OBSERVER 1

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Judge dismisses Ramadan lawsuit

ACLU claimed Ramadan's visa unconsitutionally denied; court maintains terrorist ties

By KAREN LANGLEY News Editor

More than three years after prominent Muslim scholar Tariq Ramadan was barred from entering the United States to take up a tenured teaching position at Notre Dame, a federal judge in New York has ruled that the government had legitimate reasons to deny Ramadan's visa.

The judge, Paul A. Crotty of the Federal District Court in Manhattan, dismissed a lawsuit in December filed by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) that claimed the government used an unconstitutional

portion of the Patriot Act to deny Ramadan a work visa in July 2004, when he attempted to enter the United States from his home in



Switzerland, The New York Times reported in December. The ACLU suit claimed the

Ramadan

portion of the Patriot Act denying visa to people who "endorse or espouse terrorist activity" was unconstitutional.

Crotty ruled the government had revoked Ramadan's visa because the scholar had, over the course of four years, given \$1,336 to a Swiss charity later designated as a terrorist group, the Times reported. He did not address the Patriot Act's constitutionality.

Ramadan has publicly argued he was unaware of any terrorist ties and had made contributions solely as humanitarian "In its letter, the U.S. Embassy claims that I 'reasonably should have known' that the charities in question provided money to Hamas," Ramadan said in a letter published in The Washington Post in October 2006. "But my donations were made between December 1998 and July 2002, and the United States did not blacklist the charities until 2003. How should I reasonably have known of their activities before the U.S. government itself knew?"

see RAMADAN/page 4

University uses residence halls for classrooms

O'Neill, McGlinn lounges host literature seminars due to lack of campus teaching space

By GENE NOONE News Writer

For the first time in the University's history, a number of courses are currently being taught inside residence halls.

Lounges in O'Neill and McGlinn Halls are currently being used as classrooms for a variety of courses, including a literature University seminar, a "Great Books" seminar and several Portuguese courses, Vice President and Associate Provost Dennis Jacobs said.

Jacobs said the residence halls' lounges would only be used as classrooms during mid-day hours, a time slot during which the University has had difficulty finding teaching space recently.

"There is tremendous demand on this campus for classes which meet anytime between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Monday through Thursday, and Notre Dame does not have enough classroom space to meet the demand," Jacobs said. "Therefore ... the seminar spaces in O'Neill and McGlinn will allow additional courses to meet during the most popular time slots."

The administration, he said, first considered the possibility of holding classes in the dorms in November 2006. At that time, McGlinn rector Sister Mary Lynch and O'Neill rector Ed Mack pitched the idea to

see DORMS/page 3



Professor Diarmaid O'Doibhlin teaches his Irish Prose Writing class in O'Neill Hall Tuesday.

BOG

SMC panel announces election day

Little Sibs Week set for late February

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY News Writer

Saint Mary's student body vice president Kelly Payne announced at the Board of Governance (BOG) meeting Tuesday that the 2008-09 student government elections will be held Jan. 29. Payne said flyers will be posted the day of the election to remind students to vote.

On election day, students will access PRISM through their personal Web pages to vote, Payne said

In other BOG news:

◆ Midway through Heritage Week, student body president Kim Hodges laid out the remaining events. There will be breakfast in the Reignbeax Lounge of Le Mans Hall at 7 a.m. Thursday. On Friday, there will be guided tours of Reidinger House and a sock hop from 9 to 11 p.m. in the Student Center. The results of the week long scavenger hunt will be announced that day. Also on Friday, the annual Heritage Dinner will be held at 6 p.m. Sisters of the Holy Cross will be in attendance.

◆ Residence Hall Association President Cassie Quaglia reminded BOG members that Little Sibs Week will be from Feb. 22-24.

see BOG/page 3

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Leaders approve election changes

Students review College Readership Program

By JOSEPH McMAHON Assistant News Editor

The Council of Representatives reviewed the success of the College Readership program and approved two new changes in student government election oversight procedures during its meeting Tuesday.

The Council unanimously approved the new executive election committee, which will be comprised of eight members and investigate any allegations of unfair campaigning in the upcoming student body president elections.

"I am confident that this group will effectively discuss and debate

see COR/page 4



Chair of Academic Affairs Carol Hendrickson discusses changes to election oversight procedures Tuesday.

Students, faculty to consider 'iTunes U'

Program offers downloadable course materials

By ROHAN ANAND News Writer

With the tagline "the campus that never sleeps," Apple, Inc. launched "iTunes U" last spring, a program that looks like the regular iTunes store but offers students, professors and the public free access to downloadable classroom lectures. And while more than 250 institutions across the nation are registered, Notre Dame is still in the process of examining the technology.

"My description of it would be a way of distributing media — namely

video clips, audio clips, pictures, and even documents—to share what is going on in classrooms with the public," said senior Patrick Finnigan, the undergraduate representative to the University Committee on Academic Technology.

Schools that are already affiliated with iTunes U use it to distribute course content to its students, but some even take it a step further by turning it into a public relations medium. It can offer prospective high school students guided tours of campuses, Finnigan said.

see APPLE/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

10 Things that make Heath news

Every time I come back to school, my mom gets inevitably teary, and in desperate attempts to cheer her up I always tell her to look ahead to the next break, when I'll be back and we'll have plenty of mother-daughter time.

This time I told her to look ahead to the summer, for "Sex and the City: The Movie'

Marcela Berrios

Associate News **Editor**

and "The Dark Knight." And then I went off on a tangent about how Heath Ledger's portrayal of The Joker is scary.

Way darker than Jack Nicholson's. But with death Tuesday and the extensive coverage that followed it, I no longer think of him as that exquisitely tormented Joker. He's no longer the Ennis Del Mar Jake Gyllenhaal wished to quit.

And I also don't think he is our generation's James Dean, as one of those talking heads in CNN called him.

In fact — and for someone who checks Perez Hilton's blog almost as often as her Facebook, this is a huge step away from frivolity — I think what saddens me most about Heath Ledger's death is his baby.

Yes, people with babies die everyday and I don't write Inside Columns about them. And at least Baby Ledger doesn't have to worry about money

But this column isn't really about Heath Ledger as much as it is about the things that really make his story tragic. I picked

1. People shouldn't die at 28. That's too young.

2. He was a gifted actor. Forget the Oscar nomination. He found work in Hollywood even after "A Knight's Tale."

3. His parents are still alive. And no parent should have to bury a child.

4. He gave gay cowboys everywhere a

5. His death was unexpected. Death is sad whether it's a surprise or the end of a prolonged disease. But when it's a surprise it's easier to be paralyzed by it.

6. That being said, I hope all the selfrighteous, holier-than-thou people who think the Federal Reserve's rate cuts or the Super Bowl are legitimate news and Heath Ledger is tabloid news to them realize that we, those who are susceptible to this news, are not foolish or insipid. We are merely that. Susceptible.

And for you information, I was also glued to the t.v. when Benazir Bhutto died. But it was for 10 different reasons.

7. That being said, his death shouldn't be milked for ratings, but it undoubtedly will be. "Entertainment Tonight" relegated its exclusive interview with Britney Spears' new boyfriend to focus on this

8. My own father died when I was very oung. And while it's true that toddlers are oblivious to their surroundings and spared from the immediate, heart attackinducing blow, it will still hurt. Especially on Father's Day and birthdays.

9. Did the apartment belong to Mary Kate Olsen? Must those girls be everywhere?

10. The bodybag was carried out on a gurney amidst hundreds of flashing cameras. With such a sad ending, he and his family should be in our prayers.

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

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@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'S YOUR FAVORITE WEB SITE AND WHY?



Tom Dugan freshman St. Edwards

"youtube.com/ mikeirish5 because the video is amazing.'



Steve Santay freshman

Alumni

"www.nd.edu/ ~chorale because chorale is awesome."



Jenny Lewis

junior Badin

"zhongwen.com where my special friend and I look up all our Chinese vocab."



James Spitalere

junior Knott

"Hillary's campaign site because I hate America.'



Andy Manion

junior Alumni

"www.lolcats.com ... Meow."



CASEY CARNEY/The Observer Latonia Ferguson, a counselor from the Career Center, talks to Cavanaugh Hall residents about preparing for the Career Fair.

OFFBEAT

Missing cat found in owner's suitcase

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. — The last time catowner Kelly Levy saw her tiger-striped feline was before she took her husband to the airport. The 24year-old came back to her house late Friday to find the bottom step, where Gracie Mae would usually be waiting, empty.

Levy tore the house apart looking for the 10-monthold tabby who had been spayed just days before. She and her dad took out bathroom tiles and part of a cabinet to check a crawl space and papered the

TODAY

neighborhood with "lost cat" signs.

Then she got a phone call. "Hi, you're not going to believe this, but I am calling from Fort Worth, Texas, and I accidentally picked up your husband's luggage. And when I opened the luggage, a cat jumped out," Levy recalled the caller saying, the South Florida Sun-Sentinel reported.

Misprint sends caller to sex service

CALVERT, Md. — A Cecil County man who phoned the governor's office with an opinion about the mortgage foreclosure debate realized he wasn't talking to a secretary when the woman who answered greeted him with a "Hi, sexy.

Pete Pritchard of Calvert discovered the number for the governor's office is misprinted in the latest edition of the Armstrong Telephone Co. phone book. The printed number connects with a phone sex service.

The previous edition had the same mistake. Pritchard wonders if he's the first person in two years that ever called the governor's office by using that directory.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

FRIDAY

IN BRIEF

The entire RecSports fitness class schedule is available for free during the "Try It, You'll Like It!" week today through Sunday. Show up at Rolfs RecSports Center to try various classes. Space is first come, first serve. Online class registration begins Thursday at 7:30 a.m.

The Creative Writing Program presents Professor Honorée Jeffers, who will read her poetry tonight at 7:30 in the Gold Room of North Dining Hall.

The Notre Dame Post Office will offer a Passport Fair Thursday from 7:30 a.m to 4:30 p.m. On this day only, no appointment will be necesary to apply for a passport. Applicants should bring proof of U.S. citizenship, proof of identity and two recent photos.

Actors From The London Stage will present The Taming of the Shrew on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the DeBartolo Permorming Arts Center. Student tickets are available for \$12.

Prints from the Snite Museum of Art's collection that focus on artistic subjects from the 17th century will be displayed Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit, "Rembrandt and the Art of Printmaking in Holland," will highlight the golden age of Dutch art, depictions of landscapes, portraits of animals and individuals in nonaristocratic social and economic classes, and scenes of their everyday life.

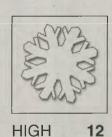
To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews@nd.edu.

LOCAL WEATHER

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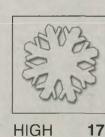
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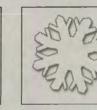
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TONIGHT



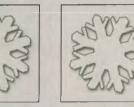
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THURSDAY



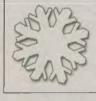
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22

15



SATURDAY



SUNDAY

HIGH 33 LOW 27

HIGH 32 LOW 22

Atlanta 46 / 33 Boston 38 / 29 Chicago 22 / 10 Denver 34 / 20 Houston 68 / 42 Los Angeles 60 / 43 Minneapolis 10 / -5 New York 39 / 31 Philadelphia 39 / 30 Phoenix 66 / 37 Seattle 44 / 26 St. Louis 29 / 17 Tampa 74 / 59 Washington 41 / 32

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Professor examines Tawainese atrocity

Special to The Observer

In 1947, an anti-government uprising in northern Taiwan led to the slaughter of some 20,000 citizens and contributed to a 40-year period of government suppression that effectively buried knowledge of the incident until martial law ended in 1987.

How the uprising re-entered the public consciousness through literature and film is examined in a new book by Sylvia Lin, assistant professor of East Asian languages and cultures at Notre Dame. Called "Representing Atrocity in Taiwan: The 2/28 Incident and White Terror in Fiction and Film," it is published by Columbia University Press.

A native of Taiwan, Lin has first-hand experience of living in a totalitarian state, exemplified by the era known as White Terror. During the 40 years of martial law, the government effectively suppressed challenge by arresting and imprisoning dissidents and by instilling a pervasive fear in the citizenry. The bloodiest of these acts occurred around Feb. 28, 1947, a melee that began when government agents harassed a woman who was selling untaxed, black market cigarettes.

Fearing retribution, Lin's parents' generation refused to discuss the 2/28 incident even in private. Unlike the Jews in the Holocaust or the Japanese who survived Hiroshima, Lin's generation grew up unaware of this national tragedy.

The subsequent awakening provides a case study on the lasting cultural impact of atrocities, particularly as they are portrayed in literature and film. Drawing on abundant Holocaust scholarship of atrocity and trauma, Lin analyzes Taiwanese and Chinese literature and post-martial law cinema and identifies emotional and reflective patterns that appear across cultures.

Time is needed to support an environment in which art turns from themes such as anger or victimization to those that honor the sacrifice of the dead and grasp the tragedy of human suffering. However, Lin's book cautions, the process demands judicious deliberation to avoid a reversal of interpretive tyranny after a regime change.

A member of the Notre Dame faculty since 2002, Lin teaches modern and contemporary Chinese literature, film and culture. Her research interests include Western missionaries and Chinese women, women and new culture in early 20th century China, language and identity in Taiwan, and narrative theory. She earned her doctorate from the University

of California, Berkeley.

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Jacobs and several faculty members.

"They proposed the idea that the study lounges in their respective halls be utilized as seminar classrooms during the daytime because students rarely use them for personal study space except at night," Jacobs said.

