendell during the Olympic bronze medal game Monday.

Gunn had to make just 14 saves for the shutout.

It didn't take long for the Americans to give her a cushion.

Two-plus minutes after the puck dropped, Kelly Stephens deflected Julie Chu's shot past goaltender Noora Raty.

King scored twice — impressively — midway through the first period.

After a crafty off-the-boards pass from Helen Resor, King carried the puck along the right boards, swooped across Raty and flipped the puck above her.

King pumped her stick in the air, then had another reason to celebrate a few minutes later. Potter fed King with a pass up the middle of the ice, she outskated defenseman Heidi Pelttari and wristed a shot over Raty's stick.

"We came out and did not have enough speed," Finn defenseman Emma Laaksonen said. "The USA won it in the first period."

The Americans made it 4-0 early in the second period on King's goal off a circle-to-circle pass from Chu.

Finland then pulled Raty, replacing her with Maija Hassinen, but it was too late to make a difference. The two goalies combined for 16 saves.

The game was much different from the matchup in the preliminary round, when the U.S. rallied from a two-goal, second-period deficit to beat the Finns 7-3.

"We had to set the tone, if we gave them an inch, they would've taken it," Insalaco said. "We didn't do that the last time we played."

One game too late.

Canada defeats Sweden to earn gold medal victory

Impressive offense leads to 4-1 triumph

Associated Press

TURIN, Italy — Danielle Goyette wanted to skate circles around this moment forever, wearing a gold medal around her neck and waving a Canadian flag wildly over her head.

The three-time Olympian's teammates eventually had to

grab her by the flag and drag her to the locker room. The 40-year-old knew she probably won't skate for Canada again — and she'll never skate for a team as good as the Canadians who dominated Turin to win the Olympic women's hockey tournament.

They scored with pinpoint passes and dazzling pirouettes, soft wrist shots and firm tip-ins. The victory Monday night wasn't the rematch everyone expected

with the U.S., but Canada still sent upstart Sweden home with the same thrashing it had planned for its American archrivals.

When the fourth goal bulged Swedish goalie Kim Martin's net, she shrugged her shoulders slightly and looked straight ahead — perhaps all the way to Vancouver in four years, when the world might stand a better chance.

"We showed Hockey Canada is dominant," Goyette said. "This makes it worth everything we did, all the months we spent working on this day. We didn't end up with the final matchup we expected, but we got the same result."

Behind Martin, the 19-year-old puck-stopper extraordinaire, Sweden managed a 3-2 shootout win over the U.S. on Friday in a semifinal immediately called the biggest upset in the sport's history.

But starting with Gillian Apps' goal on a surreal blind backhand just 3:15 into the gold medal game, the Canadians showed their game would be the same, regardless of the opponent. They had worked too long — for nearly seven months straight — and much too hard to leave with anything but duplicates of their Salt Lake City golds.

"To defend the gold for our team and every Canadian back home is huge," said Hayley Wickenheiser, the tournament MVP. "For us, it's all gold or

nothing. There's no other medal to win in this tournament. That's the pressure we put on ourselves. We're just happy we can land in Canada with everybody smiling."

The relentless forechecking, heady passing and sturdy defense — improbably questioned by the Swedes beforehand — were

practically flawless in a game just as one-sided as every other in their march through Italy by a combined score of 46-2.

When it was over, the Canadians roared off their bench

and hit goalie Charline Labonte so hard that they dislodged the net from its moorings. Goyette jubilantly threw her glove and stick in the direction of the overhead scoreboard, while Wickenheiser held her adopted son, Noah.

The Americans, who beat Finland 4-0 in the bronze-medal game earlier, gratefully received their medals on the ice after Canada's Meghan Agosta and Jennifer Botterill finished displaying a Canadian flag sewn to an Italian flag.

"It's far and away the best team I've ever played for," defenseman Cheryl Pounder said. "We saw all the sweat going into it, and that's why all the tears came to the surface at the end."

Several Canadians wept while getting their medals — Pounder crying the most, just as in Utah four years before — and none

could stand still.

