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SMC senior holds personal protest

Brady gathers signatures to support a reversal of federal ban on partial-birth abortions

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

One Saint Mary's senior spent four hours sitting on the library green Wednesday, gathering signatures to support a reversal of the federal ban on partial-birth abortions as part of a personal protest.

Erin Brady, a student in Professor Amanda Littauer's women's studies course, spent the afternoon "cold and alone" to show her solidarity for women who feel that their only choice is to have a child due to federal bans on partial-birth abortions.

"There are thousands of women who feel as though

they have no choice either due to financial reasons, or lack of resources," Brady said. "Eighty percent of communities in the United States do not have abortion facilities."

While the signature gathering is part of her "activism in action" assignment for Littauer's course, Brady said it is also a "personal protest."

"Obviously Saint Mary's is Catholic," Brady said.

She discussed the College's Right to Life Club's prominent events on campus, like its display of white crosses on the library green each fall during Respect Life Week to



LIZ HARTER/The Observer

Saint Mary's senior Erin Brady gathers signatures to support women's reproductive rights on the library green Wednesday.

see PROTEST/page 4

Songwriter makes visit to College

J Moss to perform at Moreau Center tonight

By KATIE KOHLER
Saint Mary's Editor

In coordination with the Healthy Communities Initiative of St. Joseph County and the Great American Smokeout, Saint Mary's will host J Moss, a Detroit-based songwriter and record producer tonight at 7 in O'Laughlin Auditorium.

J Moss is part of the three-man team PAJAM, which has produced artists such as *N Sync, Michelle Williams of Destiny's Child, Dru Hill and Boyz II Men. He was nominated for seven Stellar Gospel Music Awards this year including Artist of the Year, Male Vocalist of the Year and CD of the year.

The concert is also sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs at Saint Mary's, Lexus of Mishawaka and WUBU. Admission is \$15.

The Great American Smokeout, which is typically held on the third Thursday of November, is a nationwide initiative to curb smoking, started in the 1970s. The event calls for a one-day moratorium for

see WRITER/page 4

ND students study, intern in D.C.

15 Notre Dame students getting real-world career experience in nation's capital this fall

By DAVID RHORER Jr.
News Writer

The Notre Dame Washington Program offers students real-world opportunities in the nation's capital with its internship opportunities, said Liz LaFortune, the on-campus coordinator for the Program.

"[Students] are signing up for more than just classes," she said. "The hallmark of

the Washington Program is the internship."

Every student in the program is required to intern in addition to having a regular course workload, LaFortune said.

Fifteen Notre Dame students are currently studying — and interning — in Washington, and 21 are planning to participate next semester.

Former Washington Program interns said their

experiences helped prepare them for their future careers.

"The major advantage to being in D.C. is getting a jumpstart on your career" said Julie Opet, a senior who studied in Washington and interned for the Hudson Institute last year.

Senior Mike Laskey said the Program has a "life after college" aspect, which prepares students for submitting résumés and conducting

interviews, in addition to establishing connections.

"I came out of the program having a much more precise idea of what I want to do as a career," senior Laura Brockelman said.

Internship opportunities in Washington are very diverse and flexible, LaFortune said.

"The field is really wide open," she said. "Students meet with me to determine

see INTERNS/page 6

STUDENT SENATE

Resolution passes, but with error

Incorrect information on dorm workout facilities slips by senators

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

The Student Senate unanimously passed a resolution Wednesday recommending the University increase the amount of funding allocated to dorms to improve their workout facilities; however, the resolution contained an inaccuracy that no one in the Senate caught.

Senate Residence Life committee chair Mariana Montes presented the resolution, the product of research conducted through a survey of the condition of the workout equipment in



JESSICA LEE/The Observer

Student body president Liz Brown, left, and vice president Maris Braun preside over Wednesday's Student Senate meeting.

see SENATE/page 4

Cancer survivor tackles 515K race

SMC prof raises funds, awareness for research

By KATLYN SMITH
News Writer

Saint Mary's chemistry professor Toni Barstis, a triathlete for seven years, did not view her cancer diagnosis as a death sentence. For her, it was motivation to keep training.

Barstis was one of 35 athletes invited to participate in this year's Ultraman World Championships during Thanksgiving weekend in Hawaii.

She hopes her efforts will encourage other cancer sur-

vivor athletes to continue training and competing.

"If Lance [Armstrong] isn't a great motivator, I can be a motivator for middle-aged women," Barstis said. "Don't take no for an answer. I hope to show the importance of staying fit and reaching for something unattainable."

The two-day event, which covered a total distance of 515 kilometers, was on the Big Island of Hawaii. The first day of competition included a 10-kilometer ocean swim, a 145-kilometer bike race through Volcanoes National Park on day one. On day two, participants completed an additional 276-

see TRIATHLON/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

A little bit of 'Gossip'

It's Wednesday, 9 p.m. And for all you fellow "Gossip Girl" addicts out there, this can only mean one thing — a whole new hour of juicy drama and scandalous happenings to help get you through the week.

Bethany Whitfield

Sure, the show's not any good.

Viewpoint Copy Editor

The characters are over-the-top, the plotlines aren't original and each episode boils down to a bunch of melodramatic teenagers exchanging bad lines.

Yet while my dignity and better judgment try to dissuade me, I can't help but find myself glued to the television awaiting the latest updates on the lives of these Upper East siders.

So here I am, curled up in my classy sweat pants and dorm apparel watching S strut around in a pair of designer boots that probably cost more than my rent. I know I should be employing my time doing something worthwhile, like finishing off that paper that's due tomorrow or watching the spin-off of "Grey's."

But how can I risk missing Blaire and Serena's weekly catfight or Rufus, Lily and Allison's perilous love triangle? (Seriously though, Allison needs to get out of the way so Rufus and Lily can get together already.)

Maybe it's the glitz and glamour of living a high-profile life in New York City that draws me in. Or perhaps it's the promise of cheesy teenage romance that comes with every new episode. Whatever it is, it's got me shamefully hooked to a TV show with ratings as bad as my sophomore grade in Orgo.

The show probably won't last past one season, or at best, two. Which is good, considering the amount of time I'll save once it's off the air.

But for now, I'll enjoy the short escape the show provides from South Bend and papers. It's a world where kids have retired rock-star parents and homework never seems to get in the way of weekday parties.

If you haven't seen the show, don't watch it. After all the dirt's been dished, the episode's over and it's 10:05 p.m., I find myself seriously regretting the loss of an hour of my life to this teenage soap opera (as well as the fact that I have to wait another week to see what happens next).

But, if you're hooked and can't seem to escape your craving for this guilty pleasure, well, you have company.

Maybe with finals week fast approaching I'll be able to nick this unhealthy addiction for good and "Gossip Girl" can become just another bad memory along with the likes of "Dawson's Creek." Maybe then I can get back to watching the occasional, and less embarrassing rerun of "Friends" or "The Daily Show."

But until that happens, I'll shamefully flip to channel five every Wednesday for a little homework procrastination and a little gossip.

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

Contact Bethany Whitfield at bwhitfie@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WOULD IT TAKE FOR YOU TO WORK OUT REGULARLY IN YOUR DORM?



Natalie Helfrick
senior
off campus

"A full body rubdown from Katie Hauswirth."



Katie Hauswirth
senior
off campus

"A post-workout coffee stand."



Joe Sarna
sophomore
Carroll

"Hot Chicks."



Andrew Piotrowski
junior
off campus

"We'd have to have one first, and then I'd go from there."



Meghan O'Connor
junior
Pangborn

"Rap music."



WU YUE/The Observer

In reindeer ears, freshman Lauren Hendersen stands behind a stand as a host of the Howard Halliday celebration Wednesday outside of LaFortune Student Center.

OFFBEAT

Pa. girl told to remove 'unusual' pets

IRWIN, Pa. — A Westmoreland County girl must get rid of her pet rooster and eight other chickens because a zoning board says they are not pets.

The North Huntingdon board on Tuesday rejected a request by 14-year-old Melissa Hensler for a zoning exception.

The township in September told the girl to get rid of her pet rooster, Sundae, after a neighbor complained. The township doesn't allow chickens or other farm animals in residential areas smaller than 20 acres.

The girl hoped to at least keep the chickens until they

die. The zoning board voted 3-2 against her, even though the township gave her rooster a prize for "Most Unusual Pet" two years ago.

Man sentenced in bizarre diagnosing scam

MONROE, La. — A man was sentenced to more than four years in prison for bilking friends and family out of more than \$800,000 by convincing them that his wife was a government agent who could arrange to have their medical problems diagnosed by satellite imaging.

Brent Eric Finley, 38, of Rayville, was sentenced in federal court in Monroe to serve 51 months in prison followed by three years of

supervised release. His wife, Stacey Finley, was sentenced in August to spend 63 months in prison and both are ordered to jointly pay restitution in the amount of \$873,786.94.

U.S. Attorney Donald W. Washington said in a news release following Monday's sentencing of Brent Finley that the couple convinced numerous people that Stacey Finley was a CIA agent and with her contacts she could schedule a medical scan of the victims' bodies by satellite imaging that would detect any hidden medical problems.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Rosary will be said at the Grotto at 6:45 p.m. today. The Rosary is said daily.

Campus Ministry is hosting a celebration of **Our Lady of Guadalupe**. Prayer services held to obtain special graces are being held in St. Edward's Hall Chapel at 9 p.m. each night through Sunday. The celebration is co-sponsored by the Institute for Latino Studies, La Alianza and OLA.

The **Take Ten** program will sponsor local children at the **Robinson Community Learning Center** in a bookmark recognition ceremony at 6 p.m. today. Local school children who participated in the Take Ten program will make bookmarks. The Robinson Center is located at 921 North Eddy Street.

The annual **football banquet** will be held **Friday** at 5:45 p.m. in the **Joyce Center Monogram Room**. The featured speaker will be 1993 graduate **Aaron Taylor**, a two-year All-American Offensive Tackle and Lombardi Award winner. Tickets can be purchased through the **Notre Dame Ticket Office** at 574-631-7356.

The **Glee Club** will hold its annual **Christmas Concert Saturday** at 8:30 p.m. in the **Leighton Concert Hall** in the **DeBartolo Performing Arts Center**. The concert will benefit the **Center for the Homeless** in South Bend.

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	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 27 LOW 24	HIGH 20 LOW 12	HIGH 33 LOW 25	HIGH 31 LOW 30	HIGH 44 LOW 34	HIGH 39 LOW 27

'The Shirt' meets sales goals

Numbers consistent with previous season despite team's losing record

By AMBER TRAVIS
Sports Writer

The Shirt sales reported this year by the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore were consistent with those of previous seasons, despite the football team's losing record.

Junior Jason Gott, president of The Shirt Project 2008, said that sales

through the week before the Duke game projected a total of more than 120,000 shirts sold.

"We were very happy with the sales. We had set a goal for ourselves of 120,000 shirts, and, obviously, we met that goal," Gott said.

He said sales of The Shirt have totaled at least 90,000 in each of the 18 years of the project.

Keith Kirkpatrick, director of retail operations, also said the fact that the majority of this year's home games were late in the season did not negatively affect sales.

Gott said many factors have contributed to the

successful sale of The Shirt. "We definitely had a vision of selling as many shirts as possible in the spring and summer before the football season even started, because that's a good way to build momentum," Gott said. "The more people that you have wearing The Shirt at the first football game, the more other people are going to want to buy it."

"We were very happy with the sales. We had set a goal for ourselves of 120,000 shirts, and, obviously, we met that goal."

Jason Gott
'The Shirt' president

"The Shirt" started to build a reputation, Gott said.

"That's something that really ties people to campus, and a lot of people like the fact that you can only get it on campus," he said. "It's something that you can take with you."

The Shirt's project organization team is currently working on the 19th shirt for next year's football sea-

son, but plans are still in the early stages, Gott said. The team hopes to sell between 120,000 to 130,000 units of next year's The Shirt.

"Because of the consistency in sales over the last few years, I think it's really something that we need to expect of ourselves to reach the same kind of success," he said.

Gott hopes to see more people wearing The Shirt during home games next season, and he wants to see more people attend the unveiling of The Shirt at the Bookstore on the weekend of the Blue-Gold football game.

"We're always trying to

"We're always trying to increase The Shirt's appeal and get the students and the alumni more engaged with it."

Jason Gott
'The Shirt' president

increase The Shirt's appeal and get the students and the alumni more engaged with it," he said. "I think that the bar has been set to the minimum of what the Notre Dame community expects from The Shirt Project, and it's going to be the goal, from now on, to raise that bar."

Contact Amber Travis at atravis@nd.edu

Sociology paper wins second place award

Special to the Observer

A paper written by Notre Dame sociologist Jackie Smith and post-doctoral fellow Dawn Wiest has received the second-place award in an international competition held by the Zurich-based World Society Foundation, a major funder of social science research on the causes and social impact of global change.



Smith

The paper, entitled "Explaining Participation in Regional Transnational Social Movement Organizations," was published this year in the International Journal of Comparative Sociology and examines the trend toward greater regionalism in transnational social movement organizing.

Looking at data from 1980 to 2000, Smith and Wiest found that the European Union, the African Union and other regional institutions encouraged social movement groups to organize within regions,

rather than across geographic divides. The researchers wanted to know whether this meant that global society was becoming more polarized along regional lines or whether it reflected a more complex phenomenon of closer ties among local and global processes.

The study's findings suggest that organizers are responding to regionally defined opportunities rather than becoming polarized along geographic lines.

"Regional organizations are becoming the 'connective tissue' between local and global political arenas," Smith said. "This will allow for greater participation from people and groups with less access to the sites of global policy-making."

Smith is on the faculty of Notre Dame's Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies. She is the author of "Social Movements for Global Democracy" and co-author of "Global Democracy and the World Social Forums."

Wiest is assistant professor of sociology at Memphis State University. In 2006-07, she was a post-doctoral fellow at the Kroc Institute and in Notre Dame's sociology department.

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\$0 Acquisition Fee
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\$1,700 Total Due at Lease Signing

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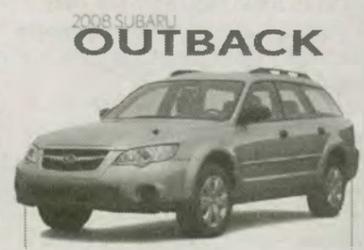
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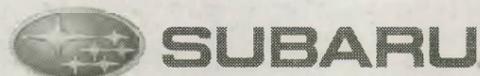
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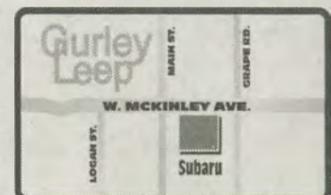
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¹Top Safety Pick includes the 2008 Tribeca. ²Government frontal and side crash tests are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) New Car Assessment Program. See safercar.gov for more detail. Subaru Tribeca and Outback are registered trademarks. Leases based on 10,000 miles per year plus tax, title, license and doc. Rebates to dealer. With qualified credit. Offers expire December 31, 2007.

Writer

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American smokers.

J Moss Live is being advertised as "A Smoke-Free Concert Promoting Healthy Choices."

"J. Moss will really be pushing that message while they're here," said Christopher Sallak, patron services and marketing manager at the College. "There will be a booth at the Student Center raising awareness about smoking also."

Saint Mary's brings in internal and external events,

Sallak said. "This concert is technically external, but has several internal elements since it is partnered with an office at the College," he said.

Internal events include plays, seasonal concerts, recitals and choir performances by Saint Mary's students and faculty.

External events, like the Christopher's Christmas that took place this past week, rent the space, Sallak said and are not sponsored by a group at the College.

"Many of this year's events are based on the beatification of Father Moreau, especially for the namesake of our building," Sallak said. "We try to tie the events into what is going on at Saint Mary's."

The events that come through Saint Mary's are dependent on which department is involved.

"All departments have different budgets. There isn't one large sum," Sallak said. "The budget really comes into play."

The Office of Special Events utilizes local advertising in the South Bend Tribune, The Observer, public radio, online e-newsletters and Facebook.com posts, Sallak said.

Contact Katie Kohler at kkohle01@saintmarys.edu

"The budget is always a factor, which is why we wouldn't bring in a headline rock group party because of expenses."

Christopher Sallak
marketing manager

Protest

continued from page 1

represent the number of abortions in the United States.

"For three years [during my time here], there have been the little, baby crosses and pro-life protests with no voice from the other side," she said. "It's important to represent the other side of this debate."

Brady gathered signatures for the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) from professors and students during her time on the green.

FOCA is an act that "will secure the right to choose by establishing a federal law that will guarantee reproductive freedom for future generations of American women" according to fliers Brady passed out to students. It works to reverse the ban on partial-birth abortions.

"I've had mixed criticism," Brady said of her protest spot in a high traffic area on campus. "It's been a divided audience."

While no one openly crit-

icized her display, she said that she noticed some student quietly commenting negatively to their friends as they passed. But many students, Brady said, seemed to either disregard her totally or to support her.

"I've gotten lots of positive feedback," Brady said. "I had some girls bring me hot chocolate because they said I looked so cold."

Brady began to take down her protest around 5 p.m. when student traffic tapered off. But she said she may organize something else to support reproductive rights in the future.

"[Students] have asked why I didn't advertise that I was doing this because they would have joined," she said. "This was a personal protest, but maybe next time it will be more organized and will have more people because this is an issue that affects women directly."

Contact Liz Harter at eharte01@saintmarys.edu

"For three years [during my time here], there have been the little, baby crosses and pro-life protests with no voice from the other side."

Erin Brady
protester

Please recycle
The Observer.

Senate

continued from page 1

Notre Dame's 27 residence halls.

"Right now, a lot of the workout facilities are subpar," Montes said.

The resolution states that: "The University Web site claims that each dorm contains full workout facilities and the [Residence Life] Committee Report shows otherwise."

A search of the Office of Residence Life and Housing (ORLH) Web site by The Observer revealed no such statement, and in an e-mail to The Observer Wednesday night, Montes said it appeared the sites had been updated since she checked them for the last time in April.

Montes said in her e-mail that while she was preparing the resolution, she had not looked at the Web sites again. She said she would "take the fault for not re-researching the ORLH Web site."

"However, the most important thing I would like to reiterate is that the current dorms that have workout facilities, as listed on the ORLH Web site, do not always have functioning, adequate machines that serve the needs of their residents, and that is really the main focus of this resolution," Montes said.

