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Impeachment hearing unprecedented

Tonight's ethics case first in Senate history; Morrissey senator questions punishment

By EILEEN DUFFY
Assistant News Editor

While Morrissey senator Greg Dworjan's impeachment is not the first decision of its kind for the Student Senate, impeachment due to ethical infractions — such as the two Dworjan committed — is unprecedented in the group's 38-year history.

Last year, when Stanford senator David Thaxton went abroad, the Senate was forced to officially impeach and remove him from office in his absence, simply to find a replacement.

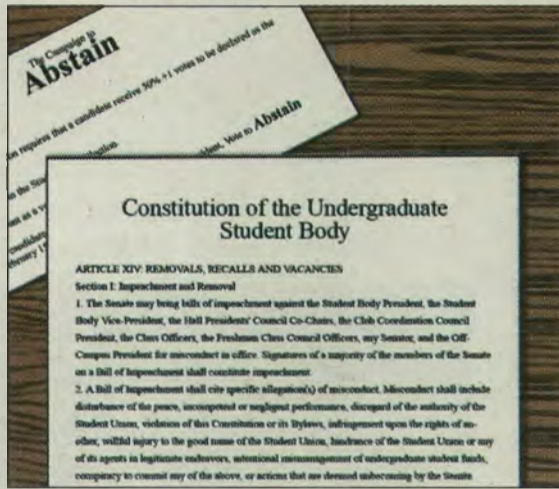
"That wasn't very contentious," said

student body vice president Bill Andrichik. "In fact, I'm pretty sure it was unanimous."

Dworjan's case, however — which will come before the Senate again tonight — has required a bit more thinking on student government's part.

The senator was found guilty of violating two articles in the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body. First, he used the LaFortune student government office's copy machine to make flyers urging voters to abstain in the runoff election — but the Constitution prohibits campaigning anywhere in LaFortune outside of the basement and

see IMPEACH/page 8



JEFF ALBERT/The Observer

Jenkins announces ND Forum

Immigration will be focus of fall event

By MADDIE HANNA
News Writer

This fall's Notre Dame Forum — the third installment of the now-annual event — will address the "pressing issue" of immigration, University President Father John Jenkins said Tuesday.

Notre Dame has yet to confirm speakers for the Sept. 26 event, Jenkins said in a phone conversation. He would not name any potential participants — last year's forum on global health brought in well-known figures like humanitarian Paul Farmer and economist Jeffrey Sachs — but said the topic had a "salient, immediate quality" in the U.S. and stressed its importance.

"[Immigration] is an issue that this nation must make decisions about in the coming months and coming year," he said.

Jenkins said he picked the topic after receiving "several" recommendations from a nine-person committee chaired by Executive Assistant to the President Frances Shavers. The Observer could not reach Shavers Tuesday.

The first factor in choosing a forum topic, Jenkins said, is finding material "accessible to undergraduates."

Secondly, the topic "should

see FORUM/page 4

Freshman competes on Jeopardy! show

By MARCELA BERRIOS
Assistant News Editor

Friends and classmates of freshman Courtney Smotherman gathered in LaFortune Student Center Tuesday to watch her compete in the nationally known trivia game Jeopardy!

Smotherman racked up \$10,400 throughout the program, answering questions about the objectives of the U.S. State Department in the United Nations, the Great Natchez Tornado of 1840 and the biography of novelist C.S. Lewis, among other topics.

She also knew "boombox" was slang for large musical boxes — and that earned her \$600 in the opening round.

Smotherman entered the

final Jeopardy! round in second place, but after she wagered \$5,600 and incorrectly said the most populous island on the planet was Japan's Hokkaido — not the Indonesian island of Java — she fell to third.

Her final earnings totaled \$1,000 — the stipulated award given to the third place finisher — which she said she used to buy new books earlier this semester, since Tuesday's Jeopardy! episode was taped this past January.

Smotherman said Jeopardy! producers contacted her in November after she performed well in an online exam conducted last March to screen potential contestants.

She auditioned in Chicago

see JEOPARDY/page 6



LORNA BATH/The Observer

Students gather around a television at LaFortune to watch freshman Courtney Smotherman compete on Jeopardy! Tuesday.

Bookstore Basketball approaches

Registration for the tournament ends Friday

By GENE NOONE
News Writer

With March Madness just around the corner, NCAA athletes are not the only ones gearing up for competition. Registration recently began for the world's largest five-on-five basketball tournament.

Bookstore Basketball, now in its 36th year at Notre Dame, will accept teams until Friday. The first round of the tournament will begin April 2.

So far nearly 60 teams comprised of students, faculty and staff members from Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross are scheduled to participate, head commissioner Jim Rogers said.

see GAMES/page 4

Biology professor to speak before House

Lodge will address Great Lakes problem

By ROHAN ANAND
News Writer

Biology professor David Lodge, director of the Notre Dame Center for Aquatic Conservation, is traveling to Washington, D.C. today to testify to the U.S. House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment on the impact of ship-borne invasive species in the Great Lakes.

Lodge, who has conducted research on aquatic ecosystems for the past 25 years, shifted his focus to damage caused by ships about seven

years ago. He currently leads a team of undergraduates and graduate students who assist him in these endeavors.

"I was contacted because

the research we do is relevant to thinking about how this problem could be managed better, and our research can inform the development of policy," Lodge said.

Additionally, keeping in contact with other scientists

see LODGE/page 8



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

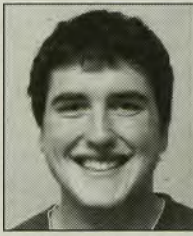
Junior Chris Devitt drives through the lane in the Bookstore Basketball Championships last year.

INSIDE COLUMN

Oosasasa, Oosasasa

...hit Siegfried in the head with a big Kielbasa.

With the largest population on campus, we Dillon men rarely get excited about much unless free food is involved, but showed up in droves to cheer on our undefeated hockey team. With more than 100 screaming fans — nine of whom braved the cold to support Stonewall on their chests — and a Big Red flag, Dillon showed up for its team. And it did not disappoint.



Jay Fitzpatrick

Sports Writer

With about one minute remaining in the first overtime period, Dillon defenseman Brian Fallon ripped a slapshot from the point in for a goal to give the Big Red a 2-1 win over Siegfried in the Interhall hockey championship.

Even though Fallon's heroics won the game, the goaltending of senior Joe "Stonewall" McKenna won our hearts. McKenna dominated opposing shooters all season with an approximate 97.598 save percentage while posting three shutouts this season in eight games this season.

Even though he is described by a teammate as very quiet, he made a lot of noise on the ice against the Ramblers with his pads, shutting down opponents to the delight of the Dillon cheering section.

Even though McKenna is the most visible player on the ice for Dillon, he would be nothing without his supporting cast. All of Dillon's team was crucial in the win on both the front and defensive lines.

After winning the trophy, the guys on the team decided to share it among themselves as a communal token of their perfect season. Each player will receive the opportunity to have the trophy at some point this semester to do with it as he wishes.

But directly after the game, Dillon captain Matthew Lodwich took the trophy to the place where few dare tread — his bedroom.

He slept with the trophy throughout the night, braving the sharp and pointy parts, because of its importance to Dillon.

A friend of mine on the team explained to me that after the game-winning goal, everyone on the team wanted to have Fallon's babies.

Trust me Paul — it was more than just the team.

I, sitting in the stands with the rest of the men of Dillon, erupted after Fallon's goal because it gave Big Red sports the one thing they needed after such a long line of mediocre sporting ventures — a winner.

Right now in the Dillon Hall display case sits a lonely bowling pin (I don't think anyone knows why) and other random awards from decades ago. But now we have something everyone can recognize and enjoy.

And so now I leave you with the triumphant words of my forefathers in Dillon Hall:

We are Dillon Hall, all the others suck. Dillon Hall! Dillon Hall! Rah, rah...

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

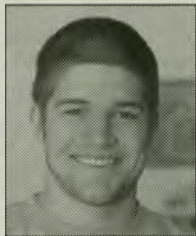
Due to a reporting error, the article "Student travel safety tops University priorities" in the March 6 edition of The Observer said Colleen Hipp was a sophomore and misstated the number of people on the bus. Hipp was a freshman when she died and there were 37 people on the bus. The Observer regrets this error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE OFF-CAMPUS RESTAURANT AND WHY?



Colleen Peabody
sophomore
Cavanaugh

"In the winter, anywhere that delivers."



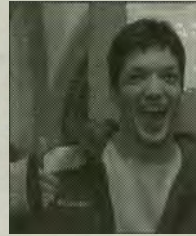
Bobby Polish
sophomore
Dillon

"Anywhere that serves baby seals."



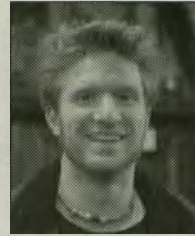
Kelsey Larson
sophomore
Pangborn

"Chipotle. There's nothing better."



Scott Andrews
freshman
Siegfried

"South Bend Chocolate Factory, because it only serves my favorite food."



Tim Anderson
sophomore
Siegfried

"Bruno's Pizza, because have you had their pizza? It's amazing."



Mike Mesterharm
sophomore
O'Neill

"The place that lets you throw pizza because they let you throw peanuts."



JENNIFER KANG/The Observer

Pillars members sophomore Mike Cikos, left, freshman Caitlin Fleming, center, and sophomore Lauren Cummings hand out BAC cards Tuesday. Pillars is a volunteer student organization sponsored by the Notre Dame Office of Alcohol and Drug Education.

OFFBEAT

Unzipped fly leads officers to pot stash

SHEBOYGAN, Wis. — Too bad nobody told him his fly was down. A 22-year-old man was arrested for drug possession after police found a marijuana pipe and drugs stashed in his underwear.

Police made the arrest after they found the man's car stuck in a ditch in the Town of Wilson. According to a criminal complaint, the man's pants were undone and officers asked if there was anything illegal in his clothing. They found a pipe and a small amount of marijuana.

The Sheboygan man was charged with misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, felony marijuana possession and operating a vehicle after having his license revoked, police said.

Man brandishing torch robs bank

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Authorities on Tuesday were looking for a man who robbed a bank in Anchorage while swinging a flaming torch fashioned from a burning T-shirt and a yard-long metal pole. On Monday, the masked robber threatened to set fire to people, including the teller,

and burn down the bank building in Fairview if his demands weren't met.

The man stormed the Alaska USA Federal Credit Union branch at about 3:45 p.m., said FBI spokesman Eric Gonzalez. He yelled at customers to get down on the floor.

He fled on foot with an undisclosed amount of money, authorities said. All customers managed to flee the bank, authorities said.

Police later recovered the still smoldering shirt outside the bank.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Angela Ndalianis, an associate professor of cinema studies at Melbourne University in Australia, will speak at 4 p.m. today in the Browning Cinema at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center on "Podcasts, Mobisodes, and the TV Experience."

David Solomon, Director of the Center for Ethics and Culture, will be speaking at today's Theology on Tap at 8:30 p.m. in Legends. The topic for the discussion is "Right to Full Life. Consistent Ethic of Life."

Dancer and fiddler Natalie MacMaster will perform in Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. Tickets are available at the box office.

The Angelus Film Series will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday in Browning Cinema. Films to be shown include: *The Trojan Cow*; *Kilroy Was Here*; *The Queen of Cactus Cove*; and *Silences*. The series is sponsored by the Center for Ethics and Culture.

The film "Pan's Labyrinth" will be shown Thursday at 10 p.m. in Browning Cinema in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

The CCHA Hockey Playoffs will be held in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse Friday at 7:35 p.m. The teams have yet to be announced. Tickets are available from the athletic department ticket office.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 31 LOW 21	HIGH 16 LOW 10	HIGH 33 LOW 24	HIGH 42 LOW 34	HIGH 43 LOW 30	HIGH 43 LOW 34

Atlanta 65 / 37 Boston 21 / 5 Chicago 24 / 14 Denver 58 / 30 Houston 69 / 37 Los Angeles 75 / 55 Minneapolis 22 / 7 New York 22 / 10 Philadelphia 27 / 17 Phoenix 81 / 52 Seattle 58 / 42 St. Louis 71 / 58 Tampa 70 / 45 Washington 36 / 22

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Group presents plan for \$650,000 endowment

By SONIA RAO
News Writer

Plans for a Student Union endowment containing nearly \$650,000 were presented to members of the Council of Representatives (COR) Tuesday night in LaFortune.

Student body president Lizzi Shappell said Student Senate drafted amendments that would allow for money from the carry forward account and revenues from The Shirt to be placed into an endowment used for student programming.

The carry forward account contains money leftover from various groups' funds, and The Shirt Project revenues are split equally between the Student Union Budget and The Shirt Charity Fund. The charity fund is expected to contain \$943,000 by the end of the term.

Under the policy changes, the carry forward account should never exceed \$100,000. Any amount of money over this cap will be invested in the Student Union endowment, Shappell said, which will produce "a very, very conservative estimate of \$20,000 in revenues that could be reallocated by FMB [Financial Management Board] each year."

In addition, the changes would place revenues from The Shirt exceeding \$300,000 in the Student Union endowment. Shappell said she felt this amendment would not

hurt The Shirt Charity Fund, which has almost \$1 million in funds.

The Student Union endowment would contain no less than \$650,000 at any time, so "we would only use the revenues generated from the endowment ... which are compounded quarterly," Shappell said.

The Financial Management Board will study the numbers to make sure they are reasonable, particularly concerning the amount of money generated by The Shirt.

"These numbers could change if FMB thinks it should," Student Union Board manager Patrick Vassel said.

Student body vice president Bill Andrichik said the Senate's Oversight committee would need to approve revised versions of the amendments and will meet the Monday after spring break to do so.

In other COR news:

♦ Junior Patrick Leimkuehler was approved as the successor to current Student Business Board manager Anna Sierra.

"Among 30 applicants, Patrick demonstrated to be the individual with the strongest aptitude to be the next Student Business Board administrator," Sierra said in a note to COR members.

Contact Sonia Rao at srao1@nd.edu

Mentor program begins

By KATIE PERALTA
News Writer

A group of grade-school children is a rare sight on any college campus, but not Tuesday afternoons at Notre Dame. The group of 20 children, each paired with a Notre Dame student, is part of the new Notre Dame chapter of College Mentors for Kids Program (CMK).

The program, which was established at Notre Dame last year by junior Stephanie Gargala, pairs a Notre Dame student mentor with a first through fourth grade "little buddy." Gargala, a pre-med biology major and president of Notre Dame's CMK chapter, took the initiative to start the club her freshman year after much planning, organizing and recruiting.

She got the ball rolling her sophomore year by calling the former CEO of College Mentors for Kids, Kelly Frank. Last year — its first on campus — the Notre Dame chapter of CMK hosted about 10 children. This year, it has grown to 20, and Gargala says she hopes participation will reach 30 next year.

The program is statewide, with 19 chapters currently in Indiana, she said. Among the universities that participate are

Indiana, Ball State and Purdue, which presently has 80 students.

College Mentors for Kids tries to expose children to college life to emphasize the importance of higher education. Each Tuesday, buses drive students from Holy Cross Grade School in South Bend to Notre Dame to participate in activities divided into three categories: culture and diversity, higher education and community service.

Kids can participate in activities like watching Irish step dancing, touring the law school and conducting a mock-trial, viewing the new planetarium at Jordan Hall, making "Welcome Home" signs for Habitat for Humanity and keeping journals about their experiences.

"It is important to stress that we are not tutoring the kids," Gargala said, "just exposing them to all a university has to offer."

Gargala said the group does not yet have official club status, but is working on acquiring it before next year.

Currently the program operates under Domers Mentoring Kids. This program is an umbrella for five mentorship groups on campus, including Our Lady's Helpers, Bandlink, SAINTS, Elston and College Mentors for Kids.

While the program aims

to spark children's interest in higher education, it is not limited to students whose parents did not go to college.

Exposing children to university life may have a positive effect. Several third graders, who are required to take the standardized ISTEP test, have shown improved scores in recent years following participation in the mentoring program, Gargala said.

In addition, 71 percent of teachers reported improved literacy skills as a result of their students participating in CMK, according to collegementors.org. Gargala said students also seem to have an overall greater interest in education as a result of their mentoring experience.

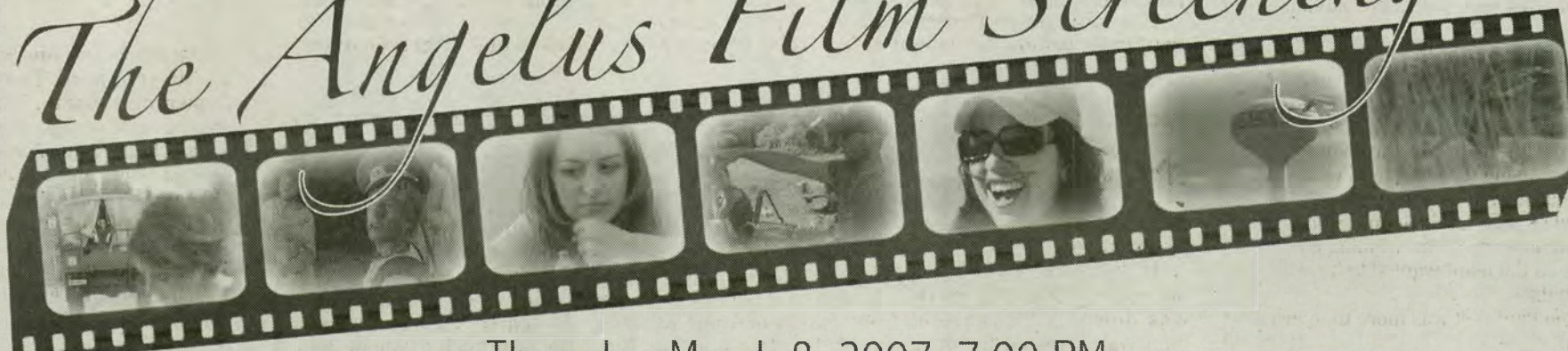
Gargala, whose duties include taking charge of the program's budget, transportation and communication, is proud of her new passion.

"Those two hours of my week [mentoring] are such a relief when I don't have to think about work or anything. It's so much fun. I even learned a lot about my school," she said.

Students interested in participating in College Mentors for Kids should visit the group's table at next year's Activities Night.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

The Angelus Film Screening



Thursday, March 8, 2007, 7:00 PM

Browning Cinema, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

A screening of four short, award-winning films produced, written, and directed by students. Following the screening, the directors will be present to answer questions. This is a FREE but ticketed event. Call the DPAC Ticket Office at 574.631.2800 to reserve tickets.

Family Theater Productions, of Hollywood, California, created the Angelus Awards in 1996 to showcase and award emerging filmmakers and encourage them to continue creating visionary projects that honor the fundamental dignity of the human person.

KILROY WAS HERE

Separately, they fought for different causes in the same war. Now together, they will forge a connection that transcends language and their cause will become one.

SILENCES

A 20 minute documentary that follows the filmmaker's journey to understand his mother's refusal to discuss the circumstances of his birth. With a silent mother, Octavio travels to San Francisco to find the one person who can complete his search for answers: his biological father...

THE QUEEN OF CACTUS COVE

Teenage chess champ Billie faces the prospect of defeat for the first time when she competes against her best friend at the biggest chess tournament of her career.

THE TROJAN COW

In 1973, two teenagers are illegally transported across the East German border inside a hollow cow. An unexpected love story blossoms in the midst of a dangerous situation. Inspired by true events.