After singing along to "O Canada," the Americans and Canadians shook hands and hugged. Sadly, it was their only meeting of the Olympics.

Jayna Hefford added a goal and an assist, while Caroline Ouellette and Cherie Piper also contributed goals as Canada dominated the first two periods against Sweden. Gunilla Andersson scored just the second goal of the tournament against Canada in the third, ruining Labonte's shutout bid long after the Swedes still had a chance.

Their hope was frozen early at a rink kept chillier than a Canadian prairie wind to improve the ice quality. Frostbitten fingers didn't deter the hundreds of proud Great White Northerners who drank hot chocolate, wrapped themselves in beach-towel-sized maple leaf flags and rang cowbells amid chants of "Go, Canada! Go!"

The Canadians now have two golds and a silver from three Olympic women's hockey tournaments. The Swedes have their nation's best finish in an international event — and judging by their wide smiles as they received silver medals, they're thrilled with that.

Sweden already had won its biggest prize in the semifinals. Before Friday, neither North American team had ever lost in an international tournament — except to each other. The shocker was tough for the U.S. but a welcome development for a sport enduring grumbles about the huge parity gap stretching across the Atlantic Ocean.

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CLUB SPORTS

Squash team wins division title at nationals

Sailing team places 17th in Charleston

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame's squash club won the Emerging Teams Division Championships at the CSA National Team Championships this weekend in Princeton as 46 teams competed for championships in six divisions. The Irish defeated rival USC in the championship match, 3-2, as they swept the top three matches. The Irish trailed 2-0 in matches before staging the comeback.

Pedro Gochicoa and Leigh Chapman dropped their matches at Nos. 4 and 5 to Devin Jones and Varun Peddy, respectively, giving the Trojans a 2-0 lead. Michael McConnell trailed Rizwan Allawala

throughout the first game, but rallied to win 10-8, 9-3, 9-4 to pull the Irish to within one.

Trojans fans and players celebrated prematurely as Harsh Podar rolled 9-5, 9-3 in the first two games and looked to close out the match, but Phil Moss fought back to even the match at 2-2 with 9-4, 9-2 scores in the third and fourth games, setting up what proved to be a breathtaking fifth game. Moss again found himself in a deep hole, trailing Podar 8-4. Moss forced a tie at 8-8, faced more match points, then tied at 9-9 only to face yet another match point.

Moss eventually climbed back to win both the serve and the final point, keeping Irish hopes alive and setting the stage for the final match. In the deciding No. 1 match, James Zhang completed a 12-0

individual season with a 3-0 victory over USC's Tom Stanley, winning 9-0, 9-3, 9-1 to secure the championship.

In the semi-finals, the Irish whitewashed Rutgers 5-0. Zhang, Moss, Gochicoa and Chapman all won in straight games, 3-0, while McConnell was extended to the limit, winning in five games over the Scarlet Knights' Eric Bramwell. Other teams in this division included Lafayette, Boston College, Bard and Vanderbilt.

Zhang became the first Notre Dame player to qualify for the National Singles Championships and will compete in two weeks in Amherst, Mass.

Sailing

Notre Dame's Tim Roy, Kat Sabloff, John Dailey and Chris May placed 17th overall in the

Charleston Spring Intersectional, which was hosted by the College of Charleston.

The draw attracted top teams from across the country, including Navy, USC, Florida, St. Mary's, Stanford, Texas A&M, Harvard, Yale, Brown, Christopher Newport, South Florida, South Alabama, Georgetown, Eckard and others.

Roy and Sabloff raced in the A Division, while Dailey and May sailed in the B Division. College of Charleston won the meet.

Bowling

The Hoosier Classic in Indianapolis closed the curtain on the season for Notre Dame. Van Koppersmith twice broke 200, and his 170 average led the Irish. Jim Talamo and Dan

Martin, who bowled a team high 235, followed close behind with averages of 166 and 163, respectively. Tom Talamo and JB Bertumen completed the top five scorers with averages of 152 and 139, respectively. The team finished 45th out of 50 teams.