No senators questioned the clause of the resolution that claimed the University Web site had listed incorrect descriptions of the residence halls. Montes said the resolution would have to be corrected before it was sent to the Campus Life Council for approval.

In the survey Montes' committee conducted, questions about workout facilities were sent to every rector and also to the senators of each residence hall. The survey asked whether the dorm had exercise facilities and, if so, how many people use them and how frequently. The survey also asked about the condition of the

machines and how the facility can be improved.

The survey lacked responses from McGlenn, Sorin, Lyons, Cavanaugh and Lewis halls. Many of the residence halls that have workout facilities said their equipment was old or broken.

The resolution states that "Rolf Sports Recreation Center and Rockne Memorial Workout Facility are full at multiple times during the day," and that "adequate workout facilities are essential to the physical and mental well-being and other success of students."

Montes said the resolution is intentionally vague about how much funding should be given to dorm workout facilities, because, she said, it will allow her to work with ORLH to determine the funding.

"This is just a suggestion for improvement," she said.

The Senate agenda also listed a resolution presented last week by Senate Oversight Committee chair Ian Secviar again, but Secviar decided, and the Senate affirmed with a vote, to table the resolution, because three senators were absent from the meeting.

"Just because it is of such importance to procedure, it really wouldn't behoove us to talk about it again until everyone is here," Secviar said.

His resolution addresses the abstain vote, which is a vote senators may make, instead of yea or nay, when the Student Senate considers a resolution. Secviar's amendment states that, except when noted otherwise in the Constitution and its bylaws, "all votes taken in the Senate shall be taken from those senators casting a vote, provided there is a quorum, and not necessarily from the entire voting membership of the Senate or the voting membership present at a given meeting."

The way voting takes place in the Senate currently, Secviar said last week, a vote to abstain negatively affects the outcome of the

voting. Last Wednesday, the amendment failed to meet the two-thirds majority required for it to pass, with 16 senators voting for it, seven against and two abstaining.

Because Wednesday's was the last Senate meeting of the semester, committee chairs briefed the senators on their plans for the remainder of their terms in the spring semester.

The Multicultural Affairs committee, led by chair Ninny Wan, is planning a day of service in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in January. The day will end with a reception in the Hesburgh Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library, with a speech by University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh.

The Oversight Committee will be working on a comparison of student governments at peer institutions during the spring semester, Secviar said.

Montes is brainstorming ideas for student government's Alcohol Awareness Week next spring. Social Concerns chair Karen Koski said she is looking for ideas about how to her committee can address issues affecting gay, lesbian, bisexual, transsexual and questioning students.

Academic Affairs chair Carol Hendrickson said her committee is anticipating the opening of study spaces in current residence halls once more dorms are built and students are spread out.

"We are working on a way to get feedback on what people want when the study spaces are reopened," she said.

In other Senate news:

◆ Junior Gary Nijak gave a presentation about the Social Action Network (SAND), a project facilitated through the Center for Social Concerns. SAND will post events being run by campus groups on one main calendar.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at krriely@nd.edu



Lunch and Conversation

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

Tuesday, December 13
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
316 Coleman-Morse

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students invites gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to an informal lunch at the Co-Mo.

Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.

Lunch will be served



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Iran claims victory in nuclear fight

TEHRAN — President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on Wednesday called the dramatic U.S. turnaround in a new intelligence review a victory for Iran's nuclear program, suggesting it shows the success of his hard-line stance rejecting compromise.

But his more moderate opponents at home are hoping the assessment's conclusion that Tehran shelved its effort to develop atomic weapons will boost a diplomatic resolution of the nuclear stand-off with the West.

The political rivalry in Tehran could have important implications for what happens next in the dispute over Iran's nuclear program, now that the report has likely weakened two of the threats Washington held over Iran — more U.N. sanctions and the possibility of military action.

In past months, Ahmadinejad has faced a rising challenge from a more moderate camp centered around his top rival, former president Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Court opens investigations of Sudan

UNITED NATIONS — The prosecutor of the International Criminal Court announced Wednesday he was opening an investigation against Sudanese government officials for what he called systematic attacks on refugee camps in Darfur.

Luis Moreno Ocampo said his office would also investigate violence against humanitarian workers and peacekeepers in Darfur, including an Oct. 29 attack on the Haskanita military base that left 10 African Union soldiers dead and 1 missing. Rebels were blamed for that attack.

NATIONAL NEWS

9 dead in department store massacre

OMAHA — A man opened fire with a rifle at a busy department store Wednesday, killing eight people before taking his own life in an attack that made holiday shoppers run screaming through a mall and barricade themselves in dressing rooms. Five more people were wounded, two critically.

The gunman left a suicide note that was found at his home by his mother, said a law enforcement official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak. TV station KETV reported that the note said he wanted to "go out in style."

The official identified the gunman as Robert A. Hawkins, age 20.

Witnesses said the gunman fired down on shoppers from a third-floor balcony of the Von Maur store. One witness told a TV station that he shot up a teddy bear as he sprayed fire on shoppers.

Teen birth rate sees slight increase

ATLANTA — In a troubling reversal, the nation's teen birth rate rose for the first time in 15 years, surprising government health officials and reviving the bitter debate about abstinence-only sex education.

The birth rate had been dropping since its peak in 1991, although the decline had slowed in recent years. On Wednesday, government statisticians said it rose 3 percent from 2005 to 2006.

The reason for the increase is not clear, and federal health officials said it might be a one-year statistical blip, not the beginning of a new upward trend.

LOCAL NEWS

Schools may install wind turbines

MISHAWAKA — School officials are working with a Michigan company to assess the feasibility of erecting wind turbines to help generate electricity for the city's schools.

Michigan-based Alternate Energy Solutions Inc. has been gathering a year's worth of wind data from a tower erected on School City of Mishawaka's property, said Randy Squadroni, the district's business manager.

The district — which spent \$10,000 on the tower and consulting fees — could erect up to five turbines in one location, preferably on the outskirts of Mishawaka, he said.

"We wouldn't do it unless it paid for itself without raising taxes," Squadroni said.

IRAQ

Gates says country's security achievable

Commanders in north call for more troops as insurgents flee increasingly secured Baghdad

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — U.S. military commanders in northern Iraq told Defense Secretary Robert Gates here Wednesday that they need more troops to battle increased attacks by al-Qaida terrorists who have fled north after being pushed out of the Baghdad region.

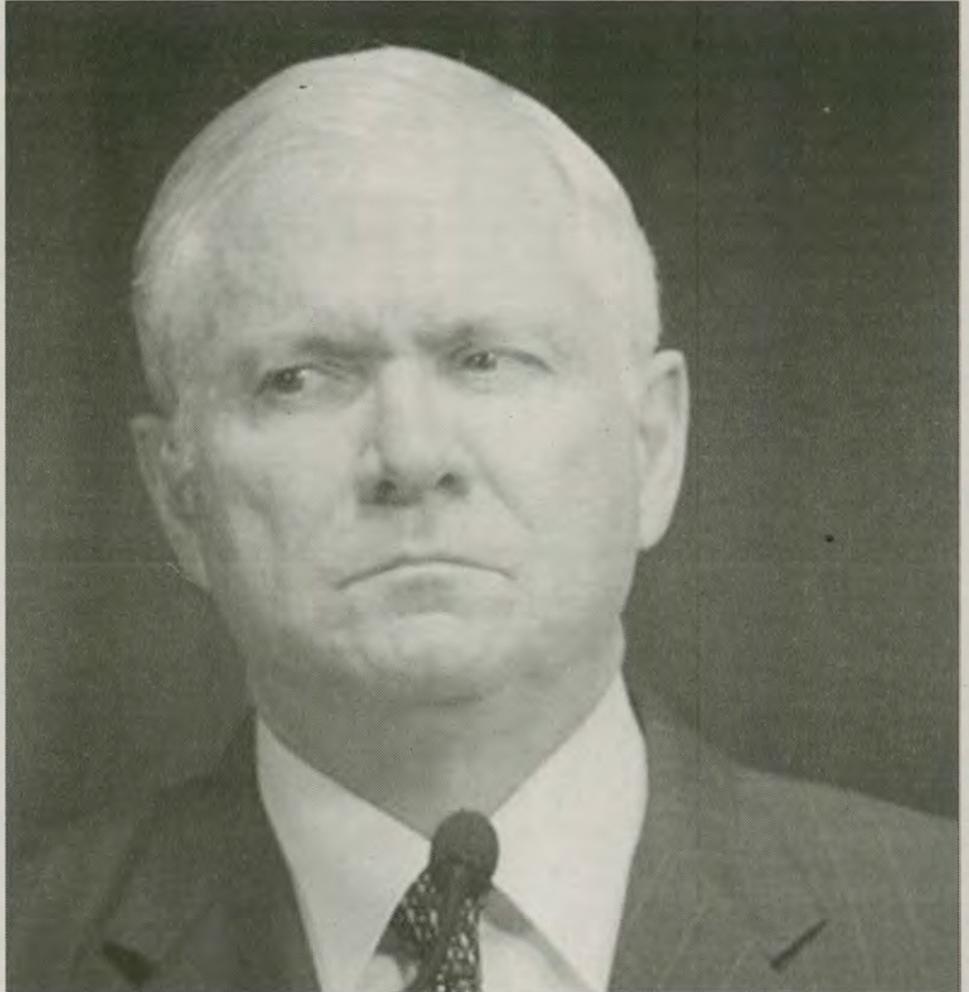
The call for the movement of Iraqi and U.S. forces into the north comes as Gates hailed the improved security in Baghdad and said a stable Iraq is within reach. Just before Gates spoke in the heavily fortified Green Zone, however, a car bomb exploded across the Tigris River in a largely Shiite Baghdad neighborhood, killing at least 14 people, police said.

Up in Mosul, Army Col. Tony Thomas, deputy commander of U.S. forces in the north, told reporters traveling with Gates that commanders would like more U.S. troops, as well as the return of 1,400 Iraqi troops who were sent to Baghdad as part of the military buildup there earlier this year. The plan could shift extra troops from other areas of the country that are more secure.

Thomas would not say how many troops are needed or where they would be deployed, but he said the U.S. needs more combat power to help stabilize a number of areas — including Diyala province, Mosul and Samara — to help counter an uptick in violence, including suicide bombings. He said military leaders are still discussing the issue, and have made no final decisions.

Gates, who met with commanders in Mosul before heading to Baghdad for talks with Iraqi leaders, acknowledged the new challenges in the north.

"What I heard them say was that they ... did need some additional forces ... particularly west of the river," said Gates, who appeared at a press briefing with Iraqi Defense Minister Abdul-Qader al-Obeidi. He said that as military operations in Baghdad pushed al-



U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates said that a secure Iraq is within reach at a news conference in Baghdad Wednesday.

Qaida north, there was a "resulting increase in terrorist activities in Mosul and surrounding areas as al-Qaida tried to establish a new foothold."

Gates, who is using his latest unannounced trip to Iraq to assess whether the downturn in violence in parts of the country can be sustained, also said he believes a stable Iraq is within reach.

"In many parts of the nation, the positive developments have led to a growing sense of normalcy and hope," said Gates.

At the Pentagon, meanwhile, the top Marine general told reporters Wednesday that he has set aside his proposal to shift Marine forces from Iraq to Afghanistan, reflecting opposition from Gates.

"After discussion with the secretary and with my colleagues on the Joint Staff, there is a determination that right now the timing is not right to provide additional Marine forces to Afghanistan," said Gen. James T. Conway, the Marine Corps commandant.

Conway said he discussed the matter with Gates last week. Gates visited Afghanistan on Tuesday and was in Iraq on Wednesday, although he did not go to Iraq's Anbar province, where Marines operate.

In addressing the matter publicly for the first time, Conway said he was not disappointed by Gates' decision, given that the Marines have had considerable success in stabilizing that province.

"Personally discouraged?"

No," he said. "Frankly, our casualty count is going to continue to be lower and that is a good day," Conway said. He added that Gates fully understood why Conway made the proposal.

Gates, making his sixth visit to Iraq in the last year, acknowledged the precarious nature of any security gains in the country. And he said much work remains to be done to ensure Iraqi forces are ready to take over more military duties from U.S. troops. Iraqis who have been fighting insurgents on the local level must be integrated into Iraqi security forces, for example, he said.

"I believe that a secure, stable Iraq is within reach," Gates said. However, he added, "We need to be patient."

Global warming bill approved by committee

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats turned back repeated efforts by Republican senators to soften the economic impact of a global warming bill before advancing it out of a Senate committee on Wednesday.

It was the first bill calling for mandatory U.S. limits on so-called greenhouse gases to be taken up in Congress since global warming emerged as an environmental issue more than two decades ago. The bill was approved 11-8 by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

GOP critics of the bill argued that

limiting greenhouse gas emissions could become a hardship because of higher energy costs.

But Sen. John Warner of Virginia, a Republican co-sponsor who gave the bill legitimacy among many moderate GOP senators, called it "a chance to give America our opportunity ... to be counted on this very important issue."

"We now move to the Senate floor," said Sen. Joe Lieberman, I-Conn., who along with Warner had introduced the legislation.

The bill calls for the United States to cut carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions by 70 percent by 2050 from electric power plants, manufacturing and trans-

portation.

It would create a "cap-and-trade" system whereby companies would have pollution allowances that they could sell if they went below the emission limits, or buy if they found they could not meet the requirements.

The trading is aimed at reducing the economic impact of putting limits on carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels, the leading greenhouse gas.

Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., the committee's chairwoman, called the legislation "historic."

But the bill's prospects are anything but certain. It is not expected to come up for action until next year, and many Republicans have vowed to seek significant changes.

Interns

continued from page 1

some places we've had really good experiences with and sometimes students propose new places to me."

Washington students are given a list of about 170 possible internship placements, but they can also come up with their own ideas. The students ultimately apply to eight potential employers.

Past students in the program have interned with the Citizens for Global Solutions, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, "Meet the Press" with Tim Russert, the U.S. Department of Justice, the Australian Embassy, the Wilderness Society and Senators Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and John Kerry, LaFortune said.

The program, which began 10 years ago, accepts sophomores and juniors from any

major and college. Roughly half of the students participating in the program pursue fields associated with political science. Other popular majors are American Studies and Sociology.

Each student takes a core course on public policy and chooses from electives ranging from the philosophy of law to the arts in America, LaFortune said.

Students live together in the same neighborhood and study together under Notre Dame professors, she said.

Despite students' diverse interests, both moderators and former students in the Program agree that a feeling of community is formed in Washington.

"We all become a family," Opet said.

The application deadline for participating in 2008-09 is January 23, 2008.

Contact Davis Rhorer Jr. at drhorer@nd.edu

Triathlon

continued from page 1

kilometer bike race plus two marathons.

Although unable to finish the race due to asthma, Barstis was not discouraged.

She was the Ultraman Canada women's champion in September, finishing three minutes shy of the record.

A survivor of gynecologic cancer, Barstis entered the triathlon just six weeks after finishing chemotherapy.

The Northern Indiana Cancer Research Consortium sponsored Barstis in the triathlon. She hopes to raise money and promote awareness nationwide for forms of gynecologic cancer.

"I want to help other women with the idea that you can live and survive after treatment," Barstis said.

Training for the supreme challenge involved "every wak-

ing hour," she said. "Ultraman is my part-time job."

The Ultraman is more of a collegial event, where participants encourage their competitors to finish, Barstis said.

The Hawaii and Canada competitions each had a different level of difficulty. The Canadian course required climbing the Canadian Rockies. In Hawaii, Barstis had to contend with ocean currents, humidity and volcanoes.

The toll the race takes is more mental than physical, she said.

"Although your body wants to give up and you experience highs and lows, you must visually believe you will finish," Barstis said.

Each triathlete has a crew come along for motivation and focus. Throughout the event, the crews support other participants and form a close community. The participants celebrate each other's victories and grieve for each other's failures.

"It's a magical experience, they are my family," she said. "Ultraman is the soul of triathlon."

Barstis aims to finish Hawaii, complete a 100-mile run and do some long distance biking in the future.

Barstis said her family has grown closer celebrating her achievements. And the competitions, she said, have given her a focus outside of cancer.

The two Ultraman events, in Hawaii and Canada, have participants from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Japan, Germany and the United States. Founded in 1983, the Ultraman World Championships in Hawaii are held annually on Thanksgiving weekend.

Toni Barstis is department chemistry chair at Saint Mary's. She also performs cancer research.

Contact Katlyn Smith at ksmith01@saintmarys.edu

Gypsy clans struggle for dominance in Southern California

Court dispute over fortunetelling trade in Orange County provides rare glimpse into insular community

Associated Press

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. — A dispute between two Gypsy clans over control of the fortunetelling trade in this Southern California city has spilled into court, offering a rare glimpse of an insular culture that has long settled scores according to its own Old World rules of honor.

The turf war in well-to-do Orange County has unfolded like a gangster movie, with allegations of death threats, a grave-side scuffle, and nicknames like "White Bob" and "Black Bob" — details revealed in a police report and requests for restraining orders.

"The older Gypsies are pulling out their hair, not wanting the courts in our business because they'll find out too much about us," said Tom Merino, who is distantly related to one of the clans but has spurned his heritage. "Ignorance is the Gypsies' weapon against the outside world."

The Stevens and Merino clans, like other Gypsy families, have run numerous fortunetelling businesses in Southern California for decades.

The trouble started two years

ago when Edward Merino and his wife, Sonia, opened fortunetelling parlors in two trendy resort sections of Newport Beach, not far from where the Stevenses did business.

Members of the Stevens clan promptly broke in, stole a credit card machine and threatened to kill the Merinos if they didn't shut the places down, the Merinos claim in court papers. Since then, the bad blood has only gotten worse.

The Stevenses "are very territorial," Merino attorney Tom Quinn said. "This is crazy stuff."

At the root of the conflict lies a delicate system of intermarriage and social customs that has defused tensions among Gypsy clans for generations, said Anne Sutherland, a

University of California, Riverside anthropologist who has studied Gypsies.

Gypsies trace their origins to India more than 1,000 years ago. They migrated to Europe in the 1300s. For centuries, Gypsies were enslaved and persecuted in Europe, where they were scorned as nomadic thieves and con artists skilled primarily at palm reading.