The rectors eventually took their proposal back to their respective hall councils, which welcomed the plan. The suggestion then also received support from the Provost's Office and the Office of Student Affairs, Jacobs said.

A benefit of teaching inside dorms, Jacobs said, is the increased integration of the campus' residential life and its academic one.

"We would love to see more faculty and students interact informally outside of the classroom," Jacobs said. "In the way that many students don't always feel comfortable walking into the office of a

"We would love to see

more faculty and

students interact

informally outside of

the classroom."

Dennis Jacobs

Associate Provost

faculty member, many faculty members have never set foot in a residence hall."

Jacobs said he hopes this "pilot program" will begin to break down some of these barriers and formalities

and help students and professors make residence halls a place where both informal conversation and intellectual dialogue can occur.

Although the program has only been in place for a week, students and faculty members seem to be responding well to it, Jacobs said.

Professor Diarmaid O'Doibhlin, who teaches Irish Prose Writing in O'Neill Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., described his new classroom

as "very comfortable and very nice." He enjoys the residence hall setting even if it represents 'quite a walk' from his office in Flanner Hall. O'Doibhlin said.

Although most residence halls do not

have spaces that could serve as classrooms, Jacobs said the design of the new Duncan Hall includes a space that could function as both a lounge and a classroom, if the hall's residents are in favor of it.

Contact Gene Noone at enoone@nd.edu

BOG

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Students who would like to participate need to preregister, she said, and they can do that from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Le Mans lobby by Thursday. The cost is \$30 for the first sibling, and each additional sibling costs \$5 less than the previous one.

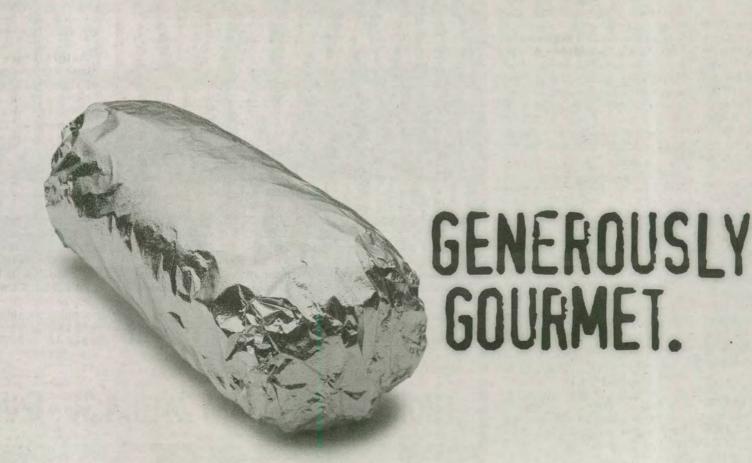
◆ The Board will be selling monogram sweaters in the Student Center, secre-

tary treasurer Courtney Kennedy said. sweaters will be available for pre-ordering during dinnertime, and they will be on sale for \$30 each. Kennedy said the sweaters were inspired by the cover picture of a 1970s-era Saint Mary's yearbook.

Psychology Theatre Week will be held from Jan. 28-Feb. 1, Payne said. The schedule of events has yet to be announced.

nominations "should be coming in now," Payne said. Outstanding female staff and faculty members, administrators or advisors at the College are eligible for nomination, she said. The committee is looking for women who go above and beyond their duties at Saint Mary's. Proposed nominees should be sent in by Feb. 8. The recipient of the award will receive dinner in her honor on March 19.

Contact Ashley Charnley at Women Honoring acharn01@saintmarys.edu





COR

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election allegations and [determine] appropriate sanctions and/or penalties, if a hearing arises," Judicial Council president Ashley Weiss said in a letter to the Council.

In addition to Weiss and vice president of Elections Danny Smith, the committee will be comprised of four Judicial Council dorm representatives: junior Tom Kingsbury (Alumni) and sophomores Joe Maciuba (O'Neill), Libby Bierman (Lyons) and Monserrat Miramontes (Pangborn). Weiss appointed the remaining two members — senior Anthony Dayrit, vice president of the Peer Advocacy program, and junior Luke Derheimer.

Derheimer was also approved as the new controller of voter turnout, whose duties will include encouraging students to get more involved in campus elections through the "Rock the Vote" campaign. Weiss nominated him for the position, pointing to his "extensive experience in the election proceedings, having served as a senator in last year's election"

Weiss felt that it was necessary to appoint Derheimer because Weiss' duties as Judicial Council president would make it difficult for her to effectively lead "Rock the Vote."

Derheimer said his major task will be executing the proposals already set forth by Weiss and Smith. For example, he is charged with organizing the meet-and-greet with the candidates and the candidate debates.

The Council also reviewed the

College Readership program, which provides students with free copies of USA Today, The New York Times and the Chicago Tribune.

Carol Hendrickson, the chair of Academic Affairs, said she was very pleased with the response the program has received this year.

"Consumption rates are in the high 80 percent all across campus," she said. "This year we've been really happy with the program because we've been able to find the right amount and the right papers [to distribute]."

Although Hendrickson often requests a certain amount of papers, USA Today (which runs the program) will often use its own figures to determine how many to deliver, she said. Student body president Liz Brown explained that the contract is written in such a way that USA Today has the freedom to use its own analysis to determine the quantities it should deliver to campus.

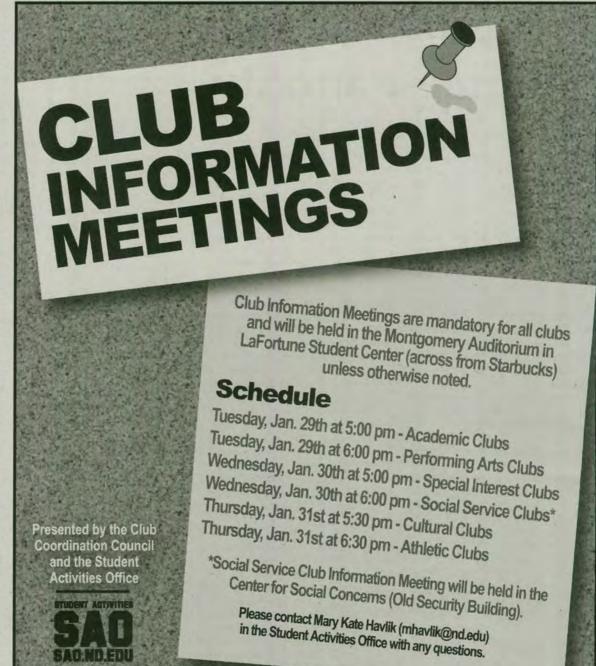
However, because this has not caused the program to exceed its budget and readership is currently strong, Hendrickson has seen no major reason to complain.

Moreover, the program has seen a major success in its recent expansion to the Mendoza College of Business and the Hesburgh Library.

"We've been targeting more people," Hendrickson said. "The success at Mendoza and the Library really shows more people are reading."

The Council also unanimously approved sophomore Caitlin Flynn as its new secretary.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmaho@nd.edu



Ramadan

continued from page 1

Ramadan had sought in 2004 to move with his family to South Bend, where he had been made the Luce professor of religion, conflict and peace-building at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies. Before the revocation, he had been granted a visa after passing background checks by the Department of Homeland Security and the State Department. The government refused to explain why it had revoked Ramadan's visa until September 2006, more than a year after he had applied a second time for a temporary business and tourism visa.

Ramadan resigned his position on the Notre Dame faculty in December 2004. He is now teaching a course on Islam in the modern world at the University of Oxford in England. He is also a visiting professor at Erasmus University in the Netherlands.

R. Scott Appleby, director of the Kroc Institute, called the episode of the visa revocation and the government's subsequent silence "unfortunate in every respect."

"It implied that the United States government feels itself to be in a position of weakness, not strength — so much so, that it felt vulnerable to the presence of a Muslim intellectual whose every utterance and movement has been thoroughly scrutinized," Appleby said in an email Tuesday.

Appleby said he was deeply disappointed by the "pusillanimous behavior" of President Bush's administration during this time.

"We Americans are quite

capable of interacting with such a person and not becoming overwhelmed, threatened or 'corrupted' by challenging ideas, provocative criticisms and controversial opinions," he said.

Appleby praised the University's "courageous" support of Ramadan, a decision that stirred debate even before the visa revocation because of controversy over the scholar's views.

Ramadan is known as a liberal Muslim scholar who has spoken for religious tolerance and added to debate on issues of Muslims in the Western and democratic world. He has also been accused by some groups of spreading Islamic militant ideas.

The Luce professorship has remained unfilled since Ramadan resigned in December 2004. The University plans to search for a suitable candidate this year, Appleby said.

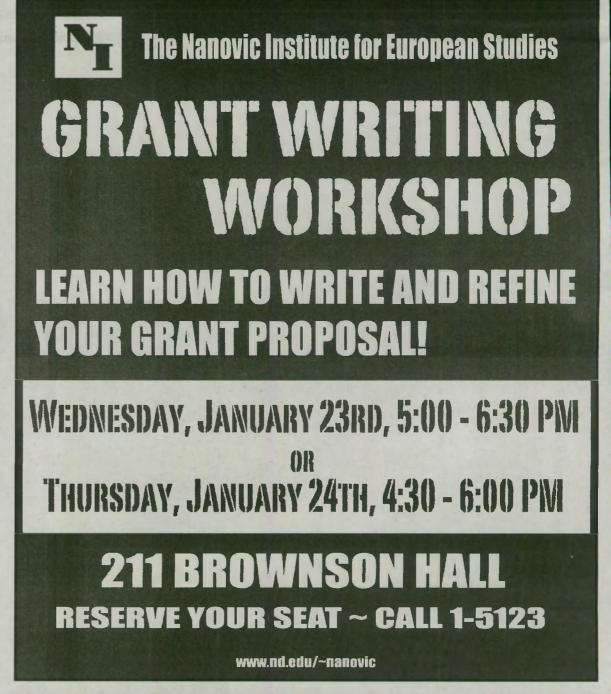
Appleby said he does not expect Ramadan will teach at Notre Dame in the future.

"It seems unlikely that Professor Ramadan will be reappointed to Notre Dame, given his current position at Oxford and the fact that he still does not have a visa permitting him permanent residence in the U.S.," he said.

The addition of Ramadan to the University's teaching faculty would have made a particular impact on the mission of the Kroc Institute, he said.

"Ramadan is influential with millions of people whom we seek better to understand and engage in a constructive way," he said. "As a person of faith, he welcomed a chance to interact with Catholics and other Christians, as well as Muslim and Jewish students and faculty."

Contact Karen Langley at klangle1@nd.edu



Please recycle The Observer.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Israel sends fuel, eases five-day blockade

GAZA CITY — Israel sent fuel to Gaza's power plant on Tuesday, easing its five-day blockade of the Palestinian territory amid growing international concern about a humanitarian crisis.

The U.S. warned Israel not to add to the hardship for ordinary Palestinians but blamed the problem on Gaza's Islamic Hamas rulers. Israel imposed the siege in response to increasing rocket attacks on its border communities by Gaza militants.

Despite the easing of the closure, Palestinian militants fired 19 rockets toward Israel on Tuesday, the military said, up from just two on Monday

The lights were back on in most of Gaza City by Tuesday afternoon after a blackout that lasted almost two days. But Gazans still vented their anger.

U.N. to pressure Iran's nuclear program

PARIS — The U.N. Security Council's five permanent members and Germany are expected to agree Tuesday on a new resolution to pressure Iran over its nuclear program, a French diplomat said. But a U.S. official said differences over the issue remain.

The senior French diplomat, who briefed reporters Monday on condition that he not be identified by name, said an agreement was very close and should be finalized by the six nation's foreign ministers at a meeting in Berlin, Germany.

However, others were more cautious about what the talks could produce. Momentum for a third resolution has slowed since a U.S. intelligence assessment last month indicated Tehran had stopped active work on a nuclear weapons program in 2003.

NATIONAL NEWS

Heath Ledger found dead, pills nearby

NEW YORK — Heath Ledger was found dead Tuesday in a Manhattan apartment, naked in bed with sleeping pills nearby, police said. The Australian-born actor was 28.

It wasn't immediately clear if Ledger had committed suicide. He had an appointment for a massage at the residence in the tony neighborhood of SoHo, NYPD spokesman Paul Browne said. A housekeeper who went to let him know the massage therapist had arrived found him dead at 3:26

Ledger's body had not been removed from the building where paparazzi and gawkers gathered outside, and several police officers put up barricades to control the crowd of about 300. A medical examiner's office van arrived with a gurney Tuesday evening.

Clinton, Obama spar after debate

WASHINGTON — Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton argued on Tuesday that Barack Obama's frustration with losing prompted him to look for a fight in their latest debate. Obama said his rival and her husband, former President Clinton, were distorting his record.

"I think it's very clear that Senator Clinton ... and the president have been spending the last month attacking me in ways that are not accurate," Obama told reporters in a conference call shortly after she lashed out at him in a bitter exchange that carried over from Monday night's debate.

LOCAL NEWS

State senator undergoes surgery

FORT WAYNE, Ind. — State Sen. David Ford of Hartford City was in a Fort Wayne hospital on Tuesday with what his family said was cancer.

Ford, 58, underwent surgery on Friday after being hospitalized with flu-like symptoms Jan. 15, Senate President Pro Tem David Long said. Long said family members described Ford as "critically ill." According to a statement released by Ford's office, family members received a prognosis from oncologists Tuesday.