Sponsored by the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture

For more information, please visit ethicscenter.nd.edu



Forum

continued from page 1

draw on the moral and religious framework of the Catholic university," he said.

The other goals were to find a subject that would be interdisciplinary and to "make perhaps some contribution to national and Church debate," Jenkins said.

The first Notre Dame Forum took place in September 2005, an initiative directed by Jenkins that coincided with his inauguration. The focus was the role of faith in the modern world, and while last fall's forum examined the global health care crisis, centering this September's conversation on immigration doesn't represent a deliberate bent toward international issues, Jenkins said.

"I don't think that was a conscious decision," he said, explaining that in addition to the worldwide immigration debate, the issue "has a particular character in this country."

Jenkins said he was not prepared to address any potential changes to the structure of the forum, which, for the past two years, has featured

several national or international experts alongside selected members of the Notre Dame community. Both forums employed a star moderator as well — 2005's event drew former NBC News anchor Tom Brokaw, while the 2006 edition featured Gwen Ifill from "Washington Week" and "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer."

"I think [the level of interest] has been good," Jenkins said. "Obviously, we always want to improve it."

While last September's forum on global health led to the University's partnership with the UN Millennium Project — an initiative led by Sachs that pairs donors and organizations with African villages to work collaboratively on development goals — Jenkins said he did not choose the topic of immigration with any extra University commitment in mind.

"We don't have specific plans for any follow-up action, but last year we had no specific plans either," said Jenkins, who called Notre Dame's current involvement with a village in Uganda a "fortunate coincidence."

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna@nd.edu

Games

continued from page 1

Rogers said the tournament's goal is to have 700 teams participate. Last year's tournament saw 580 teams compete for the championship title, which went to "U Got a Bad Draw," a squad that featured Notre Dame football stars Brady Quinn and Chinedum Ndukwe.

"Last year's competition was really fierce," junior Kevin Gleason said. His team, "Never Nudes," was eliminated in the seventh round with 128 teams remaining.

While some teams compete for a love of the game, others like Gleason's take it more seriously, with hopes of playing in the finals.

"Our goal this year is the championship," Gleason said. "We've been practicing some screens and doing some penetration drills to get ready for this year's tournament."

The month-long event consists of two tournaments, the open and the women's. The open tournament ranks the top 32 teams and puts the other teams into the bracket randomly. Teams play games up to 21 baskets with all baskets counting as one point. All teams vie for a chance to play in the championship game held on April 29.

The tournament is open to all students, including varsity athletes. There are rules, however, on team composition. Only one Division I basketball player can be on a team and only one Division II or Division III participant can be on the team in addition to the Division I player. Also, only three football players

can be on the same team, and only one varsity basketball player and varsity football player can be on the same team.

The entry fee is \$25 per team. All proceeds go to the Jumpball Program, which began in 1995 when members of the Notre Dame Alumni Club of Jamaica saw the need for more youth development programs in the country's capital, Kingston.

Because basketball is a flourishing sport in Jamaica and is available to players of all socioeconomic levels, Bookstore coordinators thought it was a good way to teach Jamaica's youth important values.

"We donate all proceeds to Jumpball and hope to send several Bookstore Basketball staff members to Jamaica to help run the basketball clinic there this summer," Rogers said.

The four-day clinic is the highlight of the Jumpball program. It brings U.S. collegiate coaches together with nearly 200 boys and girls to teach not only basketball fundamentals but also self-esteem, dedication and teamwork.

"The Bookstore Basketball Tournament is one of the best traditions here at Notre Dame," Rogers said. "With so many participants, it truly demonstrates the sense of community we all enjoy on this campus. Whether you are part of a competitive team or not, it is a great experience and also raises money for a great cause."

For more information on the tournament, including updated brackets, rules and registration information, visit <http://nd.edu/~bkstr>.

Contact Gene Noone at enoone@nd.edu

Upward Bound to host conference

By EMILY KEEBLER
News Writer

Notre Dame's Upward Bound program will host its fifth annual TRIO Day conference Saturday, helping low-income and first-generation students and their parents get ready for college with presentations in McKenna Hall.

The Upward Bound College Preparatory Program is a U.S. Department of Education initiative that provides high school students with resources and skills for success in high school and higher education. Since 1966, the federal government has funded Notre Dame's Upward Bound program, making it one of the oldest in the country.

The program is hosting "TRIO Scholars Embracing the Future" to celebrate TRIO Day, a national day of recognition for program participants. Former Indiana Sen. Cleo Washington will deliver the keynote address.

Washington currently practices law in Indianapolis and is an alumnus of the Notre Dame Upward Bound program.

"Usually what we try to do is bring in speakers who have similar backgrounds to the students and have been successful," Upward Bound Director Alyssia Coates said of

the speaker choice.

Other program alumni, including Anthony Douglass of Key Bank and Damon Howell, an admissions officer at Wabash College, will make presentations.

Five student leaders — sophomores — juniors and seniors from South Bend's John Adams, Clay, Washington and James Whitcomb Riley public high schools — played an integral part in planning the

conference.

"I am a true believer in applying what students learn to real-life experiences," Coates said. "In this case, students experience a [regional leadership] conference, learn from that conference, and come back and help us plan our own conference."

The students chose the conference theme, planned meals, designed T-shirts and nametags and selected awards that other students will receive.

"It gives them firsthand experience on how a conference is set up and planned," Coates said, adding that

exposing high school students to conferences teaches them important networking skills.

The five student leaders also designed presentations focusing on diversity and life choices. They will present their findings to peers from Notre Dame Upward Bound as well as youths in programs at Purdue University Calumet, the Robinson Community Learning Center and Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.

Parents will also attend the leadership conference.

"The reason parental involvement is so important is that often times parents and students don't have time to do things together," Coates said. "It's a great opportunity to have the two entities together and to learn."

Many of the students' parents are adult learners, Coates said, so their presence at the conference will help them as well as their children.

Presentation themes range from "Information Literacy Tools: Beyond Google" to "Financial Pitfalls to Avoid in College" and "College Sports: Going for the Extra Point."

Contact Emily Keebler at ekeebler@nd.edu

"I am a true believer in applying what students learn to real-life experiences."

Alyssia Coates
Upward Bound director

"The reason parental involvement is so important is that often times parents and students don't have time to do things together."

Alyssia Coates
Upward Bound director

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WORLD & NATION

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Street fighting greets peacekeepers

MOGADISHU, Somalia — The first peacekeepers to arrive in Somalia's capital in more than 10 years were met with a surge of violence Tuesday, as mortar rounds hit the airport during a welcoming ceremony and a deadly gunbattle broke out on the city's crumbling streets.

The street battles involving masked gunmen killed three people and mortar rounds wounded one, all of them civilians, witnesses and police said. The violence is the latest example of the volatility peacekeepers face in a country that has seen little more than anarchy for years, and where the government backed by Ethiopian troops toppled an Islamic militia only months ago.

The bloodshed came as about 400 Ugandan peacekeepers arrived in the capital to protect the Somali government and to allow for the withdrawal of troops from neighboring Ethiopia, which helped the administration topple a radical Islamic militia that controlled much of southern Somalia for six months.

Earthquake kills 70, destroys homes

SOLOK, Indonesia — A powerful earthquake jolted western Indonesia on Tuesday, killing at least 70 people and injuring hundreds as they fled shaking hotels, homes and hospitals. Two children were crushed by debris on a playground.

The 6.3-magnitude quake struck Sumatra island just before 11 a.m. and was felt as far away as neighboring Malaysia and Singapore, where some tall buildings were evacuated. Several aftershocks followed, the strongest measuring 6.1, adding to fears of people already too nervous to return indoors.

Many said they would sleep in front of their homes or in the hills Tuesday night.

NATIONAL NEWS

Democrats attack Walter Reed, war

WASHINGTON — Democrats are using the uproar over Walter Reed Army Medical Center as their latest cudgel to batter President Bush for his Iraq war policies as the administration shows signs it fears political damage from the revelations.

Reports of patient neglect and shoddy outpatient rooms at the hospital have brought Army brass to Capitol Hill to explain and apologize. Bush's handling of the war has been widely unpopular with voters, and reports about Walter Reed come on the heels of his decision to send more troops to Iraq — which has also met a negative response from the public.

Bush touts success from Iraq surge

WASHINGTON — President Bush said Tuesday his decision to send more troops to Baghdad is yielding "gradual but important" progress in Iraq. He portrayed himself as steadfast while Democrats squabble over strategy.

War-weary voters put Democrats in charge of Congress, but lawmakers have not decided how or whether to restrict Bush on Iraq through legislation. Bush seized on that divide and cautioned Democrats not to interfere with military missions.

LOCAL NEWS

Man crashes plane, kills daughter

BEDFORD — The man whose small plane slammed into his former mother-in-law's house, killing him and his 8-year-old daughter, had told his ex-wife before the crash he had the girl "and you're not going to get her," the mother-in-law said Tuesday.

Eric Johnson, a student pilot who had soloed before, strapped daughter Emily into the passenger seat of a leased, single-engine Cessna on Monday morning. Less than two hours later, officials said, the plane smashed into the home of Vivian Pace, the girl's grandmother.

Pace told reporters outside her damaged home Tuesday that Johnson called her daughter, Beth Johnson, by cell phone shortly before the crash.

Libby guilty of perjury, obstruction

Former chief of staff to Cheney highest-ranking official convicted since Iran-Contra

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Once the closest adviser to Vice President Dick Cheney, I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby was convicted Tuesday of lying and obstructing a leak investigation that shook the top levels of the Bush administration.

He is the highest-ranking White House official convicted in a government scandal since National Security Adviser John Poindexter in the Iran-Contra affair two decades ago.

In the end, jurors said they did not believe Libby's main defense: that he hadn't lied but merely had a bad memory.

The CIA leak case focused new attention on the Bush administration's much-criticized handling of intelligence reports about weapons of mass destruction in the run-up to the Iraq war. The case cost Cheney his most trusted adviser, and the trial revealed Cheney's personal obsession with criticism of the war's justification.

Trial testimony made clear that President Bush secretly declassified a portion of the prewar intelligence estimate that Cheney quietly sent Libby to leak to Judith Miller of The New York Times in 2003 to rebut criticism by ex-ambassador Joseph Wilson. Bush, Cheney and Libby were the only three people in the government aware of the effort.

More top reporters were ordered into court — including Miller after 85 days of resistance in jail — to testify about their confidential sources among the nation's highest-ranking officials than in any other trial in recent memory.

Special Prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald said the verdict closed the nearly four-year investigation into how the name of Wilson's wife, Valerie Plame, and her classified job at the CIA were leaked to reporters in 2003 — just days after Wilson publicly accused the admin-



Former White House aide I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby and his wife, Harriet Grant, leave federal court in Washington Tuesday after the jury reached its verdict in his perjury

istration of doctoring prewar intelligence. No one will be charged with the leak itself, which the trial confirmed came first from then-Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage.

"The results are actually sad," Fitzgerald told reporters after the verdict. "It's sad that we had a situation where a high-level official person who worked in the office of the vice president obstructed justice and lied under oath. We wish that it had not happened, but it did."

One juror, former Washington Post reporter Denis Collins, said the jury did not believe Libby's main defense: that he never lied but just had a faulty memory. Juror Jeff Comer agreed.

Collins said the jurors spent a week charting the testimony and evidence on

34 poster-size pages. "There were good managerial type people on this jury who took everything apart and put it in the right place," Collins said. "After that, it wasn't a matter of opinion. It was just there."

Libby, not only Cheney's chief of staff but also an assistant to Bush, was expressionless as the verdict was announced on the 10th day of deliberations. In the front row, his wife, Harriet Grant, choked out a sob and her head sank.

Libby could face up to 25 years in prison when sentenced June 5, but federal sentencing guidelines will probably prescribe far less, perhaps one to three years. Defense attorneys said they would ask for a retrial and if that fails, appeal the conviction.

"We have every confi-

dence Mr. Libby ultimately will be vindicated," defense attorney Theodore Wells told reporters. He said that Libby was "totally innocent and that he did not do anything wrong."

Libby did not speak to reporters.

The president watched news of the verdict on television at the White House. Deputy press secretary Dana Perino said Bush respected the jury's verdict but "was saddened for Scooter Libby and his family."

In a written statement, Cheney called the verdict disappointing and said he was saddened for Libby and his family, too. "As I have said before, Scooter has served our nation tirelessly and with great distinction through many years of public service."

NATO attacks Taliban stronghold

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — In its largest offensive yet, thousands of NATO troops moved Tuesday into the mountains of southern Afghanistan where hundreds of hardcore Taliban insurgents hold sway — an operation in the world's biggest opium-producing region aimed at winning over a population long supportive of militant fighters.

Comprising 4,500 NATO and 1,000 Afghan troops, Operation Achilles marks the start of NATO's major spring military action, said Col. Tom Collins, spokesman for NATO's

International Security Assistance Force.

NATO hopes it can establish security among a population now harboring Taliban militants, foreign fighters and drug traffickers, and rid the region of its shadow Taliban government. That would allow President Hamid Karzai's administration to make its first move into a lawless region overflowing with the poppies funding the Taliban insurgency.

"What you are going to see in the coming weeks is the enemy reacting to the strategic initiative of the government of Afghanistan and the (NATO) forces it's partnered with," Collins said. "It is us moving into

(Taliban) areas, not the other way around."

The offensive is NATO's largest-ever in the country. But it involves only half the number of soldiers that fought in a U.S. offensive in the same region just nine months ago, when some 11,000 U.S.-led troops attacked fighters in northern Helmand province during Operation Mountain Thrust.

Although 1,500 U.S. troops along with British, Canadian and Dutch soldiers were returning to the region, the situation was "fundamentally different" this year, and NATO had a much better opportunity to establish a permanent presence because more troops were in the country.

Jeopardy

continued from page 1

before receiving an invitation to compete in California.

Though the television network did not cover Smotherman's airfare, it arranged a reduced hotel rate for her and her mother in Los Angeles, where they met Jeopardy! host Alex Trebek.

"He's really funny," Smotherman said. "He's got a dry sense of humor, and you can tell he's a dad because he talks a lot about his son and his daughter."

During Trebek's on-air interview segment with the contestants, he asked Smotherman about her involvement with her high school aerospace science club, where she helped build a rocket that flew 799 feet in 44.6 seconds.

Besides this experience and her involvement in Notre Dame's Academic Competition

Club, Smotherman prepared for Jeopardy! by reading trivia magazines.

"I'm a fan of Mental Floss, the trivia magazine, so I read some back issues," she said. "And of course I also watched the show every night leading up to my appearance."

Her family traditionally serves dinner at 7:30 p.m. to watch the program, and in middle school, Smotherman said, she frequently delivered answers in the form of questions at her quiz bowl competitions.

With years of practice and anticipation under her belt, she ringed in an assortment of trivia categories Tuesday, including "At the movies," "It's all academic" and "Spanish places in the U.S."

"It was a lot of fun for me," Smotherman said. "It was a great experience being in L.A. and meeting Alex [Trebek] while everybody else was at school here."

"It was a lot of fun for me. It was a great experience being in L.A. and meeting Alex [Trebek] while everybody else was at school here."

**Courtney Smotherman
freshman
Jeopardy! contestant**

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu

INDONESIA

Jetliner catches fire in landing

Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia — A jetliner carrying more than 130 passengers and crew caught fire Wednesday as it landed on Indonesia's Java island, trapping a number of people inside the burning plane, the airline and witnesses said. Officials reported at least eight deaths.

Some passengers escaped and rescuers battled flames to reach those still on the Boeing 737-400, said Capt. Ari Sapari, operations director of national carrier Garuda.

Fire fighters put out the blaze after two hours. Sapari did not say how many people were trapped or provide a number on survivors.

"I saw at least eight corpses piled up at the front of the plane," said Capt. Yos Biantoro, who witnessed the fire at Yogyakarta airport in central Java.

Several passengers told local media that there were many survivors. Metro TV reported that a nearby hospital was treating around 60 injured.

"It caught alight when it landed," said Sapari. He didn't provide any other details. The cause of the accident was unclear, but at least one passenger said the jetliner had overshot the runway.

BBC World television carried footage of raging flames poking through several windows of the passenger compart-



Indonesian Air Force personnel inspect the wreckage of a Garuda jetliner Wednesday. At least 8 people died.

ment. Witnesses said the aircraft had been gutted.

Metro TV said that 133 people were listed on the plane's manifest.

Among the passengers were Australian journalists and diplomatic staff who were in Indonesia in connection with a visit by Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer, said Australian Treasurer Peter Costello in Canberra. The foreign minister was not on the plane.

"There appears to have been a significant loss of life," said Australian Prime Minister John Howard. "There were up to 10 Australians on board and not all of those have been accounted for."

One passenger who survived

told local TV station RCTI TV that "before landing I felt the plane shake strongly."

"We overshot the runway, then I heard the sound of an explosion and ran through an emergency exit," continued passenger Muhammad Dimiyati. "I believe many passengers remained trapped on board."

Another passenger described smoke in the passenger compartment.

"Suddenly there was smoke inside the fuselage," said Dien Syamsudin, a local Islamic leader. "It hit the runway and then it landed in a rice field. ... I saw a foreigner. His clothes were on fire and I jumped from the emergency exit. Thank God I survived."

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks		
Dow Jones	12,207.59	+157.18

Up: 2,729 Same: 109 Down: 566 Composite Volume: 3,338,701,805

AMEX	2,081.01	+25.10
NASDAQ	2,385.14	+44.46
NYSE	9,006.01	+168.04
S&P 500	1,395.41	+21.29
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	16,829.18	-15.32
FTSE 100(London)	6,138.50	+79.80

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 100 TR (QQQQ)	+1.66	+0.70	42.85
ISHARE RUS 2000 (IWM)	+2.53	+1.90	77.07
INTEL CP (INTC)	+1.52	+0.29	19.40
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	+1.71	+2.35	139.70

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+0.22	+0.010	4.528
13-WEEK BILL	-0.30	-0.015	4.975
30-YEAR BOND	+0.02	+0.001	4.655
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.43	+0.019	4.478

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.62	60.69
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+7.00	646.20
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.63	104.58

Exchange Rates	
YEN	116.3950
EURO	0.7618
POUND	0.5181
CANADIAN \$	1.1762

IN BRIEF

Wall Street rebounds, Dow up 150

NEW YORK — Wall Street rebounded Tuesday as investors were encouraged by a recovery on world markets and moved to recoup some of the big losses suffered in last week's sharp pullback. The Dow Jones industrials rose more than 150 points.

Investors came off the sidelines to buy stocks that have languished in five turbulent sessions. The Dow made back about 26 percent of the ground it lost over the past week, and scored its highest one-day point gain since July 24.

Despite the rebound, questions remained about whether the correction that has swept around the globe has truly run its course. U.S. investors were still contending with fundamental economic issues, including a weaker than expected reading on fourth-quarter productivity and the dollar's vulnerability against the yen.

The advance Tuesday treated Wall Street traders to what had become a rare sight—the color green splashed across their computer screens that show stock prices, instead of last week's red. But, after being knocked about by erratic market shifts in recent sessions, there was still a sense this might not be the recovery everyone is waiting for.

Thousands of defibrillators recalled

WASHINGTON — A serious software problem with two models of automatic external defibrillators has led their manufacturer to recall thousands of the devices distributed worldwide.