Gypsies — also known as Romany — began arriving in

the U.S. from Romania toward the end of the 19th century. Experts believe there are now about 1 million in America, one-fifth of them in California, where they dominate the fortunetelling and psychic shops in funky beach communities and other neighborhoods.

The Stevens and Merino clans adopted an Old World custom of uniting families through marriage to cope with intense competition, much as European nobility once did to avert war. A Merino married the Stevens patriarch, George Stevens.

But the family bond did not prevent tensions from flaring when, the Merinos say, the Stevenses demanded they pay \$500,000 up front and \$5,000 a week to open their fortunetelling businesses in the Stevenses' back yard. The Merinos refused to pay, and went ahead and opened their parlors. The alleged break-in soon followed.

Gypsies have traditionally resolved disputes in front of a secret council of elders that can impose fines, make territorial decisions or order someone shunned. They don't like to involve non-Gypsies, who are considered impure.

The Merinos, though, went to

court after the alleged break-in and obtained a restraining order in 2006 requiring George Stevens to stay a safe distance away.

That the dispute wound up in court reflects an erosion of tradition among the Gypsies, said Ian Hancock, an expert on Gypsy language and culture at the University of Texas.

"It used to be that the Romany world was absolutely insulated from the outside world," said Hancock, a Gypsy himself. "But it's very hard to resist the pressures of MTV, and people are beginning to see alternatives."

He cited cases in which Gypsy women in Houston hired lawyers to get their ex-husbands to pay child support — something unheard of.

Things were calm for months until the Stevens patriarch died of a heart attack at age 53 last May. Edward "Davie" Merino showed up at the funeral, pulling up at the cemetery in a limo with what was described as a menacingly burly chauffeur.

Merino says members of the Stevens clan attacked him and screamed, "We will make your life a living hell!" But the Stevenses claim that Merino flashed a gun and threatened to

"come back and kill all of you." Both sides agree that before speeding off, Merino shouted that he wanted to make sure "the mother-(expletive) was dead."

Merino declined repeated requests for an interview through his attorney and calls to his home were not returned.

After the scrap, someone left ominous phone messages and threatened to kill Sonia Merino and the couple's children, ages 9 and 11, Edward Merino claimed in court papers.

Edward Merino filed for restraining orders against four Stevens men and two Stevens women. Over the summer, a judge granted such an order against just one person, the new Stevens patriarch, Ted Stevens.

Stevens' nephew, the only Gypsy directly involved in the feud who spoke to The Associated Press, said the Merinos concocted the allegations and are using the courts to try to drive their rivals out of Newport Beach.

"They beat themselves up and then they testify that we hired people to come to their house and beat them up," said Steve Stevens, who goes by the nickname "White Bob" to distinguish him from his swarthier cousin, "Black Bob."

Stevens, who owns two fortunetelling parlors and a deli, added: "I feel like they've made me out like a character on 'The Sopranos.' I'm a businessman. I'm a family man. That's all I am."

THIS WEEK IN IRISH SPORTS

Sat, Dec. 8th @ 7pm
vs. Northern Illinois

Everyone's
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Men's Basketball

Free calendar for
early arriving fans!!

allegiant
air

Be part of ND basketball history!
This Saturday, help the Irish break the
home win streak record, set in 1974



MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones **13,444.96** +196.23

Up: 1,188 Same: 79 Down: 2,187 Composite Volume: 3,347,334,211

AMEX	2,355.65	+18.64
NASDAQ	2,666.36	+46.53
NYSE	9,887.60	+139.22
S&P 500	1,485.01	+22.22
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	15,840.43	+231.55
FTSE 100 (London)	6,493.80	-178.60

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
S&P DEP RECIEPTS (SPY)	+1.67	+2.45	148.81
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	+1.78	+0.90	51.57
COMCAST CP A (CMCSA)	-12.30	-2.55	18.18
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	+1.49	+0.45	30.63

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	+0.57	+0.022	3.911
13-WEEK BILL	0.00	0.000	2.980
30-YEAR BOND	+1.04	+0.045	4.391
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.03	-0.001	3.276

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.83	87.49
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-3.90	803.70
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.63	90.18

Exchange Rates

YEN	111.1150
EURO	0.6841
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0114
BRITISH POUND	0.4929

IN BRIEF

OPEC keeps production levels steady

ABU DHABI — OPEC hedged its bets Wednesday, opting to keep production steady but setting a new meeting for Feb. 1 to raise output if prices skyrocket.

Benchmark crude prices rose on word of the decision, but the prospect of a review early next year — and its potential to raise production ceilings if warranted — checked the upward trend.

After spiking by about \$2 on news that present levels would be maintained, light sweet crude for January delivery reversed course and was down 55 cents at \$87.77 in afternoon trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Price levels were more than 10 percent off the record of almost \$100 a barrel set last month, suggesting the choice by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries would not roil markets — at least in the short term.

A final communique from OPEC's oil ministers' meeting in Abu Dhabi said the group would leave output unchanged "for the time being," because the world was "well supplied" and crude reserves were at comfortable levels.

Bristol-Myers to lay off 4,300 by 2010

NEW YORK — Pharmaceuticals maker Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. on Wednesday said it would lay off about 4,300 employees and close more than half of its manufacturing plants, part of a broad restructuring aimed at cost savings of \$1.5 billion by 2010.

The company, whose best-selling product is the anticoagulant Plavix, also lowered its 2007 earnings guidance said it would spin off its medical imaging business. Bristol-Myers is also reviewing options for ConvaTec, a wound care products supplier, and its Evansville, Ind.-based Mead Johnson Nutritionals business.

"It is difficult to see our valued colleagues leave the company, but right-sizing our workforce across all areas is critical to achieving our productivity goals and enhancing the competitive position of the company," Chief Executive James Cornelius said in a statement.

The job cuts represent 10 percent of the staff and will largely be made in 2008 and 2009, the company said. The company also said it will close more than 50 percent of its manufacturing facilities by the end of 2010.

Subprime rates frozen for 5 years

Program available for owner-occupied homes bought from 2005 through this July

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration has hammered out an agreement to freeze interest rates for certain subprime mortgages for five years to combat a soaring tide of foreclosures, congressional aides said Wednesday.

The aides, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the details have not yet been released, said the five-year moratorium represented a compromise between desires by banking regulators for a longer time frame of up to seven years and mortgage industry arguments that the freeze should last only one or two years.

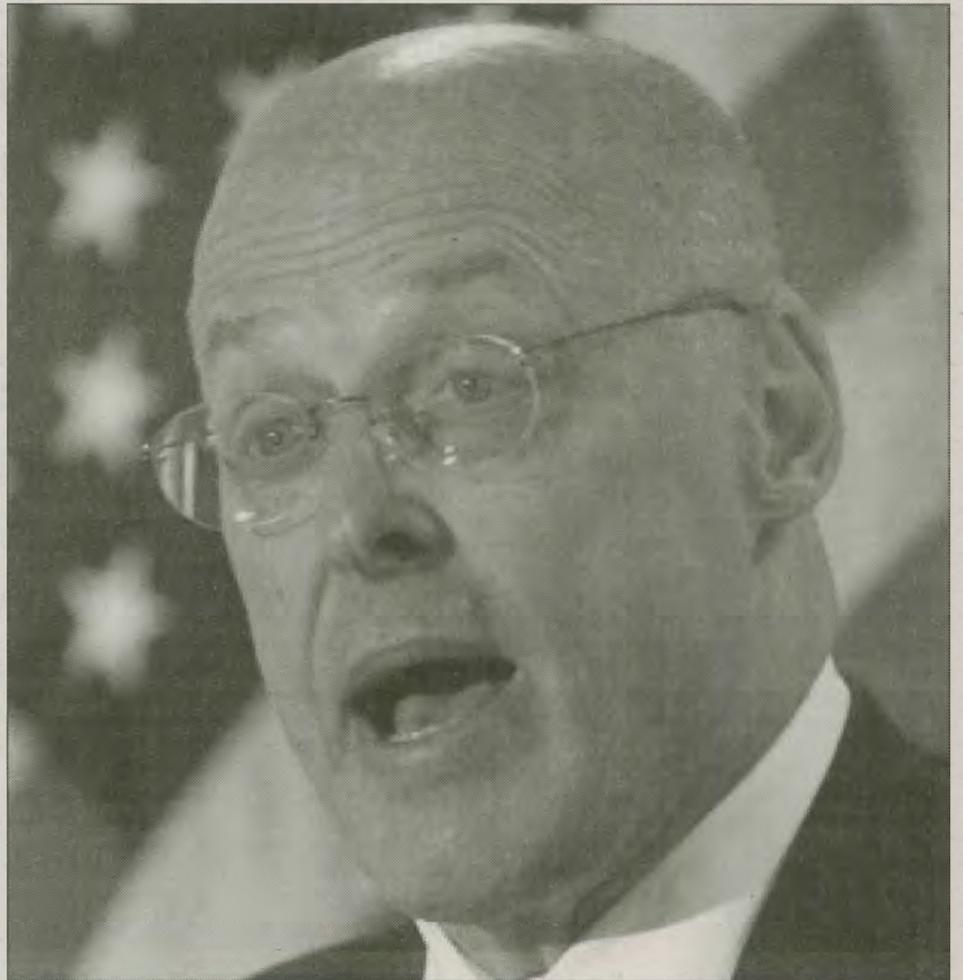
Another person familiar with the matter said the rate-freeze plan would apply to borrowers with loans made at the start of 2005 through July 30 of this year with rates that are scheduled to rise between Jan. 1, 2008, and July 31, 2010.

The administration said President Bush will speak on the agreement at the White House on Thursday and the Treasury Department announced that Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson and Housing and Urban Development Secretary Alphonso Jackson would hold a joint news conference Thursday afternoon with mortgage industry officials.

Treasury also announced there would be a technical briefing to explain more of the proposal's details.

Paulson, who has been leading the effort to craft a plan, said on Monday that the program would only be available for owner-occupied homes — to ensure the break is not given to real estate speculators.

The plan emerged from talks between Paulson and



Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson speaks in Washington Wednesday. He has led the effort to craft a plan to relieve debt incurred from subprime mortgages.

other banking regulators and banks, mortgage investors and consumer groups trying to address an avalanche of foreclosures feared as an estimated 2 million subprime mortgages reset from lower introductory rates to higher rates.

In many cases, the higher rates will boost monthly payments by as much as 30 percent, making it very difficult for many people to keep current with their loans.

The plan is aimed at homeowners who are making payments on time at lower introductory mortgage rates but cannot afford

a higher adjusted rate.

Through October, there were about 1.8 million foreclosure filings nationwide, compared with about 1.3 million in all of 2006, according to Irvine, Calif.-based RealtyTrac Inc. With home loan defaults still rising, the trend is expected to worsen next year.

The plan represents an about-face for Paulson, who until recently had insisted the mortgage crisis could be handled on a case-by-case basis. However, he and other administration officials became convinced the tide of foreclosures threat-

ened by the mortgage resets represented such a severe threat that a more sweeping approach was needed. They opted for a proposal that was along the lines of a plan put forward in October by Sheila Bair, head of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

Paulson and other federal regulators began holding talks with some of the country's biggest mortgage lenders, mortgage service companies, investors who hold mortgage-backed securities and nonprofit groups that provide counseling for at-risk homeowners.

Wall Street rallies as 189,000 jobs created

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street resumed its rally Wednesday after new data showed the overall economy is holding up but isn't too strong to prevent the Federal Reserve from cutting interest rates. The Dow Jones industrial average rose nearly 200 points.

Stocks turned around following two sessions of losses after a report showed hiring in the U.S. private sector expanded at a faster pace in November. ADP Employer Services said 189,000 jobs were added during the month — an increase that bodes well for consumer spending.

The report raised hopes for a strong November jobs report from the Labor Department on Friday. Investors were also encouraged Wednesday after the department reported worker productivity advanced by an annual rate of 6.3 percent in the summer, the fastest

pace in four years, while wage pressures eased.

"The best news for the market is good news on the economy," said Jack Ablin, chief investment officer at Harris Private Bank. "There might be a general malaise among homeowners these days, but as long as more people are getting paychecks then the economy can withstand the stress."

Still, there is enough uncertainty in the economy to bolster the argument for lower rates. The financial sector is still struggling from months of credit problems, and the Institute for Supply Management reported Wednesday that service sector growth slowed in November.

Some investors are betting the Fed will go beyond the generally anticipated quarter percentage point cut, and lower rates by a half point. A mere quarter-point cut could bring some disappointment to Wall Street, but as long as the Fed reiterates an

openness to lower rates further in its accompanying economic assessment, the market should move higher, said Ryan Detrick, senior technical strategist at Schaeffer's Investment Research.

"We could see a nice December here," Detrick said.

The Dow rose 196.23, or 1.48 percent, to 13,444.96, resuming the big recovery it launched last week following a mostly dismal November.

The blue chip index got an extra boost from component American International Group Inc., which said that although it's expecting a hefty portfolio writedown in the fourth quarter, the ongoing mortgage crisis is manageable. AIG rose \$2.70, or 4.9 percent, to \$58.15.

Broader indexes also moved higher. The Standard & Poor's 500 index added 22.22, or 1.52 percent, to 1,485.01, while the Nasdaq composite index rose 46.53, or 1.78 percent, to 2,666.36.



BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY *Holy Day of Obligation*

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, the Patroness of the United States of America, is especially honored each year on December 8, a Holy Day of Obligation in the Catholic Church. The University of Notre Dame will celebrate this special feast of the Church at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart with a Solemn Mass of Anticipation on Friday, December 7, at 5:15 pm. Music will be provided by the Women's Liturgical Choir. Various residence halls will also celebrate Mass for the Immaculate Conception Holy Day, according to the following schedule, and all are welcome:

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

4:00 pm	Zahm Hall Chapel
4:30 pm	Morrissey Manor Chapel Knott Hall Chapel
5:00 pm	Alumni Hall Chapel Badin Hall Chapel Keenan Hall / Stanford Hall Chapel McGlinn Hall Chapel Pasquerilla West Hall Chapel Siegfried Hall Chapel
5:15 pm*	Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus <i>University Mass with the Holy Cross Community</i>
5:15 pm	Sorin Hall Chapel
8:00 pm	Lyons Hall Chapel

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

6:45 am	Sacred Heart Parish Crypt
9:00 am	Alumni Hall Chapel <i>Sponsored by Children of Mary</i>
10:00 am	Coleman-Morse Center Chapel
11:00 am	Carroll Hall Chapel Fischer-O'Hara-Grace Chapel Keough Hall Chapel <i>Sponsored by Keough & Welsh Family Halls</i>
11:30 am	Fisher Hall Chapel Lewis Hall Chapel <i>Sponsored by BP, Cavanaugh, Farley, & Lewis Halls</i>
12:00 pm	Pangborn Hall Chapel
1:30 pm	Dillon Hall Chapel

* Due to a full schedule of weddings at the Basilica on Saturday, December 8, this will be the only Basilica Mass to observe this Holy Day. The Basilica's Saturday 5:00 pm Vigil Mass will be an anticipated Mass for Sunday (per the normal Basilica schedule) and not a Mass in observance of the Holy Day of the Immaculate Conception.

THAILAND

Nation unites to celebrate monarch's 80th birthday

U.S.-born king, recently hospitalized with stroke symptoms, honored with festivities, prayer services before tens of thousands

Associated Press

BANGKOK — Thais celebrated their revered king's 80th birthday Wednesday, honoring the world's longest-reigning monarch with festivities and prayers amid concerns about his declining health and potentially divisive elections.

Tens of thousands of people, many wearing yellow — the color that symbolizes devotion to the monarch — packed the streets around the Grand Palace where King Bhumibol Adulyadej made a rare public appearance from the balcony of his ceremonial Throne Hall. It was only the sixth such appearance in his 61-year reign.

Bhumibol's birthday has increasingly become a day of nationwide tribute to the U.S.-born king, who is regarded the most influential figure in modern Thai history and the key to its stability.

This year's celebration was clouded by nationwide anxiety over Bhumibol's health after he was hospitalized recently for symptoms of a stroke, concerns about his eventual successor, and uncertainty over elections on Dec. 23.

The balloting will be the first since a September 2006 military coup toppled the elected government of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, following

demonstrations demanding his resignation over alleged corruption and abuse of power. The military-installed regime that succeeded him has failed to restore public confidence.

The unity of the nation has become Bhumibol's recurring theme in recent speeches.

"I am glad that everyone has come together in unison to give me birthday wishes," he told a crowd of well-wishers, seated on a golden throne and dressed in a gold brocade robe.

In his annual televised birthday speech Tuesday night, Bhumibol likened the country's situation to difficulties he has walking after his recent illness. He now moves about with a walker.

"(We) must be united, like our legs must be united — which means one goes forward and one pushes back before moving forward," he said. "This way, we could walk without falling. Without unity, the country will face disaster."

Thais see the king as a national unifier, and his profile has been high during the past two years of government upheaval.

Although he is a constitutional monarch with no formal political role, he is regarded as the force that holds the country together. Bhumibol has stilled bloody uprisings, weathered military coups and has reigned through

scores of governments, democratic and dictatorial.

Bhumibol was born Dec. 5, 1927, in Cambridge, Mass., where his father, Prince Mahidol, was studying medicine at Harvard University. At age 19, he became the ninth king of Thailand's Chakri dynasty on June 9, 1946, after his older brother Ananda died from a mysterious gunshot to the head.

Bhumibol has never publicly commented on his successor, an issue that weighs heavily on Thai minds even if it is rarely discussed in public.

His son, Crown Prince Vajiralongkorn, has been groomed to succeed him. But the 55-year-old prince lacks the stature and popularity of his father. There is great concern that Vajiralongkorn, who has married three times, fathered six children and for years had the reputation of a playboy, will have difficulty living up to Bhumibol's record of hard work and diligence.

In his six decades on the throne, Bhumibol has taken an active role in rural development and is respected for his dedication to helping the poor.

The deep reverence for the king was evident in the outpouring of public devotion Wednesday. Thousands jammed the streets and sidewalks of Bangkok dressed in yellow and waving yellow flags as Bhumibol and his family drove from Chitralada Palace, the royal residence, to the ceremonial Grand Palace.



King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Sirikit greet cheering crowds outside the Grand Palace during the monarch's birthday celebrations.