"We will continue to release information as it becomes available from David and his family," Long said in the statement. "Our thought and prayers go out to them at this most difficult time."

Ford is a Republican who was first elected to the Senate in 1994. He represents District 19, which includes all or parts of Adams, Allen, Blackford, Grant and Wells counties.

Government to stimulate economy

Leaders hope \$150 billion in tax cuts, government spending will calm recession fears

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Jolted by global recession fears, the Federal Reserve slashed interest rates Tuesday, and President Bush and leaders of Congress joined in a rare show of cooperation in promising urgent action to pump up the economy with upwards of \$150 billion in tax cuts and government spending.

Market meltdowns overnight around the globe and growing anxiety at home stirred lawmakers and the administration toward swift action, possibly within a few weeks. Wall Street plummeted as the day began, following Asian stocks, then warily eased its sell-off after the Fed ordered the biggest cut on record in a key interest rate. The Dow Jones industrials, down 465 points at one point, closed the day off

The Fed, announcing its action after an emergency video conference Monday night, indicated further rate reductions were likely, aimed at encouraging people and companies to start spending again.

"The urgency that we feel at home is now even more urgent as we see the impact of our markets on others," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said after both Democratic and Republican lawmakers met with Bush at the White House.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said the goal was to get a deal through Congress and on Bush's desk within roughly three weeks — lightning speed compared with the usual snail's pace on Capitol Hill. His Republican counterpart, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, agreed the aim was action in the next few weeks and said, "That, by the standards in Congress, is pretty fast."

Bush expressed confidence that he and the Democratic-led Congress could put aside bitter differences that have marked his presidency.



President Bush meets with Congressional leaders to discuss the economy Tuesday in the Cabinet Room of the White House.

"I believe we can find common ground to get something done that's big enough, effective enough so that an economy that is inherently strong gets a boost — to make sure that this uncertainty doesn't translate into more economic woes for our workers and small business people," Bush said in the Cabinet Room.

Later, announcing the creation of a panel to educate people about their finances, Bush said he thought there would be an agreement "in relatively short order."

The White House meeting was intended to show the world that Bush and his Democratic adversaries recognize the gravity of the economic slowdown and are

serious about protecting consumers and investors who have watched their holdings shrink. Wall Street and global markets fear the stimulus package outlined by Bush is not enough to avert a recession. The Dow Jones industrial average is down nearly 10 percent since the beginning of the year — its worst first 14 trading days ever.

Official Washington was accentuating the positive.

"I really feel good that we have an opportunity to do something together," Reid said, standing in the White House driveway with Pelosi after talking with Bush. Reid said the size of a deal suggested by Bush was "a good number."

Administration officials are

focusing on rebates of \$800 to \$1,600 for individuals and couples and so-called bonus depreciation to allow companies to deduct 50 percent of business investments made this year. Democrats say the package also should include boosts in unemployment benefits, food stamp payments and the Medicaid health care program for the poor and disabled. Talks between Pelosi and Minority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio, have focused on smaller tax rebates of perhaps \$500 for individuals.

Like Bush, lawmakers would not discuss what a compromise plan would look like, stressing cooperation rather than potential differences over details.

IRAQ

Suicide bomber attacks school, kills one

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A suicide bomber pushing an electric heater atop a cart packed with hidden explosives attacked a high school north of Baghdad on Tuesday, leaving students and teachers bloodied and bewildered as insurgents appeared to be expanding their list of targets.

The bombing — one of two attacks near Iraqi schools on the same day — follows a wave of recent blasts blamed on al-Qaida in Iraq against funerals and social gatherings.

The trend points to the possibility that al-Qaida has shifted tactics to focus increasingly on so-called soft targets and undermine public confidence that things are looking better in the country. The backlash also coincides with a U.S.-led offensive trying to uproot insurgents from strongholds around Baghdad.

In the suicide attack, the bomber posed as a shopper or merchant transporting an electric heater on a chilly winter day — an apparent attempt to deflect attention from the explosive-rigged cart.

The blast struck the front of a twostory schoolhouse in Baqouba about 8:30 a.m., half an hour after classes began. Panicked parents rushed to find out if their children were alive or dead.

A 25-year-old male bystander was killed and 21 people were wounded — 12 students, eight teachers and one policeman, according to a doctor at Baqouba General Hospital who spoke

on condition of anonymity because he was afraid of being targeted by militants.

"I can't think of any reason to target students," said 15-year-old Mohammed Abbas, his wounded head in a bandage as his father stood near his hospital bed in Baqouba, about 35 miles northeast of Baghdad. "We did not expect that explosions would reach our school."

In the other attack, a roadside bomb exploded next to a girl's high school in Baghdad's western district of Amiriyah, wounding a 7-year-old boy who was passing by. But police said the target was an American patrol, not the school.

Insurgents appear to be looking for ways to bypass the heavy security cordons and patrols that cover any major event or site.

Apple

continued from page 1

Finnigan and senior Mariana Montes, the residential life committee chair, are working on a proposal to the Student Senate promote the idea of adopting iTunes U.

Currently, Notre Dame has a similar system known as OpenCourseWare, which was launched in the fall of 2006. The site offers an open digital publication of course materials with the sole task of spreading knowledge and education materials to the public for free.

That site offers materials from 29 courses within the College of Arts and Letters and some from the School of Architecture. While the system is growing and well organized, Finnigan believes iTunes U has "further benefits to offer."

"iTunes itself reaches out to a wider audience because it is such a popular medium to download interactive media," Finnigan said. "It also takes care of some of the technical issues you would have to tackle by designing your own public domain. With iTunes U, we do not have to worry about formatting because they have their own templates to simplify the process of uploading course content."

One University professor has already tapped into iTunes U and has been very pleased with the results. Surendar Chandra, a professor in the computer science engineering department, set up an independent channel on iTunes U's shared network for his Operating Systems Principles class.

He currently video- and audiotapes his lectures for various courses and posts them online for student use and — is therefore in support of iTunes U as an easy way to get technology out to the classroom.

"The benefit of iTunes U is that it allows the students to

"iTunes itself reaches

out to a wider

audience because it

is such a popular

medium to download

interactive media."

Patrick Finnigan

senior

easily find the course contents," he said. "They can go to ND-iTunes Apple advertises iTunes prominently inside iTunes and navigate through the department [or] course listing to directly find

the particular lecture. iTunes U lectures are still podcasts; the instructor can post audio, video and PDF

Additionally, Chandra sees iTunes U as an excellent reference tool, especially for test preparation and for review during subsequent courses, as well as for those students who miss a lecture.

But the program is not meant to replace attending class.

"It enhances, rather than supplants a lecture," he said.

With compatible devices such as the Apple iPhone and the video iPod, which can be used as hard drive storage space, students can easily download these lecture clips and play them back wherever they go.

"The only real challenge is to let students know where the contents are posted," he said. "I can either post them on my course Web page [on open courseware], as a podcast or on Google video."

Once a college or university registers with iTunes U, it

can either host
the software
locally or
allow Apple to
do it for them,
which will be a
major decision
for Notre
Dame when
and if that
time comes,
Finnigan said.

"If we were to choose the latter, then we would be

charged," he said. "Ideally, we would allow Apple to host the media for us and we would just have to pay for storage. We would be allowed large amounts of space, but it would still be expensive."

And for people for whom privacy, and not money, is the main concern, Apple allows users to apply privacy settings to restrict all public audiences from viewing their posted material.

Contact Rohan Anand at ranand@nd.edu

AUSTRALIA

Actor's family says death an accident

Associated Press

SYDNEY — Heath Ledger's family rejected any suggestion Wednesday that the actor killed himself and joined fellow Australians in mourning one of their rising stars after he was found dead in a New York apartment.

The Australian-born actor was found face-down and naked at the foot of a bed in a Manhattan apartment Tuesday. Police said there were prescription sleeping pills near Ledger's body, but there was no obvious sign he had committed suicide.

Ledger's family members faced a throng of journalists in the actor's hometown of Perth in western Australia and read a statement saying his death was purely accidental, though they did not say whether he died of an overdose.

"We, Heath's family, can confirm the very tragic, untimely and accidental passing of our dearly loved son, brother and doting father of Matilda," Ledger's father Kim told reporters. "He was found peacefully asleep in his New York apartment by his house-keeper at 3:30 p.m. U.S. time."

Kim Ledger remembered his 28-year-old son as a "down to

earth, generous, kindhearted, life-loving, unselfish individual" who was "extremely inspirational" to those who knew him.

"Heath has touched so many people on so many different levels during his short life but few had the pleasure of truly knowing him," Kim Ledger said. "Please now respect our family's need to grieve and come to terms with our loss privately."

Meanwhile, tributes from fellow Australians flooded in Wednesday, with actress Nicole Kidman called Ledger's death a "terrible tragedy."

Cate Blanchett, who starred with Ledger in the Bob Dylan bio-flick "I'm Not There," a role that earned her an Oscar nomination Tuesday for best supporting actress, said she was "shocked and saddened" at the news.

"I deeply respect Heath's work and always admired his continuing development as an artist," Blanchett said in a statement published by News Ltd. newspapers online. "My thoughts are with his family and close friends."

Australia's Prime Minister Kevin Rudd expressed shock over losing "one of our nation's finest actors in the prime of his life."

Call for Presentations

The 1st Annual University of Notre Dame

Undergraduate Scholars Conference Friday, May 2, 2008

Students from ALL COLLEGES are invited to submit abstracts of proposed presentation of their Research, Critical Analysis, and Creative Endeavors

Students wishing to participate in the College of Science 2nd Joint Annual Meeting should submit their abstracts to the Undergraduate Scholars Conference

The submission process is open now. Deadline is Monday, March 10. Guidelines and application are available on-line at: www.nd.edu/~urnd

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CITIGROUP INC (C)	-0.20	-0.05	24.40

-4.50	-0.164	3.484
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-20.07	-0.560	2.230
-1.63	-0.070	4.227
-7.96	-0.227	2.623
	-1.63	-1.63 -0.070

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LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.72	89.85						
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IN BRIEF

Bernanke slashes key interest rate

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve unexpectedly slashed a key interest rate by a bold three-fourths of a percentage point on Tuesday, responding to a global plunge in stock markets that heightened concerns about a recession. The Fed signaled that further rate cuts were likely.

The reduction in the federal funds rate from 4.25 percent down to 3.5 percent marked the biggest reduction in this target rate for overnight loans on records going back to 1990. It marked the first time that the Fed has changed the funds rate between meetings since 2001, when the central bank was battling the combined impacts of a recession and the terrorist attacks.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues approved the large rate cut after an emergency video conference on Monday night, a day when global markets had been pounded by rising concerns that weakness in the world's largest economy was spreading worldwide.

Supreme Court will not hear Enron case

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court dealt a probable fatal blow Tuesday to Enron Corp. investors' efforts to recover \$40 billion from Wall Street banks in the 2001 collapse of the Texas energy company.

Without comment, the justices refused to hear arguments in the Enron case. Attorneys for shareholders immediately vowed to return to federal court in Houston in an attempt to prove that the investment banks misled the public and helped conceal Enron's true financial condition.

"Ît's an uphill battle and we'll keep fighting," Patrick Coughlin, the lead lawyer for the stockholders, said.

Attorney Greg Markel, a lawyer not connected with the case who represents corporate clients in securities fraud lawsuits, said shareholders' "chances of succeeding ... are nearly zero."

zero."
Enron's demise wiped out thousands of jobs, more than \$60 billion in market value and more than \$2 billion in pension plans at what had been the seventh-largest company in the country.

Dow Jones falls early, rebounds later

Emergency prime rate cut precedes 300-point drop in first minute of trading

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The opening bell hadn't even sounded on Wall Street when the Federal Reserve announced an emergency interest-rate cut. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 465 points — including 300 in the first minute — then rebounded to finish down a more bearable 128.

The recovery Tuesday was a victory of sorts for a battered market. But a long-term comeback may depend on factors much more difficult to achieve — a turn-around in the housing market and renewed confidence among U.S. consumers, who hold up most of the economy.

The alarming early drop in U.S. stocks followed the lead of markets abroad, where investors fled stocks and sent indexes plummeting on fears of a U.S. recession that could spread to other global economies.

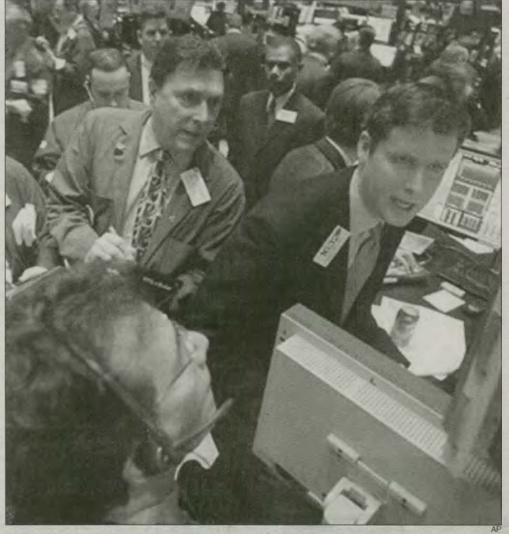
By the close, the Dow had recovered to a loss of 128.11, or just over 1 percent, at 11,971.19.

Before trading began, the Federal Reserve moved to slash its benchmark federal funds rate by 0.75 percentage points, to 3.5 percent. It was the widest cut since 1990, the beginning of what the Fed says is a comparable period in the way it handled the rate.

The Fed cut the discount rate, the interest rate the Fed charges banks directly, to 4 percent, also a three-quarter-point cut.