Defibtech LLC said problems with the software in its Lifeline AED and Reviver AED models may fail to flag a previously detected low battery during some tests. If that occurs and the battery is indeed drained, the device may not be able to deliver the defibrillation shock needed to restart a person's heart.

"This doesn't become apparent until the battery gets low for some reason," company president Gintaras Vaisnys said. "Given every battery will get low someday, this is an issue."

The Guilford, Conn. company said it was recalling 42,000 of the devices, now in use in schools, fire stations, health clubs and hotels worldwide. It notified its distributors and customers by letter on Feb. 22 of the recall, prompted by three reports of cases where the devices failed to work. Vaisnys could not provide details.

Bernanke: Regulation necessary

Chairman urges Congress to limit debt of loan buyers Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke urged Congress on Tuesday to bolster regulation of mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and suggested limiting their massive holdings to guard against any danger their debt poses to the overall economy.

Bernanke has previously supported efforts to pare the two mortgage companies' huge portfolios. This time, however, he was a bit more specific and recommended that their holdings might be linked to a "measurable public purpose, such as the promotion of affordable housing."

The Fed chief's suggestion was contained in remarks delivered via satellite to a bankers meeting in Hawaii.

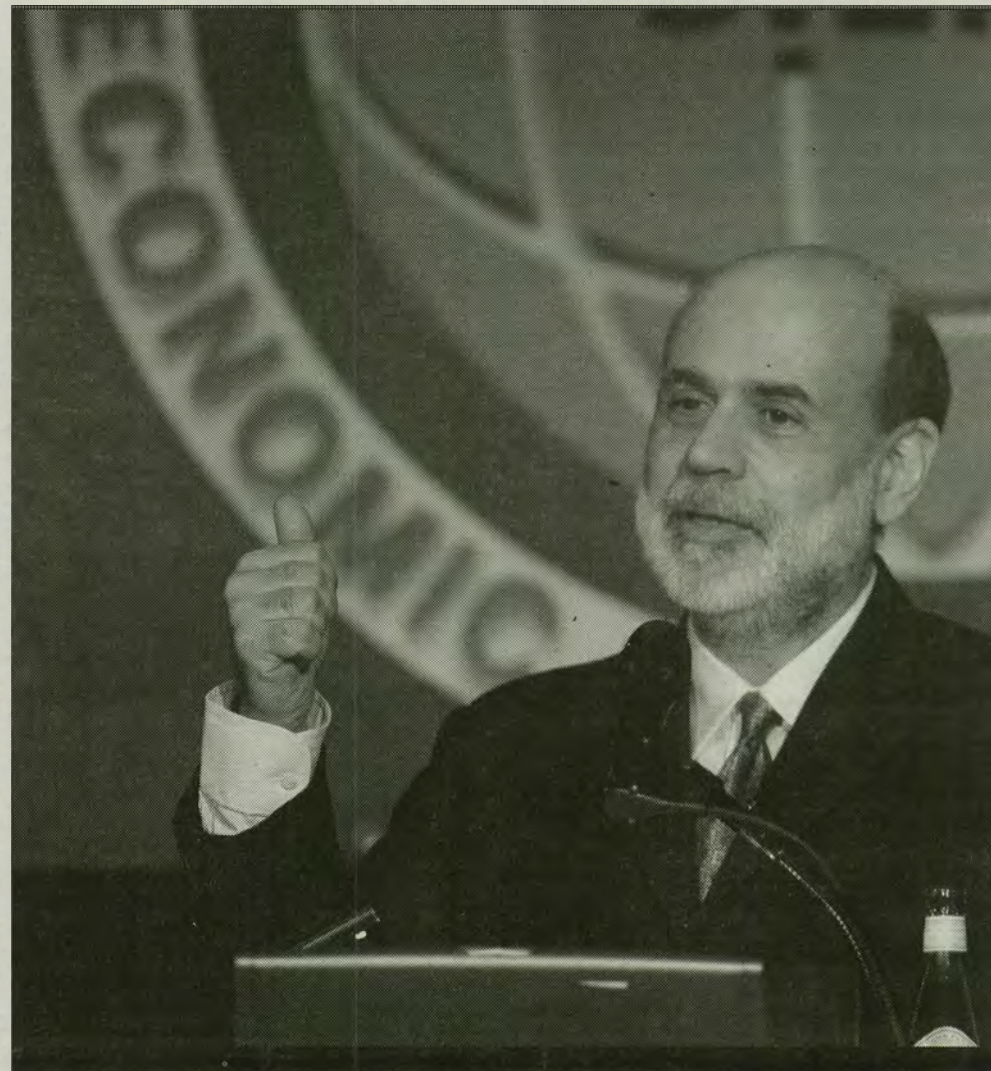
His remarks come as worries about risky mortgages are making investors jittery. Those fears contributed to last week's worldwide stock meltdown, where the Dow Jones industrials suffered a gut-wrenching 416-point plunge. Wall Street on Tuesday staged a rebound, gaining more than 150 points.

Lenders to subprime borrowers — people with blemished credit histories — have been battered. Rising interest rates and weak home prices have made it increasingly difficult for these borrowers — especially those with adjustable-rate mortgages — to keep up with their mortgage payments. Delinquencies and foreclosures in the subprime mortgage market are spiking.

Against this backdrop, Bernanke said he wanted to be clear that by suggesting the change in Fannie Mae's and Freddie Mac's portfolio holdings, he was not advocating a change in the exposure of the mortgage giants' subprime loans.

Last week, Freddie Mac announced that it would no longer buy certain risky, subprime mortgages.

Fannie Mae is the No. 1 U.S. buyer of home mort-



Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board Ben Bernanke speaks at Stanford University Friday, March 2. He called for the stricter regulation of mortgage firms Tuesday before Congress.

gages; its rival, Freddie Mac, ranks as the second-largest buyer.

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac — also referred to as government-sponsored enterprises, or GSEs — were created by Congress to inject money into the mortgage market by buying home loans from banks and other lenders. They bundle the mortgages into securities for sale on Wall Street. Both companies have been scarred by accounting scandals.

On Capitol Hill, various efforts over the past several years to tighten the government's reins on Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have ultimately languished. With Democrats in control of Congress, renewed efforts

are expected to be forged.

"Legislation to strengthen the regulation and supervision of GSEs is highly desirable, both to ensure that these companies pose fewer risks to the financial system and to direct them toward activities that provide important social benefits," Bernanke told the banking gathering.

He said the Fed would like to see legislation passed this year.

Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, is proposing legislation that would give the regulator of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac the discretion to limit or reduce the two mortgage companies' holdings.

Sen. Richard Shelby of

Alabama, the top-ranking Republican on the Senate Banking Committee, said he shares many of Bernanke's concerns. "We should pay close attention to the issues he has identified," Shelby said.

Fannie Mae's and Freddie Mac's combined portfolios from the end of 1990 until the end of 2003 have grown more than tenfold — to \$1.56 trillion, Bernanke said. Besides buying mortgage-backed securities, the mortgage giants purchase other types of assets for their own investment portfolios, Bernanke said.

Yet, less than 30 percent of their current portfolio holdings are oriented toward affordable housing, Bernanke said.

Economy growth slow, inflation high

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The economy is still caught between slowing growth and stubborn inflation pressures, new government reports showed Tuesday.

Labor costs, boosted by bonuses to high-income workers, soared at the end of last year, raising inflation worries, while factory orders plunged in January by the biggest amount in 6 1/2 years.

The reports, analysts said, highlighted the difficulties the Federal Reserve faces as it is confronted by the opposing forces of slowing growth and rising inflation.

The Labor Department reported that productivity, the amount of output per

hour of work, rose at an annual rate of 1.6 percent in the October-December period last year, just about half of the original estimate.

But the cost of the labor needed to produce each unit of output soared by 6.6 percent, far higher than the 1.7 percent initial estimate and well above the 3.2 percent increase Wall Street was expecting.

The worry is that the combination of lower productivity and higher wages would make inflation worse and keep the Fed from cutting interest rates even though certain sectors of the economy such as housing and manufacturing have been hard-hit by the current economic slowdown.

The Commerce Department reported that factory orders dropped by 5.6 percent in January, the biggest decline since July 2000, when the economy was slowing sharply in advance of an actual recession that began in 2001.

The government said orders for big-ticket durable goods plunged by 8.7 percent, even bigger than the 7.8 percent drop originally reported a week ago. That initial report had jolted investors and contributed to last week's 416-point one-day drop in the Dow Jones industrial averages.

Wall Street, however, took the new reports in stride. Stocks rebounded as investors were encouraged by a recovery on world markets.

Lodge

continued from page 1

and policymakers from the Environmental Protection Agency as well as the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) has helped put Lodge's studies on the map.

Lodge's trip to the nation's capital puts a spotlight on one of the major projects he and his students have led concerning organism transportation. Many ships bring organisms from other parts of the world to the Great Lakes. As part of the practice, the ships take out vast volumes, or ballasts, of water to maintain the appropriate stability in the water for these organisms to travel safely.

"However, there is a major side effect," Lodge said. "During the extraction process, millions of organisms are taken to places where they've never been before, and this can cause problems for many species in the Great Lakes. It's a procedure called 'invasion.'"

One of the best known examples of an organism that has inflicted severe damage in the Great Lakes region has been the zebra mussel, whose

original habitat is located in the Black Sea. The zebra mussel causes at least \$150 million worth of industrial damage in the Great Lakes region annually.

"The mussels which clogged up pipes caused the shutdown of the Detroit Edison Plant, and this toll doesn't include damage to fishing and native biodiversity," Lodge said.

"I hope that we'll convince the committee that this is a problem that requires additional regulatory action."

David Lodge
biological sciences professor

Zebra mussels also stimulate the proliferation of clostridium botulinum, the bacterium responsible for botulism toxin, which is a natural poison produced by this bacteria that could hinder muscle movement and breathing.

With these dangerous health effects and the economic damage incurred by invasions, Lodge hopes to bring attention to the committee before he returns to Notre Dame.

"I hope that we'll convince the committee that this is a problem that requires additional regulatory action," he said. "And that Congress will pass a new law that will require ships to treat their ballast water."

Contact Rohan Anand at ranand@nd.edu

Impeach

continued from page 1

first floor.

Second, he posted the flyers without the required stamps of approval from the Office of Student Activities and the Judicial Council.

But when Andrichik discovered the incriminating flyers next to the copy machine and again stumbled upon them in the Hesburgh Library, he had no idea who had broken the rules.

When he brought these allegations to the Executive Committee of the Judicial Council, the group determined they were not actual election violations — but that it was clear, from the presence of campaign materials in the student government office, that unethical behavior was going on. At that point, Dworjan came forward to accept responsibility, and the case was sent to the Student Union Ethics Committee.

Dealing with the case has been a foray into uncharted waters for student government — Observer archives show no history of a senator being impeached for an ethical infraction. "This is the first type of impeachment hearing procedure I've seen," said Director of Student Activities Brian Coughlin, who has been at his post for six years.

What's more, the Ethics Committee's main purpose is usually to select a member of the Student Union to receive the Michael J. Palumbo award for service and dedication to the Student Union. As Kozlow said, "We rarely ever have hearings."

Still, it was decided Andrichik and Dworjan would present their cases before the

Ethics Committee, which they did last Tuesday. The Committee then voted 7-1 that Dworjan's use of student government resources was a violation of ethics and decided in a vote of 4-3-1 to recommend the Senate impeach Dworjan. As a testament to the newness of the event, Kozlow drafted a Bill of Impeachment.

A majority of the Senate signed that bill last Wednesday, officially impeaching Dworjan.

"A lot of people didn't know abstaining was an option that still counted as a vote. It was more an educational thing than out of spite — I didn't dislike any of the candidates personally," Dworjan said of his actions. "I didn't hide the fact that I made the posters."

Dworjan also said that while he was familiar with most aspects of the Constitution, he probably hadn't read the entire 59-page document "cover to cover." He said he figured the part about getting certain approval to post flyers would never pertain to him.

"But every senator, at the beginning of [his] term, swore an oath to uphold that Constitution," Andrichik said. "So ... it's probably a good idea for life in general, if you're going to swear an oath to uphold something, to be fairly familiar with the document."

Tonight, Dworjan faces removal from office — a verdict that requires the support of two-thirds of the Senate's voting membership (that is, dorm senators and one off-campus senator).

"I think the question is whether or not the violation warrants the punishment. I'm taking part in the democratic process by helping educate voters about their options, and I might get kicked out of Senate for that?" Dworjan

said. "That's like having a \$100 punishment for a two dollar crime."

"It just doesn't make a lot of sense."

In the speech he gave before the Senate last Wednesday, Dworjan lamented the group's inability to enact significant change — a concern that's persisted through Notre Dame history.

In fact, in 1972, three years after its establishment, the Student Senate was abolished because it was considered ineffective. It was reinstated in 1981, but in 1985, then-student body president Bill Healy, his vice president Duane Lawrence and other student leaders again made a push to disband the Student Senate.

"Student Senate doesn't do anything," Lee Broussard, manager of the Student Activities Board — the former Student Union Board — told The Observer in an Oct. 15, 1985 article. "A bunch of people debate things and they don't accomplish anything."

The 1985 proposal ultimately failed — but concerns about the Senate's role in student government remain.

On Wednesday, Dworjan criticized the "overly specific" provisions of their Constitution, calling for a complete re-drafting of the document and proposing the creation of student government laws. He also asked Senate members not to sanction those who celebrate the democratic process.

"In this Senate, which is sometimes criticized for doing so little, I hope that our contribution to the Senate is that we may again find the voice of the people in this body," he said. "I invite all of you to join in the search for that voice."

Contact Eileen Duffy at eduffy1@nd.edu

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MEXICAN GRILL

MAIN & DOUGLAS

ACLU lawsuits allege child abuse at center

Associated Press

DALLAS — Civil liberties and immigration advocates sued federal officials Tuesday on behalf of children confined to a former Texas prison-turned-center for immigrant families awaiting possible deportation.

The federal lawsuits, announced by the American Civil Liberties Union in Austin, focus on children held at the T. Don Hutto facility, a former prison in Taylor.

Critics say the center inhumanely houses adults and young children in jail-like conditions. Families held at the center have complained of weight loss, subpar schooling, long waits for medical care and threats of separating children from parents. The Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services have demanded its immediate closure.

"There is simply no justification for imprisoning innocent children who pose no threat to anyone," said Vanita Gupta, an attorney with the ACLU's Racial Justice Program.

About half of the approximately 400 people held at Hutto are children, officials said. None of the children or adults there have criminal records. Many were sent there after seeking asylum in the United States and will face waits of more than 200 days.

A spokesman for U.S. Immigration and Customs

Enforcement declined to comment on the lawsuit but in a statement described the facility as a way "to humanely accommodate" the families.

Officials are working with the women's commission and the Lutheran group, among others, to "identify family-specific detention standards," the statement said.

In court documents, Bahja Ibrahim, a 9-year-old Somali girl, in the facility since November described the conditions as difficult. She said, "It is hard to be in here because no toys no good food no clean clothes. Everything is bad here."

The 512-bed former state prison is operated by Corrections Corporation of America under a contract with Williamson County.

Immigration officials have described Hutto as a residential, nonsecure environment that keeps families together while they seek asylum, await deportation or seek other outcomes to their immigration cases.

Officials say the facility is meant to end the "catch and release" practice that in the past permitted families in the U.S. illegally to remain free while awaiting a court hearing. Many never showed up in court; some borrowed other people's children and posed as families to avoid detention, ICE officials say.

Critics want immigration authorities to house minors in open settings such as shelters, foster homes or with relatives, and not in detention facilities.

Fired U.S. attorneys testify

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Alleging heavy-handed political pressure, fired U.S. prosecutors testified Tuesday they felt "leaned on" by Republican lawmakers to seek indictments and hushed by a Justice Department official who did not want them talking about their dismissals.

Testifying before Democratic-controlled congressional committees, six of eight recently ousted prosecutors said they were fired without explanation. Several described what they said was improper pressure by Republicans on pending cases.

New Mexico's David Iglesias told lawmakers he felt pressed by Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., last October to rush indictments against Democrats before Election Day in November.

Arkansas' Bud Cummins wrote other fired prosecutors in an e-mail last month of a "message" conveyed by a Justice Department official that if they continued to talk with news reporters, the agency "would feel forced to somehow pull their gloves off" and fight back.

John McKay, the fired U.S. attorney in Seattle, said he stopped a top aide to Rep. Doc Hastings, R-Wash., from asking him detailed questions about an investigation into the disputed election of Washington state's Democratic Gov. Christine Gregoire in 2004.

A Justice Department official, invited to one of the two hearings, denied that any of the eight fired U.S. attorneys was improperly pressured or



Former U.S. Attorneys Carol Lam, left, and David Iglesias prepare to testify on Capitol Hill in Washington on Tuesday.

that they were ousted to make room for Republican political allies. Most of the firings were inspired by performance-related issues, he said.

California's Carol Lam, for example, was let go because her prosecution rate for violent crime and border violations was insufficient, William Moschella, an associate deputy attorney general, told a House subcommittee. Iglesias was fired because he had delegated too much to a deputy.

His accounting conflicts with performance reviews obtained by The Associated Press that give those ousted positive assessments.

"This administration has never removed a United States attorney to retaliate against them. Not once," Moschella said. "The department stands by its decision to ask these U.S. attorneys to resign."

A White House spokeswoman, Dana Perino, said administration officials were aware of the impending firings and offered no objections. Presidential adviser Karl Rove "wasn't involved in who was going to be fired or hired."

A former Rove aide, Tim Griffin, took over in Arkansas on an interim basis in December. Griffin said last month he would not seek Senate confirmation, saying a "partisan circus" had formed around his appointment.

The administration's defense took up only a few moments in the daylong parade of fired federal prosecutors across Capitol Hill, where they recounted being kicked out of their jobs, first to the Senate Judiciary Committee and then to the House Judiciary subcommittee on commercial and administrative law.

Senate backs airport screeners

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate voted Tuesday to give 45,000 airport screeners the same union rights as other public safety officers, despite vigorous opposition by Republicans and a veto threat from the White House.

A broad anti-terrorism bill that would put in place unfinished recommendations of the Sept. 11 commission also would give airport screeners the right to bargain collectively. An amendment by Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., that would have removed that right was defeated by a vote of 51-46.

The Senate also failed to resolve the issue of how to divide \$3 billion in homeland security grants, an issue that pits rural states against states with densely populated metropolitan areas.

The bill nearly quadruples the total pot of money and reduces the minimum amount that each state receives from 0.75 percent of the total dollars to 0.45 percent. States considered to be at high risk of a terrorist attack will receive more money.

An amendment that would continue to guarantee each state at least 0.75 percent survived an initial challenge.

The Senate expects to complete work on the bill by the end of the week.

The House last month passed a similar anti-terrorism bill that had the same

union provision for airport screeners, an indication of organized labor's strength with Democrats now running Congress.

Republicans pledged to eliminate the union provision when negotiators sit down to merge the two versions of the legislation that aims to tighten security for airlines and railroads. A White House statement last week threatened a veto if the labor provision remained.

"We're not going to let big labor compromise national security," said Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky. He noted there are not enough votes in either the House or the Senate to override a veto by President Bush.

The conflict over labor rights is a reprise of the debate in 2002 over creating the Homeland Security Department. Sen. Max Cleland, D-Ga., voted against the bill because it did not guarantee union bargaining rights. That same year, Cleland was defeated for reelection by Republican Saxby Chambliss, who accused him of being soft on terrorism.