People traveled to Bangkok from cities around Thailand, hoping to catch a glimpse of the beloved monarch.

"I love the king. He has done so much for the country," said Todsapon Katiya, a civil servant who had waited since 4:30 a.m. "He tends to the poor, the sick, the crippled, the blind. No man has done as much in a lifetime. I want him to stay with us forever."

Many in the crowd stayed all day, as the royal family traveled twice between the two palaces. A religious ceremony with 81 Buddhist monks was held at the Grand Palace.

"You know they call Thailand the golden land, the land of prosperity, where people live happily without trouble," said Umapon Pongsawap, a high school teacher. "Many people think it's just a myth. But it's true, and it won't be possible in this modern time without him."

Outside the palace, one older woman said she had hoped to glimpse the king but could not see over the crowd.

"I didn't see him at all. There were too many people," said Chaba Kongchukiatt, 84, blinking back tears. "But it's OK. I plan to come back next year."

ISRAEL

U.S. assessment of Iran causes tension

Israelis claim Tehran is still attempting to develop nuclear weapons

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — A U.S. intelligence assessment that Iran has stopped developing atomic weapons is putting a burden on the Jewish state, which has long relied on Washington to lead the international charge against Iran's nuclear ambitions.

With the U.S. now less likely to take military action, an increasingly nervous Israel might feel compelled to strike out on its own if it perceives a dangerous threat.

Israeli officials say their intelligence forces believe Iran is still working aggressively to build nuclear arms. The Islamic regime in Tehran is strongly opposed to Israel's existence and frequently boasts of its ability to strike the Jewish state with long-range missiles.

"The situation can become tense if they (the Israelis) decided their red line has been crossed," said David Albright, a former U.N. nuclear inspector who now heads the Washington-

based Institute for Science and International Security. "They may force a military confrontation."

A summary made public Monday of the U.S. National Intelligence Estimate on Iran concluded the Iranians suspended their attempt to build a nuclear weapon four years ago, leading to increased calls within the U.S. for a less confrontational approach to Tehran.

"This forces the Israelis to make a decision instead of being able to take some comfort that the U.S. would take action at some point," said Wayne White, former deputy director of the State Department's Middle East Intelligence Office.

"With Israel, you can be sure they will be unwilling to tolerate as much risk as the U.S. ... because they can get hit," he said.

Israel sees Iran as its greatest threat and maintains that country is aggressively pursuing a nuclear weapons program. It responded to the report with a mixture of skepticism and veiled

irritation.

Defense Minister Ehud Barak said that despite Washington's assessment, his own intelligence analysis indicates Iran is still trying to develop a nuclear weapon.

"We cannot allow ourselves to rest just because of an intelligence report from the other side of the Earth, even if it is from our greatest friend," Barak said.

Meeting with former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright on Wednesday, Israeli President Shimon Peres said many intelligence assessments around the world have later turned out to have been inaccurate, a statement from his office said.

He did not refer specifically to the flawed 2002 U.S. intelligence estimate of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction program.

Iran's military said last month it had produced a new missile with a range of 1,200 miles capable of reaching Israel and U.S. bases across the Mideast.

Peres, who as Defense Ministry director general in the 1960s spearheaded the development of Israel's own nuclear program, told Albright that Iran's heavy investment in missiles could only be intended to deliver a nuclear payload.

"There is absolutely no justification for developing such missiles and equipping them with a conventional warhead," he said.

INDONESIA

Global warming endangers wildlife

Associated Press

BALI — More than 3,000 flying foxes dropped dead, falling from trees in Australia. Giant squid migrated north to commercial fishing grounds off California, gobbling anchovy and hake. Butterflies have gone extinct in the Alps.

While humans debate at U.N. climate change talks in Bali, global warming is already wreaking havoc with nature. Most plants and animals are affected, and the change is occurring too quickly for them to evolve.

"A hell of a lot of species are in big trouble," said Stephen E. Williams, the director of the Centre for Tropical Biodiversity & Climate Change at James Cook University in Australia.

"I don't think there is any doubt we will see a lot of (extinctions)," he said. "But even before a species goes extinct, there are a lot of impacts. Most of the species here in the wet tropics would be reduced to ... 15 percent of their current habitat."

Globally, 30 percent of the Earth's species could disappear if temperatures rise 4.5 degrees Fahrenheit — and up to 70 percent, if they rise 6.3 degrees Fahrenheit, a U.N. network of scientists reported last month.

It wouldn't be the first time.

There have been five major extinctions in the last 520 million years, and four of them have been linked to warmer tropical seas, according to a study published last month in the Proceedings of the Royal Society B, a British scientific journal.

The hardest hit will include plants and animals in colder climates or at higher elevations and those with limited ranges or little tolerance for temperature change, said Wendy Foden, a conservation biologist with the World Conservation Union, which catalogs threatened species.

Butterflies that lived at high altitudes in North America and southern France have vanished, and polar bears and penguins are watching their habitat melt away.

The carbon dioxide emissions that are a leading cause of global warming also turn oceans more acidic, killing coral reefs and the microscopic plankton that blue whales and other marine mammals depend on for food.

"In the long run, every species will be affected," Foden said.

A few will benefit, chiefly those that breed quickly, already exist in varied climates and are able to adapt swiftly to changing conditions, scientists said. Think cockroaches, pigeons and weeds.

THE OBSERVER

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

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St. Nicholas and true Christmas spirit

Today is the feast of St. Nicholas, a fourth-century bishop in Asia Minor, now Turkey. This is not nearly as big a deal in the United States as it is in many European countries, where gifts are exchanged on Dec. 6 and Christmas Day remains a religious holiday.

Kate Barrett

Faithpoint

Ironically, however, we could probably use a great big dose of Nicholas-inspired sentiment here in the States, where the seasons of Advent and Christmas have been almost completely submerged by frenzied commercialism. Our participation in this month of shopping is practically our patriotic duty — aren't you in favor of a healthy and robust economy? Well then, get out there and buy!

While not much is known about the life of Nicholas — there being no Facebook or MySpace in the 300s — we have held on consistently to several legends about him and his humble, usually anonymous generosity to others, especially the poor. Perhaps the most enduring tale tells the story of the family in Nicholas' hometown of Patara, who, living in extreme poverty, feared for the lives of their three daughters. At that time young women who could not provide a dowry (and thus in that ancient culture find a husband) sometimes had to resort to desperate measures, even prostitution, to support themselves and not become an unbearable burden on their families. Nicholas, in possession of a great

fortune after the untimely deaths of his parents, determined to give his inheritance away to those in need, and found in this family an opportunity. As the story goes, he dropped little bags of gold down the family's chimney so the father could use it to marry off his daughters. Throughout the centuries, his generosity and selflessness have inspired countless people to provide for the poor and for children, following St. Nicholas' example of caring for the most defenseless.

When we hear these stories of St. Nicholas, and when we (if we can) shut out the clamorous demands of our American commercialized "Christmas" and hear the Scriptures and prayers of the Advent season, then we truly can begin to prepare our hearts to receive Christ — as he came in the manger one night, as he comes into our lives each day, and as he will come again at the end of time. If we will welcome the Lord into our lives, however, we must make room, and we can't do that if our hopes are all about what we might get for Christmas. We'll make room for Jesus only by offering ourselves, generously, the way Nicholas did.

John the Baptist, in this Sunday's gospel, urges his followers to prepare, for "the one who is coming after me is mightier than I." As we begin the Mass this Sunday, the second Sunday of Advent, we will pray that God will "remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy." What's so hard to remember as we are blasted with a constant stream of

Christmas carols and incentives to shop for more, more and still more, is that we cannot prepare for the Mighty One at the mall or at Best Buy. Why not try, this year, a completely different approach? Need a gift idea for someone on your list? Give to a charity important to them. Has somebody been asking you what you want for Christmas? Suggest Second Harvest, the Heifer Project or another worthy venture that will offer food or means to a livelihood to those who need Christmas gifts in a way we will never even understand.

While we may not know if every detail of the St. Nicholas stories are true, he remains a compelling character because in our deepest selves, we too long to be faithful followers of our Lord, as he was. Particularly during this time of the year, when our faith challenges us to be at odds with the overwhelming demands of our culture, we need a feast day like today's. We need an example like Nicholas' to point us toward Christ; to help train our focus on true generosity; to remind us of our call to show God's deep love to others in every moment of our lives.

Happy St. Nicholas' Day! May you celebrate as he would have.

Kate Barrett is director of Resources and Special Projects for Campus Ministry. She can be reached at kbarrett@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



WEEKLY POLL

Who deserves to face Ohio State in the BCS Championship game?

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

"The nice part about being a pessimist is that you are constantly being either proven right or pleasantly surprised."

George Will
American Journalist

Because all children can learn

Imagine standing beneath the Golden Dome, basking in the glory of earning a diploma from the University of Notre Dame. While doing so, your mind also wonders to the future.

What will you be doing?

Kenya Fuemmeler

Where will your friends be? Will you be part of

Guest columnist

something you're proud of? Will your future steps have an impact on society as a whole?

These questions raced through my mind last spring during my first walk up the hallowed steps of Main Building. I stood hand-in-hand with three girls I'd spent the last four years with as we each grew into the women we are today. We all took a different journey — not good not bad, just different. From that day on the steps of Main Building, I entered my future with Teach for America.

No, I never intended to join Teach for America. In fact, I even refused to meet with the recruiter on sever-

al occasions, claiming I was law school bound. However, after their unrelenting insistence, I finally squeezed in time between class and practice. They informed me of our growing national crisis regarding the current achievement gap in education and ways that I could help rectify this great injustice. After many conversations, countless trips to the Grotto and the application process, I eventually agreed to spend the next two years helping our nation's poorest children.

Looking back, I now realize how little I understood the growing epidemic sweeping our country's schools: educational inequity in student achievement. I walked through the doors of Eskridge High School in north St. Louis on Aug. 20 and soon stood face to face with the achievement gap. What a humbling experience! The burden of educating 120 students, freshmen through seniors, in the subjects of personal finance, geography, economics and American History soon appeared overwhelming. When I gave a reading and

math diagnostic test to my students, they scored on average at a sixth-grade reading level and a seventh-grade math level.

For me, this was the achievement gap: a senior reading at a second-grade reading level, "high performing" students scoring 14 on the ACT, having to teach the seven continents in geography, acknowledging that I must teach my students how to write a paragraph. These students were not a statistic thrown at me; they were my responsibility.

I acknowledge that I cannot undo the past for my students, but I possess the ability to change their futures. I lack the power to change the entire system, but I can change the future of 120 students. I can use the leadership skills I acquired as a student of Our Lady's University to guide my students in their pursuit of academic excellence. I can invest and motivate my students in their education, so they become advocates for their future academic careers. I can empower my students to value their education, thus refus-

ing to accept mediocrity in the classroom.

Through these actions I will help close America's achievement gap. The University of Notre Dame prides itself on service to the poor and underprivileged. I urge each of you to consider joining Teach for America's movement to end educational equality. Consider the injustice of being given options in life based on your zip code.

Where would you be without your education? Utilize your education for the benefit of our nation's greatest commodity, our children, to empower them to achieve academic excellence and pursue their dreams. All children can learn, but it is our responsibility to teach them.

Kenya Fuemmeler is 2007 softball alumnus and former PW Purple Weasel. Any questions or comments may be directed towards kjfuemmeler@gmail.com

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

University workers must stand together

Regarding the Letter to the Editor by Donna Bromeling entitled "Custodial staff deserves fair treatment" (Dec. 4), I fully support the call for working together with the Campus Labor Action Project (CLAP) here at Notre Dame. At a recent prayer service with students and workers, members of CLAP, we listened to a reading from Isaiah that reminds us God has not given us a spirit of fear. Workers, we do not need to be afraid. We need to stand together on the issue of fair treat-

ment. We have people who are working with us to make change at this university. But we need to understand that nothing can change with a mentality that nothing will change.

At another recent meeting with members of the Campus Labor Action Project, I was disappointed with the number of workers compared to students that were ready to fight for change. But I am hopeful that people are willing to speak out. We all have to stand together — workers, students, faculty, alumni and community

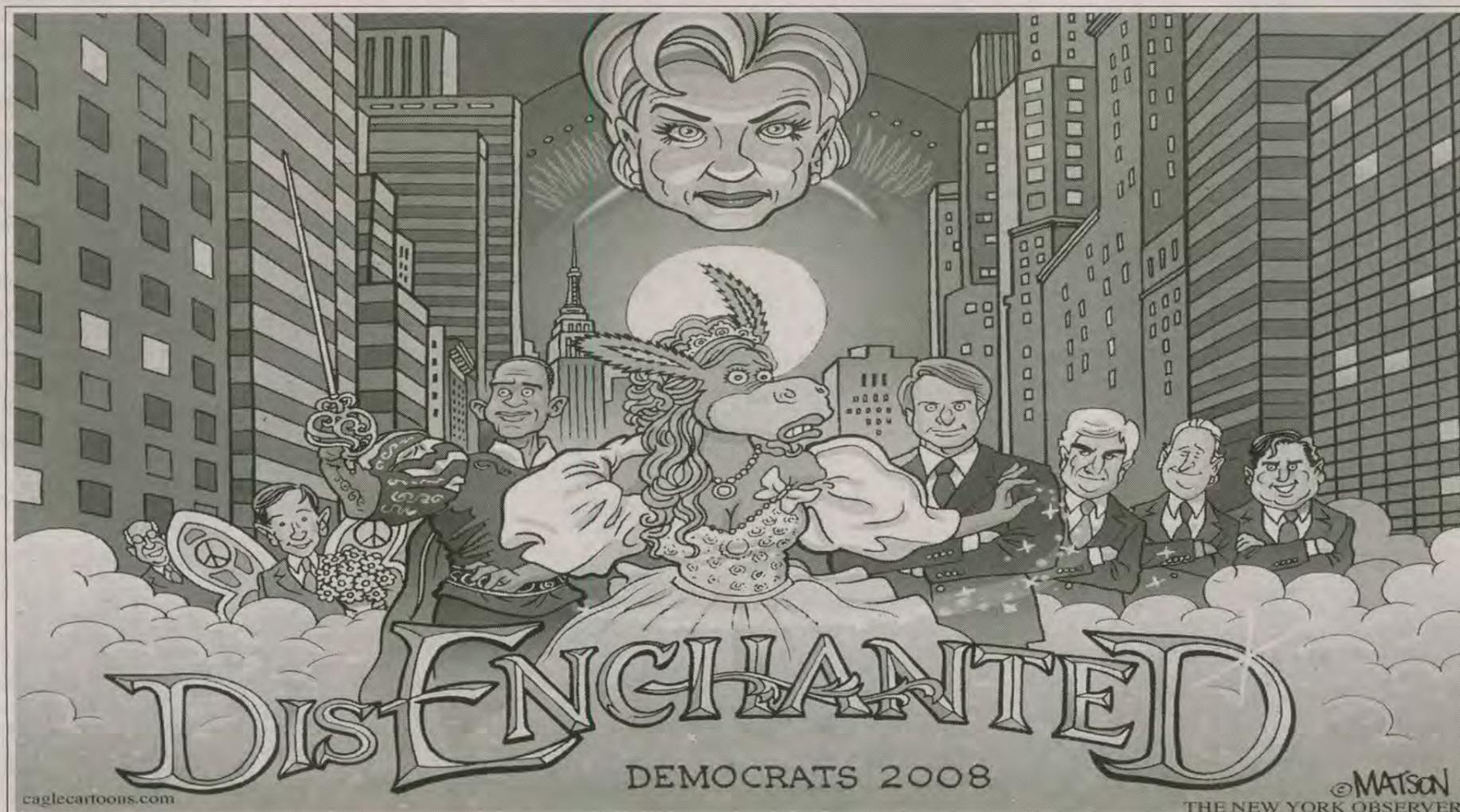
members — to enrich the lives of every person who works at the university. We have not been given a spirit of fear, but rather of power. We must use that power and raise our voices for fair treatment.

I encourage my fellow workers to use the voice that God has given us to speak on the issues that affect all of us here at Notre Dame. This is a great institution, as Donna said, but it will be so much better when we are the community that we proclaim to be.

I hope and pray that one day we will all benefit from this wonderful place. I call on my fellow workers to talk together, to speak out for the community to hear, and to join the continued efforts of the Campus Labor Action Project. To find out more information, please check out the web site at www.campuslaboractionproject.org

Denise McEwen
 Building Services staff
 Dec. 5

EDITORIAL CARTOON



DYING CITY

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

At a time when Iraq war policy continues to make national headlines and the body count continues to rise, Christopher Shinn's play "Dying City" concentrates on the impact the war has on individuals.

"I focused the play on the personal effects of the war for those who have family and loved ones fighting in Iraq," director Meghan Hartmann said.

The St. Edward's Hall Players present "Dying City" tonight at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. The show will run through Saturday night.

Hartmann decided to put the play on a thrust stage, which means the stage is extended into the audience and surrounded by it on three sides. She said she made the decision

in order to create a "greater intimacy" between the audience and the actors.

"It works well for a play focused on personal stories," she said.

"Dying City" is a personal play indeed — the show features just a pair of actors. The play's plot revolves around an Iraq war widow who receives an unexpected visit from her dead husband's twin brother. London Vale takes the stage as Kelly, whose husband Craig died overseas. Velazquez said the two-person cast had both positive and negative aspects.

"The fact that there are only two actors makes our jobs more difficult because the script keeps us very busy," he said. "This, however, helps at the same time by allowing for a more intimate performance since

London and I got to know each other very well in the rehearsal process."

Vale agreed, saying, "It's actually really great to have the opportunity to act in a play with only one other person because the connection is always there — it has to always be there. The relationships between Kelly and the two brothers is the foundation of the play and it doesn't allow for a lot of clutter in other ways on the stage, so it becomes a lot more intimate for the onlookers, too."

Velazquez plays both roles of Peter and Craig — a challenge considering the two are twin brothers.

"Dying City"
Washington Hall
Tickets \$5 at LaFortune
Box Office
Thursday, 7:30
Friday, 7:30
Saturday, 7:30

"The playwright did a very good job of making certain that the two characters would be distinct," Velazquez said. "From my side of the work though, I had to ensure that Craig and Peter were different physically and vocally, as well as emotion-

ally. I relied on what the playwright mentions in the dialogue in order to extract the varying circumstances of Craig and Peter in the setting of the play."