Skiing

Temperatures hovering around -15 degrees created challenging runs for the Notre Dame ski club in its final event of the year, the MISA Sectionals at Marquette.

Although Lindsay May, Molly Butler and Leif Petterson performed well in their final races for the Irish, the club did not advance to the Regionals, thus concluding competition for this season.

Team results have not been posted as of today.

MLB

Bonds skips voluntary reporting date for Giants players

Embattled star must report before March

Associated Press

One day after contradicting reports that Barry Bonds was either ready to retire after the season or set to play 10 more years, the San Francisco star did not show up Monday on the voluntary reporting date for Giants players.

Bonds told the team last week through his agent that he would come a day or two later because he needed to get some "personal stuff straightened out." Giants general manager Brian Sabean said. The mandatory reporting date is Feb. 28.

"Given the fact that Barry didn't play practically the entire season last year, we'd like to see him here early," manager Felipe Alou said. "But we can't bring a guy here by force before the first of March."

Alou expects the 41-year-old

outfielder to be in camp Tuesday in Scottsdale, Ariz., and has him listed in the first group of hitters for batting practice. After missing most of last season while recovering from three knee operations, Bonds hit five homers in 42 at-bats in September, raising his career total to 708. He trails only Hank Aaron (755) and Babe Ruth (714).

Bonds' absence left his teammates to react to his comments to USA Today that his injured knee has forced him to take pain pills and that he plans to retire, and to his remarks to MLB.com that he was just "playing psychological games" and his knee brace feels so good he might play another decade.

"Of course everything Barry Bonds says gets multiplied and

is huge," shortstop Omar Vizquel said. "People tend to talk about every thing and every comment he makes. I'm pretty sure there are other players who say that too and they don't even care. 'You are? OK, good luck.' But he's Barry Bonds."

"Of course everything Barry Bonds says gets multiplied and is huge."

**Omar Vizquel
Giants shortstop**

Bonds is in the final season of his \$90 million, five-year contract and will be eligible for free agency after the World Series, meaning his time with the Giants could be up even if he doesn't retire.

"It wouldn't totally surprise me if he retired during the season, if his knees are hurting and he's miserable," said new Detroit manager Jim Leyland, who managed Bonds in

Pittsburgh.

In Tampa, Fla., Alex Rodriguez said he is unhappy with organizers of the World Baseball Classic for the way they handled his decision to play for the United States instead of the Dominican Republic. The New York Yankees third baseman took issue with reports that he vacillated between playing for the Americans and the Dominicans.

"Just to make it clear, I only spoke once and then I spoke again three months later," Rodriguez said after reporting to spring training. "All the garbage in between was Major League Baseball. I didn't go back and forth. I said once, 'I wasn't playing,' and then at the end I said, 'So OK, I am playing.'"

Rodriguez wouldn't identify any officials he spoke with, opting to say only "central base-

ball."

"I told him I was disappointed with all the stuff going back and forth, the leaking of information," Rodriguez said, "especially with me not being involved in any way, shape or form."

Rodriguez downplayed comments made by Chicago White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen, who criticized A-Rod's WBC decision.


"I already heard what he had to say, he apologized," Rodriguez said. "The apology has been accepted. We've moved on from there. Ozzie and I have always been friendly. It's not really that big of a deal."

In Jupiter, Fla., the Florida Marlins' first workout under new manager Joe Girardi lasted more than three hours.

"I was proud of how they worked," he said. "That's as hard a day as I've been in in spring training."

UNRULY WILLS AND AFFECTIONS

Anselm as Moral Theorist and Moral Adviser



Dr. Thomas Williams
Alvin Plantinga Fellow,
The Center for Philosophy of Religion

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San Francisco slugger Barry Bonds hits a home run against the Arizona Diamondbacks May 27, 2002. Bonds did not show up for the Giants' voluntary reporting date Monday in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Belles

continued from page 24

away."

After struggling at home for the first half of the season — losing four of its first five home contests — Saint Mary's has embraced the home court advantage. The Belles have played like a different team down the stretch, improving to 9-7 in the MIAA (and 11-14 overall) after beginning conference play with a 3-3 record.