Sens. Susan Collins, R-Maine, and Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., are trying to compromise with amendments that would give screeners some rights. Collins' amendment would give them whistleblower protection and the right to appeal management decisions, but not the right to bargain

collectively.

McCaskill's amendment would give screeners the right to bargain collectively but not for pay, and would give the Transportation Security Administration the power to "take whatever actions may be necessary" during emergencies.

Labor scored an earlier victory last month when the House passed legislation that would make it easier to organize unions by eliminating secret-ballot elections demanded by employers.

After his amendment was defeated, DeMint said Democrats had turned the anti-terrorism bill into a reward for organized labor, which had helped elect them in November.

"Collective bargaining will not work for our airports," DeMint said. He said strengthening airport screeners' rights would hinder the government's flexibility to move them around in response to terrorist threats.

"That is completely untrue and every other Department of Homeland Security employee should take personal offense," said John Gage, president of the American Federation of Government Employees.

According to the federation, there are 53,000 workers with collective bargaining rights employed at Homeland Security, including customs, immigration and border patrol agents.

Ono's lawyers block Lennon film showing

Associated Press

SOUTH BERWICK, Maine — The world premiere of "Three Days in the Life," a documentary about John Lennon, was canceled after lawyers for the slain Beatle's widow, Yoko Ono, warned that she had not authorized any public viewing of the film.

The documentary was to have been screened Tuesday night at the Berwick Academy, a private school in southern Maine.

Hap Ridgway, Berwick Academy's headmaster, said he went from worrying about an overflow crowd to wondering if the documentary will ever be shown at all following a flurry of calls and e-mails from Ono's lawyers Monday evening.

"We certainly hope the two sides will get together," he said Tuesday. "What we've learned since it all broke loose is that it's a long-running dispute."

Ray Thomas, the documentary's executive producer, culled raw footage that was shot inside Lennon's apartment down to a

two-hour film covering a pivotal time in Lennon's career. The footage was shot by Ono's former husband, Tony Cox, over a three-day period in February 1970, two months before the breakup of the Beatles.

Thomas and his partner, John Fallon, were unable to get an artist release from Ono, whose lawyers contend has a copyright interest in the film. That's why they chose to do a free screenings at high schools and colleges, starting with Berwick Academy.

But Ono's lawyers said even that was forbidden, which led Berwick Academy to scrap the screening.

Cox's unfinished documentary was sold in 2000 for \$1 million to Fallon, Thomas and Providence businessman Bob Grenier.

Among other things, Lennon is seen composing songs, touring his 100-acre estate and rehearsing for a BBC show in which he performed "Instant Karma" for the first time publicly.

Please recycle The Observer.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 10

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

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P.O. Box 779, Notre Dame, IN 46556
024 South Dining Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556

EDITOR IN CHIEF
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MANAGING EDITOR BUSINESS MANAGER
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ASST. MANAGING EDITOR: Rama Gottumukkala
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WEB ADMINISTRATOR: Rob Dugas

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR: Alejandro Gerbaud

OFFICE MANAGER & GENERAL INFO
(574) 631-7471

FAX

(574) 631-6927

ADVERTISING

(574) 631-6900 observad@nd.edu

EDITOR IN CHIEF

(574) 631-4542

MANAGING EDITOR

(574) 631-4541 obsmc@nd.edu

ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR

(574) 631-4324

BUSINESS OFFICE

(574) 631-5313

NEWS DESK

(574) 631-5323 obsnews.1@nd.edu

VIEWPOINT DESK

(574) 631-5303 viewpoint.1@nd.edu

SPORTS DESK

(574) 631-4543 sports.1@nd.edu

SCENE DESK

(574) 631-4540 scene.1@nd.edu

SAINT MARY'S DESK

smc.1@nd.edu

PHOTO DESK

(574) 631-8767 obsphoto@nd.edu

SYSTEMS & WEB ADMINISTRATORS

(574) 631-8839

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OBSERVER ONLINE
www.ndsmcobserver.com

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The 'Forgotten Man'

In the early 1990s, the Clintons tried to socialize the United States health care system, a scheme ominously known as "Hillarycare." This plan would have put one-seventh of the U.S. economy directly under the control of the federal government. It would have required every business in America to provide health care to its employees, costing thousands of jobs. The plan would have forced those who were perfectly happy with their current private care to opt out for the one-size-fits-all government program. The program would have established price controls on premiums, which would have inevitably led to rationing and a long waits just as in every other country with socialized medicine. Thankfully, the American public wanted no part of this. Largely due to the Hillarycare debacle, voters wisely "threw the rascals out," giving Republicans control of the House for the first time in 40 years.

Unfortunately, it seems that the American public is increasingly supportive of such a plan. Drudgereport.com, an Internet news site that often picks up stories that the major news networks simply ignore, linked a new study last Saturday showing that almost two-thirds of Americans agree that the government should provide health care for all. Ironically, the same study also showed that only one-third believed that the government could do a better job than private insurance companies at actually providing medical coverage.

Public opinion seems to largely coincide with those of politicians. All major Democratic presidential contenders, including Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and John Edwards, favor a vast expansion of federal funding for health care programs, if not outright socialized

medicine. Even George W. Bush got in on the action late in his first term by passing his Prescription Drug Bill, originally supposed to cost \$400 billion over ten years, but now estimated at \$1.2 trillion. P.J. O'Rourke's quip that "if you think health care is expensive now, wait until you see what it costs when it's free" clearly applies.

Nearly all welfare programs follow the same progression in coming into existence. The supporters of such plans often expresses a desire to "help" some less fortunate group, whether that group is the old, the young or the poor. Next, they turn to the voting population and appeal to their sympathy and other heartfelt sentiments. Finally, the politicians use this political capital to create or expand a program that consists of a forceful transfer of money from one group to the politically favored interest group. Supporters often claim that without federal funding for medical care, these groups would be unable to get the access to medical care that they truly need. Thus, many commentators often praise the initiators and supporters of such legislation as humanitarians and compassionate philanthropists who are doing their best to help people. But is this accurate?

William Sumner once wrote that "the type and formula of most schemes of philanthropy or humanitarianism is this: A and B put their heads together to decide what C shall be made to do for D. The radical vice of all these schemes ... is that C is not allowed a voice in the matter, and his position, character and interests, as well as the ultimate effects on society through C's interests, are entirely overlooked. I call C the "Forgotten Man."

The idea that those in support of government funding of health care (or any other welfare program) are doing something compassionate and humanitarian is absurd. By only focusing on the benefits that D will receive as the supporters of government subsidized health care programs do, they completely ignore what they are doing to C. The most

basic fact of government is thus forgotten or willfully ignored — namely, as Sumner says, that the government "cannot get a cent for any man without (first) taking it from some other man, and this latter must be a man who has produced and saved it." The government will forcefully take C's money from him whether he likes it or not to pay for D's medical care. The government is, as the old saying goes, "robbing Peter to pay Paul." It is making C into a slave for D. Those would enable such a scheme are not compassionate friends of humanity, but its enemies. The true test of compassion and philanthropy does not lie in spending someone else's money, but rather in what a person does with his own money and what action he takes to help others.

Someone once said that democracy is two wolves and a sheep taking a majority vote on what's for supper, while in a constitutional republic the wolves are forbidden on voting on what's for supper. James Madison, the Father of the Constitution, once wrote in response to proposed aid for French refugees fleeing from insurrection in San Domingo to the U.S. that "I cannot undertake to lay my finger on that article of the Constitution which granted a right to Congress of expending, on objects of benevolence, the money of their constituents." If our politicians and judges actually took his words and the Constitution seriously, America would once again become a constitutional republic as intended by the Founders, the America of the Forgotten Man. Return charity to the private sector where it belongs.

Mark Poyar is a junior finance major and vice president of the College Libertarians. Their website is <http://ndlibertarians.blogspot.com>. He is currently studying abroad in England and can be contacted at mpoyar@nd.edu

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



Mark Poyar

Actual
Common Sense

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

What are you doing for spring break?

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at www.ndsmcobserver.com

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Take calculated risks. That is quite different from being rash."

George S. Patton
U.S. general

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Impeached senator speaks out

To the students of Notre Dame:
 As you know from reading Thursday's edition of The Observer, the Senate will decide the matter of my impeachment at six this evening. I am presenting my case to you, the student body, before the Senate decides whether your best interests were at hand in my actions involving the Campaign to Abstain.

Like Alexis de Tocqueville, I believe that America is great because America is good, and that, when challenged, Americans stand up for their rights. I have not lied in saying that I hung posters for the Campaign to Abstain, because I did not believe it to be a wrongful act. My impeachment has become an argument between two sides. On the one side are those who believe that every rule must be followed to precision, and that these rules must be just.

The other side isn't about me, but an idea — that democracy also sometimes entails disregarding rules that are unjust, especially those rules that limit the freedom of speech and political participation. I am simply the most visible member of the student body who believes in that idea. I also believe that while the student body in general isn't moved to participate in the student government, when a member of our community is being persecuted for his stand for the basic freedoms we enjoy as Americans, this is something we can all view as unjust.

Of those that voted in the run-off election, 201 voted to abstain. I also believe that if the option to abstain as a protest had been more widely publicized, this number would have been significantly higher.

Decisions are made by those who show up. This past week, I've heard a lot of positive feedback from members of the student body, and I ask those of you who want to see the student government do more to show your support tonight. Despite this, there are those within the different levels of government here that oppose my stance, calling it spiteful, and saying that it's not the type of image we want to present. I believe that we know better than that.

I'm a senior this year, and my only stake in this all is seeing that the right thing is done before I finish my term at the end of this month. This evening, I ask you to show your support so that you may watch the greatest democratic ideal of all in action — protecting the rights of the minority from a tyranny of the majority.

Greg Dworjan
 senior
 Morrissey Manor
 March 6

Don't silence the laughter

For those of you who didn't make it out to see St. Edward's Hall Players' comedy, "The Oregon Trail," I am sorry. It was a great play and I applaud the cast and crew for putting on a top-notch comedic performance. As both an actor and a comedian, I have to say that I was offended by yesterday's Letter to the Editor ("Oregon Trail" highly offensive", March 5) that bashed "The Oregon Trail" as offensive and anti-Catholic. It was unfair to assert that the only comedy was derived from the "crude and insensitive jokes." The hilarity of the play stemmed from the fact that it was making fun of a video game entitled "The Oregon Trail" that many of us played as children.

While I must admit that the play was crude at times, this is the nature of comedy. Comedy comments on the many aspects of society and, whether or not our University or the Church agrees with it, sexuality, current science topics, and our history as a nation are three integral components of our society. At the same time, it is a joke, and it is meant to be taken as such.

I think that to suggest that this type of production should not be "allowed" goes against the very fabric of the American belief system.

The concepts of freedom of speech and freedom of academics are two irreplaceable facets of the nation which we (and the University) promise to uphold. While you might feel this play showed the "moral decay" of our society, I feel that the idea of censorship shows a different level of moral decay in society. Where would academia or our Church be today without our ability to speak freely?

I am an improvisational comedian and I would categorize my performances under "this type of production." Should I not be allowed to perform? What about stand-up comedy? What about controversial plays and musicals? Where would you stop?

While we all have the freedom to say what we want to, you also, luckily, have the freedom to not come to our performances if they bother you so much.

Matt Molloy
 freshman
 O'Neill Hall
 March 6



EDITORIAL CARTOON



"OUT, DAMNED SPOT! OUT, I SAY!"

All you need is love

As a recent observer of the debates raging in the Viewpoint of late, I must say that I am encouraged by Gary Caruso's sentiments that we learn to love one another ("Praying for religious temperance and peace," Mar. 2). I applaud Caruso for raising this important point, for too often defense of dogma blinds people of the law of love, leading to actions of Pharisical proportion. In fact, in a world torn by violence and war, it seems that the Beatles got it right: "All you need is love." Yet daily practice shows that we frail humans need more than this, because we fail so often to love as we should. In this tragic human condition, where can we turn for help and guidance?

Some might turn to a philosophy or a way of life. One may read a set of teachings, adopt a code of conduct, and lead a life according to the spirit of this philosophy. Men have grown very wise and good by following these philosophies. Yet, human experience shows that time and again man will fail. It almost seems that there is some original defect in our nature that we can't get rid of: some innate flaw that years of improvement cannot erase. In other words, it seems that we are not primarily in need of advice, but of a savior. A man, born without arms, drowning in the ocean doesn't need advice on how to swim; he needs a lifeguard to rescue him.

As Caruso points out, Jesus taught many marvelous things. Yet his true mission on earth, as He, himself, tells us, was to be put to death and to rise from the dead. Somehow, in the grandest mystery of all, which man can only comprehend with the eyes of faith, the dying and rising of this God-man has opened the gates of paradise to man, offering us salvation and peace. This Lent, let us not stop at fulfilling Jesus' command to love one another, but, trusting in his salvation, let us grow in love for both God and our neighbor.

Iskandar Arifin
 alumnus
 Class of 2006
 March 6

DAVID FINCHER

ACCLAIMED DIRECTOR CONTINUES TRE

FINCHER EXAMINES DARK FEARS IN 'ZODIAC'

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA
Scene Critic

The deep, pervasive sense of fear that blankets the world of David Fincher's "Zodiac" hangs like a heavy fog over four men — two cops, a journalist and a cartoonist. Of course, the thought of an uncatchable killer loose in greater San Francisco terrorizes many more than just these four, but their lives in particular bear the harshest brunt of the murders.

A painstakingly deliberate film, "Zodiac" tests our patience almost as much as the chilling case that inspired it, an investigation that showed tantalizing promise yet was never resolved. But for those viewers able and willing to stay the course, Fincher's expertly crafted thriller is a subtle, but always-compelling look into what drives America's obsession with its darkest denizens.

Based on the true story of a mysterious serial killer who seized the attention of the Bay Area media in the late 1960s and early '70s with his brutal slayings, the movie takes place over the better part of two decades. Following each subsequent attack, "the Zodiac" — as he identifies himself to the press — sends sadistic, coded letters and ciphers to local newspapers, needling them with his threats of further violence. Two San Francisco Chronicle

employees — Paul Avery (Robert Downey Jr.), an eccentric ace reporter, and Robert Graysmith (Jake Gyllenhaal), a quiet cartoonist with an interest in puzzles — take an active interest in the Zodiac case. The police investigation is headed by two skillful, devoted homicide detectives, David Toschi (Mark Ruffalo) and his partner Bill Armstrong (Anthony Edwards).

Entranced by the case, these four men form the emotional nucleus of the film, and their careers and lives are inextricably tied to a dark obsession with the perplexing case, one full of dead ends and false trails.

Fincher has long been one of Hollywood's most talented directors, and he already has two modern classics on his filmography — 1995's "Se7en," a decadently dark thriller obsessed with the seven deadly sins, and 1999's "Fight Club," an uncompromising, disillusioned look at Generation X machismo. Renowned for his innovative camerawork and a flair for arresting visuals, Fincher has slowed as of late. "Zodiac" is only his second film of the decade. It's been five years since his last effort — 2002's "Panic Room," an entertaining film but one that lacked the virtuosity of his earlier work.

For fans of the director's small, but accomplished oeuvre, "Zodiac" was to be a return to form for the 44-year-old, espe-

cially given its topical similarities with "Se7en." After all, the last Fincher-helmed serial killer movie posterized its villainous John Doe — alongside Anthony Hopkins' Hannibal Lecter — as one of the two most recognizable faces for the '90s serial killer picture, a particularly bloated genre.

But those expecting "Se7en: Part II" will be disappointed, and bitterly so. Fincher has learned from his mistakes with "Panic Room," a movie that — despite its Hitchcockian undertones — disregarded its characters for a misguided focus on plot and visuals. Perhaps to atone for this, Fincher wisely decided to focus the Zodiac narrative around his four intriguing leads.

His meticulous approach to the Zodiac legend certainly shows. A Feb. 18 New York Times article alleges that Fincher subjected Gyllenhaal and Ruffalo to over 70 takes of certain scenes. Both actors turn in superb performances, making the most of their considerable screen time. Once eager to get the bad guy and full of optimism, their characters are steadily leached of their vitality as the years drag on and on. We can only assume that Fincher's grueling demands played a part in this.

The most obvious sign of his growth as a director can be seen in the languid, ever so careful movement of Fincher's camera.

Gone are the brassy zooms and tracking shots, replaced by a withdrawn style that fits the time and place of the story being told. Fincher still allows himself the occasional sprinkle of style — most notably a montage sequence where the Zodiac investigators drift through their offices, surrounded by computer-generated pieces of evidence that fill the walls and ceilings, reflecting their obsessed minds not unlike the IKEA-dominated world of Edward Norton's character in "Fight Club."

Few directors take the time — or even get a chance — to learn from their mistakes, but Fincher's work on this picture shows a newfound sense of maturity, a temperance that was almost gleefully absent in the rebellious movies of his filmmaking youth.

According to the movie's sly, disguised tagline, there's more than one way to lose your life to a killer. By the end of "Zodiac," only two of the four men's resolve still stands, although all four have been irrevocably damaged by their search.

As for Fincher, he makes sure to give us precisely what we've been promised, but not much more — leaving us with the troubling thought that the greater purpose remains more obscure than ever.

Contact Rama Gottumukkala at rgottumu@nd.edu

UNDERSTANDING OBSESSION: A CLOSER LOOK AT 'ZODIAC'

I wasn't sure what to think of "Zodiac" at first. There were a ton of issues with it — it was too long, it was too unfocused, Gyllenhaal's character wasn't developed enough, it didn't resolve anything. But the more I thought about it, the more I couldn't stop thinking about it.

Brian Doxtader
Scene Editor

"Zodiac" has that mark of a great film: the ability to get under your skin and stay there, which is a sure sign of its cinematic merit.

Not that I was ever sure what to think of director David Fincher in the first place. I like "Se7en," dislike "Fight Club," have mixed feelings on "Panic Room" and am indifferent to "The Game." It was always obvious that he is a director of great skill and talent, but I honestly felt like "Se7en" was the only film that came close to fulfilling his enormous potential ... until now.

While it lacks the flashiness of typical blockbusters and requires a good deal of cinematic patience, "Zodiac" is Fincher's most rewarding work to date. Eschewing

the overly-filmic technique of "Fight Club" in favor of a classic, restrained style, "Zodiac" moves leisurely, a surprising yet ultimately welcome trait in what purports to be a traditional Hollywood piece.

"Zodiac" is a crime film, but only in the loosest sense of the term. There are obligatory scenes of detectives investigating, and police officers trying to coordinate and figure out whodunit. But there's a feeling of inevitability — we seem to understand, inherently, that no matter how hard these men try, they are doomed to failure.

"Zodiac" is a period piece, but only in its attention to detail. The San Francisco Chronicle, according to the real-life Robert Graysmith, was lovingly and accurately recreated. Yet for a film that takes place in the late-sixties, we hardly see any hippies or elements of counter-culture, or get much information about the turmoil that America is undergoing. Such frivolousness would detract from the film's sense of purpose.

"Zodiac" is a film about a serial killer, but only in the loosest sense of the term. We

don't get to know the killer (or even conclusively figure out who he really is), so we don't get any insight into his motivation — he's not Hannibal Lecter or Norman Bates or even John Doe. The chase is not a means to an end, the chase defines the picture. The killer is almost irrelevant.