Hartmann believes that Shinn's writing intends for the audience to believe that the gay Peter and the dead veteran soldier Craig are opposites, but she said that the two characters are more similar in their "manipulation" than most suspect.

"They just go about it in different ways," she said. "For me, Shinn is commenting that the silent killer is just as deadly as the explosion."

In addition to Velazquez's challenge in taking on the dual roles, the production also faced the challenge of differentiating between scenes featuring Kelly and Craig, which take place in 2004, and those

between Kelly and Peter, which take place a year later. Shinn's script leaves no explicit directions on how to distinguish between the two, so Hartmann made the decision to stage the Craig and Kelly scenes as flashbacks. To this end, she used lighting and music to help make the distinction.

Hartmann also cited the quality of her acting talent as an added positive. Referring to Velazquez and Vale, she said, "It takes a lot of focus on stage to jump back and forth between the characters and they do a fantastic job."

London Vale said she took a personal approach in preparing for her role.

"Since 'Dying City' focuses so much on the relationships between Kelly and the two men — Craig and Peter — I tried to focus on the interactions I have had with men in my life and parts of my life during which I felt the things Kelly might feel in those situations," she said. "A lot of Kelly's relationships with the two men hit close to home, so it was a process of looking back and remembering how I felt, how I reacted, and then evaluating how Kelly would react and applying it to each situation."

Hartmann went on to say that Christopher Shinn wrote "Dying City" as a play designed to hit home, despite the distance between the war zone and the home front.

"So many people are affected by events that happen thousands of miles away," she said. "Many times it's easy to look at the war in Iraq objectively, citing its impact on the economy or foreign policy. But we forget that each person sent to fight in Iraq is a brother, sister, son, daughter, husband, wife, lover and friend — and the ones left behind all have stories about their own personal experiences saying 'goodbye' to those they love."

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MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

1. Ross & Rachel, "Friends"

It was a 10-year saga that at times got ridiculous, but you could not help but hope that the geeky teenager who was in love with his sister's beautiful best friend would finally get the girl. You laughed with them when they fought about being "on a break," and when they got drunkenly married in Las Vegas. But you fell in love with them when Ross accidentally said "Rachel" at his wedding, and when they had baby Emma.

Caitlin Ferraro
Scene Writer

2. Jim & Pam, "The Office"

A classic case of unrequited love, friends and coworkers Jim and Pam created chemistry for two seasons, as they bonded over pulling pranks on Dwight and putting up with Michael. When Jim finally put the moves on Pam at the office casino night, America swooned and hoped Roy was a thing of the past. But Jim's broken heart found Karen and we had to wait another season until Jim would give up a job at corporate to finally get his girl. This season, the Internet is abuzz about TV's newest "It" couple — Jam.

3. Carrie & Mr. Big, "Sex and the City"

She is sort of a head case and viewers did not even know his first name until the final episode of the series, but you love them even more for it. We saw Carrie go through many affairs and other great loves (oh, Aidan), but you knew that it would be Carrie and Mr. Big in the end — it was just a matter of timing. Rumors swirl of a wedding in the upcoming

movie. Dare we dream?

4. Seth & Summer, "The O.C."

He recited a poem about a squirrel she wrote in the third grade. He stood on top of a coffee cart proclaiming his love. He created a cartoon character version of her, Little Miss Vixen. And he named his boat after her. She fought for his love by dressing up as Wonder Woman. And she worked to get into Brown to go with him. They were proof opposites attract, as he softened her self-absorbed ways and she saved him from a world of loneliness.

5. Angel & Buffy, "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"

As a science fiction version of Romeo and Juliet, these two were destined to end badly because she was the vampire slayer and he was a vampire. But he had a soul, and together they fought against vampires and demons while falling in love. Unfortunately, when he experienced a moment of "perfect happiness" with her, a curse turned him into Angelus, his former evil soulless self. Madness ensued as he massacred the people of Sunnydale, and she eventually had to kill him. Sure he came back from Hell, but things were never the same.

6. Cory & Topanga, "Boy Meets World"

The two basically dated since they met in the sandbox. Shawn was their perennial third wheel, and the threesome was unbeatable. Feeney watched as they broke up, got back together, and broke up again. Corey always believed they belonged together, and eventually the childhood sweethearts walked down the aisle.

7. Zack Morris & Kelly Kapowski, "Saved by the Bell"

Bayside's No. 1 cheerleader and overall queen bee was the constant object of the affections of Zack, the platinum blonde troublemaker. After a plethora of shenanigans, the two got hitched in an outlandish TV movie that included storylines about an escort service and a diamond thief — oh, and a surprise appearance by Jessie Spano.

8. Doug Funnie & Patty Mayonnaise, "Doug"

Doug was just a shy daydreamer who liked to write, listen to the Beets and crush on the tomboy orange girl with the southern accent, Patty Mayonnaise. Doug and Patty finally end up dancing together in "Doug's 1st Movie."

9. Homer & Marge, "The Simpsons"

Doh! He ruins almost everything but she loves him anyway and together they attempt to raise their crazy clan. Homer and Marge are from two completely different planets as she is as sensible as he is wild. They are dysfunctional but somehow manage to function as a normal family.

10. Luke & Lorelai, "Gilmore Girls"

Their witty banter over a cup of coffee at his diner was masterful. Only after helpful hints from others and listening to self-help tapes Luke finally realizes his "friend" Lorelai may just be the one. Even after interruptions by her meddling mother and his illegitimate daughter, the two finally ended up together.

11. Simon & Paula, "American Idol"

America's favorite judges.

12. Kim Possible & Ron Stoppable, "Kim Possible"

Superhero and her sidekick.

13. Eric & Donna, "That 70's Show"

The disco duo.

14. Kevin Arnold & Winnie Cooper, "The Wonder Years"

The girl next door.

15. Fred & Daphne, "Scooby Doo"

Love in the mystery van.

16. Dawson & Joey & Pacey, "Dawson's Creek"

The girl across the creek.

17. Nathan Scott & Haley James, "One Tree Hill"

Very young love.

18. Benson & Stabler, "Law and Order: SVU"

Partners in crime.

19. Sydney Bristow & Michael Vaughn, "Alias"

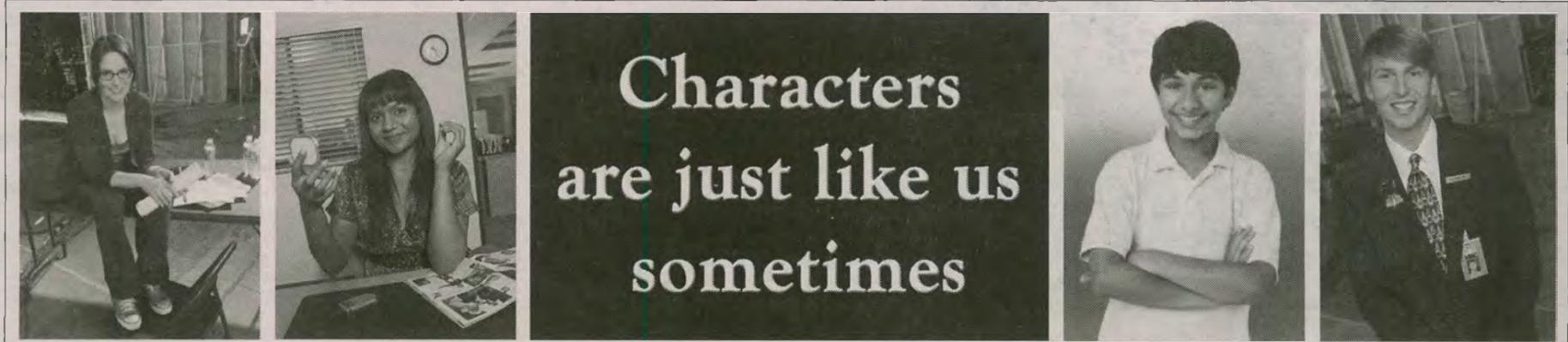
The deadly duo.

20. Coach Taylor & Mrs. Taylor, "Friday Night Lights"

Football's favorite couple.

The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

If you have ever watched a television show before, then you have probably identified with some character in some way. Maybe you've never had one of those "Oh my, we're the same person" moments, but you probably know what it feels like to be a fish out of water like Better Suarez on "Ugly Betty," or you're just looking for love and someone to control like New York on "I Love New York 2." And if you watch as much television as I do, it's scary how much you see yourself in TV characters. Here are just a few characters that I see traces of myself in.

Cassie Belek
Assistant Scene Editor

Justin Suarez, "Ugly Betty"

I only wish I had Justin's eye for fashion, but whenever that kid gets glued to Fashion TV, I'm taken back to my hours and hours spent watching "Entertainment Tonight" and "Access Hollywood" as a child. At least we do share a love for glittery objects and musical theatre.

Moment I realized we were alike: Justin, Hilda and Santos were trapped on a New York subway during a snowstorm while headed to a performance of "Hairspray." Inspired by

some uncontrollable force within him, Justin proceeded to not only sing "Good Morning Baltimore," but also act out the entire musical for the subway passengers, proving that his love for "Hairspray" runs as deep as mine.

Kelly Kapoor, "The Office"

The popularity of Kelly Kapoor on "The Office" has been a victory for girls with high-pitched voices everywhere, including me. Kelly and I share annoyingly high voices and we like to use them by rambling off endless celebrity gossip and saying the word "awesome" way too much.

When Dwight I realized that we were alike: Moment I realized we were alike: When Dwight announced that there would be no bonuses and that the branch was closing by first lying about a massive car accident involving Brad Pitt, all Kelly could say was, "Is Brad OK?" as everyone else was concerned about losing their jobs. Awesome.

Kenneth the Page, "30 Rock"

Does anyone love television more than Kenneth the Page? I like to think that I come close, but I doubt that even I have enough love to go through the abuse that Kenneth suffers, and always with a gleeful smile on his face.

Moment I realized we were alike: Kenneth

defends his love for television and his menial job to Jack by saying, "Think of all the shared experiences television has provided for us. From the moon landing to the 'Golden Girls' finale. From Walter Cronkite denouncing Vietnam to Oprah pulling that trash bag of fat out in the wagon." Right on, Kenneth. Right on.

Liz Lemon, "30 Rock"

Good ole Liz Lemon and I have a few things in common — we both love "Star Wars," we both take up new crafts only to abandon them a few weeks later and lately, we've both been wearing very similar dresses. But beyond this, I look to Liz Lemon for guidance. She's the new Mary Tyler Moore and she can stand up against anyone who gets in her way, even though she may stumble along the way. Let's just hope I never accidentally date my third cousin or shoot someone at the Source Awards.

Moment I realized we were alike: Pretty much every episode.

The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Cassie Belek at cbelek@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of tv.yahoo.com

Liz Lemon goes up against boss Jack Donaghy on a daily basis.

NBA

Pierce, Garnett help Celtics coast past Sixers

Butler's 27 points send Cavs to fifth straight loss; Bulls overcome third-quarter deficit against Bobcats

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The Boston Celtics hung on against a feisty Philadelphia team thanks to their Big Three — and a couple of big 3s, too.

Eddie House and James Posey delivered decisive 3-pointers to help the usual, strong efforts of Paul Pierce, Kevin Garnett and Ray Allen hold up for a 113-103 win over the 76ers on Wednesday night.

"You've got to have role players to have a good team," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said.

House and Posey played their roles to near perfection. The duo went 7-for-13 on 3s that made all the difference late in the game against a Sixers team with something to prove. Posey scored 17 points, House had 15 and Boston's bench outscored Philadelphia 46-26.

"We were just making plays for each other and that helped us in the second half to come back, get a lead and get a win," Posey said.

Pierce had 19 points and 12 assists, Garnett scored 22 points and Allen scored 12.

Andre Miller kept the Sixers alive until the fourth with his first double-double of the season, a 26-point, 12-assist effort that was one of his best games in Philadelphia. Andre Iguodala scored 24 points.

The Sixers gave an inspired effort in their first game with Ed Stefanski as president and general manager. Stefanski left his job as general manager of the Nets to take a similar role in Philadelphia after Billy King was fired on Monday.

"For 40 minutes we were there, but you've got to be able to sustain it against a team like that," coach Maurice Cheeks said.

Posey hit a pair of 3s in the final minute of the third that helped the Celtics take a three-point lead. He hit another early in the fourth that tied the game at 86.

The Sixers went ahead one last time, 88-86, on two of

Miller's free throws. They played hard, played smart, even shot 56 percent from the floor, but they simply couldn't stop the Celtics down the stretch.

Wizards 105, Cavaliers 86

Caron Butler had 27 points to lead the Washington Wizards past the Cleveland Cavaliers, on Wednesday night. The Cavaliers have lost four straight without LeBron James, sidelined with a sprained left index finger, and do they miss him.

It was the fifth straight loss overall for Cleveland — its first five-game skid since Feb. 22-March 1, 2006.

Meanwhile, Washington is 6-4 without Gilbert Arenas, who underwent surgery on his left knee last month. Arenas, hobbling around on crutches, sat on the Wizards' sideline for the first time since his surgery.

Antawn Jamison had 17 points and 12 rebounds for Washington. Brendan Haywood finished with 17 points and 10 boards as the Wizards outrebounded the Cavs 45-29.

Washington coach Eddie Jordan contemplated playing the James-less Cavaliers before the game, and remembered last spring's playoffs. The Wizards, missing Arenas and Butler, were swept in four games.

"It's like the bully coming to the fight without the brass knuckles and the baseball bats. They've been bullying us," Jordan said. "We want to return the favor."

The Wizards had a relatively easy time returning the favor. Butler's jumper to end the first quarter gave Washington a 22-21 lead.

Washington led by 28 early in the third quarter, which couldn't have made Cleveland coach Mike Brown happy. After the Cavaliers were pasted by New Jersey 100-79 on Tuesday, Brown ripped his team. He didn't back off his comments before Wednesday's game.

"I'm not trying to put a charge in them," Brown said. "I'm trying to tell them the truth. If there is anybody in the locker that can tell me they competed for 48 minutes, I'd be shocked."

Cleveland did cut the lead to nine — trailing 88-79 midway



Bobcats guard Raymond Felton drives past Bulls forward Andres Nocioni in Chicago's 91-82 win Wednesday.

through the fourth quarter. With James, who didn't talk to the media, sitting forlornly on the bench, the Cavaliers couldn't get any closer.

Bulls 91, Bobcats 82

Coach Scott Skiles has tinkered with his lineup all season, trying to find the right combination to spark the struggling Chicago Bulls.

The solution appears to involve Andres Nocioni.

Two nights after he scored 30 points off the bench, Nocioni scored 10 of his 15 points in the fourth quarter and added 11 rebounds as the Bulls rallied to send the Charlotte Bobcats to their seventh straight loss, 91-82 on Wednesday.

With Luol Deng controlling the inside with 30 points and Nocioni hitting big shots from the outside, the Bulls erased an 11-point third-quarter deficit by outscoring the Bobcats 38-22 in the fourth.

"I think we played the way the Chicago Bulls play, moving the ball, passing the ball," said Nocioni after only the Bulls' second road win in nine tries. "I think we played really hard defense."

Hard enough to stymie the free-falling Bobcats.

Gerald Wallace had 22 points and eight rebounds for Charlotte, but was on the bench with five fouls for the decisive 10-2 run early in the fourth

quarter that gave Chicago its first lead.

Jason Richardson scored 17 points, but was shut out in the final quarter and Raymond Felton scored 17 points, but shot 5-for-14. The Bobcats had little presence inside as they extended the league's longest current losing streak.

It didn't help that Charlotte's offense was off kilter. The Bobcats took 26 3-point shots, hitting six, and center Emeka Okafor took only seven shots.

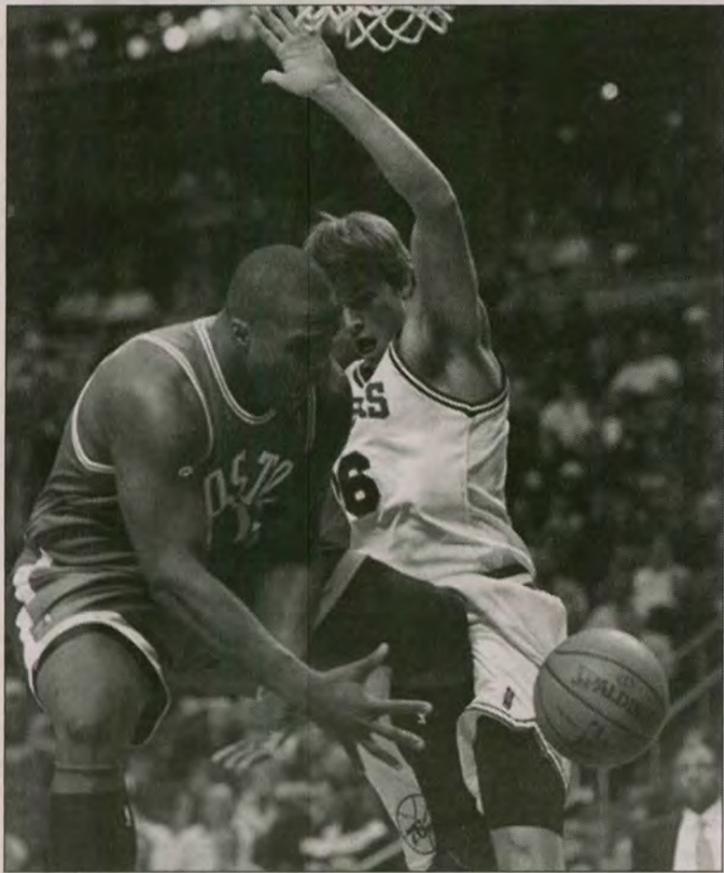
"We don't need 26 3-point shots. We need to try to get to the rim," coach Sam Vincent said. "We don't need the jumpers. We need to be trying to get the ball inside to Emeka even more."

The Bobcats, who haven't won since Nov. 19 against Portland, found out Wednesday morning that Cleveland had matched their offer sheet for 6-foot-10 forward Anderson Varejao.

Vincent has been pleading for another big man for months, and Charlotte's lack of depth inside was costly down the stretch.

"I worry about our confidence in terms of really understanding how to close out games," Vincent said.