"At the beginning of the season, we had trouble playing at home, but [now] being at home here gives us a lot of confidence," freshman forward Erin Newsom said.

Saint Mary's is coming off a two-game losing streak to end the season, dropping a contest to No. 4-seed Albion Wednesday and finishing Saturday with a loss to No. 1-seed Hope, which finished its season 23-1 with a perfect 16-0 MIAA record. Despite their recent troubles, the Belles are confident about playing Alma in the first round, having swept their season series 2-0.

Bender addressed the Belles' mentality heading into their third match up with Alma.

"As far as mentally, I know

our girls are really excited to play them, because we've played Alma, and we know we can play with them," the coach said. "We know it's hard to beat a team three times in a year, but we've just got to go out and do it."

The Belles' strength has been adjusting to teams the second time they meet, which has shown the strength of their coaching and their ability to read other teams' playing styles.

Bender noted the change in the Belles' home performances during the season, another reason for the team's second-half surge.

"We've been getting really good crowds, they've been getting excited," Bender said. "I just think it's a tremendous advantage."

Though the Belles have beaten Alma twice — away and once at home — both games have been close. Saint Mary's edged Alma, 74-68, Dec. 10 on the road and then won, 57-55, at home Jan. 10.

"I think by playing them twice and beating them

twice, we know how to play them," Newsom said. "Obviously we can be effective against them, but also at the same time, I think they've been working on beating us, but I think [playing at home] will give us an advantage, and we can come out on top."

Several Saint Mary's players thought that while playing at home would help them, it would not phase the Scots, who feature a balanced

offensive attack and solid defense led by senior Darcie Philp and her sister, sophomore Erica Philp.

"I don't think they're going to be intimidated," senior captain Bridget Boyce said. "I think they're going to come ready to play, but we're going to come out strong, and we'll take it from there."

Bender echoed his captain's feelings that Alma would not fall easily, despite his team's recent success against them.

"Alma's not going to be intimidated at all," Bender said. "Both games were really close. They're going to come up with some bizarre plan ... we are so evenly

matched. Everything we do is about the same, and it's going to be a really exciting game."

The Belles will look for a strong offensive performance from Boyce — who last week scored her 1,000th career point and became Saint Mary's all-time leader in 3-pointers made — and sophomore guard Alison Kessler. Kessler, who was named MIAA player of the week earlier this season, leads the team with 14.3 points per game.

"It's going to be a tough game," Lipke said. "It all comes down to the playoffs, anything can happen. We're ready to play."

Despite the firepower they possess, the Belles all agree on what they will need to do to come away with the victory is play defense.

"We've been scouting them pretty good and we know what we have to do," Lipke said. "So hopefully we can execute on everything we've been planning."

Newsom was even more specific in her appraisals.

"I think [if] we play good solid defense, shut down their high-low game and have a good shooting day ... we'll be fine," she said.

Contact Tim Kaiser at tkaiser@nd.edu

"At the beginning of the season, we had trouble playing at home, but [now] being at home here gives us a lot of confidence."

Erin Newsom
Belles forward

Fencers

continued from page 24

"It was more of ... 'Wow, why is Emily Cross so good?' " Nott said. "I [compete against Cross] kind of often, so it was kind of normal for me, and a lot of times you'll think you'll be tricky and she's already on to you. It was more like I'm glad I have this opportunity and get to fence her."

The silver-medal performance is Nott's best on the junior national circuit.

"She fenced amazingly well this weekend," Cota said. "We

were all very proud of her."

For her effort, Nott was awarded 552 national circuit points, given to the top 16 finishers in each bracket. The points allow fencers to qualify for national events and work towards national rankings.

Prot garnered 301 points in the foil for taking 15th in the junior division, while Kubik grabbed 302 for his 14th place performance in the junior division sabre.

In the men's bracket, Horton fenced in the sabre (junior, 69th), and Grigorenko competed in the foil (junior, 112th).

Also competing on the women's side was Montoya in

the epee, (junior, 34th), Cota in the foil (junior, 124th) and Serrette in the sabre.