Many traders had anticipated a rate cut, but it was unusual for the Fed to make the call between regularly scheduled meetings of its policy-making Open Markets Committee.

The next meeting is a week away, and even then, most traders were expecting a cut of only a half-point.



Specialist Gregg Maloney, right, directs trading at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Tuesday morning. Wall Street plunged at the opening but rebounded during the day.

The market pulled back a bit from its steep plunge — the Dow had fallen 277 points on Tuesday of last week, and 307 on Thursday. It was a positive sign, but economists and analysts said a full recovery was not likely in the near term.

"This is a cure for the wrong disease. It makes everybody feel good, but it's not going to have any ongoing benefit," said Daniel Alpert, managing director of Westwood Capital LLC. "We need to get ourselves out of a mountain of debt and overvalued properties."

The markets worry that

consumers, who account for two-thirds of economic activity, are not in a position to spend the country back into solid growth. They have been cutting back rather than borrowing or spending more, even during the recent holiday season.

"People are up to their eyeballs in debt, and they're being asked to borrow more," said Mike Schenk, senior economist for the Credit Union National Association.

Interest rate reductions are one strategy the Fed has used in previous crises to help the economy recover. A rate cut tends to spur the economy by making it cheaper for businesses to borrow money.

It would also lighten the burden on individuals with credit card debt and with mortgages that have adjustable rates.

Still, the effect on Wall Street was not overwhelmingly positive: The Standard & Poor's 500 index, the broad market measure most closely followed by traders, fell 14.69, or 1.11 percent, to 1,310.50, while the Nasdaq composite index lost 47.75, or 2.04 percent, to 2,292.27.

U.S. recession fears hurt global stocks

Associated Press

LONDON — Jitters about the U.S. economy sent global stock indexes lower again Tuesday before the Federal Reserve's surprise cut in interest rates. The move came too late for Asian markets, which had closed for the day, but helped Britain and France rebound higher.

Asian stocks began global trading sharply lower on fears of a recession in the U.S., with

Japan's Nikkei 225 index off 5.7 percent — its biggest percentage drop in nearly 10 years — and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index down 8.7 percent.

European stocks had fallen sharply at the opening, then rose in volatile trading ahead of the Fed's decision to cut its key rate to 3.5 percent from 4.25 percent, and rose even more afterward. The U.K.'s FTSE 100 finished up 2.9 percent at 5,740.10, while France's CAC 40 gained 2.1 per-

cent to 4,842.54. In Germany, the DAX ended barely down, off 0.3 percent at 6,769.47, as utilities RWE and E.On fell but financials such as Deutsche Bank rose.

The surprise Fed move was aimed at fears that trouble in financial markets from the U.S. subprime crisis was spreading to the broader economy. Interest rate cuts tend to boost stocks. The Canadian central bank quickly followed, lowering its key rate by a quarter of a percent to 4 percent.

Just hours before the Fed decision, Japan's central bank voted unanimously to leave its benchmark interest rate unchanged at 0.5 percent. The European Central Bank — highly sensitive to any suggestion that it is not fully independent — also held steady at 4 percent.

Some analysts now say the ECB — which has been worried about inflation — may have to follow the Fed and start cutting later this year.

European officials, however, insisted

Tuesday that their economies would be able to weather the turbulence from the United States. The European Union's economic and monetary affairs commissioner, Joaquin Almunia, said that big U.S. trade and budget deficits were to blame. "The main reason why the equity markets have this extreme volatile situation these days is the risk of a recession in the U.S., it's not about a global recession," Almunia said.

British Prime Minister Gordon Brown's spokesman Michael Ellam said that "the fundamentals of the British economy have remained sound" and the government would do everything in its power "to maintain economic stability."

But Ellam would not comment on whether British interest rates should be cut in response. Many observers believe the Bank of England, which is independent of the British government, will cut rates at its next meeting

VIEWPOINT

THE OBSERVER

The Independent, Daily Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

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

Maddie Hanna

Managing Editor Bus

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OFFICE MANAGER & GENERAL INFO

OFFICE MANAGER & GENERAL INFO (574) 631-7471 FAX

(574) 631-6927 **Advertising**

(574) 631-6900 observad@nd.edu **EDITOR IN CHIEF** (574) 631-4542

(574) 631-4542 **MANAGING EDITOR** (574) 631-4541 obsme@nd.edu

Assistant Managing Editor (574) 631-4324

Business Office (574) 631-5313 News Desk

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

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

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

(574) 631-4540 scene.1@nd.edu
SAINT MARY'S DESK
smc.1@nd.edu

PHOTO DESK (574) 631-8767 obsphoto@nd.edu Systems & Web Administrators (574) 631-8839

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Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Maddie Hanna.

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Embrace life

Would you call it an exercise in futility? On Jan. 22, Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students joined the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C., calling for reversal of Roe v. Wade, the

Supreme Court ruling on that date in 1973 which mandated, in effect,

elective abortion at

Right or Wrong?

Charles Rice

every stage in pregnancy. The Court defined the unborn child as a nonperson who is therefore not entitled to the right to life guaranteed by the Constitution to persons.

The Supreme Court will not reverse that holding of Roe. Even the Justices who say that Roe should be "overruled" define that as a "states' rights" approach that would allow the states to permit or forbid abortion. That would affirm the holding of Roe. If your life is subject to extinction whenever a state legislature so decrees, then, so far as the United States Constitution is concerned, you are a nonperson.

Depersonalization is the theory of the Nazis' treatment of the Jews and of the Supreme Court's 1857 Dred Scott case in which the Court held that freed slaves could not be citizens and said that slaves were property rather than

Abortion is not simply a legal issue. It is embedded in American culture. The Alan Guttmacher Institute reports that from 1973 to 2005, more than 45 million surgical abortions occurred in the United States, with 1.21 million in 2005, down from 1.31 in 2000. Twenty-two percent of all pregnancies in the United States end in abortion. These figures do not include the uncountable number of early abortions by abortifacients, including most "contraceptive" pills.

Abortion is a symptom of what Pope Benedict XVI called "a dictatorship of relativism... that recognizes nothing as absolute and which only leaves the 'I' and its whims as the ultimate measure." The secularism, relativism and individualism of that culture affect the most fundamental human activity, the generation of life.

Abortion is a product of the contraceptive ethic. "[D]espite their differences," said John Paul II, "contraception and abortion are often closely connected, as fruits of the same tree.... rooted in a hedonistic mentality unwilling to accept responsibility in matters of sexuality, and ... a self-centered concept of freedom, which regards procreation as an obstacle to personal fulfillment."

Until the Anglican Lambeth Conference of 1930, no Christian denomination had ever said that contraception could ever be objectively right. Contraception deliberately separates sex from procreation. It affirms that there is such a thing as a life not worth living, and that man (of both sexes), rather than God, is the arbiter of whether and when human life shall begin. If you claim the right to decide when life begins you will predictably claim the right to decide when it ends, as in abortion and euthanasia.

With the marketing of the pill in the 1960s, Roe v. Wade was inevitable. A contraceptive culture needs abortion as a back-up. The meltdown of that culture is accelerating.

Francis Fukuyama called the introduction of the contraceptive pill "The Great Disruption" in relations between men and women. In the nature of things, sex is reserved for marriage, and marriage is permanent, because sex has something to do with babies. The contraceptive separation of sex from life leads to the separation of sex from marriage and to the irrelevancy of marriage. In 2006, as reported by the Centers for Disease Control, a record 36.9 percent of all births were out of wedlock. Out-of-wedlock births are 80 percent of births to teens and 60 percent to mothers in their early 20s. In 2006, they were 26.6 percent among non-Hispanic whites, 70.7 percent among non-Hispanic blacks and 49.9 percent among Hispanics.

Government officials, including edu-

cators, throw fuel on the fire by promoting contraception even among preteens. Not surprisingly, the birth rate to teens rose three percent in 2006, the first rise since 1991. Cases of gonorrhea, chlamydia and syphilis, the STDs for which reporting is required, continue to rise

In such a Copulation Explosion, you have to expect a rise in pregnancies and that many will end in abortion. The "morning-after pill," an abortifacient, is available over-the-counter and is easily, if illegally, obtainable by minors without parental knowledge.

Neither the law nor politics can get us out of this mess. Contraception and abortion are a subset of the question: Who is God? Who decides whether and when life begins and when it ends? Abortion is an aspect of our contraceptive rejection of God's gift of life. Before he became Benedict XVI, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger said, "[T]he ultimate root of hatred for human life... is the loss of God. When God disappears, the absolute dignity of human life disappears as well.... Only this divine dimension guarantees the full dignity of the human person.... In the struggle for life, talking about God is indispensa-

The March for Life is not a futile exercise. It focuses on abortion, the ultimate secular sacrament. The March is an inyour-face, on-site reminder to the Executive, the Court and the Congress of their derelictions and of what they ought to do. Under the leadership of Washington attorney Nellie Gray, the March, from its inception, has also been an act of prayer. The message: Human life is sacred because it is a gift of God. The students in the March bring honor to the Notre Dame community.

Professor Emeritus Rice is on the faculty of the law school. He can be reached at (574) 633-4415 or rice.1@nd.edu.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

Who will win the Republican nomination? Mitt Romney John McCain Mike Huckabee Fred Thompson Ron Paul Rudy Giuliani

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

"Everyone wishes to have truth on his side, but it is not everyone that sincerely wishes to be on the side of truth."

> Richard Whately English prelate

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

U-WIRE

Vote for Norris, not Huckabee

I don't know about you, but I am going to vote for Mike Huckabee for one reason and one reason only: Chuck Norris is campaigning for him. Anybody who is hiding a fist in his beard must

know his politics.

But Norris has definitely won my support, and how could he not? I'm not about to oppose a man who can kill two rocks with one bird. But back to John Stromski

Eastern Illinois University's Daily Eastern News

Huckabee. I think the main reason I'm voting for him is because of Chuck Norris. Any candidate who can win the support of and employ a celebrity in his campaigning arsenal is obviously the best candidate.

In case you don't know, the other day Norris, while campaigning for Huckabee, said that an opponent, John McCain, wouldn't make a good president because of his old age

He even made a comment about McCain's good traits being inherited from his mom.

Norris pretty much just karate-kicked McCain in the face there.

But this really annoys me, this whole trend of celebrities getting involved in politics enough so to try and use their reputation and position to not only win votes for their candidate, but they go so far as to try and demean their opponents.

But in Huckabee's defense, the title President Huckabee, brought to you by Chuck Norris, does roll off the tongue pretty easily.

I know this has been going on for a long time, and will continue to happen in elections to come, but I just think it's sad that Norris campaigning for Huckabee will actually win some votes.

And then to go even further and bash other people, I think is a misuse of fame.

Colin Leicht

Northern

Illinois

University's

Northern Star

I understand Norris is free to spend his money and think politically however he likes, but it just seems that more and more our society is getting sponsored.

It started with sports stadiums and theatres, how we now go to the Allstate arena instead of the Rosemont Horizon.

Now Huckabee is, in a way, being sponsored by Chuck Norris, something diehard Norris enthusiasts will be influenced by, and something wimps will be scared into conformity by.

I mean after all, who wants to receive a round-house kick to the face if they don't vote for Huckabee? I don't.

I think that there are certain areas, politics being one of them, that famed citizens should stay out of.

It's a cheap trick performed by Huckabee, a desperate attempt to try and win more votes, and an irresponsible decision by Norris, who will sway people's decisions with no regard to issues and the welfare of our nation, but because of popularity and famed jokes.

Granted, Norris almost assuredly believes Huckabee is the best candidate, I'm not entirely comfortable with the idea of people blindly voting for Huckabee because Norris endorses him.

I can think of some people who will be swayed by Norris' influence on Huckabee's campaign, and that could be all it takes in a race this close.

It's just sad that our society has become so commercialized to the point where it influences critical issues for the welfare of our country.

This column first appeared in the Jan. 22 edition of The Daily Eastern News, the daily newspaper at Eastern Illinois University.

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

Obama victory would help realize King's dream

Once, in 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream. Forty-five years later, it moves closer to reality.

We stand in a present where a possible future is that our first black president, Barack Obama, brings tremendous change to society.

This is not a political endorsement, just something to think about.

Imagine that exactly one year and two days from now, Obama is sworn into the chair President Bush has warmed since 2000. This would be a symbol of social change, a symbol that the nation has moved a step beyond prejudice toward a greater humanity.

Many of us claim we are not voting based on his race.
Instead, it's his charming demeanor, intelligent remarks, thoughts on policy or the fact that, unlike most politicians, he

makes sense when he talks.

Yet the reality is that those with a spirit of equality in their hearts cannot deny that part of us secretly roots for him because he is potentially the first black president.

This possible future where Obama takes the presidential oath would be a moment where King's prophetic dream reaches fulfillment. The beauty of Obama's character is that he represents the whole spectrum: black to white, rich to poor.

is that he represents the whole spectrum: black to white, rich to poor.

His victory would fulfill King's words: "Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksand of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood." On the international level, America would finally share brotherhood with the greater part of the globe: We would finally have a non-white leader.

This would alter worldwide opinions of America; in case you didn't know, a good percentage of the world is some shade of brown, whether in Pakistan, Peru or Palau. The NAACP also defines racial harmony beyond the limited paradigm of just black or white; think about what the letters of its name mean.

We would be brothers with countries where non-white leaders led massive democratic reform. South Africa ended apartheid with the help of Nelson Mandela. Bolivia recently began reforming the constitution with the help of indigenous president Evo Morales, who hopes to transform Bolivia's 90 percent non-white lower caste into equals.