In a matchup of coaches who were teammates at Michigan State and with the Orlando Magic, both Vincent and Skiles continued tweaking lineups.



Celtics forward Glen Davis loses the ball as he runs into 76ers forward Kyle Korver in Boston's 113-103 win Wednesday.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 2 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.

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AROUND THE NATION

Thursday, December 6, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NFL

AFC East

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Patriots	12-0	1.000	469	209
Buffalo	6-6	.500	184	274
N.Y. Jets	3-9	.250	221	291
Miami	0-12	.000	196	317

AFC North

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	9-3	.750	296	155
Cleveland	7-5	.583	336	338
Cincinnati	4-8	.333	291	316
Baltimore	4-8	.333	206	270

AFC South

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Indianapolis	10-2	.833	337	197
Jacksonville	8-4	.667	268	223
Tennessee	7-5	.583	232	241
Houston	5-7	.417	263	291

AFC West

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
San Diego	7-5	.583	285	233
Denver	5-7	.417	241	329
Kansas City	4-8	.333	172	230
Oakland	4-8	.333	234	260

NFC East

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Dallas	11-1	.917	395	248
N.Y. Giants	8-4	.667	274	257
Washington	5-7	.417	229	257
Philadelphia	5-7	.417	258	246

NFC North

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Green Bay	10-2	.833	323	222
Detroit	6-6	.500	267	311
Minnesota	6-6	.500	278	237
Chicago	5-7	.417	237	272

NFC South

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Tampa Bay	8-4	.667	241	187
Carolina	5-7	.417	204	257
New Orleans	5-7	.417	266	279
Atlanta	3-9	.250	171	272

NFC West

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Seattle	8-4	.667	273	207
Arizona	6-6	.500	281	280
San Francisco	3-9	.250	164	285
St. Louis	3-9	.250	196	297

CCHA Conference Standings

	team	conference	overall
1	NOTRE DAME	10-2-0	14-4-0
2	Miami	9-1-0	13-1-0
3	Michigan	9-1-0	14-2-0
4	Michigan State	6-2-0	10-3-2
5	Ferris State	6-4-0	7-6-1
6	Bowling Green	5-3-0	8-4-0
7	Northern Michigan	5-9-0	6-10-0
8	Nebraska-Omaha	4-7-1	5-7-1
9	Ohio State	2-8-0	4-11-1
10	Western Michigan	2-8-0	4-10-0
11	Alaska	1-6-1	1-8-1
12	Lake Superior	0-8-0	2-11-1

around the dial

NBA

Heat at Trailblazers
10:30 p.m., TNT

NCAA FOOTBALL



University of Colorado president Hank Brown, right, stands Wednesday with Lisa Simpson, who will receive \$2.5 million from the university in a sexual assault lawsuit settlement.

After 6 years, assault victim receives settlement

Associated Press

DENVER — The University of Colorado has agreed to pay two women \$2.85 million to settle a lawsuit alleging they were sexually assaulted by football players and recruits, school officials said Wednesday.

The allegations had sparked a football recruiting scandal at the school, prompted broad university reforms and led to a shake-up of its top leaders.

University spokesman Ken McConnell said the school also agreed to hire an adviser to monitor compliance with federal laws governing equal treatment of women and add a

position in the university Office of Victim Assistance. The agreement came two months after an appellate court revived the lawsuit.

University President Hank Brown said agreeing to the settlement was "a difficult decision, painful in some ways, but it's my sense that it was in the interest of the university."

He said the school faced years of litigation over the case, and fees for outside attorneys had already reached \$3 million.

One of the women, Lisa Simpson, will receive \$2.5 million, McConnell said. The other woman, who did not wish to be identified publicly, will receive \$350,000. The school did

not admit fault or liability.

The Associated Press does not identify the victims of alleged sexual assault, but Simpson has agreed to be identified in media reports.

The women said they were raped by football players and recruits at an off-campus party on Dec. 7, 2001. Their lawsuit alleged the university violated federal law by fostering an environment that allowed sexual assaults to occur.

Simpson's attorney, Baine Kerr, said Simpson and her parents had met with Brown to discuss non-monetary provisions of a settlement but final negotiations were handled last month between attorneys and a mediator. Simpson met with

Brown at his office Wednesday but was not made available for comment.

In a statement released through the school, Simpson said she was pleased with steps the school has taken.

"I encourage other institutions of higher education throughout the nation to take similar steps," she said.

Simpson fought hard to make the school change, said Janine D'Anniballe, director of Boulder's rape crisis center.

"She wanted change in the university. I think that's what she got. Even more important than money is change," D'Anniballe said.

IN BRIEF

Schilling, McCain go to town hall-style meeting

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Good times never seemed so good for Republican John McCain.

The presidential hopeful showed up at a town hall-style meeting Wednesday with Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling, who tried his best to avoid the subject that brought them together: politics.

"I'm way outside my element here," the World Series champ said. "I'm not going to lie. I'm a latecomer to the political thing. I'm not proud of that. But it is what it is."

One voter tried to draw him out nonetheless, asking Schilling whether he would challenge Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass. Another called him "Senator Schilling."

"I'm going to stick to winning one more World Series," he said to cheers in Red Sox-supporting New Hampshire.

Riske signs three-year deal with Milwaukee

NASHVILLE — Free agent reliever David Riske agreed to a \$13 million, three-year contract with Milwaukee on Wednesday, moving to the Brewers after an effective season with Kansas City.

The Brewers made a deal with Riske after recently losing free agent relievers Francisco Cordero to Cincinnati and Scott Linebrink to the Chicago White Sox. Cordero posted 44 saves for Milwaukee; no one else on the team had more than one.

"His durability and consistency will be a great asset to our ballclub," Milwaukee general manager Doug Melvin said.

The 31-year-old was 1-4 with four saves and a 2.45 ERA in 65 relief appearances last season. The righty had a rough start with a 6.97 ERA in April, then had a 1.67 ERA the rest of the way. Overall, his ERA was 11th among AL relievers who pitched at least 50 innings.

Scottish lawmakers aid Trump's golf resort

EDINBURGH, Scotland — Scottish lawmakers on Wednesday backed government efforts to save Donald Trump's proposed \$2.1 billion golf resort that would be built on an unspoiled beach near Aberdeen.

The Scottish government took the unusual step of agreeing to review Trump's application after a local council rejected it.

The project is now before the Scottish Parliament's economy, energy and tourism committee and a final decision on the project is still likely months away.

"The committee felt the decision has given a worrying message to the rest of the world that Scotland is closed for business," Tavish Scott, the head of the committee, said after the meeting.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Willingham retained as Washington head coach

Despite three consecutive losing seasons, former Notre Dame boss will be back in Seattle next year

Associated Press

SEATTLE — There is no official ultimatum from Washington president Mark Emmert, but there might as well be — Tyrone Willingham must win in 2008.

Despite just 11 wins in three years, and becoming the first Washington coach to have three consecutive losing seasons, Willingham will return to Washington. The university confirmed on Wednesday that the coach who was fired after just three seasons at Notre Dame would get a fourth season with the Huskies.

The announcement came in conjunction with Willingham's end-of-year news conference, which had a setting more akin to a hiring than the wrap-up of a disappointing 4-9 season. Many athletic department staff were in attendance and broke out in applause when Willingham finished with his remarks.

The briefing was delayed amid speculation Emmert was considering whether to fire Willingham. The delay perhaps only added to the heavy burden Willingham now faces for the 2008 season. Entering year four of a five-year contract, Willingham will likely need a bowl appearance to avoid the firing many fans and boosters wanted to see happen now.

"My message to them would be please hold on," Willingham said about the faction hoping a change would be made. "We've had what I would call rough and turbulent waters to navigate when I arrived. Hopefully we are in the process of getting through those difficult waters and are now ready to punch our way through and be the football team I think we can be."

Willingham does have a point. When he arrived for the 2005 season, Washington was coming off the worst season in school history, a 1-10 record that bottomed out the once proud program.

But the instant gratification fans sought has not transpired. Washington improved from 2-9 in Willingham's first year to 5-7 a year later. But Washington started 4-1 in 2006 before losing six straight to fall out of bowl contention.

Washington faced a brutal schedule this season featuring six ranked opponents and nine teams that will play in bowls. While the record was tough for fans to accept, it was accentuated by the Huskies leading or being tied at halftime in nine of their 13 games, and fourth-quarter meltdowns against Arizona, Washington State and Hawaii.

"Everyone connected to Husky football, from the coaches and players to the students, alumni and fans, is disappointed with this season's record," Emmert said in a statement. "No one is more disappointed than coach Willingham himself."

Emmert, Willingham and athletic director Todd Turner held meetings the last two days to discuss the program and direction. Willingham declined to talk with reporters after a Tuesday night team meeting, but never wavered from the belief he would return for his fourth season.

"I believed I would be the coach," he said.

Willingham has two years remaining on the five-year contract he signed in 2004. His contract pays him \$1.4 million a year,

including deferred compensation. The school would have owed him \$3 million had it bought out his contract before Jan. 3.

"The body of work I've observed and the university's leadership has observed over the past three years gives clear evidence to me that that record will change in the very near future," Turner said. "We're committed to that and feel strongly that coach Willingham has provided the kind of leadership that provides us the base to make this happen."

Clarifying Willingham's status was important because this weekend is key for recruiting. All of Washington's major prospects are due on campus for official visits. Willingham made note that getting a resolution was vital in solidifying what is developing into a strong recruiting class.

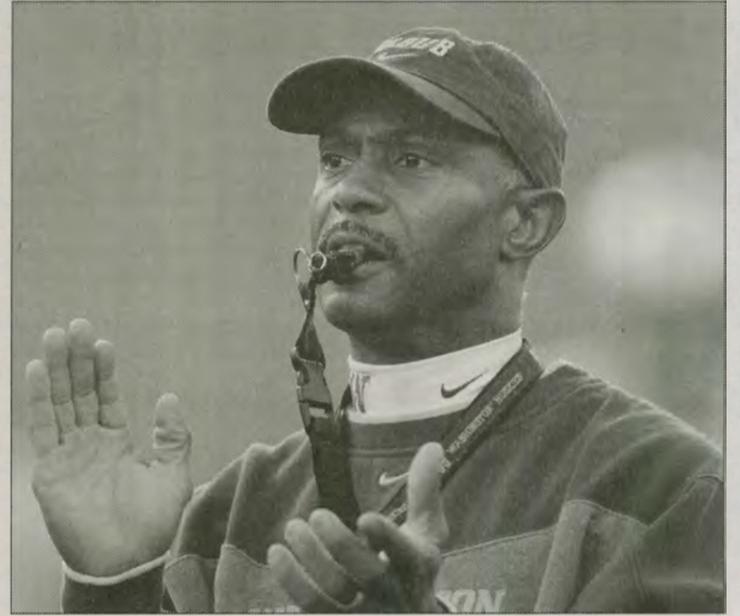
"We have to secure those guys that we've already gotten commitments from and continue the

process of adding to them so we can have the team that will be better in the future," said Willingham, one of five black coaches in the Football Bowl Subdivision.

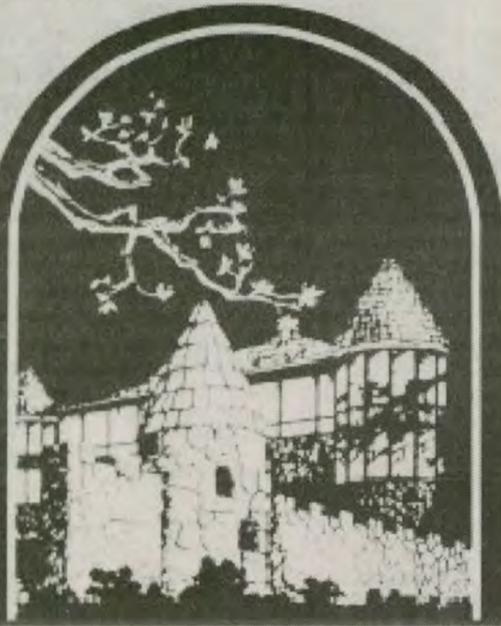
With Willingham's status confirmed, the question now turns to his staff, namely on the defensive side.

In his statement, Emmert indicated that changes could be forthcoming, but Willingham would not elaborate, saying that the evaluation process is continuing.

Washington had the worst defense statistically in school history, giving up 446.4 yards per game, and allowed record-setting performances to Oregon (rushing) and Arizona (passing) in consecutive weeks. That could mean the end of Kent Baer's tenure as defensive coordinator. He has been on Willingham's staffs for the past 13 years.



Washington coach Tyrone Willingham instructs his team at a Huskies practice Nov. 13. AP



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NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Pitt holds off Duquesne despite late-game rally

Summers scores 18 as Georgetown runs away from Alabama; Purdue tops Ball State; Clemson beats ECU

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — LeVance Fields scored four consecutive points in the final minute and No. 12 Pittsburgh held off a frantic rally by city rival Duquesne, winning 73-68 on Wednesday night to remain unbeaten.

Sam Young had 23 points and five rebounds to counter Shawn James' 20 points, nine rebounds and five blocks for Duquesne (6-2), which never led but closed to within one point several times after falling behind 14-0 in the opening 3 1/2 minutes.

Mike Cook added 12 points and Fields and DeJuan Blair had 10 each for Pitt, which is 8-0 for the sixth consecutive season and has never lost to Duquesne in eight games as a ranked team.

Pitt won its seventh in a row in the rivalry known as the City Game and ninth in 11 games against Duquesne, which hasn't beaten a ranked team since 1997.

This one didn't come easily for Pitt despite the Panthers' dominating start. Kieron Achara's followup for Duquesne made it 66-64 with 1:18 remaining, but Fields scored from the lane with exactly a minute left to get Pitt's lead back to four points.

After Kojo Mensah traveled for Duquesne, Fields made two free throws with 34 seconds left to make it 70-66 and the Dukes never got any closer. Until this game, Duquesne had never lost by fewer than 14 points to a

ranked Pitt team.

Pitt, a visiting team in its own city as it made the two-mile trek to play on the Dukes' court, came out like this one would be over early — just as it did while winning its first seven games by an average of 30 points.

The Dukes, who were 3-24 two seasons ago but have since been rebuilt by coach Ron Everhart, looked tight and nervous early as Pitt seized its 14-0 lead.

Young and Ronald Ramon hit 3-pointers and Blair, a freshman, had six points and seven rebounds in the first nine minutes before getting into foul trouble.

Duquesne, down 25-8 just before Blair went out, went on a 9-0 run keyed by James and Aaron Jackson to get to within 27-22.

Everhart also modified the two-unit rotation he used while the Dukes went 6-0 for the first time in 28 years, substituting conventionally to keep the 6-foot-10 tandem of James and Achara on the court together as much as possible to defend against Pitt's inside strength.

Duquesne, facing the Panthers with a winning record for the first time in 14 years, shot only 38.5 percent (25-of-65) and was outrebounded 44-36 despite James' big game. James, among five Duquesne players shot a year ago following a campus party, faced Pitt for the first time after transferring from Northeastern.

Pitt has been 8-0 in every season under fifth-year coach Jamie Dixon, but won't play its first out-of-town game this sea-

son until Saturday at Washington.

Georgetown 70, Alabama 60

DaJuan Summers had 18 points and nine rebounds and No. 5 Georgetown dominated down the stretch to beat Alabama in the first game of the SEC/Big East Invitational on Wednesday night.

The Hoyas (6-0) went on a 14-1 run after the Crimson Tide (4-3) briefly took the lead in the final minutes, giving up only a free throw before allowing a last-second basket in the final four minutes.

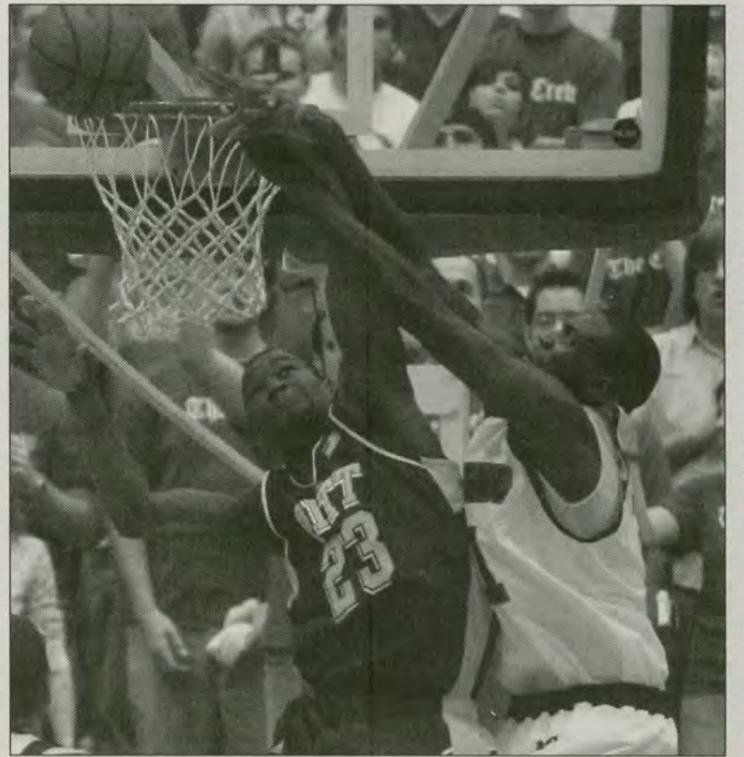
Georgetown turned up the defensive heat against an Alabama team relying heavily on freshmen, forcing bad passes and tough shots.

Roy Hibbert added 14 points, nine boards and four blocked shots for the Hoyas. He was 8-of-12 from the free-throw line as the smaller Tide mostly denied the 7-foot-2 center the ball or fouled him when he got it around the basket.

Jessie Sapp added 12 points and Alabama native Jonathan Wallace scored 11 for the Hoyas.

Georgetown, which trailed at the half for the first time this season, at 35-33, is off to a 6-0 start for the first time since winning its opening 10 games of the 2003-04 season. This one didn't come as easily as most of the others, though, despite a commanding 45-29 rebounding advantage.

Richard Hendrix, the nation's No. 3 rebounder, led Alabama with 17 points and nine boards. Mykal Riley scored 15 points



Pittsburgh forward Sam Young blocks a shot by Duquesne's Shawn James in the Panthers' 73-68 win over the Dukes Wednesday.

and made 4-of-7 3-pointers. The rest of the team combined to make just 10-of-34 shots.