"Zodiac" is, foremost, a film about obsession. It's about three men who become caught up in an unsolvable case, and ultimately lose their lives to a serial killer, but not in a traditional (or physical) sense. Instead, they become consumed by their obsession, and lose parts of their souls in the frustration that follows. Robert Graysmith (Jake Gyllenhaal), a cartoonist for the San Francisco Chronicle, loses his wife and his job. Detective David Toschi loses his job and his reputation. And reporter Paul Avery (Robert Downey Jr.) loses himself, ending his days in a drugged-stupor on a houseboat.

That, more than anything, is what makes "Zodiac" so disturbing, so effective and, ultimately, so powerful. By the end of the

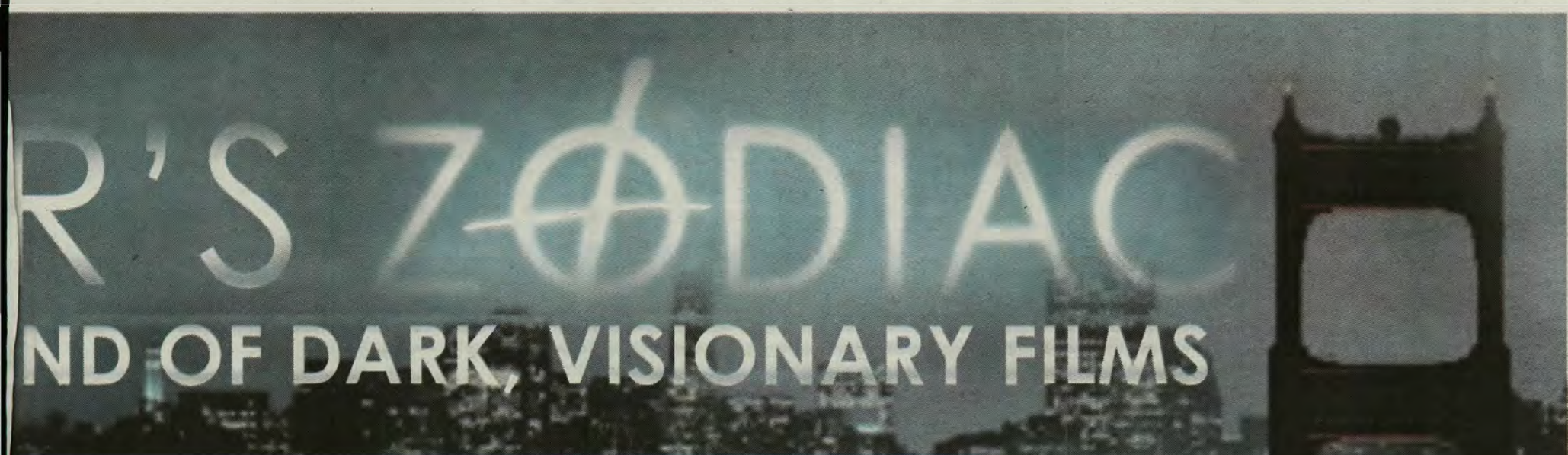
film's considerable 160-minute running time, we're not so sure that actually catching the killer would change anything. When Gyllenhaal, near the film's conclusion, walks into a hardware store, we understand that it's the closest to a resolution that Fincher will allow us to get. "Zodiac" is not a film about resolution, because that would be contrary to its point.

I left the theater disturbed, even haunted. What the killer had done to his victims was disturbing, and the fact that he was never caught even more so. But the truly haunting part was seeing what happened to the three victims the killer never knew — the ordinary men who became swept up in an extraordinary event, and risked their lives and their souls in an obsessive search for understanding.

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

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtade@nd.edu





'ALIEN' TO 'ZODIAC' — FINCHER FROM A TO Z

STORY BY SCENE STAFF

Few Hollywood directors are able to retain their own distinct style through the course of their films while maintaining a high level of critical and commercial success. David Fincher, best known for his work on "Se7en," "Fight Club" and the recent release "Zodiac," is one such director, who has constantly made films known for their dark, stylish portrayal of human experiences.

The 44-year-old received his first screen credit as an assistant cameraman for "Return of the Jedi" in 1980 and went on to direct commercials and music videos for stars such as Madonna, Aerosmith and The Rolling Stones before making his way into film. With the debut of "Zodiac" at the box office, we look at Fincher's cinematic body of work available on DVD.

Alien 3 (1992)

"Alien 3" was Fincher's debut feature and, according to Roger Ebert, is "one of the best-looking bad movies I have ever seen."

Ebert's take sums up the monstrosity of a film that is "Alien 3." Fincher was brought into the film's production late in the game and constantly had creative issues with the studio. Since the film's release, he has completely disowned the theatrical version even though it has his name on it. Only with the release of the two-disc special edition and the "Alien Quadrilogy" box set were viewers finally able to see Fincher's vision of the film. While the theatrical release, included in the special edition, is quite a sub-par film, what has been dubbed as the "Assembly Cut" is much better and actually worthy of the "Alien" mantle. Although not nearly as good as the first two movies — Ridley Scott's fantastic "Alien" and James Cameron's spectacular action sequel "Aliens" — the "Alien 3" Assembly Cut is a beautiful film with an engaging narrative that showcases what would later become Fincher's highly visual and dark style.

With the death of a loved character and a Sigourney Weaver

who is not as involved as in the first two films, "Alien 3" suffers from a lack of vision due to the clash between Fincher and 20th Century Fox. On the bright side, famed British actor Peter Postlethwaite puts in a fine performance as the prisoner, David.

While the Assembly Cut — not an official Director's Cut due to Fincher's disavowal of the film — solves many of these problems, one can only imagine what the movie could have been if Fincher had been able to make the film he wanted.

While the Special Edition DVD does have commentary from theatrical version editor Terry Rawlings and other crew, a commentary by Fincher is the most glaring omission from the DVD. This omission will probably never be rectified because of Fincher's still-troubled relationship with the studio. The extras include featurettes that cover pre-production, production and post-production. All are very interesting and worthwhile, although Fincher looks haggard and angry through most of them.

If you are an avid fan of the series, the "Alien Quadrilogy" box set is the way to go as it includes all four of the films along with Director's Cuts of "Alien," "Aliens" and "Alien: Resurrection." In addition, it has the Assembly Cut of "Alien 3" and a plethora of extras that are well worth the time it takes to watch them. For those not willing to splurge on the box set, the two-disc version of "Alien 3" still contains the worthwhile Assembly Cut of the film.

Se7en (1995)

Gluttony, envy, pride, greed, lust, wrath and sloth are the seven deadly sins as recognized by Catholic church doctrine. Although not stated in Bible, the list has existed for centuries and has been used outside of the church in such works as Dante's "The Divine Comedy." Fincher's 1995 crime drama "Se7en" centers on murders based on these sins.

Brad Pitt and Morgan Freeman

Somerset who are assigned to investigate bizarre murders that are inspired by the seven deadly sins. The victims are not only guilty of the sins that they serve to represent, but they also are killed in such a fashion that uses that sin against them (for example, the gluttony victim is drowned in food). Somerset, about to retire from the force, takes it on as his last case and is accompanied by Mills, who is taking over his position. Like other films with such a partnership ("Lethal Weapon," for example), Somerset is both level-headed and wizened after a great deal of experience, which contrasts the more hot-headed and brash behavior of Mills. As each death occurs, the detectives try to work to beat the killer before he manages to collect all seven of his victims.

"Se7en" is as perfect as a gritty crime drama can possibly be. The script — penned by Andrew Kevin Walker — is nothing short of excellent and it earned the film a BAFTA award. Fincher's directing does not disappoint and the film is easily regarded as one of his best.

The cast in the film is top-notch, led by Freeman and Pitt, who both give excellent performances. Pitt's performance in particular is one that moved him from the category of "pretty boy" to being regarded as a genuinely talented actor. As usual, Freeman does not disappoint and is perfect playing the role of the older, more mature detective. They are supported with performances from actors such as Gwyneth Paltrow — as Pitt's wife who is unsure about starting a life in a gritty city — and R. Lee Ermey — the hard-nosed police captain. There is also an unforgettable performance by the actor portraying the killer, "John Doe," and the film is worth watching for that performance alone.

The film has been released on two DVD sets, including a two-disc platinum edition released by New Line. The set comes in a quality package, inspired by the notebooks that the killer is shown to be

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'ALIEN' to 'ZODIAC'

Fincher from A to Z

JEFF ALBERT | Observer Graphic

Fincher A to Z

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keeping. The film disc comes with four amazing audio commentaries that focus on "The Stars" (with commentary by Fincher, Pitt and Freeman), "The Story" (which analyzes the script and project history), "The Picture" (which talks about the filming process) and finally "The Sound" (which discusses the film's various music and sound effects). The second disc contains supplemental materials that include numerous deleted and extended scenes, alternate endings and DVD-ROM content (such as scripts, web sites and photo galleries).

"Se7en" is an amazing example of a frightening crime drama, with examinations of the psychology that bothers serial killers, their victims and the detectives who hunt them. Although at times uncomfortable to watch, it is also gorgeous to see with its dark and gritty film-noir look. Combine all of that with the outstanding and unforgettable performances, and it is hard to label "Se7en" as anything but a winner.

The Game (1997)

Starring Michael Douglas and Sean Penn, Fincher's "The Game" is one of his most underappreciated, but it remains one of his best films.

With one of the most unexpected endings in recent cinema, "The Game" is an unusual film for Fincher because it deals little with "crazy" people. "Alien 3" is full of insane prisoners on a far-flung penal colony planet, "Se7en" has a deranged murderer obsessed with the seven deadly sins, "Fight Club" has a protagonist with insomnia and Fincher's most recent, "Zodiac," is about an unhinged murderer. Only 2002's "Panic Room" has a sense of normalcy when it comes to its characters, a trait that "The Game" also shares.

Wealthy yet lonely financier Nicholas Van Orton (Michael Douglas) receives a birthday present from his younger brother Conrad (Sean Penn) that immerses him in a live-action role playing game that promises to change his life. As the game progresses, Nicholas finds himself spiraling through a Twilight Zone-esque series of encounters that confront everything he has ever believed, until an ending that leaves Nicholas and the audience floored.

Fincher shines here in his direction of the actors and the storytelling execution. "The Game" does not have his

typical dark mise-en-scene à la "Se7en" and "Fight Club," but it does have Fincher's trademark psychological thrills. Once Nicholas' game begins, the audience can't let go until the final minutes of the film.

The only DVD released in the United States is a bare-bones disc that has the film in both widescreen and fullscreen versions but little in the way of extras. While the film is great, more in the way of featurettes and/or commentary from Douglas, Penn and Fincher should be an essential addition to any subsequent DVD release. The film is available in HD-DVD, but all this offers is a high definition version of the film and no more extras than the regular DVD. A special edition DVD is slated for release in the UK this coming May, which will include a remastered transfer of the film from the old Criterion laserdisc — the benchmark for the film's video and audio quality. It will also include commentary from Fincher, Douglas and a host of other crew members, along with behind-the-scenes and location footage. Without a stateside DVD release that matches the quality of the upcoming UK version, for U.S. fans "The Game" remains a film that has not received the attention it rightfully deserves.

Fight Club (1999)

In 1999, audiences were instructed that the first rule of "Fight Club" is that "you do not talk about Fight Club." As it turned out, audiences did talk about "Fight Club" — quite a lot. While this Fincher film began its life as a moderately successful box office release, it mushroomed into one of the most popular cult hits of recent memory thanks to exceedingly strong DVD sales.

The movie stars Edward Norton as a narrator who is disenchanted with the dull, materialistic life of an office worker. After befriending the like-minded, free-spirited soap salesman Tyler Durden (Brad Pitt), the two begin a "fight club" that allows them and others who share their sentiments to vent their societal frustrations. As the club grows larger and more prominent, Norton's character struggles to come to grips with the club's developing trend towards anarchy and the destruction of civilized life.

"Fight Club" is one of Fincher's most unique works — and also one of his best. Savagely violent and yet also frightfully brilliant, the movie is one of the rare films that is able to entertain while also raising deep and relevant problems for viewers. One cannot watch "Fight Club" without asking meaningful and often difficult ques-

tions about happiness (or lack thereof) and its effect on the human psyche.

Brad Pitt makes this film, giving one of the more twisted and psychotic performances of his career. His casual, grungy attitude and demeanor contrasts in every way with Edward Norton's character, setting up the film's climactic payoff — which was famously given away on television by Rosie O'Donnell one week before the premiere in 1999.

The cultish themes of the film perhaps contributed to its success in the DVD market as a massive cult hit. Several versions exist on DVD, but the most impressive is the "Two-Disc Collector's Edition" — which is designed to look like the packages of soap Durden sells in the film. The first disc contains the movie along with four commentary tracks, which are especially insightful for a film like this. Disc two is entirely devoted to special features that range from discussing the philosophy of the film to showcasing the unusual promotion the studio used. Fans of the film can also spend time finding numerous Easter eggs hidden on both discs. With such plentiful extras accompanying so powerful a movie as this, the "Fight Club" DVD is not to be missed.

Panic Room (2002)

"Panic Room" was Fincher's hotly anticipated 2002 follow-up to "Fight Club." A suspense film about a woman and daughter trapped inside their own home, "Panic Room" solidified Fincher's status as one of Hollywood's top directors, though it didn't match the success of "Se7en" or the cult following that surrounded "Fight Club."

The film follows Meg Altman (Jodie Foster), a recently divorced woman who moves in with her daughter Sarah (Kristen Stewart) to a new home with an odd feature — a sealed off "panic room" tucked away from the rest of the building, complete with video monitors and a reinforced steel door. It isn't long before three thieves — Junior (Jared Leto), Burnham (Forest Whitaker) and Raoul (Dwight Yoakam) — break into the house. Meg and Sarah hide in the panic room, but it turns out that what the thieves are after is in the room with the Altmans.

Though not quite on the same level as Fincher's best work, "Panic Room" is still accomplished and is certainly much better than standard suspense-movie fare. It retains the dark moodiness of his previous two films, but the singularity of the setting and the limited time frame (the film basically takes place over the course of a single night)

lends it a genuinely Hitchcockian sense of paranoia and suspense — in fact, "Panic Room" is perhaps the closest any filmmaker has come to "modern Hitchcock," with a central conceit and plot twists that the classic director would have adored.

"Panic Room" also has the fastest pace of any of Fincher's films, though the payoff isn't quite as rewarding as either "Se7en" or "Zodiac," perhaps owing to its relatively limited scope. Yet there are human touches throughout, and the thieves are sufficiently fleshed out that the game of cat-and-mouse has a sense of real drama. Like all of the director's films, it is anchored by strong performances, especially from leads Foster and Whitaker, with nice support from Fincher film regular Leto.

"Panic Room" has come to DVD in three distinct incarnations — a simple first edition, an updated "Superbit" edition and a deluxe three-disc set. The three-disc set is definitely the way to go, as it is packed with informative special features. Perhaps the best of the features is the commentary by Fincher, who is always insightful and interesting — here, he imparts a metric ton of information about the making of the film, from pre-production through post-production. There are also several documentaries and featurettes about every aspect of the making of "Panic Room."

Beyond Zodiac (2007-?)

As his latest film, "Zodiac" continues Fincher's trend of creating haunting, stylized pieces that challenge and provoke audiences. Fincher's next picture, "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button," which is based on a novel by F. Scott Fitzgerald, has already begun filming in New Orleans. Fincher is reteaming with Brad Pitt for a third time in this romance — a departure from his usual style — where Pitt's 50-year-old character begins to age backwards while he falls in love with a 30-year-old woman, to be played by Cate Blanchett.

While "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" will have a different feel than his previous films, it will no doubt embody the usual traits of a Fincher film and be anything but a typical romance. This dark, atypical nature and willingness to ask sensitive and probing questions has made David Fincher into a respected and treasured director whose films will continue to challenge and entertain audiences for years to come.

Contact Scene at scene@nd.edu

Tyler Durden (Brad Pitt), right, instructs the Narrator (Edward Norton) on the intricacies of making soap in "Fight Club," Fincher's anarchic 1999 cult hit.



Det. William Somerset (Morgan Freeman), left, hunts a lead with Det. David Mills (Brad Pitt) in "Se7en." Pitt frequently collaborates with Fincher.

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NR, 83 minutes
35mm print
Sat, Mar 10 at 3 pm

The Aura (2006)

Directed by Fabian Bielinsky
NR, 138 minutes
Spanish language with
English subtitles
35mm print
Thu, Mar 15 at 7 pm and 10 pm
Fri, Mar 16 at 7 pm and 10 pm

Volver (2006)

Directed by Pedro Almodóvar
R, 121 minutes
Spanish language with
English subtitles
35mm Print
Sat, Mar 17 at 7 pm and 10 pm
Sat, Mar 24 at 7 pm and 10 pm

**All Quiet on the
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PAC Classic 100
Directed by Lewis Milestone
NR, 130 minutes
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NBA

Wizards outrebound Raptors 49-27 in easy win

Lewis nails three, Marbury misses foul shot in Knicks' loss

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With 10:07 remaining in the second quarter, Chris Bosh grabbed the ball after teammate Andrea Bargnani missed a 3-pointer.

It was the only rebound the Toronto Raptors All-Star would get all game.

The Washington Wizards beat the Raptors 129-109 Tuesday night by dominating the boards, accumulating a 33-10 advantage in second-chance points that essentially accounted for the margin of victory in a matchup of first-place teams.

The Wizards finished with 49 rebounds to the Raptors' season-low 27, easily negating Toronto's 52 percent shooting. Bosh scored 25 points, but his one rebound was a season-low and well below his 10.3 average.

"He had one rebound? Wow!" said Washington's Gilbert Arenas, who scored 25 points and had his best shooting game in weeks. "Well, we were making shots. It's hard to get rebounds when you're making shots. He had one rebound, for real?"

Yes, really. In fact, Toronto didn't score off an offensive rebound until Kris Humphries' dunk in the final minute of the first half. By then, the Wizards had built a double-digit lead they wouldn't relinquish.

"Sometimes they just don't come your way," Bosh said. "And if you don't block out as a team, you can't rebound. Nobody can. I can say I'm going to go and get every rebound, but if I have to get a rebound on three guys, I'm sure they have the advantage."

Antawn Jamison also scored 25 points, and Antonio Daniels added 18 for the Wizards, who have won three straight since Jamison and Caron Butler both returned from injuries. Washington had lost twice this season to Toronto on the road, but now has a chance to gain a draw in the season series when the teams meet for the final time March 30.

"From the beginning to the end, we had a real good air about us," said Washington coach Eddie Jordan, whose ros-

ter is the healthiest it has been this season. "A good personality about the game, a good attitude and approach, a chemistry, a togetherness, a comfort level. That's the first time we've seen that for 48 minutes."

Arenas broke out of a slump by making nine of 13 field goals, including five 3-pointers — his most 3s since Jan. 30. It was his best shooting game overall since a 9-for-13 performance on Dec. 26.

Arenas attributed the turnaround to a physical therapist who treated his sore shoulder late last week.

"Ever since they popped my shoulder back in, my shot's been feeling good," he said.

Seattle 100, New York 99

The Seattle SuperSonics knew Rashard Lewis' last shot was going in, and were probably a little surprised when Stephon Marbury's didn't.

Lewis made the go-ahead 3-pointer, and Seattle beat the New York Knicks Tuesday night when Marbury missed a free throw with 0.9 seconds left.

Marbury kept up his torrid scoring with 40 points, but finished New York's miserable night at the line when his second attempt bounced out after he was fouled on a drive to the hoop with the Knicks trailing by two.