President Obama may not join them in creating structural change, but he would get respect from a world of people who have long felt oppressed by the legacy of colonialism and that American policy makers do not understand them.

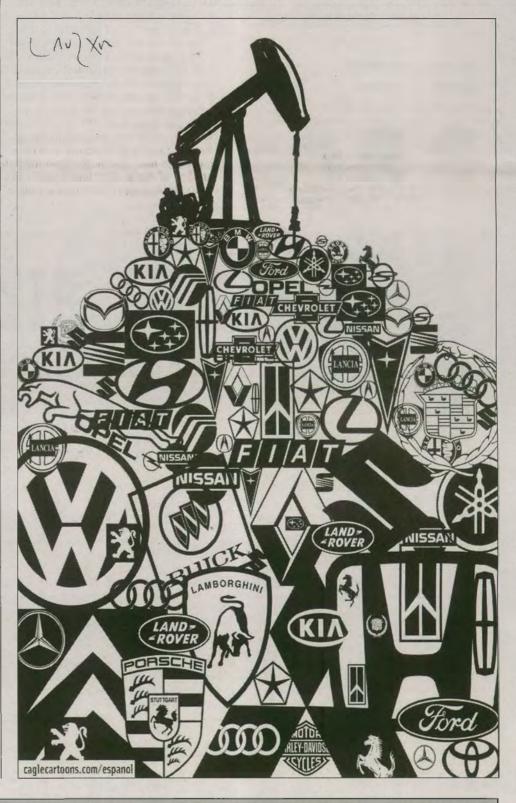
This wish for equality is what makes Obama so dynamic. On a deeper level, we want him to win because he understands us. No matter who you are, he understands my people, your people and their people. His cultural sensitivity proclaims us equals, fulfilling King's dream to "make justice a reality for all of God's children."

Of course, reality is never as magical as we wish, but if Obama were to win, society would be redefined, and those who have hungered and thirsted for equality, as King once did, would be satisfied.

This column first appeared in the Jan. 22 edition of The Northern Star, the daily newspaper at Northern Illinois University.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Please recycle The Observer.

SCENE SCENE



Hanks, Hoffman and Roberts star in



OBSERVER GRAPHIC I Madeline Nies

By CHRIS McGRADY Assistant Scene Editor

Tom Hanks' predictability, is beginning to be almost laughable.

Before all you fans out there get angry, it does not mean that his roles are typecast, or that he is struggling. Rather it seems that these days, any movie starring Hanks is instantly good.

Such is the case in "Charlie Wilson's War," where Hanks once again turns in an impressive performance. He plays Texas congressman Charlie Wilson, and

Director: Mike Nichols

Hoffman and Julia Roberts

Charlie Wilson's War

Starring: Tom Hanks, Philip Seymour

the story follows him as he tries to garner support to help Afghanistan rid itself of Soviet oppression. When Wilson visits Afghanistan and views the refugee camps left in the wake of Soviet bombing, he launches a campaign to garner American support to help Afghanistan liberate itself from Soviet control.

Hank's whiskey-swilling, straight-talking character is likeable from the beginning. Opposite of Hanks is Julia Roberts, playing Texas aristocrat Joanne Herring. Roberts turns in a decent performance, but is probably the least-believable character in the film. Her Southern drawl

sounds tepid and she is some-times outshined by her coactors. One remarkable thing about her performance is how good she looks in a bikini at age 40 and after three children. She plays the sixth-richest woman in Texas, and with her political influence, she helps Hanks raise awareness of the Soviet atrocities.

However, the real show-stealer of the film is Philip Seymour Hoffman, who is quickly solidifying himself as one of Hollywood's best talents.

Avrakotos, a quick-tempered and sarcastic character who works with Hanks. Hoffman has already garnered a bid for an Academy Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role, and more awards are sure to follow. Hoffman repeatedly steals the scene from the other actors, and his energy is palpa-ble. The greatest thing portrays his character.

Hot-headed, quick-to-react, but obviously intelligent, Hoffman plays the role of Avrakotos perfectly. Without him, "Charlie Wilson's War" would not be nearly as strong.

The film also stars Amy Adams as Wilson's assistant Bonnie Bach. Adams' portrayal is quite good, albeit forgettable. However, she does a great job with what she is given and turns in a strong .performance.

"Charlie Wilson's War" was nominated for five Golden Globes - Best Motion Picture (Musical or Comedy), Best Actor Hoffman plays CIA agent Gust (Hanks), Best Supporting Actor



about his performance is the realism of how he Herring, an aristocrat hailing from the state of Texas.

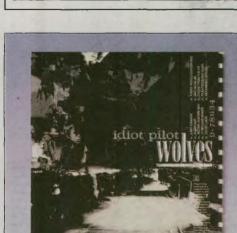
Sorkin)

(Hoffman), Best Supporting Actor (Roberts) and Best Screenplay (Aaron

The film is directed by Mike Nichols and is based off of the book (and true story) by George Crile. It was adapted for film by Sorkin, and the screenplay is full of sharp dialogue and brilliant lan-

All in all, the film is a very strong screenplay supported by several stellar

Contact Chris McGrady at cmcgrad1@nd.edu



BIOT PIKOT'S latest crashes &



OBSERVER GRAPHIC | Madeline Nies

By RYAN RAFFIN Scene Writer

Radiohead is everywhere these days. Internet) on fire with the sneaky digital release of "In Rainbows," the band continues to cast a long shadow over modern music. It seems with each passing day it becomes more influential, crawling ever closer to the level of music legends. So, given the stylistic similarities, it is nearly inevitable that the Washington electronic rock duo Idiot Pilot will be tronic textures and drumming, soaring choruses - it's all there.

The wrinkle that Idiot Pilot brings to the game is a slightly more aggressive sound. The clean vocals can become harsher and occasionally move into screaming, the tempos get faster and the guitar work becomes louder. But these abrasive moments have become fairly rare on the bands sophomore effort, titled "Wolves." This is certainly a pop album, especially when compared to their prior work.

It's an unfortunate regression as the band strikes a fine balance between poporiented melodies and cathartic thrash-

> ing on their 2005 debut "Strange We Should Meet

> The best song on the album is the opener "Last Chance", with an explosive, catchy and anthemlike chorus. It is the only track that really stands out on the record, which is a rather disappointing fact, because the song shows quite a bit of promise. Though still heavily indebted to Radiohead, there is a spark of creativity here that the rest of the album

sorely lacks.

The now-rare moments of aggression on "Wolves" seem forced, as if the band included them only for fear of alienating its fan base by changing its sound too much from its debut.

One example is the ending of "Red Museum". which Luckily someone, be it

the band, label or

producer, exercised

some quality control

and kept the running

time of "Wolves" at

43 minutes and only

ten songs.

seems tacked on and unnecessary. The rest of the song is a simple Radiohead clone, which is fair enough, but nothing even close to new or original. To avoid any more redundancy, one thing should be plainly statright now: Basically every song

on this album sounds like Radiohead to one degree or another.

The seven-minute album closer "Recurring Dream" is aptly-named, because hearing it is much the same as hearing about any other person's dream; it's mind-numbingly boring. The idea of placing an epic sounding song at the end of your album may seem appealing, but when that song never seems to end, all it does is test the limits of the listener's patience.

"Retina and the Sky" was included on

the Transformers soundtrack, and could feasibly appear in other movies or commercials. It seems like the sort of song recorded only to serve as an innocuous soundtrack to someone telling you about the advantages of a Hyunda

Luckily someone, be it the band, label

or producer, exercised some quality control and kept the running time of "Wolves" at 43 minutes and only ten songs. Although in this case it's not quality control so much as damage control. Most of the tracks slip by, completely unnoticed and indistinguishable from each other. Aside from "Last Chance" no song is worth hearing more than once.

It's unfortunate that the potential shown on their older work has not been fulfilled; instead the band opted for "maturity," which translates into boredom. Hopefully next time around they will realize that ripping off a more established band does not guarantee success or critical admiration. This album is the simple case of a band that lacks the ingenuity and dedication to find its own sound, instead choosing to ape another.

Contact Ryan Raffin at rraffin@nd.edu



SCENE SCENE



The film hits a climax

when one of Daniel's

wells over-pressurizes

and oil shoots up from

the ground in a

tremendous fountain,

a blast which deafens

his nearby son.

Daniel Day-Lewis'

strong performance

as an intimidating oil

tycoon has earned

him a Golden Globe

already and he will

surely follow that up

with a win at

the Oscars.

OBSERVER GRAPHIC | Madeline Nies

By MARK WITTE Scene Writer

Paul Thomas Anderson has returned from a five-year hiatus with his new film "There Will Be Blood" — an epic tale of oil, family, hate, deception and madness at the turn of the 20th century. The movie is an intense work of filmmaking which captivates in a horrifyingly beautiful, yet uncomfortable manner.

It opens with a thin, scraggly man, chipping away at the insides of a mountain. Eventually deciding to blast the rock with dynamite, the man lights a fuse, climbs out of the shaft he is in, and hoists his explosive into position. After the blast he begins to climb back down, but by accident his ladder breaks and he falls from about halfway up, down to the bottom of the shaft, breaking his leg. Despite his incapacitation the man discovers silver and not only hauls himself out of the hole with the metal, but drags himself across the California wilderness and into town, where he secures his claim. Thus is our introduction to Daniel Plainview (Daniel Day-Lewis) and the drive, determination, and madness that marks his character.

The film flips ahead some years and we find the scraggly Plainview working on an oil drilling team. There he witnesses one of many frequent accidents

Director: Paul Thomas Anderson

There Will Be Blood

Starring: Daniel Day-Lewis, Paul Dano,

Ciaran Hinds and Kevin J. O'Connor

in which men working in the oil well happen to be killed by an object falling from above. This particular accident leaves an infant boy orphaned and we see Plainview taking the crying child into his arms as his dead father, covered

in blood and oil, is carried off in the background. Daniel adopts the child.

The next time we see Daniel Plainview, about ten years later, his figure is drastically different. Clad in a suit and top-hat and sporting a wicked smile, we see Plainview giving a speech promoting his oil drilling business. He claims: "I'm a family man - I run a family business. This is my son and

my partner, H.W. Plainview." Throughout the film, the young H.W. (Dillon Freasier) is allowed to say very little, mostly acting as a face by which his father manipulates clients into signing leases.

The story takes a turn when Daniel happens upon the Sunday Ranch and its oil. There Daniel runs into the deceptively passive Eli Sunday (Paul Dano), an

evangelist preacher for the Church of the Third Revelation, whose career is also on the rise. Both Sunday and Daniel are

bent on singular purposes. Daniel wants immense wealth Sunday seems bent on extracting some of that wealth to finance growing his church.

The two characters make each other uneasy. Sunday incessantly tries to include Daniel in his church's worship, but this only causes the atheistic oilman to boil with contempt for the preacher. He makes every effort to spite Sunday when he

Accidents begin to happen at the wells and workers are killed. The film hits a climax when one of Daniel's wells overpressurizes and oil shoots up from the

> ground in a tremendous fountain, a blast which deafens his nearby son. The next five minutes onscreen contain some of the most beautiful and breathtaking bits of cinematography and film direction to hit the big screen in recent years, as an oil-covered Daniel watches gallons of oil

shoot up hundreds of feet into the air. He continues standing there through the night until morning, just staring at the oil and ignoring the plight of his son.

From there Daniel, and the film, slowly descend into madness. Daniel begins to lose interest in his deaf son. He begins to clash violently with Sunday and even threatens to bury him underground. A man claiming to be his half-brother

shows up at camp, but that does not end well either. In the end the film can only end in one way - madness - and it does.

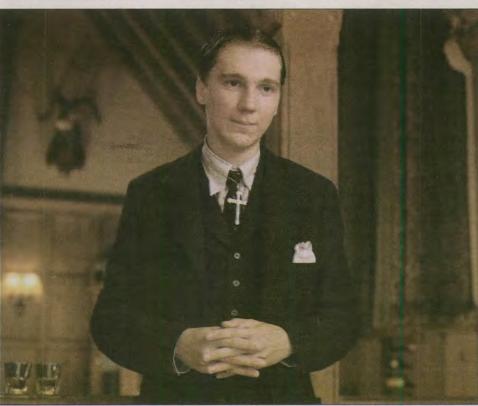
Daniel Day-Lewis' strong performance as an intimidating oil tycoon has earned him a Golden Globe already and he will surely follow that up with a win at the Oscars. Anderson's direction has earned him an Oscar nomination for Best Director.

The film itself has been nominated for Best Picture as well. These nominations are well-deserved and the haunting force of "There Will Be Blood" is one to be reckoned with.

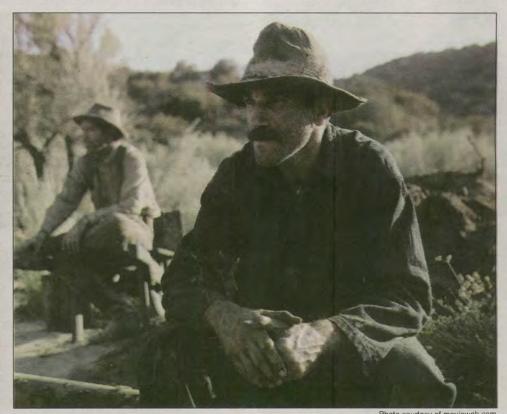
Contact Mark Witte at mwitte@nd.edu



Oil and conflict burst into flames in director Paul Thomas Anderson's thriller.