Georgetown held the Tide to 33 percent shooting in the second half.

Riley hit three 3-pointers in a five-minute span. His third gave the Tide a 57-56 lead with 4:01 left. Alabama's first edge since the opening seconds of the second half. He had scored all nine points in overtime and made a key 3 in the final seconds of regulation in Saturday night's win over Southeastern Louisiana, but couldn't fuel another fast finish.

Georgetown took over from there.

Summers and Sapp hit 3-pointers to start the 14-1 run for the Hoyas, who hadn't led by more than four points in the first 37 minutes.

Purdue 70, Ball State 57

Keaton Grant scored 15 points as Purdue beat Ball State Wednesday night.

Scott Martin scored 14 points and Tarrance Crump had 13 for the Boilermakers (5-1), who improved to 6-2 all-time against Ball State.

Purdue made 10 3-pointers as a team, its highest total of the season, and forced 22 turnovers.

Peyton Stovall scored 14 points and Malik Perry had 13 for the Cardinals (0-7).

Ball State's tallest player was 6-foot-4, but the Cardinals outrebounded the Boilermakers 29-26. Ball State made 6 of 7 3-pointers and shot 47 percent overall.

Purdue led 36-31 at halftime, but Stovall started the second half with a four-point play to trim that lead to 36-35. The Cardinals took their first lead of the game, 40-39, on a 3-pointer by Brandon Lampley with 17:43 to play.

Ball State led 44-42 before the Boilermakers went on a 17-4 run that included two 3-pointers and a mid-range jumper by Martin to take a 59-48 lead with 6:32 left. Purdue's largest lead was 67-49 with just over 4 minutes left.

The score was tied at 17 in the first half before Purdue

went on a 13-0 run that included five points by Crump and four by JaJuan Johnson. The Boilermakers held the Cardinals scoreless for more than six minutes during that stretch.

Ball State responded with a 13-4 run, including seven points by Stovall, to cut Purdue's lead to 34-30 with 1:24 left in the first half.

Clemson 82, East Carolina 67

Freshman Terrence Oglesby hit six 3-pointers and scored a season-high 22 points Wednesday night to help No. 18 Clemson beat East Carolina.

Fellow rookie Demontez Stitt had 13 points and five assists for the Tigers (8-0), who took control midway through the first half and never looked back.

Sam Hinnant scored 16 points to lead the Pirates (3-5), who led by three early before Clemson's defense locked down to fuel a 17-point spurt and help the Tigers build a big half-time lead. East Carolina fell to 0-57 all-time against Atlantic Coast Conference teams, and faces another one — North Carolina State — here Saturday.

East Carolina's respect-starved fans were eager to see an ACC school come to Minges Coliseum for the first time in nearly four decades. After all, the league — particularly powers Duke and North Carolina located about 90 miles west — have long hogged the spotlight while the Pirates have had to fight for any attention once basketball season arrives.

But the Tigers sure didn't allow much room for optimism once the game began. Despite playing again without injured forward James Mays (hip), Clemson pushed ahead for good with a stickback dunk and free throw from Raymond Sykes about 7 minutes in before taking a 47-29 lead at the break.

Oglesby, who had nine points in the first half, kept the pressure on after halftime. After East Carolina had closed to within 14 midway through the half, he knocked down a 3-pointer to answer the Pirates' push.

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MLB

Tigers, Marlins finalize huge eight-player deal

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Dontrelle Willis was on vacation in Mexico when the blockbuster deal was completed, and Miguel Cabrera was home in Venezuela.

Their next stop is Detroit, where the busy Tigers are building an awfully powerful team.

The Tigers finalized their big trade with the Marlins on Wednesday, an eight-player swap that sent both coveted All-Stars from cash-strapped Florida to go-for-broke Detroit.

"I was caught off-guard," Willis said on a conference call. "When I heard where I was going, I was eager and excited."

The Marlins received a package of six players, including two highly rated prospects: left-hander Andrew Miller and outfielder Cameron Maybin. The teams reached a preliminary agreement Tuesday, with the deal subject to both sides being satisfied after exchanging medical records.

The Tigers also sent catcher Mike Rabelo and right-handers Burke Badenhop, Eulogio De La Cruz and Dallas Trahern to Florida in a huge trade that developed quickly and took the spotlight away from the Johan Santana sweepstakes at base-

ball's winter meetings.

"The inclusion of Dontrelle was not something at the outset that we had considered," Florida president of baseball operations Larry Beinfest said. "We recognize the market value for both players."

Detroit president Dave Dombrowski didn't intend to pursue the pair until he received a surprise phone call at home two days before Thanksgiving from owner Mike Ilich, who read in a newspaper that Cabrera was available.

"I just wanted to kind of mention his name, that he seems like he'd be a great player for us," Ilich said, according to Dombrowski.

"Well, he would be," Dombrowski remembered replying.

The clubs touched base a little bit Monday night, then Florida approached Detroit on Tuesday morning. The Marlins told the Tigers they could have both stars for those six players, then Detroit called back later in the day and agreed.

"We made this trade to win now. It's obvious," Dombrowski said.

Tigers closer Todd Jones was more emphatic.

"Wow. Those moves put us over the top," he wrote in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

NFL

Miami copes with losses

Associated Press

MIAMI — Zach Thomas walked onto the practice field Wednesday with a whistle around his neck, the bill of his cap tugged down low and his tight shorts yanked up high, a list of plays tucked in the waistband.

"Now I'm coach Thomas," he said with a grin.

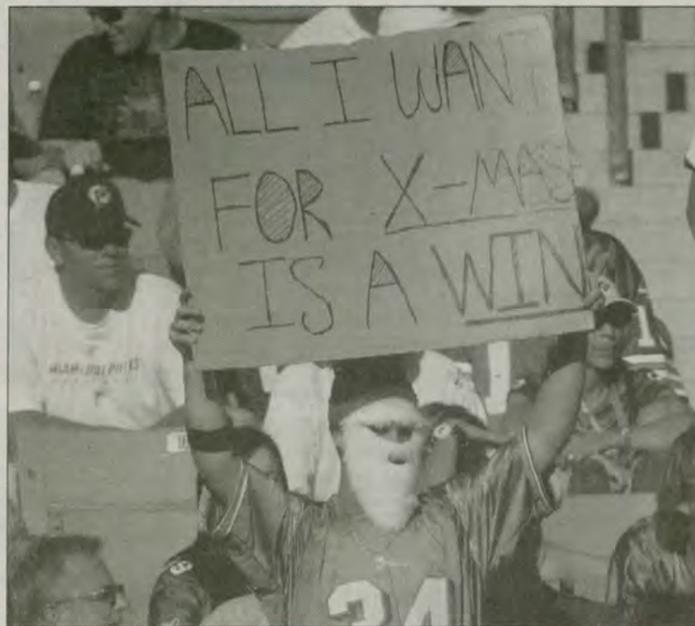
"It's nice to see Zach hasn't lost his sense of humor," teammate Jason Taylor said.

If any team could use a laugh, it's the Miami Dolphins. The downward spiral in their winless season accelerated with a blowout loss Sunday against the woeful New York Jets, and postgame grumbling suggested cracks in team unity, which would be understandable considering Miami's 0-12 record.

Thomas' coaching getup gave the Dolphins reason to grin. The seven-time Pro Bowl linebacker was placed on injured reserve Tuesday because of recurring migraines, ending his season, but he wants to do what he can to boost spirits.

"True colors come out when things are going bad," Thomas said. "That's when you find out the character of guys."

A splintered locker room would make the Dolphins even more susceptible to the NFL's



A frustrated Miami fan highlights the team's struggles with a holiday-themed sign. The Dolphins are 0-12 this season.

first 0-16 finish. Four chances for victory remain, starting Sunday at frigid Buffalo.

Through 11 defeats, players remained remarkably upbeat, with none of the finger-pointing that can plague bad teams. But after a 40-13 loss to the Jets, nose tackle Keith Traylor accused unspecified teammates of selfishness, and defensive tackle Vonnie Holliday said the team's will and character were wavering.

Dissension?

"People can sense that, because it was a different game than the other games," Thomas said. "It was an ugly game. Everything fell apart."

"But everybody is bouncing back. The leadership on this team does a great job with that."

The leadership starts with in-laws Thomas and Taylor, the only players who have been Dolphins since the 1990s. But they're too candid to pretend everything is rosy.

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NBA

Finger injury still bothering LeBron

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — LeBron James sat out his fourth game in a row Wednesday night because of a sprained left index finger, making this the longest injury absence of the Cleveland star's career.

James, who did not speak to reporters before the game, was sitting on the sideline in street clothes when the game against the Washington Wizards began.

The Cavaliers entered the day 0-3 without James and losers of four consecutive games to fall to 9-10.

The reigning Eastern Conference champions also have been playing without injured players

Larry Hughes and Donyell Marshall. Plus, Anderson Varejao has been away during a contract stalemate that ended Wednesday, when Cleveland matched a \$17 million, three-year offer sheet he signed with Charlotte.

"By no way, shape or form do we want to play games minus LeBron, minus Larry, minus Andy, minus Donyell," coach Mike Brown said before Wednesday's game. "But stuff happens in the NBA. There are a lot of teams missing multiple guys."

The Cavaliers were embarrassed by New Jersey 100-79

Tuesday night, and Brown criticized his players afterward for a lack of intensity.

Asked Wednesday whether he stood by those comments, the coach said: "Last night, I don't think we competed for an extended period of time, and that was part of the reason we got our behinds kicked."

James was hurt a week ago at Detroit when Nazr Mohammed slapped at the ball as James attempted to shoot. James, in his fifth season, sat out four times last season

"Stuff happens in the NBA. There are a lot of teams missing multiple guys."

Mike Brown
Cavaliers coach

because of a variety of injuries but didn't miss consecutive games.

Shannon Brown scored a career-high 20 points starting in James' place Tuesday.

James leads the NBA in scoring average with 30.7 points. He's also averaging 7.6 rebounds and 8.1 assists.

"It's tough. The coach is struggling because he's trying to find new combinations. When LeBron is on the floor, 80 percent of our offense runs through him, and we feed off of him and that's why we're good," center Zydrunas Ilgauskas said.

"But when you're missing that big part, all of a sudden you have to find the offense somewhere else. And sometimes I think we try to do too much individually."

NFL

Minnesota's Edwards suspended for steroids

Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Minnesota Vikings defensive end Ray Edwards has been suspended four games for violating the NFL's policy on steroid use.

Edwards has been a starter for most of the season, but was replaced by Erasmus James for last Sunday's game against Detroit. Coach Brad Childress said that decision had nothing to do with Edwards' violation, which the coach learned of on Wednesday morning.

Childress said he was disappointed in Edwards and could not comment further because of the confidentiality surrounding the policy.

"It's disappointing, but there are policies in place and our players have to adhere to those policies," Childress said. "Every team goes through challenges as you go through the year. We've been through some of our own. It's an opportunity to have others step up."

The Associated Press left a message with Edwards' agent, Doug Hendricks, seeking comment.

The Vikings (6-6) will turn to James, rookie Brian Robison and Jayme Mitchell to fill in during Edwards' absence. The Vikings have won three games

in a row to rebound from a 2-5 start and play at San Francisco (3-9) on Sunday.

"I guess we're taking it about as good as a team can," Robison said. "We know things happen, and you just have to make sure that when things do happen, you just have to push through it and come together as a team and make sure we keep playing the way we're playing."

Edwards is in his second year out of Purdue. The fourth-round draft pick has been one of the Vikings' most consistent performers at defensive end.

He started the day second on the team in sacks, but jumped to the lead when the Elias Sports Bureau made a scoring change from the Lions game. Edwards hit quarterback Jon Kitna on the shoulder, forcing the ball to flutter into defensive end Kenechi Udeze's hands during a play that was initially ruled an interception.

But on Wednesday, Elias announced it was changing the scoring to give Edwards a sack — his fifth of the season — and Udeze a fumble recovery. Edwards also has 41 tackles, including five tackles for loss, 22 quarterback hurries and a touchdown on a 9-yard fumble return in Week 2 against Detroit.

NFL

McNabb returns to practice

Eagles quarterback back from ankle sprain

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Donovan McNabb has his mobility back, and along with it, his starting spot.

About the reception he'll receive Sunday from fickle Philadelphia Eagles fans, with whom he's had a career-long on-again, off-again relationship, the five-time Pro Bowl quarterback is unsure and even a bit indifferent.

McNabb returned to practice Wednesday for his first full workout since spraining his right ankle and jamming his thumb in a victory over Miami two weeks ago.

"I do feel like I'm ready to play," McNabb said before heading off to practice, which was moved indoors because of a light snowfall.

As a team coming off a pair of disappointing losses with A.J. Feeley directing the offense, one would expect McNabb to receive almost a hero's welcome. That's no sure thing, however, because some fans were calling for McNabb's ouster when the Eagles struggled early on.

Asked whether he thought he would be more appreciated when the Eagles take on NFC East rival New York on Sunday, McNabb jokingly replied, "Probably not."

Later, his tone got more serious, saying his past success speaks for itself and winning games is his goal.

"It's really none of my concern," McNabb said of crowd reaction. "I can't waste my energy worrying about how people feel about me."

"I don't have anything to prove. I've proven a lot through my career. ... There is nothing I can possibly do, at this particular point, besides win ball games, for me to make people feel some type of way or to feel better about me being in there. I don't get caught up in it, put it that way."

Regardless of fan reaction, McNabb's return comes at a critical time for a team smarting from loss to New England and Seattle and in need of a victory to keep its fading post-season hopes alive.

"Donovan's our guy," said running back Brian Westbrook, who missed Wednesday's workout with a sore knee. "He's a guy that we've been through a lot of wars with; a lot of battles. We're excited that he's healthy enough to come back and play and we're expecting big things from him."

The weeks since the injury have been frustrating for McNabb and troublesome for the Eagles.

As hard as he tried, McNabb couldn't regain enough movement in his ankle to work his way back into the lineup. He's confident he did everything he could to get back onto the field over the last two weeks.

"I think the way I tried to approach it is just to get myself healthy to get back out on the field," McNabb said. "That's the only thing that I could have possibly done."

McNabb, who was seemingly returning to form following last

season's severe knee injury before getting injured, has regained enough mobility to satisfy coach Andy Reid.

"I think that's the most important thing, that he can get out of the way when he needs to, and he's able to do that," Reid said.

That is a huge advantage for the Eagles against the Giants, who racked up 12 sacks in the teams' first meeting this season. New York ranks second in the NFC in total defense and has veteran defensive end Michael Strahan and Osi Umenyiora, who had team-record six sacks the last time the teams met.

Feeley handled the quarterback duties in McNabb's absence, with mixed results — but without a victory. His

strong showing in the team's 31-28 loss to New England overshadowed his three interceptions.

Against Seattle, Feeley struggled, throwing four interceptions, including a pick down the stretch for the second straight week that cost the Eagles a chance at a victory.

Watching those losses pained McNabb as much as his injuries.

"You want to contribute," he said. "It was

frustrating to see us lose like that. You want to do whatever you can do to help, but there is nothing I could have possibly done."

"What I wanted to do last week, I can do this week, and that's help us win this game."

"You want to do whatever you can to help, but there is nothing I could have possibly done."

Donovan McNabb
Eagles quarterback

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Four finalists selected for Heisman

Florida's Tebow hopes to be first sophomore quarterback winner in 65 years

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Florida quarterback Tim Tebow, trying to become the first sophomore to win the Heisman Trophy, and Arkansas running back Darren McFadden, the runner-up for last year's award, were among the four finalists selected Wednesday.

Missouri quarterback Chase Daniel and Hawaii quarterback

Colt Brennan were the other finalists. They will all be in New York on Saturday night when the award is given to the top player in college football.

"I think it's a good race," Brennan said at a news conference. "I think anybody can win it. It's up to the voters. It will be interesting to see how it plays out."

The Heisman race took a while to develop this season and

seemed wide open until the last month when Tebow, McFadden and Daniel emerged as front-runners.

Since the first Heisman was given to Chicago's Jay Berwanger in 1935, all 70 players who have won college football's most prestigious award have been juniors or seniors.

Tebow could break that trend. The ultimate dual-threat quarterback, the 235-pound Tebow ran for 838 yards and an Southeastern Conference-record 22 touchdowns.

He's also the nation's second-leading passer, having completed 68 percent of his throws for 3,132 yards, with 29 touchdowns and just six interceptions in his first season as a starter.

Tebow's already had a historic season, becoming the first major college player to run for 20 touchdowns and throw 20 TD passes in the same season.

"He has done things that no one else in college football has been able to do and I hope people realize the magnitude of his accomplishments," Florida coach Urban Meyer said in a statement.

McFadden was one of the preseason favorites after finishing second to Ohio State quarterback Troy Smith last year. His candidacy lagged with a mediocre October, but he gave himself a boost with a spectacular November.

Baraka

continued from page 24

year.

"We raised about \$4,000 - \$5,000 last year," Endsley said. "We want to at least double that."

The money hasn't come easily, though, as the fighters have been working since the beginning of September in preparation for tonight. Practicing for two hours everyday, the women have been working on physical fitness and boxing skills.

"Because it's an introductory club, most girls have no experience before joining," Endsley said. "It's a lot to learn in just two months."

Those two months will culminate at 6 tonight in the Joyce Center with 22 fights over five hours. Unlike Bengal Bouts, which is organized as a tournament, each girl will only get one fight to showcase her abilities.

"Maybe sometime if we have the numbers and we can organize a tournament that'd be great," Endsley said. Also, while the men have

strict weight classes, the Baraka Bout fights are paired only by relative size and boxing ability, as decided by the captains.

"We've got some novices fighting senior captains and some novices fighting novices," Endsley said. "We should have some really good fights."

"We raised about \$4,000-\$5,000 last year. We want to at least double that."

**Whitney Endsley
Baraka Bouts president**

Of the 44 girls fighting, 21 are sophomores or freshmen. The high amount of underclassmen has Endsley optimistic about the future of the organization.

"Hopefully the freshman and sophomores can continue carrying on the club and keep it growing," she said. "The numbers have gone up every year, which is really encouraging."