The format for the Junior Olympics starts with a round-robin pool of seven fencers. Points are awarded to individuals based on victories, hits and least hits taken.

The fencers are then seeded into a direct-elimination tournament based on point-totals. Regardless of points, the event afforded Notre Dame's fencers valuable experience against top competition.

"I guess I managed my stress a little better than I did the previous match," Prot said about her bout against Cross, which she lost 5-4.

Though the event was purely individual, the Irish fencers were quick to show their team unity.

"Our support system for our teammates is wonderful."

Rachel Cota
Irish fencer

Serrette, who didn't compete until Monday, was in Hartford on Saturday to watch her Notre Dame teammates.

"Our support system for our teammates is wonderful," Cota said. "It wasn't a collegiate event ... but the Notre Dame ties took over, but it was very cool to see everyone stick together when they didn't have to."

Contact Jack Thornton at jthornt4@nd.edu

Bettis

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mainstay of the league's prime-time broadcasts on free TV.

Bettis will get his first taste of regular-season action from press row when NBC's coverage begins Thursday, Sept. 7 in Pittsburgh, as the reigning champions face an opponent yet to be named.

"When the regular season kicks off in Pittsburgh in September, it will be the proudest night of my life," Bettis said. "I will finally get my ring, and I will start my new career in television in front of all the Steelers fans."

NBC Sports Chairman and "Football Night" executive producer Dick Ebersol said in a statement that Bettis' strong public image and popularity after 13 seasons in the NFL made his selection of the show's broadcast team an easy one.

"America followed 'The Bus' to the Super Bowl just two weeks ago ... and I was awed by how many people were engrossed in seeing his great career culminate in a championship, and seeing the grace and class with which he handled his retirement," Ebersol said in the NBC statement. "He's the kind of guy that people want to invite into their living rooms every week."

Ebersol said Bettis first auditioned with NBC executives for the job during the regular season. "He simply blew us away," Ebersol said of the league's fifth all-time leading rusher.

Bettis finished his NFL career with 13,294 yards on 3,369 rushing attempts — the third most carries in league history — for an average of 3.9 yards per carry.

In his three seasons at Notre Dame, Bettis averaged 5.7 yards per carry. He left the Irish after his junior year to enter the NFL draft and returned to Notre Dame to work toward his degree in the spring of 1996 when he ended his tenure with the Rams, who drafted him in 1993. He never earned his diploma, however, as the Steelers signed the free agent, and he has spent the past 10 years in Pittsburgh.

NBC, which carries Irish home football games, did not say if Bettis' work on the "Football Night" would free him for studio work on Notre Dame's home telecasts.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

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Huskies

continued from page 24

they kick it into gear, which we've seen, they can be pretty devastating."

The Irish — who have won their last three games against Rutgers, South Florida and Seton Hall — have improved their Big East record to 4-8 (13-10 overall) as they continue the effort to grab one of the final Big East tournament spots.

Notre Dame has four games remaining, including Tuesday night's game at the Hartford Civic Center, and Brey knows any win will have the same significance, regardless of the opponent.

"For us, it will help us get to New York — simplest terms, man," Brey said. "That's how I've looked at it, that's how I've presented it to our guys. It would be another step closer to qualifying for the tournament in New York. That's been our focus, and that's what we've talked about."

Brey also conveyed Monday morning what Notre Dame's focus will be in stopping a Huskies team that is 10-2 in the Big East and 23-2 overall. Connecticut is also a perfect 13-0 at home this season.

"When we've had success against them ... we've limited transition and second shots," Brey said. "So that's kind of where you start with a general feeling."

Limiting transition points and second shots will be diffi-

cult for Notre Dame given Connecticut's athleticism (forward Rudy Gay is considered one of the most talented players in college basketball) and ability to rebound on the offensive end (forwards Josh Boone, Hilton Armstrong and Gay have a combined 182 offensive rebounds this season).

Senior Chris Quinn said Sunday he considers Connecticut to be one of the best teams in the country because of the problems — such as transition and second chance points — they present opponents every game.