"I hate to see that happen to anybody," Seattle's Ray Allen said. "He deserved to make both of those free throws because he played a hell of a game tonight. He was definitely giving us fits all night."

The Knicks finished 24-of-38 (63 percent) at the line, ruining their comeback attempt and any hopes they had of being in playoff position by the end of the night.

"We had this game. Not even Steph's free throw, but my free throws, we just missed some big free throws," said center Eddy Curry, who was 5-of-10. "You're at the line and you miss two, or you miss one of the two, it's just like you have a feeling it's going to bite you at the end, especially in a close game like this."

Allen scored 29 points and Lewis finished with 24, including his 3 with 4.8 seconds left for the SuperSonics, who tied a season high with their third straight victory. Earl Watson matched a career high with 23 points and added nine assists.

"It was a big shot. Ray saw me wide open and when it left my hand I knew it was going in," Lewis said. "I mean that's big time, especially to do it right here in New York City in the Garden. That's something I'll always remember."

The Knicks also were trying to tie a season high with a third straight victory. They had their seven-game home winning streak snapped.

Seattle won for the fourth time in five games. Chris Wilcox added 12 points despite missing the fourth quarter after taking a shot to the head.

The Knicks entered the night a half-game behind Orlando and New Jersey for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference, and knowing that the Nets were visiting league-leading Dallas. But they couldn't contain Seattle's perimeter attack in the first half and their rally fell short in the second.

Without Jamal Crawford for the rest of the regular season and still missing top reserve David Lee and Nate Robinson, the Knicks got 15 points from Curry and 12 from Quentin Richardson.

Marbury did the rest, surpassing 30 points for the third straight game — though the Knicks needed one more point from him.

"I was thinking it was good," Marbury said of his second attempt. "I missed, I've missed free throws before. It's just part of the game."

Denver 106, New Orleans 91

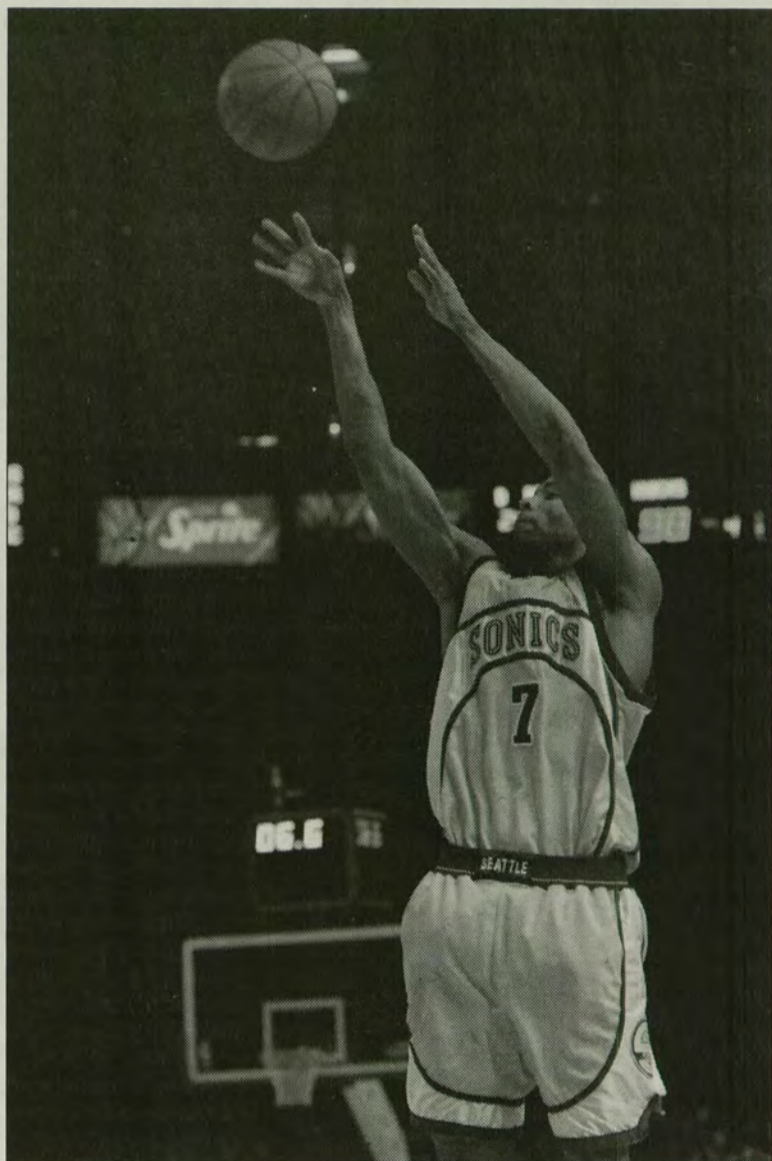
Allen Iverson scored 25 points and Carmelo Anthony, a soon-to-be father, added 21 in the Denver Nuggets' win over the New Orleans Hornets on Tuesday night.

Nene finished with 15 points and grabbed 14 boards and Steve Blake came off the bench to add 13 points and six assists.

Anthony was on standby Tuesday night as his fiancée, La La Vazquez, was induced. The couple are expecting their first child any hour.

Tyson Chandler finished with 15 points and 18 rebounds for his 13th straight double-double. It's also his 20th straight game with double-digit rebounds.

Chris Paul had 13 points and 14 assists while Rasual Butler contributed 11, including three 3-pointers midway through the fourth quarter. The Hornets



AP
Sonics forward Rashard Lewis shoots the winning 3-point basket in Seattle's 100-99 win over New York Tuesday.

have now lost four of their last five.

Denver led by as many as 23 points with 3:20 left in the third quarter. However, the Hornets cut the deficit to 96-88 with 4:58 remaining in the game on a jumper by Jannero Pargo.

The Nuggets scored seven straight points to secure the victory.

Marcus Camby grabbed 11 rebounds and blocked six shots despite playing with a sore tailbone. He now has 1,500 blocks for his career.

Denver guard J.R. Smith was a surprise contributor when he was inserted into the lineup with 1:34 remaining, his first game back since tearing the lateral meniscus in his left knee against San Antonio on Feb. 20. He had arthroscopic surgery the next day.

Before the game, Smith said

he didn't know when he'd be back. He'd missed the last five games with the injury.

"The knee is still sore," Smith said before the game. "I'll play when I am comfortable to play."

The Nuggets trailed by one with 7:47 left in the second quarter, but closed the period on a 20-9 run to take a 53-43 lead at halftime.

Denver coach George Karl doesn't know if Anthony will make the trip to Golden State on Wednesday night.

Anthony didn't know yet, either.

However, he was beaming as he talked about the upcoming birth of his son.

"I'm just waiting for it to happen," Anthony said Monday. "The anticipation is always high at this time when you are going to be a father."

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

WANTED

SUMMER CAMP POSITIONS: Make a difference in the life of a child! Summer therapy camp for children with physical disabilities. Located on shore of Lake Superior in Big Bay, MI. Positions available for Counselors, Waterfront, Instructors for Nature/Arts & Crafts/Recreation, Nurses, Therapists, Food Service, and Auxiliary. Must be enthusiastic, responsible, and love children. June 10 through August 5. Salary, room & board, and experience of lifetime provided. Call or write for application and information. Bay Cliff Health Camp, P.O. Box 310, Big Bay, MI 49808, (906)345-9314, e-mail BayCliffHC@aol.com. Visit us at www.baycliff.org

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Happy Birthday Patrick! Please do not throw up after any Wild Turkey tonight. Also, a Long Island from Legends counts as just one drink. Thanks for 22 years of your classy behavior.

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Happy Birthday Lauren Bergstrand Love, 820 South Bend Ave.

WANTED: Coach for senior girls' bookstore basketball team. Must be patient, knowledgeable about the game and have a sense of humor. Must be able to work with players of various skill levels, mostly "beginner." Ability to teach shooting a must; this team was shut out 21-0 last year. Submit credentials to kgales@nd.edu. Interviews will be held after spring break.

AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 17

Men's Basketball

Associated Press Top 25

	team	record	points
1	Ohio State (70)	27-3	1798
2	Kansas (2)	27-4	1706
3	Wisconsin	27-4	1599
4	UCLA	26-4	1583
5	Memphis	27-3	1481
6	Florida	26-5	1433
7	Texas A&M	25-5	1383
8	North Carolina	25-6	1331
9	Georgetown	23-6	1205
10	Nevada	27-3	1013
11	Washington State	24-6	986
12	Louisville	22-8	892
13	Pittsburgh	25-6	882
14	Southern Illinois	27-6	878
15	Texas	22-8	868
16	Oregon	23-7	662
17	Maryland	24-7	639
18	Marquette	23-8	536
19	Butler	27-5	517
20	NOTRE DAME	23-6	442
21	Duke	22-9	284
22	Tennessee	22-9	243
23	Brigham Young	23-7	186
24	Winthrop	28-4	162
25	UNLV	25-6	125

Men's Basketball

ESPN/USA Today Top 25

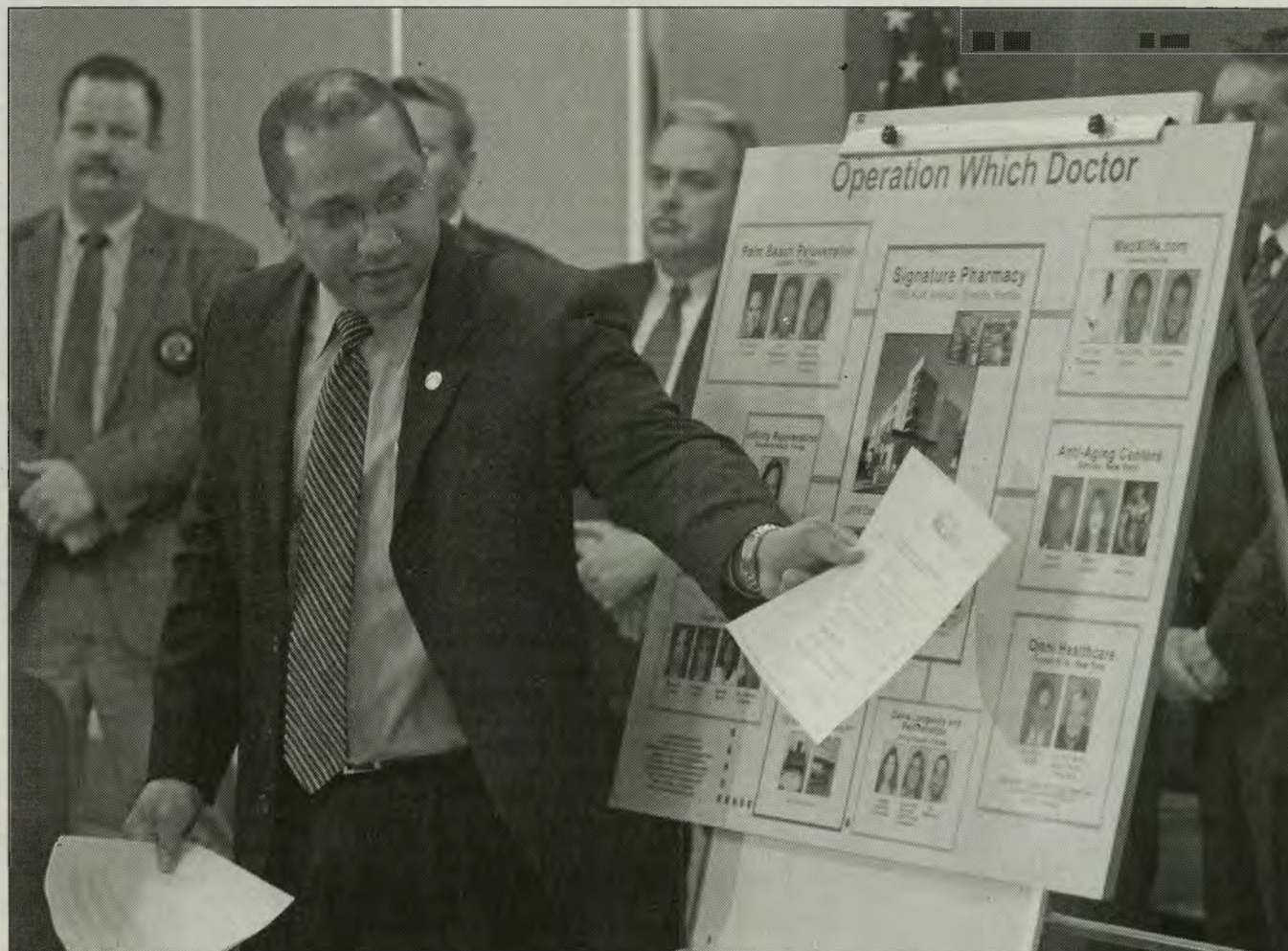
	team	record	points
1	Ohio State (30)	27-3	774
2	Kansas (1)	27-4	731
3	UCLA	26-4	678
4	Wisconsin	27-4	675
5	Memphis	27-3	641
6	Florida	26-5	629
7	Texas A&M	25-5	594
8	North Carolina	25-6	557
9	Georgetown	23-6	502
10	Nevada	27-3	438
11	Pittsburgh	25-6	418
12	Washington State	24-6	413
13	Southern Illinois	27-6	355
14	Texas	22-8	347
15	Louisville	22-8	313
16	NOTRE DAME	23-6	303
17	Butler	27-5	283
18	Oregon	23-7	254
19	Marquette	23-8	192
20	Maryland	24-7	191
21	Duke	22-9	118
22	Winthrop	28-4	114
23	Brigham Young	23-7	83
24	Virginia	20-9	81
25	UNLV	25-6	58

Softball

Big East Standings

	team	pct.	overall record
1	Connecticut	.800	8-2
2	Villanova	.700	7-3
3	DePaul	.667	10-5
4	Providence	.667	4-2
5	USF	.667	14-7
6	NOTRE DAME	.500	7-7
7	Louisville	.385	5-8
8	Pittsburgh	.231	3-10
9	Seton Hall	.200	3-12
10	Rutgers	.182	2-9
11	St. John's	.167	2-10
12	Syracuse	.143	2-12

STERIODS INVESTIGATION



Albany County District Attorney David Soares speaks about a nationwide investigation into the illegal sale of steroids Tuesday. A published report implicated additional athletes in the steroid scandal.

Steroid trial implicates more athletes

Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — Two more people linked to a nationwide investigation into the illegal sale of steroids were arraigned Tuesday on drug-related charges as a published report implicated more athletes, including the winner of the Ohio bodybuilding competition named for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Steven and Karen Lampert of Anti-Aging Centers in Nanuet pleaded not guilty in an Albany County, N.Y., courtroom and were released without bail. They are charged with submitting prescriptions to a Florida pharmacy — some

“obviously forged” according to the district attorney — for drugs totaling more than \$50,000 for people without a medical need.

Steven Lampert is charged with 20 counts, his wife with two.

“It seems as though our clients have much less involvement than the others,” said Jay Golland, a lawyer for Karen Lampert.

Prosecutors describe the Lamperts as “criminal associates” of Signature Pharmacy in Orlando, Fla. Albany County District Attorney David Soares says Signature was at the center of a web of businesses and doctors that illegally wrote prescriptions for steroids.

The arraignments come a day after not guilty pleas were entered in Albany by 11 other defendants, including four Signature Pharmacy officials.

Soares acknowledged that bodybuilder Victor Martinez was an “unindicted co-conspirator” in the case and is linked to the Lamperts’ Anti-Aging Centers.

Martinez won the Arnold Classic bodybuilding competition Saturday in Ohio.

A spokesman for Schwarzenegger said he wants bodybuilders to stop using steroids.

“He’s clearly opposed to these steroids,” said Aaron McLearn. “And he’s working with top officials in the

bodybuilding community to come up with a system where they rid the sport of steroids.”

Martinez told The New York Times he bought testosterone from the Lamperts after their clinic told him he had low levels of the hormone. He also said the company asked him to become a partner, but he declined.

“I didn’t trust them, and other people were warning me not to do business with them,” he told the Times.

Calls placed by The Associated Press to Jim Lorimer, a bodybuilding promoter and co-creator of the Arnold Classic, were not immediately returned.

IN BRIEF

Lopez to compete on LPGA Tour at 60

OMAHA, Neb. — Nancy Lopez knows she might not be able to win on the LPGA Tour as a 50-year-old, but that’s not going to stop her from trying.

Lopez said she plans to play five or six LPGA Tour events this year, starting with the \$2.6 million Ginn Open in Reunion, Fla., April 12-15.

She’s played in only 11 tour events since 2002, and she hasn’t had a top-10 finish since 1997.

“I know I have to get in real good shape to try to compete with the young girls, but I think I still have the mental capacity to go out there and play good golf,” Lopez said Tuesday at a news conference before a University of Nebraska at Omaha women’s athletics fundraiser. “Let’s just see if I can make it in the hole a little faster than I have the last few years.”

Lopez spent the past couple years working to improve her fitness and has lost more than 30 pounds.

Kings forward Artest arrested after assault charges

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Sacramento Kings forward Ron Artest slapped a woman’s face and grabbed her repeatedly, causing visible injuries, according to a sheriff’s report made public Tuesday.

Artest was arrested Monday after a woman inside his home in a Sacramento suburb called 911 and said she had been assaulted. In a portion of the 911 tape released by authorities, the woman described injuries to her hand and leg.

“Victim sustained visible trauma after being repeatedly grabbed by Artest and pushed to the floor,” said the Placer County Sheriff’s Department report. “Artest then slapped victim’s face (and) by use of force prevented victim from leaving.”

The report also said Artest took a phone from the woman the first time she tried to call 911.

Linebacker Porter agrees to contract with Dolphins

Joey Porter wasn’t unemployed for long.

The trash-talking linebacker, cut last week by Pittsburgh to save salary cap room, agreed to a five-year, \$32 million contract with Miami, giving the Dolphins a potentially devastating pass rushing tandem with Jason Taylor, the defensive player of the year.

Porter is guaranteed \$20 million in the deal, which was agreed to late Monday, according to a person with knowledge of the discussion who requested anonymity because Porter has not yet passed his physical and the contract may not be signed until Wednesday or Thursday.

Porter’s 60 sacks rank fourth in Steelers’ history. His addition is part of what’s becoming a major roster overhaul by the Dolphins, who were 6-10 last season, and new coach Cam Cameron.

around the dial

NCAA BASKETBALL

Connecticut at Syracuse
2 p.m., ESPN

St. John’s at Marquette
9 p.m., ESPN

NBA

Chicago at Miami
7:30 p.m., Comcast

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Pac-10 rides wave of improved competition

As postseason arrives, coaches agree conference is among nation's best

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Pac-10 usually finds itself down the list when conferences are being evaluated at this time of year.

Not this season.

Lute Olson, completing his 24th year at Arizona, called the Pac-10 the toughest its ever been during a conference call Tuesday.

Ernie Kent, finishing his 10th season at Oregon, added: "I think it's the No. 1 conference in the country. If it's not No. 1, it's No. 2."

The Pac-10 tournament starts Wednesday at the Staples Center.

Southern California's Tim Floyd said he couldn't imagine a better seventh-place team in the nation than Washington, prompting Huskies coach Lorenzo Romar to say: "I wouldn't say I disagree. If they had a tournament for all seventh-place teams, hopefully we would hold our own."

And Ben Howland, coach of top-seeded UCLA, expressed the opinion that six Pac-10 teams are a lock to play in the NCAA tournament, no matter what happens in the conference tournament.