"Because it's an introductory club, most girls have no experience before joining."

**Whitney Endsley
Baraka Bouts president**

For now, though, the girls are concentrating on tonight and the end of this season.

"Our novices look great. They've caught on really fast and tomorrow they can showcase their skills in front of a crowd,"

Endsley said. "Hopefully we can raise a lot of money to send to East Africa, and have a lot of fun."

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Allen

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onto a two-point lead. Achter nailed both free throws to tie the game, but then Allen responded with more dramatics.

Earlier in overtime, Allen took a pass from Irish guard Tulyah Gaines beyond the arc and nailed her first 3-point basket of the night — three of her 17 points — to put the Irish up 83-80. Falcons forward Crystal Murdaugh sank two free throws, but Irish guard Melissa Lechlitner could not match her on the other end of the court, hitting only one of her shots to keep Bowling Green within two points.

But in the end, Allen's final shot was the one that mattered.

McGraw said she thought Allen started off uncharacteristically slow, but picked up her game in the second half.

"She really came on I thought in the second half," McGraw said.

In the final minutes of regulation, Irish guard Lindsay Schrader kept the Irish ahead by scoring six straight points for Notre Dame to give the Irish a 74-69 lead with only 1:04 remaining.

"They were playing zone. We got to her in the post. She was able to take it to the basket and she got some really good looks," McGraw said of Schrader. "She made some really huge plays in there to keep us going and she did a great job on the boards."

Schrader finished with 17 points and 12 rebounds for the game's only double-double.

But a 3-point basket for Falcons guard Sarah Clapper and two fouls on Irish guard Ashley Barlow gave Bowling Green back those five points, tying the score with 17 seconds remaining.

Notre Dame played for the last shot and gave the ball to Allen with the game on the line. But Falcons center Tara Breske blocked Allen's attempt to send the game to overtime.

Notre Dame held 10-point leads in both halves but was never able to put the Falcons away. McGraw said one part of the reason for this is that the



WU YUE/The Observer

Senior guard Tulyah Gaines jumps stops during Notre Dame's 77-46 win over the Wolverines Sunday.

Falcons are a better team than most on Notre Dame's early schedule.

"But playing at home, they had a big crowd, a lot of noise," McGraw said. "They're undefeated so they had confidence and they had more confidence because we let them stay in the game with us."

Another reason the Irish could not put away Bowling Green in the first half was the play of freshman guard Lauren Prochaska. She came into the game shooting only 31 percent from beyond the arc but went 5-for-5 from 3-point land Wednesday en route to scoring 18 points.

The freshman was a non-factor in the second half after notching her fourth foul only 17 seconds into the second period and her fifth with 2:59 left in regulation.

Prochaska was one of four Falcons in double figures Wednesday night, along with guard Kate Achter (20 points), Murdaugh (14) and Breske (10).

Notre Dame had three players in double-digit scoring other than Allen and Schrader: forward Devereaux Peters (14 points), guard Brittany Mallory (12) and Barlow (10).

"We can score. The problem

is: Can we stop people?" McGraw said. "Barlow didn't have a great game but managed to get 10 points. ... But then you've got two freshmen in double figures with Brittany and Devereaux."

In the first half they made a lot of big shots for us."

Early in the first half, Bowling Green amassed an eight-point lead on Notre Dame before the Irish fought back. Down 22-17 with 10:03 to play, Notre Dame tore off a 10-0 run, marked by back-to-back 3-pointers from Mallory — McGraw's perimeter specialist.

"Her shots were key for us in that run in the first half," McGraw said. "She's doing her job. She's doing what we want her to do."

But after her team's biggest road win of the season, McGraw still feels her team has a lot to work on.

"I was really disappointed in our defense," she said. "Especially in the first half we were not able to guard them at the 3-point line at all. The noise was so loud we were not able to communicate at all and we lost them sometimes."

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

Calvin

continued from page 24

the floor is just terrible," Kamrath said. "I don't why at home...it's just a lot of frustration — nothing fell. You have to keep shooting regardless, but just nothing fell."

After trailing 28-16 at the break, Jennifer Henley hoped her squad could find its shot and re-commit to the game plan of pushing the ball down the floor with junior point guard Megan Conaty.

Conaty could feed Kamrath and junior Erin Newsom to open opportunities for dueling threats Allison Kessler and Katie Rashid.

"We wanted to try and attack in the second half, make them foul us so we could score with the clock stopped," said Henley, whose

plan saw the Belles make 12 of their 13 second-half free throw attempts after going to the line just twice in the first half. "[Calvin] did a good job of keeping their composure, running their offense, and milking the clock, which put us in a bit of a hurry-up offense. We

looked to drive and hopefully draw the foul, which we did do a couple of times, but we could've done it a lot more. We needed a little help from the stripes on that one."

Even when Kessler did get something going, Calvin always seemed to grab that extra offensive rebound or force that final errant pass.

"They had an answer,"

Henley said. "There's a reason why they're ranked near the top of the country. Calvin's a good team. It's just if our shots would have fallen in the first half, maybe it's a different story."

And, if the Belles

have anything so say about it, it will be when the two teams meet again on Jan. 23 in Grand Rapids.

As for now, Saint Mary's will turn to Saturday's game against Tri-State, another conference foe.

"Welcome to the MIAA; that's what it's all about," Henley said. "You have to bring your 'A' game every night, and tonight we didn't do that — especially in the first half. We just had too much to dig out of, and Calvin had an answer for everything we did tonight."

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

Recruit

continued from page 24

players a sense of ownership of the team.

"They've gone a very good job of keeping the players informed," said Mike Frank, who runs IrishEyes.com, the Notre Dame recruiting site on the Scout.com network.

Frank also said that Weis and the Irish assistant coaches have formed good relationships with the parents and high school coaches of the prospects on their list, which means the players aren't feeling pressure to start looking elsewhere.

"Recruiting is just like sales," Frank said. "You've got to build relationships with people. I think the results of them building these relationships with the families and the high school coaches gives them the opportunity to say 'Here are the reasons you chose Notre Dame and they're still here. Nothing's changed.'"

But Weis, who by NCAA rules cannot mention specific recruits or high schools, credits the players themselves — many of whom have already formed friendships with their fellow Irish commits.

"They've already got relationships going," he said. "They can't back out on their friends. They're already close with a whole bunch of these guys."

Weis said at most one or two players will enroll at Notre Dame early, meaning the team could take up to 27 players this year — leaving precious few spots to finish out the class. Frank said the Irish are still in the market for at least one more wide receiver, offensive lineman or linebacker.

Players cannot sign binding letters of intent until National Signing Day in February, but those who enroll early are essentially exempt from the rule.

Notre Dame already has one player planning on coming to South Bend in January — defensive lineman Sean Cwynar from Woodstock, Ill.

Among the 17 high school players that will be attending Notre Dame's football banquet this weekend is offensive lineman Trevor Robinson from Elkhorn, Neb. Robinson is deciding between Nebraska, Michigan and Notre Dame and would like to enroll early wherever he goes.

The other 16 players attending the banquet have already verbally committed to Notre Dame.

Weis' single-minded focus on recruiting will end Dec. 17, because NCAA rules severely limit contact between coaches and high school recruits during the holidays and bowl season.

Right now, college coaches can call players on the phone, invite them to campus for official visits — which means the player's travel expenses are paid by the school — and visit their high schools. But between Dec. 17 and the American Football Coaches Association Convention on Jan. 9, coaches are only allowed to call once a week and cannot meet with players face-to-face. Players, on the other hand,

are allowed to call coaches whenever they want.

Frank said he thinks Notre Dame's No. 1 recruiting ranking will probably hold up until signing day, unless Southern California gets several late commitments — which, he said, is highly likely.

"If anybody catches [Notre Dame] it will probably be USC," Frank said. "USC continues to get commitments from

great player after great player."

Notre Dame's current commitment list includes nine offensive players: quarterback Dayne Crist; running back Jonas Gray; wide receivers Michael Floyd

and John Goodman; tight ends Kyle Rudolph and Joseph Fauria; and offensive linemen Lane Clelland, Mike Golic, Jr. and Braxton Cave.

The Irish also have 12 defensive players committed: defensive backs Robert Blanton, Jamoris Slaughter and Dan McCarthy; linebackers David Poslusny, Darius Fleming, Anthony McDonald and Steve Piler; and defensive linemen Ethan Johnson, Hafis Williams, Brandon Newman, Omar Hunter and Cwynar.

Scout.com rates four of the players as "five-star" recruits, the highest rating it gives. None is rated lower than "three stars."

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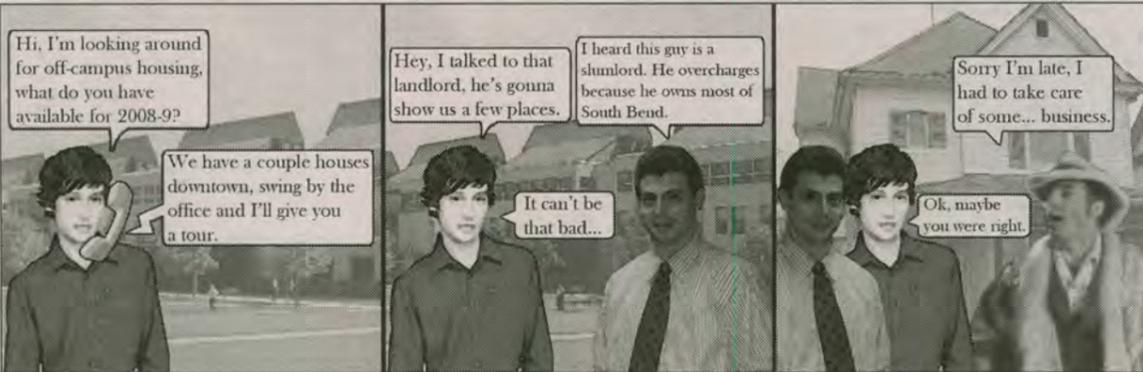
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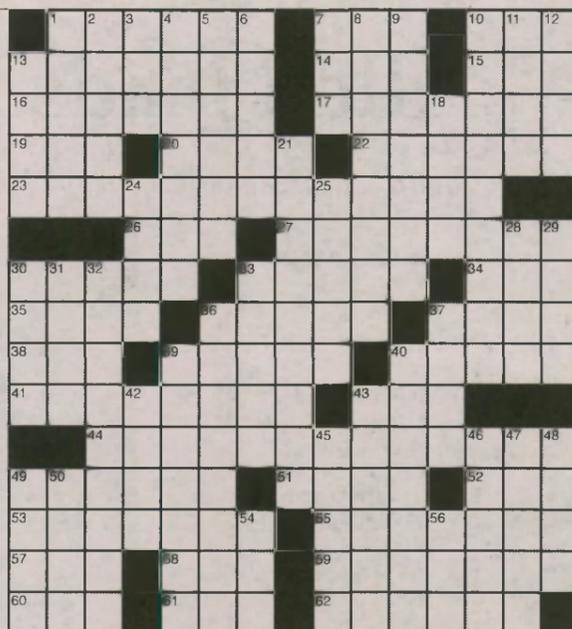
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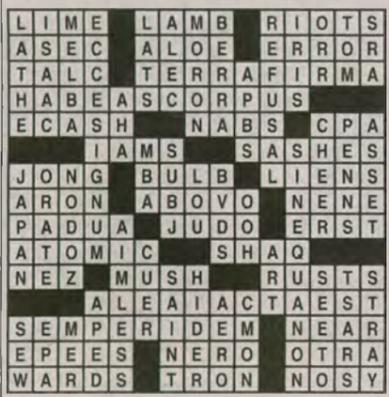
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EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Frankie Muniz, 22; Margaret Cho, 39; Morgan Brittany, 57; Little Richard, 75

Happy Birthday: You are so likeable this year that it will be hard for others to deny you whatever you want.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can expand your interests, knowledge and plans. Traveling to new places or trying new things will help you see your current situation more clearly.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Opportunities will come to you through the most unlikely sources. You will be in a passionate mood, so put time aside to spend with someone you love.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put every ounce of energy into what you need to complete. Talking about your intentions will not suffice when people are waiting to see the end result.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Everything is going much better than you think, so lighten up and relax. Let things unfold naturally without complaints or negative thoughts.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Some people may find you entertaining and fun but someone you are close to may be a little upset if you aren't attentive or don't do your share of the duties.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You are better off concentrating on work and getting ahead. Someone may try to slow you down by dumping additional responsibilities in your lap.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't get all worked up over nothing when you have so much going for you. A new look at an old idea will inspire you to take it to the next level.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Someone may try to stand in your way or take over something you've been working hard to complete yourself. Don't back down: Stand up and take ownership.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Now is not the time to be greedy or self-centered. You can get ahead but only if you are willing to help others.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't mix business with pleasure. Stick to basics and the simpler solutions and you will stay in control.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't trust everyone. Keep a tight hold on your money and refuse to let anyone talk you into investing in something that isn't your cup of tea.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Put everything you've got into something you believe in. Taking on a challenge will help to raise your self-esteem and show others what you are made of.

Birthday Baby: You are creative, original and a troubleshooter. You are steadfast and determined yet flexible and appreciative of others.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

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BARAKA BOUTS

Showcasing their skills

Women's boxing will raise money for charity

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

Tonight, 44 Notre Dame women will put on the gloves and fight in the annual Baraka Bouts women's boxing competition.

"These girls have come a long way," Baraka Bouts president Whitney Endsley said. "We're really excited to allow them to showcase their skills."

While Bengal Bouts raises money for Holy Cross missions in Bangladesh, Baraka Bouts helps schools in eastern Africa. The organization fundraises through merchandise sales, ticket sales and an event known as the "Power Hour." During the Power Hour, which took place Nov. 1, the fighters competed to see how many push-ups, sit-ups or jumping jacks they can do in 60 minutes — and received donations for each repetition.

"They're required to raise at least \$100, but we've had some girls this year who've raised upwards of \$500 or \$600," Endsley said.

In total, the organization hopes to raise \$10,000 this

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Baraka Bouts 2007

- Sarah Layne vs. Laura Okonokhua
- Anna Dwyer vs. Jackie Sheridan
- Lauren Kopsky vs. Jenna Zigman
- Sarah Burch vs. Keaton Van Beveran
- Alyssa Hartsell vs. Maeve Maher
- Sarah Angle vs. Sara Fossum
- Whitney Endsley vs. Kyle Rocca
- Catherine Crawford vs. Jen Leong
- Ezinne Ndukwe vs. Jackie Spengler
- Tarah Brown vs. Colleen McCormick
- Carolyn Hersh vs. Maureen Sefton
- Kelly Davin vs. Meghan Slentz
- Casey Carney vs. Dee Gulis
- Kia Johnson vs. Emily Rickert
- Emily Harig vs. Amy Libardi
- Cara Norton vs. Emily Rhatigan
- Lauren Cummings vs. Cigi Low
- Megan Cimino vs. Maria Paula Elizondo
- Kayla Bishop vs. Kristin Burke
- Nicole Koors vs. Rebecca Neville
- Sarah Davidson vs. Jen Malherek
- Elyse Hoffman vs. Erinn Mullee

Fights begin 6:00 in Joyce Center Gym 2

MATT HUDSON/Observer Graphic

FOOTBALL

Coaching staff hits the road

Weis continues to find top recruits for ND

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Editor

Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis has a long list of things to do before next season.

But right now, he's concentrating on just one of them.

"I'm recruiting," Weis said Monday, after staying on the road talking to high school players most of last week. "That's what I'm doing."

So far, Weis' commitment to recruiting has paid off. The Irish have the No. 1 class in the nation according to Scout.com, with 21 verbal commitments — seven of whom are in the Web site's top 100 national prospects.

And that class has stayed intact — in fact, it has grown — during the team's 3-9 season.

One of the reasons for that is how well Weis and his staff keep in touch with recruits. They sent commits almost daily e-mails during the season to detail the inner workings of the team and give the

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SMC BASKETBALL

Saint Mary's falls to Calvin in home opener

Belles fail to win despite center's thirteen points and nine rebounds

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's sophomore center Anna Kamrath summed up Wednesday's frustrating 67-52 home-opening loss to Calvin the only way she (or any other Belle) could.

"It was just one of those nights," said Kamrath, who tallied 13 points and nine rebounds in the defeat. "What can you do?"

Not much else could be said after a game in which the Belles managed to hit only one of their 20 3-point attempts and shoot 28 percent from the floor.

The performance wasn't what Jennifer Henley hoped for or expected from her talented squad, especially not for

its first home game with a conference opponent.

"It wasn't necessarily Calvin's defense as much as us having an off night," Henley said of her team's countless failed attempts to score from the field.

To the visiting Knights' credit, their bench trampled that of the Belles, outscoring it 25-4 and keeping the hosts from recovering from a horrendous first half (7-of-36 from the field). Timely defense, time-consuming ball movement and the dominating presence of forward Marcia Harris (23 points, 11-12 on free throws) helped Calvin build a 24-point lead midway through the second half.

"This was huge for us," Ross said. "This is a very difficult place to play and this is a very talented Saint Mary's team. Defense was the whole key for us tonight ... we try to stick to our principles, and we know that if we do that, we'll be OK."

That they were, especially after a 13-0 run that spanned more than nine minutes and gave the Knights a 21-7 lead.

"You know, 29 percent from

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Allen leads Irish to victory

Guard nails 15-foot jump shot at buzzer during OT against Bowling Green

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Associate Sports Editor

Charel Allen refused to lose.

With 0.8 seconds remaining in overtime, the Notre Dame guard nailed a 15-foot jumper to give the Irish an 86-84 win over Bowling Green Wednesday night.

"They tried to double team her, she just kept the ball and kept her poise. She watched the clock, watched it tick down and shot it pretty much right at the buzzer," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said in a phone interview after the game. "I thought it was an outstanding effort at the end of the game."

After the ensuing in-bounds play failed to give the Falcons a quality scoring chance, Notre Dame celebrated its second straight overtime win over Bowling Green. Last year's match-up in the Joyce Center ended in an 85-81 Irish win.

Prior to the game-winning shot, Allen had fouled Falcons point guard Kate Achter with the Irish holding

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Kamrath



WU YUE/The Observer

Irish guard Charel Allen drives through Michigan's defense in Notre Dame's 77-46 win over the Wolverines Sunday.