Paul Dano holds his own onscreen with Daniel Day-Lewis as Eli Sunday, an evangelist preacher who comes into contention over oil money.



Uninimitable actor Daniel Day-Lewis adds to his career portfolio with another excellent performance as Daniel Plainview, a burgeoning oil tycoon.

NHL

Devils net 5 power-play goals in blowout win

Islanders beat 'Canes behind three shorthanded goals; Rangers break out of slump against Thrashers

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — All the New Jersey Devils needed to get their slumping power play going was a low-scoring defenseman.

Johnny Oduya had a goal and three assists and the New Jersey Devils scored five times on the power play in a 7-3 victory over the Philadelphia Flyers on Tuesday night.

The Devils beat Philadelphia for the fifth straight time this season to move into first place in the Atlantic Division.

"It's nice to score," said Oduya, who recorded multiple points for the first time in 117 career games. "I don't get that many points. But I'm more happy for the win in a big game.

Patrik Elias and Zach Parise each had a pair of goals, and Jamie Langenbrunner and Dainius Zubrus also scored for New Jersey.

The Devils equaled the team record for power-play goals and fell one short of the franchise mark. New Jersey had five power-play goals two other times in club history. The club was known as the Colorado Rockies when they scored six power-play goals in an 8-6 win over the Flyers on Feb. 19, 1980.

"We put pucks on net, we directed pucks toward the net, and we had guys around the net," Devils coach Brent Sutter said. "We moved the puck well, we got some rebounds, we got some screen shots and we made the most of our opportunities. We created chances by going to the net and we scored some goals in areas we need to score some goals in.'

Daniel Briere, Mike Knuble Jeff Carter Philadelphia's goals.

The Flyers hadn't lost in regulation in their previous eight games and were 10-1-2 in the last 13. But they hardly looked like a team playing for first

"We had a total letdown," coach John Stevens said.

Philadelphia mostly outplayed New Jersey at even strength. The problem was stopping the Devils' suddenly potent power play. New Jersey came in 28th in the NHL with a conversion rate of 14 percent, and was 0-for-15 over the last four games.

With Oduya playing like Wayne Gretzky in his prime, the Devils capitalized on almost every opportunity on the man advan-

Oduya came in with nine

points in 40 games this season. He scored New Jersey's first goal to tie it at 1 and assisted on three of the next four.

"It seems like always we have been struggling on the power play," Oduya said. "I think we played pretty good at times but tonight we got the bounces early on there to get some goals.

Zubrus scored from the slot to give the Devils a 3-2 lead late in the first period. Elias made it 4-2 midway through the second. Oduya set that one up with a perfect, one-handed centering

Flyers goaltender Antero Niittymaki was pulled for Martin Biron after Parise made it 5-2 with 5:27 left in the second. Niittymaki, who was 6-0-1 in his last seven starts, allowed five goals on 19 shots.

Islanders 6, Hurricanes 3

The New York Islanders kept drawing penalties and scoring goals. When they were in the penalty box, it was tough to tell which team actually had the advantage.

The Islanders tied a team record with three short-handed goals, two by Mike Sillinger, in a rout of the Carolina Hurricanes on Tuesday night.

"We're not out to score any goals" while killing penalties, Sillinger said. "We knew that they have forwards that play the point, and if we could get a chance to take advantage of it, we would. But we weren't out there to score goals. We just got some good bounces, some break-

Richard Park also scored down a man, Sean Bergenheim scored on a breakaway while being dragged down and Brendan Witt and Blake Comeau added late goals for the Islanders, who scored three short-handed goals for the third time in franchise history and first since 2000.

The odd one once in a while is going to happen, but three in a game is unacceptable," Carolina defenseman Mike Commodore said. "Those are supposed to be opportunities for us to score, and we didn't do that.'

Radek Martinek and Trent Hunter both had two assists and Comeau assisted on a goal for New York, which broke a 1-all tie with three goals in the second period and won its fourth straight road game.

Eric Staal, Matt Cullen and Commodore scored for Carolina, which had its two-game winning streak snapped and probably wished it could have declined New York's penalties. The

Rangers' center Chris Drury celebrates with teammate Martin Straka after a second period goal in the Rangers' 4-0 victory. Southeast Division leaders have allowed an NHL-worst 10 shorthanded goals and failed to generate a second straight rally from a two-goal deficit against the Islanders.

"The players that are up on the power play have to take the responsibility to do the right things at the right time with the pucks, and we didn't," coach Peter Laviolette said.

Cullen scored with 13 minutes remaining to pull Carolina within 4-3, but the Hurricanes — who had scored eight goals in the third period or later of their previous two games, both wins couldn't get anything else past Dubielewicz. Rick DiPietro's backup made 44 saves in his second victory in Raleigh in just over three weeks; he also beat the Hurricanes 4-1 on Dec.

Cam Ward stopped 25 shots for the Hurricanes before he was pulled with about two minutes

Rangers 4, Thrashers 0

all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

Just as they did last spring, the Atlanta Thrashers proved to be the perfect foil for the New York

A year ago, the Rangers were searching for their first playoff series victory since 1997 and they got it in a big way with a sweep of the Thrashers.

Now trying to snap out a slump that is threatening New York's return to the postseason, the Rangers responded to their angry coach's message and took their frustration out on Atlanta.

Jaromir Jagr scored and had two assists on a newly created line, and defenseman Fedor Tyutin had a career-high three assists in a win Tuesday night.

Clicking as they did in wrecking the Thrashers' first trip to the playoffs, the Rangers put together the complete game coach Tom Renney had grown weary waiting to see.

Sean Avery and Brandon Dubinsky scored first-period goals, Martin Straka added one in the second, and Jagr finished the surge in the third to provide plenty of offense for Henrik Lundqvist.

We had the lead. I think that was the key and we jumped on them right away," Jagr said. "We scored a quick two goals and that was the difference

Lundqvist stopped 14 shots in earning his seventh shutout and 14th in three NHL seasons.

Kari Lehtonen made 35 saves, but failed to win for the fourth straight outing — all losses for the Thrashers, who are three Southeast points behind Division-leading Carolina.



Philadelphia's Steve Downie shoves New Jersey forward Vitaly Vishnevski during the second period of the Devil's 7-3 win.

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The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit

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NBA

Eastern Co	Conference, Atlantic Division						
team	record	perc.	last 10	GB			
Boston	33-6	.846	7-3	-			
Toronto	22-19	.537	6-4	12			
New Jersey	18-22	.450	4-6	15.5			
Philadelphia	16-26	.381	2-8	18.5			
New York	13-28	317	5-5	21			

Eastern Conference, Central Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Detroit	29-13	.690	4-6	
Cleveland	22-18	.550	8-2	6
Indiana	19-23	.452	4-6	10
Chicago	16-24	.400	4-6	12
Milwaukee	16-25	.390	4-6	12.5

Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Orlando	26-17	.605	4-6	
Washington	22-17	.564	7-3	2
Atlanta	17-20	.459	3-7	6
Charlotte	16-25	.390	5-5	9
Miami	8-32	.200	0-10	16.5

Western Conference, Northwest Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Portland	25-16	.610	7-3	-
Denver	24-16	.600	6-4	.5
Utah	24-18	.571	8-2	1.5
Seattle	9-32	.220	0-10	16
Minnesota	6-34	.150	2-8	18.5

Western Conference, Southwest Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
New Orleans	28-12	.700	0-0	-
Dallas	27-13	.675	0-0	1
San Antonio	26-13	.667	0-0	1.5
Houston	22-19	.537	0-0	6.5
Memphis	12-29	.293	0-0	16.5

Western Conference, Pacific Division

team	record	perc.	last 10	GB
Phoenix	29-12	.707	0-0	
LA Lakers	27-12	.692	0-0	1
Golden State	25-18	.581	0-0	1.5
Sacramento	17-22	.436	0-0	6.5
LA Clippers	12-25	.324	0-0	16.5

USCHO.com/CSTV Division I Poll

	team	record	previous
1	Michigan	22-2-0	1
2	Miami (OH)	23-3-0	2
3	Colorado College	18-6-0	3
4	North Dakota	14-8-1	6
5	Denver	18-6-0	4
6	Michigan State	16-5-4	7
7	UNH	13-7-1	5
8	BC	11-5-6	11
9	NOTRE DAME	18-9-1	8
10	Clarkson	13-7-2	12
11	Northeastern	11-6-3	9
12	Quinnipiac	14-5-3	14
13	St. Cloud State	11-10-3	13
14	UMass	9-7-5	10
15	UMass Lowell	11-6-4	15

around the dial

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Iowa State at Kansas 7 p.m., ESPN

Georgia Tech at North Carolina State 9 p.m., ESPN2

MLB



Chuck Knoblauch watches his game-tying homer against the Atlanta Braves during Game 3 of the 1999 World Series. The four-time All-Star has been subpoenaed by a congressional committee investigating steriod use.

Four-time All-Star subpoenaed by House

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Fourtime All-Star Chuck Knoblauch was subpoenaed Tuesday by a congressional committee investigating steroids in baseball after he failed to respond to an invitation to give a deposition.

Knoblauch, who played for the Yankees, Twins and Royals, was asked to appear Thursday, the first of five depositions or transcribed interviews scheduled by the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee prior to its Feb. 13 hearing.

Roger Clemens was asked to speak to committee staff Saturday, followed by Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte on Jan. 30. Brian McNamee, a former personal trainer for Clemens and Pettitte, is due in Jan. 31, with former New York Mets clubhouse employee Kirk Radomski asked to appear Feb. 1.

They all had until close of business Tuesday to respond to their invitations; Knoblauch's deadline was last Friday.

"The committee has taken this step because Mr. Knoblauch failed to respond to the invitation to participate voluntarily in a deposition or transcribed interview and the Feb. 13 hearing," committee chairman Henry Waxman and ranking Republican Tom Davis said in a statement.

As of Tuesday, the House panel had at least made contact, if not actually scheduled interviews, with all four other witnesses or their representatives, a senior committee staffer told The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because staff members were not authorized to discuss details of the deposition process.

Lawyers for Clemens and McNamee have said their clients will appear.

"We've been talking. They're not issuing any subpoenas for Brian," said Richard Emery, one of McNamee's attorneys.

It was not clear whether Knoblauch had retained a lawyer to represent him. "I haven't talked to Chuck in a number of years," his last listed agent with the players' association, Randy Hendricks, wrote in an email to The Associated Press. Hendricks represents Clemens and Pettitte.

In last month's Mitchell Report on performanceenhancing drugs in baseball, McNamee said he injected Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone in 1998, 2000 and 2001, accusations the seven-time Cy Young Award winner has denied. McNamee also alleged Pettitte used HGH, and Pettitte acknowledged McNamee injected him twice while the pitcher was recovering from an injury.

IN BRIEF

Seattle head coach agrees to finish out contract

KIRKLAND, Wash. — Mike Holmgren will return for a final season as coach of the Seattle Seahawks — but only a final season.

The 59-year-old veteran of 16 seasons as an NFL head coach announced his decision Tuesday to fulfill the final year of his contract, after spending the weekend with his wife at their offseason Arizona home.

"Kathy and I came to this decision to finish my contract," said Holmgren, who had hinted at retirement for weeks. "This will be my last year. We are going to make it the best year ever.

"And then probably after that, I will take a little time off — but not yet. We are going to go after it hard."

Two days after Seattle lost at Green Bay in the NFC divisional playoffs, Holmgren was asked if there was a third possibility beyond retiring or finishing the final season of his contract.

Archbishop asking for action against Majerus

ST. LOUIS — A Roman Catholic archbishop said Tuesday that he will ask officials of Saint Louis University to take "appropriate action" against its basketball coach, who said in a television interview that he supports abortion rights.

One of the game's winningest coaches, Rick Majerus made the comment at a weekend rally for Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton.

St. Louis Archbishop Raymond Burke declined to say what the action against Majerus should be, saying that was a decision for the Jesuit university. But he said the coach is a leader and shouldn't support views in opposition to church teaching.

"I'm concerned that a leader at a Catholic university made these comments. It can lead Catholics astray," Burke said by telephone as he attended March for Life antiabortion events in Washington. "I just believe that it's of the essence for people to understand as a Catholic you just cannot hold these beliefs."

Childress team looking to close in on Hendrick team

WELCOME, N.C. — Dale Earnhardt's death left Richard Childress thinking it was time to find another way to make a living.

Almost seven years later, Childress and his team, Richard Childress Racing, have made a complete turnaround.

With two successful seasons behind RCR and especially with its new engine program — a combined effort with Dale Earnhardt Inc. — running smoothly after coming together midway through 2007, Childress isn't conceding anything to the top NASCAR team, Hendrick Motorsports.

"You know, our team has won 44 races [in NASCAR's top three series] in the past two years," Childress said during a Sprint Media Tour stop at the sprawling RCR complex about 40 miles north of Charlotte. "So that shows we've got a pretty solid engine program."

NBA

O'Neal out for two weeks after positive MRI

Miami star sidelined with hip and leg pain, will miss at least six games as disappointing season continues

Associated Press

MIAMI — Shaquille O'Neal will miss at least the next two weeks because of recurring pain in his left hip and leg, the latest piece of disappointing news for the reeling Miami Heat.

An MRI exam performed Tuesday on O'Neal's ailing hip found acute inflammation in that joint and his quadriceps muscle. He will be treated with ice, but won't do any basketball-related activity — with hopes that rest will cure the problem.