That's usually the mantra of the Big East, Atlantic Coast Conference and Southeastern Conference about now.

"I was in the Big East for four years — that's a point of reference for me," Howland said.

Six Pac-10 teams have played in the NCAA tournament only once before — in 2002. Five were chosen on four occasions, most recently in 2003. Three played in 2004, and four were picked in each of the past two years.

Seven of the league's 10 teams have at least 18 wins, and those seven went a combined 71-12 against non-conference opponents.

"Hopefully we'll be rewarded for being a very, very tough conference," Kent said. "We've been kind of beaten up on each other."

Perhaps that explains why only three teams are ranked among the nation's top 25 this week — No. 4 UCLA, No. 11 Washington State and No. 16 Oregon. Each of the top seven teams were ranked at one time or another this season.

Eighth-seeded California (14-16, 6-12 Pac-10) faces ninth-seeded Oregon State (11-20, 3-15) and seventh-seeded Washington (18-12, 8-10) meets 10th-seeded Arizona State (8-21, 2-16) Wednesday night to begin the tournament.

Four games will be played Thursday. The semifinals are Friday night and the finals Saturday.

"I feel like we should be in the (NCAA) tournament — win or lose," said Stanford's Trent Johnson, whose team appears to be the only one of the top six

that could be bypassed.

UCLA won the Pac-10 regular-season and tournament championships last year, and reached the finals of the NCAA tournament before losing to Florida 73-57.

The prevailing sentiment is that UCLA is even better this season, but Floyd said he can see as many as seven teams winning the conference tournament.

"They're more experienced, to begin with," Olson said about the Bruins. "The second thing is they've had another year to play in the system. The key to UCLA a year ago and this year is how they defend."

Romar also pointed to the Bruins' ability on defense, and added: "I think Darren Collison has done a marvelous job replacing Jordan Farmar (at point guard). I thought that would be where the biggest dropoff would be.

There hasn't been a dropoff at all."

Romar said he believes his team has to win the conference tournament championship to earn an NCAA tournament berth. That would mean winning four games in

four days on a neutral floor, something no team has done in the five years all 10 schools have been included in the Pac-10 tournament.

"Who knows what the committee will do? At this point, we can't rely on anyone else," he said. "We feel like we have to go out and win four, and that's how we're approaching it. You go in, you know the next time you lose, you're probably out of the NCAA tournament."

A team of Romar's has accomplished such a feat. In 2000, his first season at Saint Louis, the Billikens entered the Conference USA tournament following an 84-41 loss at Cincinnati, and then had to face the Bearcats in the second-round.

Dukes receive shot in arm

On-campus shooting victim's resurgence motivates Duquesne

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — If the slumping Duquesne Dukes need a motivational lift going into the Atlantic 10 tournament, perhaps Sam Ashaolu will provide it.

Ashaolu's basketball future, and his life, were very much in doubt only a few months ago, but he is expected to rejoin the Dukes on the court in a few weeks.

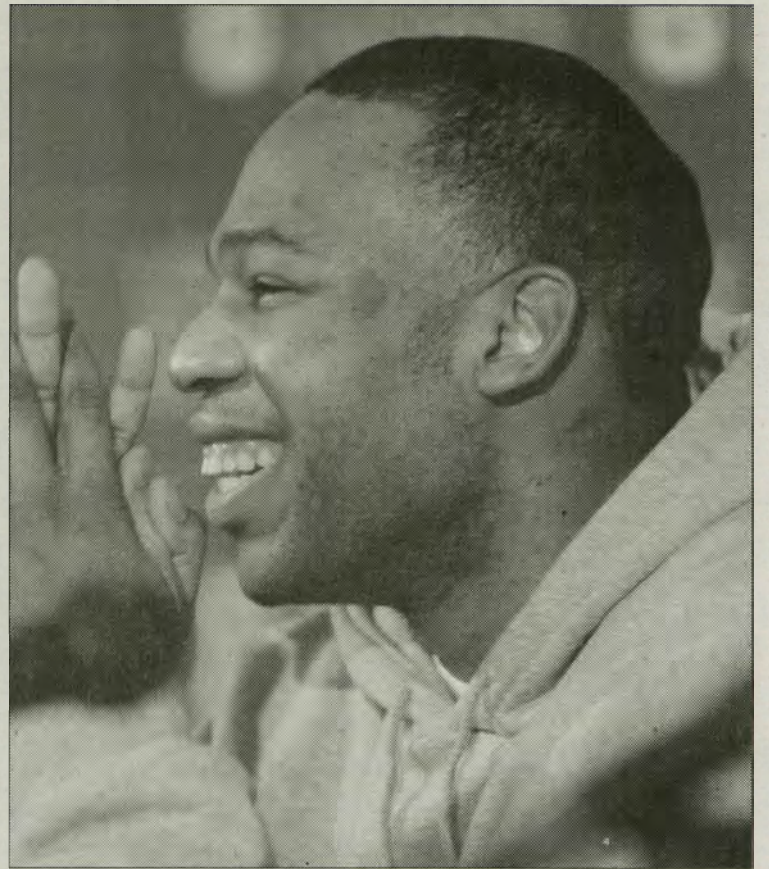
Ashaolu, who nearly died Sept. 17 after being one of five Dukes players shot following an on-campus party, has been cleared to resume on-court activity despite still having the fragments of two bullets in his head.

Once the Dukes' informal offseason workouts begin, the 6-foot-7 Ashaolu is planning to scrimmage and take part in drills.

He also expects to resume taking classes this summer, another milestone that wasn't expected nearly so soon, if it all. He needs an NCAA medical waiver to work out with the Dukes until he is re-enrolled, but that is not expected to be a problem considering the circumstances.

The former North Dakota junior college player will need time to regain his on-court reflexes, quickness and mobility, but it now seems likely he can practice next season. If he receives NCAA clearance for an additional season or seasons of eligibility beyond the normal limit, he could play again in the 2008-09 season.

"Just watching him is the biggest win a coach could have ever have, knowing where he was medically and the improvement he's made in five short months," Duquesne coach Ron Everhart said. "It's really amazing and truly is a mira-



Sam Ashaolu, the most seriously injured of the five shooting victims of the Duquesne basketball team, smiles during a news conference in Pittsburgh Nov. 13.

cle."

That the 24-year-old Ashaolu lived was considered remarkable by his doctors — some did not expect him to make it through the first 24 hours after being shot in the back of the head. As he clung precariously to life for several days, family members were warned he might need supervised around-the-clock care the rest of his life.

Instead, Ashaolu not only got better very quickly, he has surprised his doctors by improving every month.

At a Nov. 13 news conference, Mercy Hospital neurosurgeon Daniel Bursick cautioned that while Ashaolu's recovery was encouraging, there were "no promises, no guarantees" for the future. Other doctors warned his progress might soon level off.

Last week, however,

Bursick told older brother John Ashaolu that Sam could start doing whatever he wanted to do.

"I asked the doctor, 'Do you mean, like physical contact?' and he said, 'Yeah,'" said John Ashaolu, a Duquesne graduate assistant. "He was almost nonchalant about it. Sam is healing pretty well, and he's still in the process of healing, but if he feels he's up to it, he can go ahead and do it."

There was additional encouraging medical news last week, too — the swelling around the bullet fragments has gone down considerably.

"I feel very optimistic that he's definitely going to play again," John Ashaolu said. "He's almost back to normal. He's regaining his form. I see him working out and I'm very encouraged by what I see."

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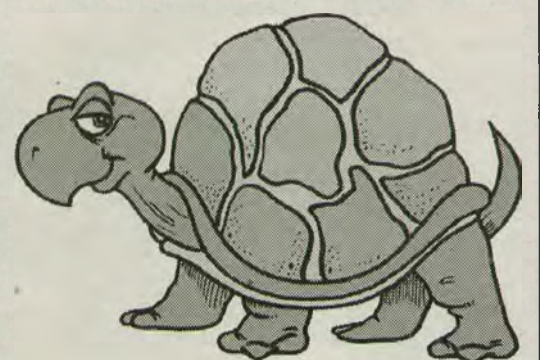
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MLB

**Bonds registers
first hits of year**

*Giants' slugger gets
comfortable at new
spot in batting order*

Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Although Barry Bonds is still dragging from the flu, he was strong enough to get his first hits of spring training in what might be his new spot in the San Francisco Giants' batting order.

Bonds went 2-for-3 with a double and two RBIs in an 8-4 victory over the Los Angeles Angels on Tuesday, the slugger's first game action since his spring debut four days ago.

"I'm behind a little bit," said Bonds, who was winded and weary while still shaking off his illness. "I just wanted to really see pitches. I wasn't really going to swing — just actually see pitches and be out there. I was fighting (the flu), but I had fun."

The longtime cleanup hitter batted third as the Giants' designated hitter against the Angels, and manager Bruce Bochy said Bonds probably will stay in that spot through the spring and beyond. Bonds, who persevered despite getting dizzy while running the bases, seems excited about his new skipper's plan.

"That's something I'm going to do for a while here in the spring, maybe get a look at it," Bochy said. "You give him one more at-bat. You get him up definitely in the first inning, maybe allow him to get an extra at-bat later in the game, but also get him off his legs a little bit, maybe 40 or 50 innings when he hits in the eighth and I can throw somebody out there (as a ninth-inning defensive replacement)."

From 1995 until late June 2002, Bonds was the Giants' No. 3 hitter 900 times — roughly 86 percent of his appearances, including most of his record 73-homer campaign in 2001. Since moving into the cleanup spot three months before San Francisco's run to the 2002 World Series, Bonds has batted third for the Giants just 32 times — only 7 percent of his games.

But Bonds is optimistic about the possible move, chiefly because the Giants have Dave Roberts in the leadoff spot this season. The slugger thinks San Francisco hasn't had a leadoff hitter with Roberts' speed and ability since Kenny Lofton was in uniform for that World Series run.

Bonds thinks Roberts will help

him by stealing bases and causing havoc for opponents — even if it also opens up more chances for fearful pitchers to add to Bonds' major league record of 645 intentional walks.

"For me to (hit third), I need somebody who wants to run," Bonds said. "Me and Dave have got to get out on the field together first, (but) there's a lot of open doors in that situation."

The change is still in the experimental stages — as is Bonds' evaluation of several new models of his favorite Canadian maple bats. The seven-time NL MVP says he won't know anything for certain about the upcoming season and his chase of Hank Aaron's home run record until he gets back to full strength.

"My legs feel a lot better," Bonds said. "I'm still slow as hell, but my legs feel good. I just started eating again. I hadn't eaten for two days, except drinking soup."

Bonds went 0-for-2 in the Giants' spring opener last Friday, but was soon sidelined by the flu that ravaged San Francisco's roster in recent weeks. He stayed home in bed on Saturday and Sunday, and returned only for a brief batting practice session

Monday after most of his teammates had left the Giants' training complex for a game in Tucson.

Though still coughing on Tuesday morning, Bonds felt strong enough to pick up his bats. Unless he feels a whole lot worse Wednesday morning, he plans to play again at the Seattle Mariners' complex in Peoria — making a rare road trip to get his 42-year-old body closer to game shape.

Bonds worked a full count in his first-inning at-bat against Angels starter Joe Saunders before drawing a walk.

In the third, he hit a 2-2 fastball to Maicer Izturis, who was playing on the grass behind second base — but Bonds actually hustled down the line and beat Izturis' high throw for a single. Bonds advanced to second before getting doubled off base on Rich Aurilia's sharp liner to shortstop.

Bonds' groundout in the fourth scored Frederick Lewis, who drove in two runs earlier in San Francisco's four-run inning.

Against non-roster right-hander Marc Gwyn in the sixth, Bonds took two called strikes before hitting a liner into left field, where Nick Gorneault got the ball in his glove, but couldn't hang on.

*"I'm behind a little
bit."*

**Barry Bonds
Giants outfielder**



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NHL

Lowly Flyers stun Brodeur, Devils in overtime

Budaj stops all 21 shots as Avalanche extend winning streak to 5 games, move closer to final playoff spot in West

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — A mix of exciting, new players and talented holdovers are giving the Philadelphia Flyers hope for the future.

Simon Gagne scored 1:47 into overtime, leading the Flyers to a 5-4 victory over the New Jersey Devils on Tuesday night.

Scottie Upshall, Geoff Sanderson, Sami Kapanen and Mike Richards also scored as Philadelphia beat the Devils for the first time in six tries this season.

Martin Biron, making his first start at home since the Flyers got him from Buffalo at the trade deadline, had 37 saves. Upshall, one of four players in the lineup that arrived in trades last month, has four goals in nine games with Philadelphia.

"We're not looking up at the standings," said Upshall, who was part of the deal that sent Peter Forsberg to Nashville. "We're just playing hard, playing in-your-face style hockey."

A perennial playoff participant, the Flyers have the fewest points (47) in the NHL. But, they're 7-6-6 since the All-Star break and are hoping a strong finish can carry over into next season.

Brad Lukowich, Zach Parise, Patrik Elias and Sergei Brylin scored for the Atlantic Division-leading Devils, who lost their third straight game.

Lukowich scored the tying goal with 5:35 left in regulation after the Flyers failed to clear the puck in front.

Gagne took a pass from Randy Jones and put his own rebound past Martin Brodeur to win it.

"I made a good save. It just went right back on his stick," Brodeur said. "He kind of read the play. It just bounced back on his stick. It was a goal scorer's goal."

Gagne credited Jones for his team-leading 36th goal.

"I was open at the side of the net and Jonesy made a great pass," Gagne said.

Each time the Devils went ahead in the second period, the Flyers answered quickly. Just 42 seconds after Brylin deflected in a slap shot from Elias to give the Devils a 3-2 lead, Richards tied it with a shot that went between Lukowich's legs and past Brodeur.

Upshall gave the Flyers a 4-3 lead 1:25 later. He had just two goals in 14 games for the Predators.

Biron preserved the one-goal lead with a pad save on a point-blank shot by Scott Gomez early in the third and made an acrobatic stop during a Devils' power play midway through the period.

While flat on his back, Biron turned his body, kicked his right leg up and somehow stopped a slap shot by Jamie Langenbrunner, earning a standing ovation from a home crowd that's had few reasons to cheer this season.

"When the trade was made, I was excited because I knew I liked playing in this building," Biron said. "It's a place I'm comfortable in."

New Jersey, which is chasing Buffalo for first place in the Eastern Conference, missed an opportunity to gain ground on the Sabres.

"We've just got to get back playing our game," Langenbrunner said. "Right now we're making too many mistakes, we're turning the puck over too many times and giving them way too many chances."

Colorado 2, Boston 0

Left for also-ran status just a week ago, the Colorado Avalanche are suddenly back in the Western Conference playoff picture.

Peter Budaj stopped 21 shots and Brett Clark broke a scoreless deadlock in the third period to lift the Avalanche to their fourth straight win, over the Boston Bruins on Tuesday night.

Milan Hejduk scored an empty-net goal and added an assist for the Avalanche, 3-0 on

a season-high, five-game road trip. Colorado, ninth in the West, pulled to eight points behind Minnesota for the eighth and final playoff spot. The Wild lost to San Jose 3-0 on Tuesday.

Colorado has gained six points on Minnesota during its winning streak, and will play the Wild twice more this season. The Avalanche trail Calgary — which beat St. Louis 4-2 on Tuesday — by 10 points for seventh place in the conference. Colorado has three games remaining against the Flames.

"We've got to make a great run," Avalanche coach Joel Quenneville said. "We're playing the teams we have to catch, so we control our own destiny. But we still have to win almost every game."

If Budaj keeps playing the way he has, that shouldn't be a problem.

Budaj, chosen as the NHL's No. 3 star for last week, made seven saves in each period to record his third shutout of the season and fifth of his career.

He stopped Mark Mowers on a breakaway in the closing seconds of the first period, then made a glove save on Glen Murray's one-timer early in the second to thwart Boston's two best scoring chances.

"We just didn't create in the offensive zone," Boston center Patrice Bergeron said. "We stood around instead of going to the net. Tonight, we weren't crashing the net."

Tim Thomas stopped 28 shots for the Bruins, whose two-game winning streak ended. Boston is 12th in the East, four places and four points behind eighth-place Carolina.

"Tonight was an important game," Thomas said. "Four points out of the playoffs going in, it could have been two if we got the win. We had a chance to pick up some points tonight, and we didn't get the job done."

Atlanta 4, Florida 2

Keith Tkachuk is surprised



Bruins right wing Brandon Bochenski, right, checks Avalanche defender Ossi Vaananen into the boards during Boston's 2-0 win Tuesday.

the Atlanta Thrashers have had such an easy time against the Florida Panthers.

"They have a lot of good young players over there," Tkachuk said. "They are a young team with nothing to lose."

Tkachuk scored his first two goals with Atlanta to help the Thrashers to their fourth straight win, over the Panthers on Tuesday night.

Ilya Kovalchuk and Marian Hossa continued leading Atlanta's dominance of Florida. The Thrashers are 6-0 against their Southeast Division rival this season and have won 10 straight over the Panthers at home.

"Atlanta has an All-Star lineup and taking [a lot] of penal-

ties against those guys is not going to work in our favor," Florida's Chris Gratton said after his team tied a season high with 10 infractions. "I don't think it was the refs' fault."

Scoring his 35th goal with two assists, Kovalchuk has 11 points in the season series. His wristed made it 3-2 with 6:24 remaining. Tkachuk's second goal, on a power play, capped the scoring with 1:51 remaining.

"When we acquired Keith, we knew he is a great player and a veteran, but he has an unbelievable presence at the net," Atlanta coach Bob Hartley said. "He is strong, smart and knows how to position himself."

Hossa's 39th goal gave the Thrashers a 2-1 lead with 16:59 remaining. Atlanta had a two-man advantage when he took Alexei Zhitnik's pass from the right circle and used a wristed to beat Ed Belfour.

Hossa has six goals and eight points against Florida this season.

"We didn't play much even-strength," Panthers captain Olli Jokinen said. "Both teams were fouling hard. Some fouls weren't called. The first 20 games, they called everything. Then they go back to the old rules. That's tough."

Juraj Kolnik scored his ninth goal 4:54 later to make it 2-2. Gratton held up Shane Hnidy long enough to help Kolnik move down the slot and fire the puck under Kari Lehtonen's pads.

Tkachuk, acquired in a Feb. 25 trade with St. Louis, opened the scoring on a breakaway when he skated past Bryan Allen and beat Belfour to the glove side with a backhand 2:41 into the game.

"We had a lot of chances," Tkachuk said. "We had a couple of five-on-threes, and you should be able to take advantage of those."

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BET

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Mike Brey said. "I think if we can keep the same frame of mind that we've had the last couple of weeks, that will certainly help us."

Falls and Carter won't just be trying to buck their own history when Notre Dame takes the floor Thursday after a first round bye. In the 11 years the Irish have been in the Big East, they have won just three games.

Falls said this time will be different.

"This is a different year, different team," he said. "You just have to go at it like that. You have to get hot, play well and catch some breaks."

Falls' last-second shot in 2004 gave the Irish their most recent Big East victory. Brey's only other win came in 2002, when Notre Dame earned a bye and then beat St. John's to advance to the conference semifinals before falling to Connecticut, 82-77.

Overall, Brey is just 2-6 in Big East tournament games.

Notre Dame's only other confer-

ence tournament win came in 2000, under then-coach Matt Doherty. Doherty's squad defeated Rutgers in the first round and then lost to Miami the next night. The coach before Doherty, John MacLeod, was 0-4 in the Big East tournament.