"[Connecticut is], if not the best, one of the best five teams in the country," Quinn said. "Extremely talented, big, physical and quick. It's definitely going to be a tough test going into their place, but the only thing we can do is go in there and play with nothing to lose."

Notre Dame forwards Torin Francis and Rick Cornett will need to play strong underneath the basket to try to limit Connecticut's ability to get to the glass. Brey also said all four big men — Rob Kurz and Luke Zeller included — will make an impact.

"It's been tough to get to the fourth big guy, but you know what? Tomorrow night, Luke might play 15 minutes the way this thing's going," Brey said. "All four of those guys need to be ready."

Against Seton Hall Saturday, Francis and Cornett controlled the glass and kept up with the Pirates' physical play. They

combined for 18 rebounds. Francis led the way with 10.

Brey said Irish guard Russell Carter — who is averaging 12.3 points per game during Notre Dame's three-game winning streak — will be key in helping out the bigger forwards on the boards for Notre Dame. Carter has helped on the defensive glass recently by boxing out large bodies.

Brey also complimented Carter Monday for his recent improvement. Brey said Carter is beginning to understand how to play the game of basketball, which compliments his overall ability.

"Now, when you learn how to play and then you've got the athletic ability and power and explosiveness that Carter has, then you start to see what we're seeing the last four or five games," Brey said. "And we certainly need it right now; he's a very confident young man."

Defending Gay will also be a challenge given the improvement he has made this season on the offensive end. Gay is averaging 16 points per game after averaging 11.8 last season. Brey said Gay is a concern when it comes to limiting second chance shots because of his ability to score off offensive rebounds.

"He's a great player. I mean, we're not going to spend a lot of time talking about Rudy Gay," Brey said. "He's a hell of a player."

"He's going to make plays because he's a very talented kid, and I think he plays with a beautiful demeanor."



Notre Dame forward Rob Kurz blocks a South Florida player's shot during a 62-55 Irish victory Feb. 15. GEOFF MATTESON/The Observer

Notes:

♦ Tuesday is Rudy Gay growth poster day at the Hartford Civic Center. Fans will receive a life-size poster of the explosive Huskies forward before the start of the game between Notre Dame

and Connecticut.

♦ The game will be televised locally on WAAT-South Bend. Check local listings for channel depending on cable/satellite service.

Contact Bobby Griffin at rgriffi3@nd.edu

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Testing the best

No. 3/4 Huskies are undefeated at home

By **BOBBY GRIFFIN**
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame did not want to look past Seton Hall Saturday to a looming game against the Connecticut Huskies (No. 3 AP/No. 4 coach's poll), but a match up with the team Irish coach Mike Brey calls the best in the country has now arrived — and the stakes couldn't be higher.

"In my opinion, they are the best team in the country and have the most weapons and the most bodies," Brey said at a press conference Monday in the Joyce Center. "And when

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GEOFF MATTESON/The Observer

Notre Dame guard Russell Carter drives to the hoop against South Florida in a 62-55 victory at the Joyce Center Feb. 15. The Irish travel to No. 3/4 Connecticut tonight.

FOOTBALL

'Bus' will switch to TV booth

Former ND star Bettis takes commentator job

By **KEN FOWLER**
Sports Writer

Former Irish running back and Super Bowl champion Jerome Bettis will trade in his cleats for a microphone next fall, as NBC announced the recently-retired Bettis will join the broadcast team on the network's upcoming studio show for Sunday night football games, "Football Night in America."



Bettis

"After retiring, I wondered what I was going to do on Sundays, but now I still have a place to go every Sunday night," Bettis said Monday in a statement released by NBC.

Bettis, known as "The Bus" to football fans for his hard-hitting running style and large body frame, will serve as an analyst on the show alongside veteran football hosts Bob Costas and Cris Collinsworth.

"Football Night" includes both the pre-game studio show and the NFL's Sunday night game, which will replace Monday Night Football in 2006 as the

see BETTIS/page 21

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles ride defense to MIAA Tournament



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Saint Mary's guard Allison Kessler dribbles upcourt in a 76-64 loss to Calvin Feb. 4. The Belles open the playoffs against Alma tonight.