O'Neal will miss at least six games, barring a change in the rehabilitation schedule. The earliest he could return under the timetable released by the team is Feb. 6 at Detroit.

"His activity, the activity, is exacerbating it," said Heat coach Pat Riley, whose team has lost 14 straight games, three shy of matching the franchise record. "That's all. That's what happens. He's trying to do everything he do. He's gotten all the treatment he can get. And now it's probably going to be an inactive period of time until the thing heals."

O'Neal was not available to reporters Tuesday. He has missed an average of 20 games over the past six seasons because of an array of injuries, and still has two full seasons after this remaining on his five-year, \$100 million contract with Miami.

Other tests done Tuesday,

including bloodwork, ruled out the possibility of infection or other problems, the team said.

O'Neal suffered the hip injury while diving for a loose ball against Utah on Dec. 22—the last game Miami won. He missed eight games from Dec. 28 through Jan. 11, sought treatment in Los Angeles over that stretch, and returned when the Heat started their current seven-game homestand Jan. 16.

O'Neal left Monday's game against Cleveland in the first quarter to have the hip retaped, then returned to the game with a noticeable limp. He finished with 10 points, none after halftime.

He's averaging a career-low 14.2 points this season, and his string of 14 straight All-Star Game selections — which matches a league record — almost seems certain to end because of his latest malady.

Heat guard Dwyane Wade, who scored 32 of Miami's 38 second-half points in Monday's 97-90 loss to Cleveland, said it's tough to continue watching O'Neal play in obvious pain.

"He's judged more than a lot of the athletes in the world because of who he is, who he has become," Wade said. "If he's playing and hurting and not playing good, he's being talked about. If he's not playing and he's trying to get healthy, then he's being talked about for taking

time off. It's a lose-lose situation. As his friend, I want him to be healthy. That's the most important thing to us."

Mark Blount likely will become Miami's new starting center, now that O'Neal and Alonzo Mourning (seasonending knee and quadriceps injuries) are hurting. Centers Joel Anthony and Earl Barron are also on the Heat roster, although they've combined to play 207 minutes this season.

Depending on how long O'Neal is out, Riley said the team might try to add another big man for depth.

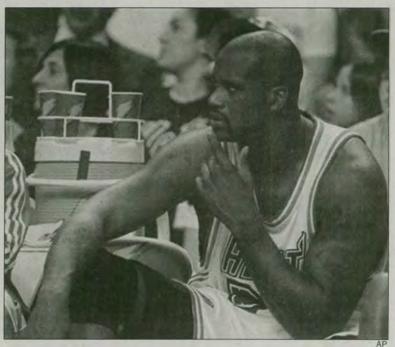
"We'll talk about it," Riley

For now, Blount — who started 81 games for Minnesota last year and who has averaged 5.7 points in 16 minutes per game this season — will be the primary pivot man Miami, which has the Eastern Conference's worst record at 8-32.

When Blount was acquired before the season in a trade, he expected to spend the year playing alongside O'Neal and Mourning and helping the Heat get back to their championship form from two seasons ago

from two seasons ago.

"It's been different," Blount said. "There's nothing I can do about that. Nothing you can really say. The team is looking at me to try to help them out right now. Of course, you want to be there with Shaq and be there with Zo, but that's not the situation right now."



Injured Miami center Shaquille O'Neal watches from the bench during the Heat's 88-84 loss to the New York Knicks on Jan. 19.

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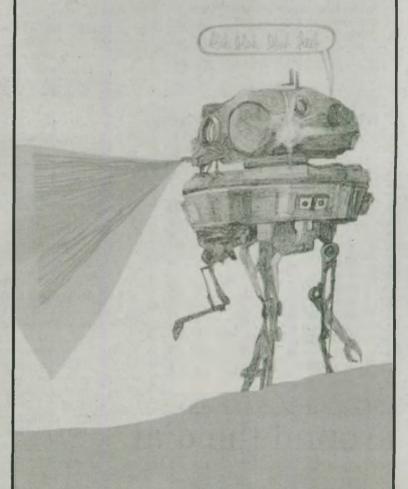
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AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Sharapova beats top-seed Henin down under

Defending champion Serena Williams ousted in quarterfinals by third-ranked Jelena Jankovic in two sets

Associated Press

MELBOURNE - Serena Williams stumbled one round short of a rematch, so Maria Sharapova had to unload a year's worth of retribution on somebody else.

Justine Henin caught the brunt of it.

Sharapova advanced to the Australian Open semifinals for the fourth straight year with a convincing 6-4, 6-0 win over top-ranked Henin, snapping the Belgian star's 32-match

winning streak "Even though I beat Justine, it's definitely not over," the 20-year-old Russian star said. "I still have a lot of business to take care of.

Defending champion Williams had slumped 6-3, 6-4 earlier in the afternoon to third-ranked Jelena Jankovic, who reached the semifinals at Melbourne Park for the first time and only the third time in

Williams was unseeded and ranked No. 81 when she made her stunning run to an eighth Grand Slam title 12 months ago, punctuating that with an emphatic 6-1, 6-2 win over Sharapova in one of the most lopsided Grand Slam finals.

It was a big setback for Sharapova, who struggled with a shoulder problem for most of the season and her ranking slipped outside the top 5.

But the winner of two Grand Slam events started returning to her best at the WTA championships in November before losing in three sets to Henin in three hours, 24 minutes among the dozen longest women's tour matches in the Open era.

She turned the tables in only 1:38 on Tuesday, inflicting the first 6-0 set on Henin since

"I really felt like I was in a bubble," Sharapova said. "I think it was one of the most consistent matches where I did all the things I wanted to do, and I did them correctly from the beginning to the end ... and just played the way I can play.

Henin, who struggled with her serve and was broken five times by Sharapova, said she had a minor concern over a lingering knee injury but put the loss down as an inevitabil-

"It's very hard to be at your "she "she best level all the time," she said. "I'll have to think about that and build again for the future.'

Sharapova will be looking back for lessons to take into the semis against Jankovic, her old tennis academy pal.

"Ever since the juniors we've always played really tough and we've always battled it out, and it's great to see her in the semis," Sharapova said. "It's great we're playing together."

Jankovic has two Serbian compatriots in the quarterfinals Wednesday.

No. 4-ranked Ana Ivanovic is aiming to end the run of another Williams when she plays Serena's sister, Venus, for the right to meet the winner of the other quarterfinal between No. 9 Daniela Hantuchova and No. 29 Agnieszka Radwanska.

On the men's side, Serbia's Novak Djokovic plays David Ferrer of Spain and defending champion Roger Federer go against No. 12 James Blake.

Blake is 0-7 against Federer, who beat him in the 2006 U.S. Open quarterfinals.

But he's taking heart from Federer's last two matches, when he was taken to 10-8 in the fifth set against Serbia's Janko Tisparevic and had to save set points against Tomas Berdych.

No. 2 Rafael Nadal, the only player to beat Federer at the last 10 Grand Slams, advanced to his first Australian Open semifinal with a 7-5, 6-3, 6-1 win over No. 24 Jarkko Nieminen of Finland.

"Maybe I wasn't playing my best match, my best tennis today, but it was enough," the three-time French Open champion said. "It's a good moment for me, first semifinals on hardcourt, Grand Slam.

He will play 22-year-old Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, who beat No. 14 Mikhail Youzhny 7-5, 6-0, 7-6 (6) late Tuesday

The 38th-ranked Tsonga has only played four previous majors due to a combination of back, shoulder and abdominal injuries and never won a title at the elite level, but has already upset No. 9 Andy Murray and No. 8 Richard Gasquet so far at Melbourne

"It's just amazing. I played just unbelievable," Tsonga said. "It's a very big event. It's very difficult to stay on this

Serena Williams was that ecstatic last year after her amazing run.

Despite being in better physical condition this time around, she still could not go beyond the quarters for the fourth consecutive major.

Williams looked sluggish and her serve misfired against Jankovic, contributing to seven service breaks.

She had time to reflect on the singles loss when she combined with Venus in a 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 doubles quarterfinal loss to Chinese pair Yan Zi and Zheng Jie.

"I think that I went crazy, maybe, and I made a lot of mistakes. I didn't really play the game I wanted to play, Williams said, adding that she had some physical issues she didn't want to elaborate on. "I don't like to make excuses. We



Maria Sharapova returns a serve against top-ranked Justine Henin in her Australian Open quarterfinal match. Sharapova advanced to the next round in straight sets 6-4, 6-0.

won't discuss those."

Williams did not seem to possess the same aggressiveness she used to overcome match points in early rounds last year and beat six seeded players en route to the 2007

Instead, she was constantly angry with herself and even got a code violation for smashing her racket.

"My shots just weren't right," Williams said. "I didn't move the way I want to move, and I wasn't feeling 100 percent. But as an athlete, some days you have to win feeling 30 percent.

"I'm not going to sit here and make excuses — I lost because Jelena played better than me and I made too many errors - I think regardless, the match was on my racket, and I gave it away."

Jankovic has been hampered by a thigh problem since helping Serbia to the Hopman Cup final, where it lost to the Serena Williams-led United

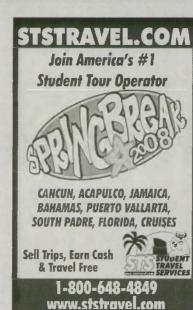
She needed treatment during her first-round match here, when she had to save three match points, and again in the second set Tuesday.

"I'm like a wounded animal. I still keep going," she said, adding for emphasis that she had a point to prove following Williams here last year.

"Getting revenge, it feels so good," Jankovic said. "I came

fourth-round loss to out very strong, and I was going for my shots ... and that's how I hurt my oppo-







Defense

continued from page 20

dropping seven shots from 3point land and superstar forward Candace Parker dominating the paint for 20 points, eight boards and two blocks.

Notre Dame's offense was anemic in the first half against West Virginia on Jan. 13, scoring a record-low 11 first-half points before mounting an incomplete comeback.

Tuesday night against DePaul, however, Irish coach Muffet McGraw said that the defense was one of the most embarrassing she has ever seen.

"I don't know if we are the worst defensive team in the country, but we are certainly the worst defensive team in the Big East," she said. "... We have no commitment at that end of the floor whatsoever and that was an absolute disgrace."

The loss to the Blue Demons was indicative of the way Notre Dame has played defense all season. The squad gave up 80 points to Georgetown and Bowling Green and 70 points to Louisville earlier this season. The only difference in those games was that Notre Dame's offense was good enough to outscore its opponents

For the past two seasons, Notre Dame has struggled to defend the perimeter. But McGraw said after this game that the problem is at that entire end of the court.

"I think it's a little bit of everything," she said. "I was really just disappointed in just everyone's defense. It's not just one person, it's really just everyone." The team has been burned all season when in man-to-man defense, and McGraw said that her team must make the switch to the zone defense.

McGraw said she needs to renovate her team's defense from top to bottom immediately — but that change cannot come soon enough

The Irish still have to play five regular season games against ranked teams — including Sunday's contest with top-ranked Connecticut — before the Big East tournament starts on March 8. The Irish are sure to play a quality team in the conference tournament — all 16 teams are over .500, and seven teams

ranked.

If Notre Dame doesn't fix its defense — a possibility, considering McGraw has talked about clamping down against opponent 3-point shooting since the beginning of last season — it could be in for a world of hurt over the next few months.

(including Notre Dame) are

The Irish have their toughest remaining games of the season (UConn excluded) on the road — and McGraw has said all season that winning on the road in the Big East is always a challenge.

The Irish still have time left this season to get better before the Big East championship and NCAA Tournament start in March. But if they don't, the team's great start will be wasted by a very disappointing finish.

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

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

Demons

continued from page 20

time expired or Notre Dame fouled her. But Quigley tried to escape and lost the ball out of bounds, giving the Irish a chance to inbound on their end of the court.

"I don't know why I'm thinking [of] running away from people. I should have just stayed strong with the ball," said Quigley, who finished with 16 points and seven assists. "I wanted to make it a little more interesting."

Irish guard Ashley Barlow sent the inbounds pass to guard Tulyah Gaines, who handed the ball off to guard Charel Allen. Allen darted left to find a shot, but stumbled, and Blue Demon guard Holly Medley stole the ball as time expired. DePaul has now beaten Notre Dame three games in a row.

"We were trying to set a screen for Charel," Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said. "The ball was going to come in to Tulyah, and Lindsay [Schrader] was going to screen for Charel, but it obviously never got to that point. Tulyah had a little trouble getting off the screen.

"That's a play we run all the time."

Barlow scored a career-high 23 points and shot 8-of-12 from the floor. She also grabbed seven rebounds.

DePaul shot 72 percent from the field in the first half and led 45-43 at the break. A pair of 3point plays and a 3-pointer by guard Missy Mitidiero sent the Blue Demons on a nine-point run, despite their committing six fouls in the opening four minutes of the second half.

But Irish center Erica Williamson, who tied a career high with 16 points, sank two free throws, and Barlow dropped two quick lay-ups and three foul shots to bring Notre Dame within a point with 9:33 remaining in the game.

DePaul found itself in foul trouble near the end of the game. Forwards Caprice Smith and Felicia Chester fouled out, and the Irish began shooting the double bonus with 7:39 left in the game. Notre Dame, however, shot only 71.4 percent from the line.

"We missed 10 free throws. That's the difference in the game right there," McGraw said.

After Blue Demon forward Natasha Williams hit a free throw that made the score 71-67, Allen drained a 3-pointer from the top of the key to bring the Irish within 1.