But Brey doesn't want to live in the past.

"You don't want to play afraid to lose," he said. "You don't want to play looking over your shoulder."

This season, Notre Dame earned a bye with its 11-5 record and fourth-place finish in the conference. The Irish won in the quarterfinals in 2002 after earning a bye, but lost to Pittsburgh in 2001.

Syracuse and Connecticut will square off today at 2 p.m. for the right to face the Irish Thursday at the same time. The Orange went 10-6 in the conference this year, while the Huskies struggled to a 6-10 record.

Waiting until 24 hours before the game to know the opponent will not faze his team, Brey said.

"You've been through so many scouting reports and you go through so many quick adjustments [through the season]," Brey said.

"You can go over things on film quickly, but really scouting is almost overrated at this point in the season."

More important for the Irish than a chance to size up their opponent is an extra day of much-needed rest, Carter said.

"[The bye helps] maybe just a little bit as far as scouting reports, because you get to watch the game," Carter said. "Definitely as far as stamina. We get a couple of days rest before."

The Irish have not played Connecticut this season, but beat Syracuse 103-91 at the Carrier Dome Jan. 30.

Brey said the win earlier this year won't matter. If the Orange get by the Huskies, they will have won seven of their last nine.

"Once you get to New York and you get into that atmosphere, it's all even again," he said. "It's who's healthy, who's fresh, who's confident, who's playing a little better. It gets very mental, I think, when you get to March."

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu and Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

Irish in the BET

2006 Lost to Georgetown 67-63 in first round

2005 Lost to Rutgers 72-65 in first round

2004 Beat West Virginia 65-64 in first round
Lost to UConn 66-68 in quarterfinals

2003 Lost to St. John's 83-80 in first round

2002 Beat St. John's 83-63 in quarterfinals
Lost to UConn 82-77 in semifinals

2001 Lost to Pitt 66-54 in quarterfinals

2000 Beat Rutgers 74-62 in first round
Lost to Miami 61-58 in quarterfinals

1999 Lost to Seton Hall 68-79 in first round

1998 Lost to Providence 72-55 in the first round

1997 Lost to Syracuse 84-66 in the first round

1996 Lost to Syracuse 76-55 in the first round

JEFF ALBERT/The Observer

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Brey named Big East Coach of the Year

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

Irish coach Mike Brey earned Big East Coach of the Year honors for the 2006-07 season Tuesday. Brey becomes the second Notre Dame coach after John MacLeod in 1997 to win the award.

Under Brey, the Irish are 125-62 overall (60-36 Big

East) and have made the NCAA Tournament three times (2001, 2002, 2003), reaching the Sweet 16 in '03.

This season, the Irish won 11 games in conference play for the first time since 2001 and won all 18 of their contests inside the Joyce Center.

"There's no better coach day to day that's into it with his players on and off the court," Notre Dame guard

Colin Falls said. "He just understands 18 to 21-year-old kids and that's probably his greatest strength."

The Irish were projected to finish 11th in the Big East coming into this year, and their chances of a strong finish seemed to diminish when the university suspended sophomore guard Kyle McAlarney in December.

But under Brey's leader-

ship, Notre Dame finished fourth and earned a bye in the first round of the Big East tournament.

The Irish tip off Thursday at 2 p.m. against either Syracuse or Connecticut in the second round of the Big East tournament.

The Notre Dame game will be televised on ESPN.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

MEN'S TENNIS

Irish seniors made their own luck at home

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

When Notre Dame defeated Michigan a year ago this March, head coach Bobby Bayliss never expected the team to remain undefeated on its home courts to this day. Notre Dame's 6-1 win over Washington Monday marked the 17th straight home win for the Irish.

A key factor in the Irish success over the past two years has been the continual presence of now veteran players like seniors Stephen Bass, Ryan Keckley and Barry King and juniors Sheeva Parbhu and Andrew Roth. All five players were present when Notre Dame defeated Michigan in 2005 en route to an undefeated home winning streak.

As these key players

matured, so too did the skill of the team and the strength of its roster. The upperclassmen led Notre Dame to victory over Ohio State Feb. 24, 2006. The 5-2 loss to the Irish was the only defeat the Buckeyes would suffer in the regular season.

"All our guys have key match experience," Bayliss said. "And I really think our success this year is the willingness of the players to commit to each other and to buy into what it takes to be great."

With five upperclassmen in the six singles positions, Notre Dame's experience on the courts has continued to show — especially at home. It is important to always take home court advantage into account when looking at a team's success at home, Bayliss said. The Irish defeated top-10 teams Ohio State and Louisville last year, and both of those matches

were won at home.

"We've won some close matches here, and I think you tend to win more of those at home when your crowd is behind you and the guys are playing their hardest," Bayliss said.

Playing at home means that a team not only has a crowd cheering it on but also is familiar with the courts and how to play the ball.

"Our guys have matured, and I'd love to say that I have the right magic tricks, but I think that everyone plays better at home," Bayliss said. "You are familiar with the courts, you've got a supportive crowd — there a lot of reasons why the home team plays better."

The Irish will begin their transition to outdoor play when they head down to Montgomery, Ala. for the Blue/Gray National Tennis

Classic. Bayliss said the team will look to make the transition by focusing on the physical factors that the change presents. The Irish will have to adjust to the heat, Bayliss said, and to how the wind affects not only their play but also the overall game.

Notre Dame travels to Montgomery March 12 to begin training for the tournament after a grueling week of practice and midterms. Bayliss recognizes that his players have made sacrifices and stressed that they are the ones who carried Notre Dame to its undefeated home streak.

"I think they've given up some things, and they are pretty focused, so I think they are the ones that get the credit," he said.

Contact Deirdre Krasula at dkrasula@nd.edu

Zibby

continued from page 24

bouts — was to raise money for a number of charitable organizations.

The Tommy Z9 Foundation, Zbikowski's charity that raises money to fight cystic fibrosis, and

Irish football coach Charlie Weis' Hannah & Friends both received considerable amounts of money through ticket sales, raffles and various memorabilia items auctioned throughout the night. Weis, along with many members of the football team, were on hand to support their defensive captain.

"The fact that [Zbikowski] included Hannah & Friends was a

very generous thought on his part," Weis said.

Zbikowski decided to include the coach's foundation as a way of thanking him for allowing him to participate in the fight. Weis was concerned about his starting safety's health, but confident in his ability to stay out of harm's way.

"Tommy is a very confident per-

son when it comes to boxing. He knows what he is doing in there," Weis said.

Although there was no encore to Zbikowski's knockout debut in Madison Square Garden, the 210-pounder held his own against St. Germaine, bloodying him in the first and third rounds. The biggest punches of the night came in the final round when

Cwynar

continued from page 24

tackles and 17 sacks. Despite playing tackle on Marian's defensive line, Mike Frank mostly sees Cwynar playing at defensive end in defensive coordinator Corwin Brown's 3-4 defensive scheme.

Cwynar agrees. "[Notre Dame's coaches] like me at the defensive end position in the three front," he said. "I'm pretty versatile. I can move from the big guy, I'm pretty powerful, I can move on my feet pretty well."

He also was named All-State and Academic All-State as a junior.

Academics were an important contributing factor for Cwynar, who listed Notre Dame's combination of strong academics and athletics as a major factor in his decision to commit so early.

"I just made a decision and I knew that there's no really other school, so I didn't want to waste any other school's time or waste my time so there's no reason to wait," he said.

For Frank, Cwynar proved that Brown can be successful in bringing in new talent to run his 3-4 defense. Although recruiting coordinator Rob lanello was most active in recruiting Cwynar, Brown was also heavily involved.

"He sure had a lot of positive things to say about Coach Brown and I think that's a very good sign," Frank said. "Not only for recruiting purposes, but it seems Coach Brown is doing a really nice job of reaching out to these kids and getting them excited about Notre Dame's defense."

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu and Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

Zbikowski landed three big rights to send his opponent staggering backwards.

The almost completely pro-Zibby crowd roared, but St. Germaine was able to quickly regain his composure and finish the fight well.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Noriko Nakazaki hits an iron shot during the Lady Irish Invitational on Sept. 23. The Irish finished second in the event.

Family

continued from page 24

"I played many different sports, such as swimming, tennis and cross country," she said. "But my parents encouraged me to stick with one sport, and I chose golf."

It is fortunate for the Irish that she listened.

Nakazaki lettered all four years in golf at Hoffman Estates High School in Hanover Park, Ill., where she served as captain her senior year. She was the cornerstone of her team, earning all-conference honors, and was recognized as the team MVP in each of her four years in high school.

As soon as she set foot on campus, Nakazaki began assaulting the record books, setting two school records in her first tournament with the Irish. At the Cougar Classic, she scored a then-record 69 in the first round — the lowest in school history — and shot an unprecedented one-over par 217 for 54 holes.

The senior continues to cement her legacy in Irish history through her dominant play. She's earned two-time All-Big East selections along with many more school records.

Nakazaki has also learned to balance the demands of being a Notre Dame student and athlete. She proved her success in both arenas when she was

named a Big East Academic All-Star in the 2004-05 season.

"Receiving education at an institution like the University of Notre Dame means a lot to me not only because I learned a lot about finance and the business world, but also because it prepared me to be in the real world," Nakazaki said. "Education gave me the power to make choices in my life."

Much of her success both on the course and in the classroom can be attributed to her stringent, precise work ethic.

"Whether it is golf or academics, I always strive for the best and perfection," Nakazaki said.

To pinpoint where this determination and resolve comes from, Nakazaki credits her mother, Ritsuko Nakazaki.

"My mother has been a role model for me," she said. "She taught me to work hard and to appreciate others."

Although Noriko Nakazaki admits that one day she would aspire to "be on the LPGA tour and become the world's best player," she is currently focused on one goal — to golf at the NCAA regional, with hopes of advancing to the final.

But no matter how the season ends for Nakazaki, she will always have her family to thank for her involvement in the sport she loves.

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

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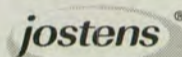


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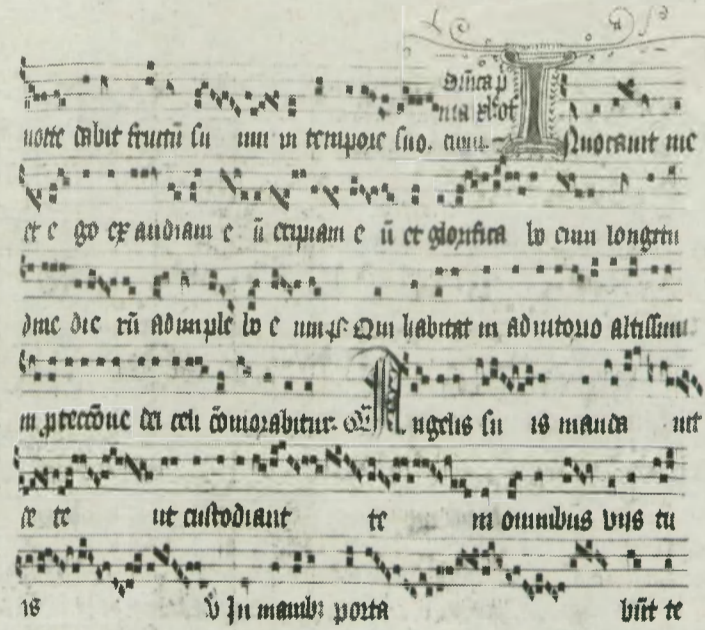
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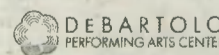
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KALEIDOSCOPE McDANIELS

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The Observer apologizes for the absence of Kaleidoscope McDaniels.

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE puzzle instructions and grid. Includes a cartoon of a student and a reference to a 'GHOST' OF A CHANCE.

HOROSCOPE

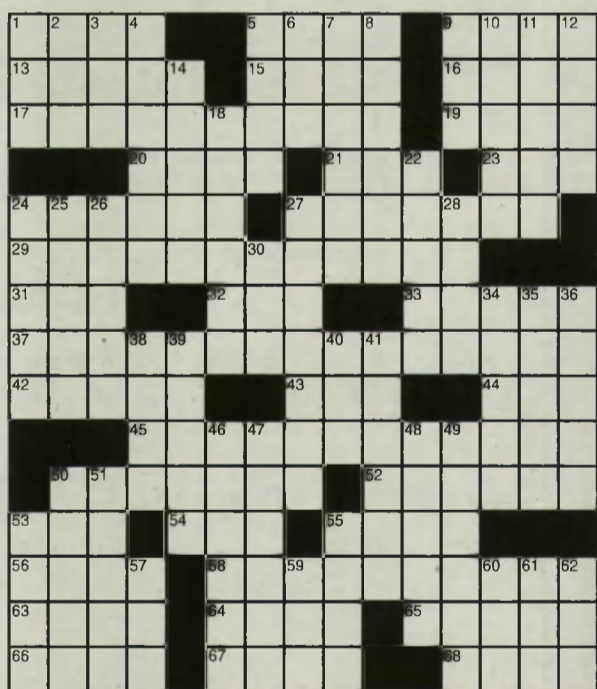
EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Eli Marienthal, 21; Shaquille O'Neal, 35; D.L. Hughley, 44; Rob Reiner, 60. Horoscope entries for Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Sagittarius, Capricorn, and Aquarius.

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS: 1 Mecca trek, 5 Easy mark, in cards, 9 Pale hue, 13 Like the verb "to be": Abbr., 15 Story starter, 16 Done for, 17 Pittsburgh Hall-of-Fame third baseman, 19 Old platter player, 20 Number before neuf, 21 Bylaw, briefly, 23 Perfect rating, 24 Let go, 27 Wild, 29 The man from U.N.C.L.E., 31 Bermuda hrs., 32 Turn-of-the-century year, 33 Sesame Street denizen, 37 Provocative pic, 42 Actress DeVito of "Modern Love", 43 Thumbs-down, 44 Jersey call, 45 Credit of a sort, 50 June commemoration, 52 Obstacles, 53 Bill's partner, 54 California river named for a common sight in it, 55 Button on a remote, 56 Book ascribed to Luke, 58 Make light of, 63 Spouse, 64 ___ salad, 65 Dashboard feature, 66 Team's burden, 67 Sets, as a price, 68 Masculine side.



Puzzle by Gary Steinmehl

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SWAMI FOSSE PTS TOLET COLOR AAH ARM THE CHAIR NBA BEARER TRACTOR EELERS TAHOE HEF WEAK CASE ALICE SOAR ACED WORLDLY RUNLATE KNEE EAST OSKAR TVPG AINT ELM ACHER PLEASE QUERIES SONOMA ATM SPARETHERIB BEA MELON ORALB AYN SEMIS TONKA

- DOWN: 1 In the groove, 2 "Exodus" hero, 3 Rap's Dr. ____, 4 Elly May's TV cousin, 5 Four-time Indy winner, 6 Night spot, 7 Looks down on, 8 Contractual adverb, 9 Workable wood, 10 "Indubitably!", 11 Starving, 12 Blood-related, 14 Fare for Oliver Twist, 18 With 53-Down, officer's helper, 22 Lively round dance, 24 Chips, maybe, 25 Turkish V.I.P. of old, 26 More likely, 27 Like some close likenesses, 28 Dance violently, 30 Infrequent: Abbr., 34 One with one-liners, 35 Make up, 36 1976 best seller that opens "four days upriver from the coast of The Gambia".

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$34.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

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FOOTBALL RECRUITING

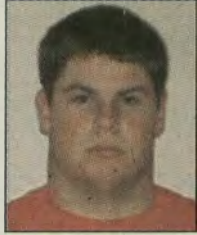
Illinois defensive lineman commits for Class of 2012

Marian Central star draws comparisons to former DT Landri

By JAY FITZPATRICK and KEN FOWLER
Sports Writers

Notre Dame landed its fourth verbal commitment — and third lineman — for the Class

of 2012 Tuesday when defensive tackle Sean Cwynar of Woodstock, Ill., said he would play for Irish coach Charlie Weis. Cwynar, a junior at Marian Central Catholic High School,



Cwynar

is listed at 6-foot-4 and 283 pounds. Players cannot sign binding letters of intent until next February. One of the reasons Cwynar decided to commit early to the Irish was because he wanted to be active in recruiting other players to play for Notre Dame. "If I commit now maybe I can have some other commits jump in the boat and help make something special," he said.

Cwynar had offers from Iowa, Michigan State, Purdue and Wisconsin, among others. Mike Frank, who covers Notre Dame recruiting for IrishEyes.com, said Cwynar received so many offers this early because of great potential in the college game. Frank also said Cwynar plays a lot like another Irish defensive standout. "He reminds me a lot of Derek Landri, but a guy who's

bigger and stronger than Landri coming out of high school," Frank said. "He shows the same kind of quickness and the same kind of tenacity that you'll see from Derek Landri when he plays on the field." Cwynar was the defensive player of the year in the Suburban Catholic athletic conference, registering 102

see CWYNAR/page 21

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Beasts of the East

Fourth-seeded Irish look to shake Big East tournament demons

By CHRIS KHOREY and CHRIS HINE
Sports Writers

Four years ago, Colin Falls hit a three to beat West Virginia in the first round of the Big East tournament. Little did the then-freshman know that he would lose his next three Big East tournament games and, along with fellow fourth-year player Russell Carter, would still be looking for that elusive second win as a senior. "I think that's one thing our seniors have talked about — getting better in New York — but we still have to go and do it," Irish coach

See Also
"Brey named Big East Coach of the Year"
page 21



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Left, Notre Dame forward Rob Kurz pulls up a jump shot against Blue Demons forward Wilson Chandler at DePaul Feb. 8. Right, guard Colin Falls shoots from behind the 3-point arc over DePaul guard Sammy Mejia. The Irish lost to the Blue Demons 67-66.

see BET/page 21

WOMEN'S GOLF

Family inspires Nakazaki



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Noriko Nakazaki prepares to tee off on Sept. 23 at the Lady Irish Invitational, where the Irish placed second overall.

Golfer credits family influences for success on the course, in class

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

Spirited competition and sibling rivalries are what sparked Noriko Nakazaki's drive and passion to play golf for the Irish. The senior co-captain of the women's golf team first became interested in the sport at age 11, thanks to her two older brothers. Playing the role of the young, curious sister who watched her brothers compete, Nakazaki was drawn to the game. Nakazaki's parents asked her to focus on just one of her many athletic interests.

see FAMILY/page 22

FOOTBALL

Zibby headlines local exhibition matchup

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

At approximately 10:30 Tuesday night, Irish safety Tom Zbikowski finished a three-round exhibition match at the Century Center in South Bend. Just 12 hours earlier Zbikowski didn't have medics, a ring or an opponent.



Zbikowski

Zbikowski, the headliner of the 12-bout event, was originally slated to take on heavyweight fighter Kevin Murphy. However, Murphy was recently suspended after testing positive for unspecified illegal

substances. Ed Zbikowski, Tom's manager and father, scrambled to find a new opponent with less than 24 hours notice. "We don't know what to expect, but this is the way Tommy lives his whole life," Zbikowski said shortly before the bout began. He was able to add Ryan St. Germaine, a 25-year-old fighter out of Goshen, Ind., to the card earlier that afternoon. St. Germaine began his professional career a month ago and has gone 1-1 in his two fights since. No winner was declared in Tuesday's fight because judges only keep scoring during official, non-exhibition matches. However, the focus of the night — which included eight amateur and three professional

see ZIBBY/page 21