By **TIM KAISER**
Sports Writer

No. 3-seed Saint Mary's will host No. 6-seed Alma tonight at 7:30 in the first round of the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) playoffs, marking the Belles' first-ever home playoff game since they began competing in the MIAA in 1997.

The Belles are excited to play at home, both because of the home-court advantage and their share in the program milestone. Under

first-year head coach Steve Bender, Saint Mary's has had its best season since it began conference play.

"[Our improvement thus far has been] huge," junior captain and starting point guard Bridget Lipke said. "It's a new thing for us. It's really exciting because I think we've worked really hard for it and we've really had a lot of fun this year."

"... [And] we've been getting a lot of fans this year, getting a lot of support. It's definitely a lot better playing at home rather than

see BELLES/page 21

FENCING

Fencers duel as individuals in Junior Olympics

Nott leads eight competitors participating in Connecticut meet

By **JACK THORNTON**
Sports Writer

While both the men's and women's fencing teams are hunting team national titles, eight Irish fencers competed for something unique this weekend — themselves.

The group from Notre Dame flew to Hartford, Conn. to fence in the Junior Olympics, which took place Friday through Monday. The annual

event brought together more than 1,600 fencers from around the country competing in Cadet (under-17) and Junior (under-20) divisions in foil, sabre and epee.

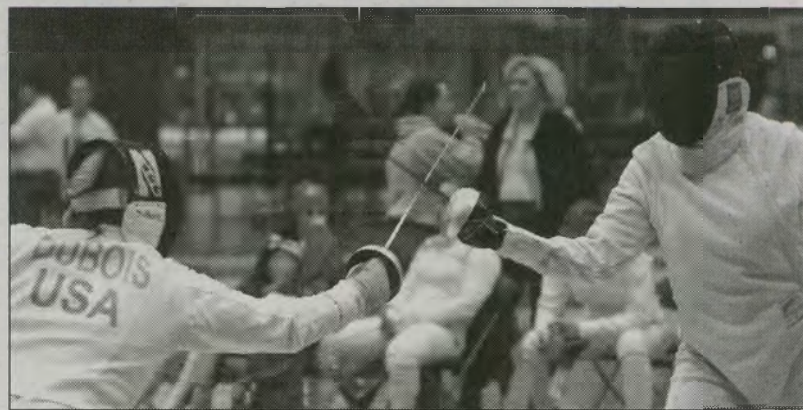
The Irish contingent included sophomores Rachel Cota and Tom Horton and freshmen Adrienne Nott, Emilie Prot, Mark Kubik, Alexander Grigorenko, Ashley Serrette and Kimberlee Montoya.

Nott led the way among her teammates, placing second

out of 204 competitors in the junior foil. Nott won all of her six pool bouts and then won six consecutive direct elimination bouts before falling in the final match to two-time World Cup Champion and Harvard fencer Emily Cross.

Though she was fencing for the title against someone she considers her idol, Nott wasn't caught relishing the moment.

see FENCING/page 21



KIRSTEN HOELMER/The Observer

Irish fencer Becca Chimahusky, right, competes in the epee event against Northwestern at the Notre Dame Duals Jan. 28.

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

CLUB SPORTS

Irish take division title at nationals

The Notre Dame squash team won the Emerging Teams Division in national competition this weekend.

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MLB

Bonds fails to report to training

The embattled star did not show up for the Giants' voluntary activities in Scottsdale, Ariz.

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WINTER OLYMPICS

United States 4 Finland 0

The American women claimed hockey's bronze medal with a dominant win.

page 19

NBA

Teams vie for playoff seeds

After the All-Star break, the focus will be on playoff seeding and the scoring title.

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MLB

Marlins open spring training

After their offseason fire sale, Florida's new staff of pitchers and catchers worked out for the first time.

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NCAA BASKETBALL

Syracuse 60 West Virginia 58

The Orange upset the No. 14 Mountaineers to support their NCAA Tournament bid.

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