But Notre Dame could not close the gap. Quigley converted four free throws in the final three minutes.

Down 79-77 with 23 seconds remaining, Williams fouled Allen, sending the Irish senior to the line with a chance to tie the game. Allen made only one of two and forced Notre Dame to foul Quigley again.

DePaul coach Doug Bruno was thrilled with what the win meant to his team, which has been struggling since a Jan. 2 loss to No. 3 Tennessee.

"I think to come in to a place like the Joyce Center and steal one, I think it's done an unbelievable amount for our collective team psyches," Bruno said.

McGraw expressed her disap-

pointment in Notre Dame's defense and said she would retool it from the ground up.

"I think we have to play zone. We obviously can't play people man-to-man," McGraw said. "We must be a zone team."

Williamson said that the defensive improvement needed to come on both an individual and team level.

"I think we need to have pride in our defense," she said. "I don't think we have enough energy out there, and that's going to start at practice tomorrow.

"At some point, we have to just say, 'you know what, that's enough. I'm going to do it.' and we have to do it as a team."

The Blue Demons took advantage of the man defense, moving the ball well and creating outside shots for Quigley, Mitidiero and guard Deirdre Naughton, who had 20 points and eight rebounds.

"Tonight was the first time we even got close to the end of the shot clock," Naughton said. "I think we had very good ball movement."

Barlow hit two 3-pointers in quick succession to help the Irish grab a 17-9 lead with 13 minutes remaining in the first half. But Notre Dame relinquished the pressure and allowed DePaul back into the game.

"We got off to a great start, and then we gave them confidence," McGraw said. "... And suddenly they get on a roll, and now a team that's reeling from a couple losses in a row, suddenly they have confidence."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu



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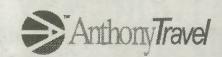
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Tennis

continued from page 20

"Davis has made great adjustments already," Bayliss said. "He has flattened out his forehand and really battles well."

Senior Andrew Roth has been consistent for the Irish in his final year after being plagued by injuries early in his career.

"Roth has really stepped into

a leadership role this year, and well together to form the No. 2

determined work ethic," Bayliss said. "He has become more accountable; he's a little guy with a big heart.'

Despite his 5foot-9 frame, Roth plays a big game. He and Havens work ranking starts to fall," Bayliss

with a big heart." **Bobby Bayliss**

"[Roth] has become

more accountable;

he's a little guy

Irish coach

doubles

behind Helgeson and Parbhu. Still Bayliss is a

little wary of the team's No. 12 ranking entering the season.

"We will see how the young team faces the challenge the first time the said. "The perception may change to try and figure out what they're doing wrong, when really they just need to learn from the losses."

Early in the season the Irish only have one major injury on the team. Freshman Matt Johnson is sidelined because of a pectoral injury.

He served a little bit yesterday, but won't be ready for this weekend," Bayliss said. "He hasn't served in two or three weeks, so it will take a while to get him back into the swing of

The Irish (2-0) defeated No. 40 Penn State 5-2 and Toledo 7-0 at their home doubleheader opener on Jan. 20. The young Notre Dame team will test its strength as it takes on No. 1 Virginia this Sunday at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgraba01@saintmarys.edu

Calvin

continued from page 20

said. "She had a big week for us offensively, but that wouldn't have been possible if her team-mates hadn't gotten her the

The Belles had a week of strong rebounding as well. Junior Erin Newsom led the team with 23 in the two games, followed by Kessler and sophomore Anna Kammrath, both with 18. Despite the strong numbers on the boards, Henley

is still looking for more from her

"We have a pretty strong week coming up with games against Calvin and Hope," Henley said. "We have to find a way to play better team defense and continue to win the rebounding bat-

The rebounding battle is only part of what the Belles need to work on for today's game. In its last match up against Calvin, Saint Mary's shot only 27.9 percent from the floor, with Calvin at 39.6 percent. Kessler had only 15 points, and leading rebounder Newsom ended with

The Knights' leading scorer, Marcia Harris, had 23 points that night, her second highest in a game this season. Harris ranks third in the MIAA for scoring, with an average of 17

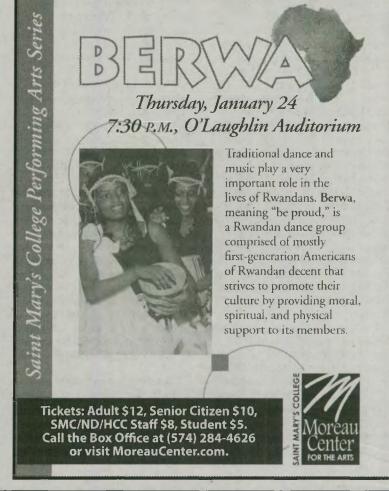
points per game.
But the Belles are playing well

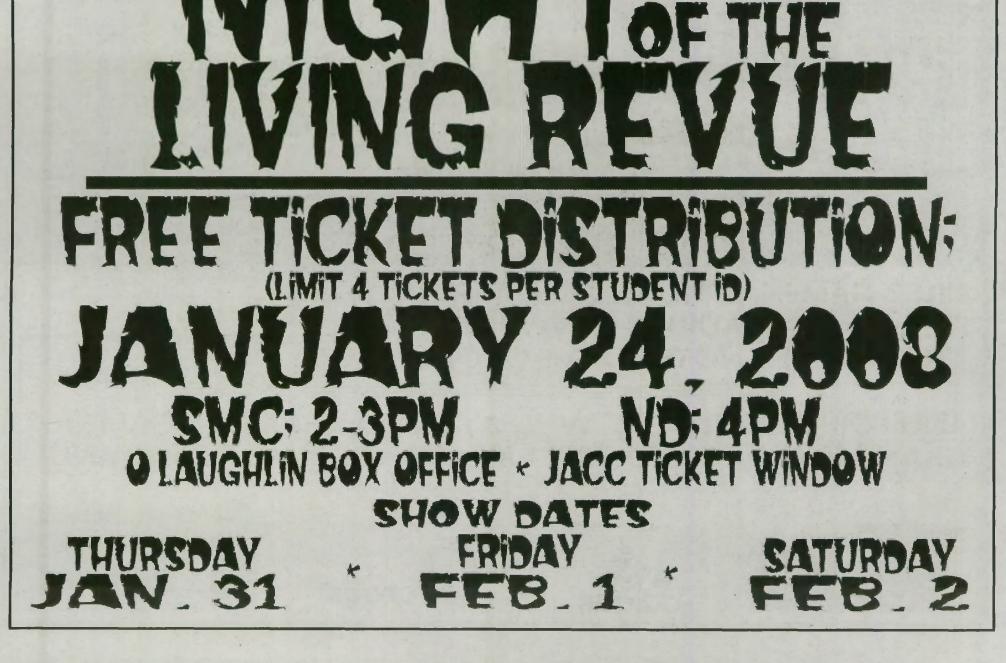
"We have had a lot of players step up this season," Henley said. "It's hard to single out just one person, especially in a team sport.

KEENAN HALL PRESENTS

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ARIES (March 21-April 19): Do something that's fun, creative and gets your juices flowing. Your ability to drum up interest with your animated description of your goals will enable you to close a deal. 5 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't get too wrapped up in any melodrama going on at home or with loved ones. You are better off not to meddle. An opportunity to meet with people from different walks of life will give you renewed enthusiasm for a project or a trip. 2 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can make a point that will get everyone around you thinking more like you. An interesting conversation will lead you in a passionate direction. A love relationship will develop or grow into something very stable. 4 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Venture away from home to a destination that is totally unfamiliar to you and you will learn to make better decisions in the future. An idea that can potentially make you money should be put into play or at least researched. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22); Focus on making money and you will. An investment should pay off. An inheritance, gift or winning is likely to come your way. Emotions will be difficult to control. Be honest. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't let your enthusiasm about someone or something stop you from seeing what's actually going on. Be careful not to get involved in a scheme that could cause you to lose financially. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Follow through with your plans. Your only downfall will be laziness or trying to get everyone else to carry the brunt of the work. Dig in and work toward something you want and you will get even more than you expect. 4 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Be careful whom you trust. If something needs to be done, do it yourself. Don't share your belongings or cash with others if you expect to receive something in return. Stay in control. 5 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't get angry, get moving. If you stand still and watch others take advantage of you or you let the competition get ahead, you will have no one to blame but yourself. Be clever, not an open book. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Love and money don't usually mix that well. Protect your assets and you won't have to worry about what someone you thought you could trust is doing. An original approach to something you do well will lead to profits.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Open your eyes and stay on top of what's happening around you. You can take advantage of an opportunity that will help you gain respect among your peers. Love is looking good and an agreement between you and someone you care about can be made. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A lot that you need to know to make a good decision will not be out in the open. Don't feel pressured by anyone to say yes or no to anything. Figure out what you want to do and take a pass on anyone who doesn't like your posi-

Birthday Baby: You are incredibly giving, generous and gracious. You have a strong sense of fair play. You are eager to prove your point.

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

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Demonized

Blue Demons exploit man-to-man scheme for victory at Joyce

By BILL BRINK Sports Writer

When a team on the rise meets a team gasping for air, sometimes the desire to breathe can prevail over normal respiration.

DePaul, which lost three of its last five games, held off Notre Dame for the entire second half and survived two late scoring chances to win 81-80 Tuesday at the Joyce Center, reviving the Blue Demons and adding to Notre Dame's troubles. The pulse-quickening moments near the end of the second half kept the half-full Joyce Center louder than it's been all season.

The game should have been out of hand earlier than it was, but Allie Quigley gift-wrapped the Irish one more chance.

After Irish guard Brittany Mallory hit two free throws to bring the Irish within 1 point with four seconds remaining, all the Blue Demon guard had to do was hold the ball while either

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DAN JACOBS/The Observer

Blue Demons guard Deirdre Naughton goes for the layup as Notre Dame defense watches. Naughton scored 20 points in DePaul's 81-80 victory at the Joyce Center Tuesday.

Irish defensive woes a lingering problem

Notre Dame is a good basketball team — but it is clearly not one of the elites.

When the No. 16 Irish (15-4, 3-2 Big East) fell to No. 22 DePaul on Tuesday.

it was their fourth loss in as many tries against ranked

Jay Fitzpatrick

Associate
Sports Editor

teams this year. Granted, two of those games were against topfive teams (75-59 against then-No. 3 Maryland on Nov. 16 and 87-63 against No. 2 Tennessee on Jan. 5). But Notre Dame has looked bad in all of those games this year.

The worst part is, the problems have been different every game.

The Terrapins were dominant from beyond the arc, punishing Notre Dame's impotent 3-point defense with 12 treys against the Irish.

The Lady Vols had a great inside-outside offense working, with guard Angie Bjorklund

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SMC BASKETBALL

Belles hope to continue success on road against Calvin

By MEAGHAN VESELIK Sports Writer

Coming off back-to-back MIAA wins, the Belles travel to Grand Rapids, Mich., tonight to play Calvin at 7:30, looking to even the score after their 67-52 loss to the Knights in December. The

team is also looking for its first win over Calvin since Saint Mary's entered the MIAA in 1997

Calvin has always been a powerhouse, winning the conference 11 times since 1979. They have been in 10 NCAA Tournaments, including a trip to the Elite 8 in 2007. But the Knights currently

stand in third place in the MIAA, with the Belles tied for fourth with Olivet.

Saint Mary's (8-7, 4-3 MIAA) enters the contest with two important victories from last week under its belt. The Belles beat conference rivals Kalamazoo and Tri-State 72-69 and 74-71, respectively.

"Any time you can get two MIAA victories in a week, it's been a good week," Saint Mary's coach Jenn Henley said. "We haven't played our best, but we have found a way to win both times."

Saint Mary's also had a record-setting week. Senior Alison Kessler scored a pro-

gram-record 41 points against Kalamazoo and had a team-high 16 points against Tri-State. The single-game total against Kalamazoo is tops in Division III this season.

"I think Alison's numbers speak for themselves," Henley

see CALVIN/page 17

MEN'S TENNIS

Strong freshman class adds depth to Irish team

By KATE GRABAREK Sports Writer

After a strong end to the fall season, No. 12 Notre Dame will look to carry its success into the spring.

Junior Brett Helgeson and senior Sheeva Parbhu had strong showings in the fall and will be contenders for the No. 1 singles position.

"Parbhu was an All-American last year. Brett [Helgeson] had that kind of fall," Notre Dame coach Bobby Bayliss said. "Either one can play the No. 1 singles position."

Helgeson wasn't the only one tearing up the courts this fall. The team's six freshmen also made their presence known, proving that the Irish are a young team, but a deep one.

"We are deeper than last year," Bayliss said.

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"[Sophomore Sean] Corrigan and [Junior Santiago] Montoya, traveled with us last year, and are competing for positions this season. We are less experienced but the freshmen will learn from these experiences."

Freshman Stephen Havens proved himself to be one of the strongest young players for the Irish. Bayliss praised the Cincinnati native for his great timing and ability to make important shots. In addition, Freshman David Anderson is making great strides at net to complement his groundstrokes.

Bayliss noted the similarity in the playing style of freshman Daniel Stahl and Helgeson. Stahl likes to bang the ball, but needs to come to the net more. Freshman Tyler Davis has

also made contributions early in his career at Notre Dame.



WU YUE/The Observ

Junior Santiago Montoya looks to return a volley in Notre Dame's 5-2 victory over Penn State at the Eck Tennis Pavilion on Jan. 20. The Irish are ranked No. 12 in the ITA Poll.

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