

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 42 : ISSUE 117

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2008

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Obama fuels debate, gives speech to well-wishers

Democratic nominee holds political rally at Washington High School

By BILL BRINK
News Editor

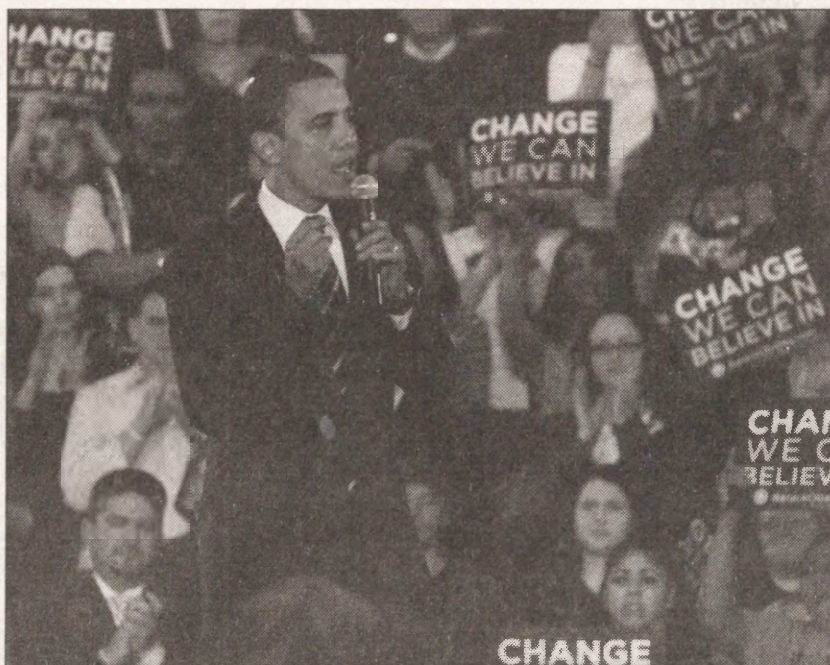
Illinois Senator and Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama told supporters Wednesday at Washington High School in South Bend that changing parties in the White House will not suffice, outlined his plan for drastic alterations and gained an endorsement along the way.

South Bend Mayor Stephen Luecke, preceding Obama, endorsed the Senator to raucous approval from Obama supporters.

"Let's not hold the surprise," he said.

Obama, who entered the packed gymnasium with U2 playing in the background, received a huge response when he asked how many Notre Dame students

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Senator Obama speaks to supporters at Washington High School Wednesday less than a month away from the Indiana primary on May 6.

DAN JACOBS/The Observer

Panel, students discuss race relations, campaign issues at forum

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

Prompted by Senator Barack Obama's speech on race delivered on March 18 in Philadelphia, members of both the Notre Dame and South Bend communities gathered to discuss race issues at "Evaluating Barack Obama's Speech on Race: A Town Hall Meeting on Race Relations in America" in the McKenna Hall Auditorium Wednesday.

Moderator and Chair of the Department of Africana Studies Richard Pierce, Ph.D., said that the meeting would be to "discuss race openly and in public."

Instead of directly analyzing the text of Obama's speech, Pierce and panel members sought to address greater issues of race and its implications in American society.

"We must resist the temptation to deconstruct Obama's speech as if it was a document in class,"

see FORUM/page 4

NDSP makes arrest for reported burglaries

Two men questioned about stolen cell phone, laptop; incidents not necessarily related to recent thefts in residence halls

By BILL BRINK
News Editor

Notre Dame Security/Police (NDSP) arrested one man and questioned another in relation to reports of burglary and suspicious activity on campus Tuesday, a statement released by NDSP reported.

NDSP assistant director Dave Chapman said in a phone interview that it is not known whether the incidents are related to the recent bur-

glaries in Lyons and Howard Halls.

Around 10:50 a.m. Tuesday, the statement said, a call to NDSP reported that a man may have stolen a cell phone from an office in Stepan Chemistry center. The caller lost sight of the suspect, the statement said, and did not know if he left the building. NDSP officers searched the area and eventually stopped the suspect as he left the building. He had a laptop computer under his shirt that

belonged to a professor, the statement said, and the professor later identified the laptop. The suspect was arrested for burglary and taken to the NDSP building, and later to the St. Joseph's County Jail.

Two other cell phones and another laptop were still missing, the statement said. Chapman said it was still unknown who took them.

South Bend police were contacted because of the suspect's believed involvement in off-campus thefts, the state-

ment said.

The stolen laptop belonged to Chris Kolda, a physics professor. He said he left his office for five minutes and left the door open. NDSP contacted him, he said, to see if his computer was missing. When he returned to his office, his laptop was gone.

Police told Kolda, who never saw the thief, that they caught the suspect, he said.

"I was very happy with Notre Dame security," Kolda said. "Nothing like getting

your computer back before you know it was stolen."

Police picked out the suspect because he was wearing rosary beads, which looked out of place, Kolda said. He also said NDSP said the burglar matched previous descriptions and that they had been searching for him for three weeks.

NDSP found Kolda's computer on the suspect's person, he said, and the suspect

see ARRESTS/page 6

STUDENT SENATE

Leaders hold informal meeting

Officers set agenda for Stand Against Hate week

By CLAIRE REISING
News Writer

Committee chairs and officers announced Student Senate goals and upcoming events during an informal meeting Wednesday. Initially, the meeting could not be called to order because Senate did not have enough members present for quorum due to a conflict with sophomore class registration meetings.

Carroll Senator Nick Ruof of the Social Concerns Committee said that Stand Against Hate Week, which speaks out against discrimination directed at gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or questioning students,

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Karen Koski discusses the Notre Dame non-discrimination clause during the March 19 Senate meeting.

CHRISTIAN SARGARDIA/The Observer

SAB to host events for annual SMC-Tostal

By NIKKI TAYLOR
News Writer

Saint Mary's Student Activities Board (SAB) will host its annual SMC-Tostal today. The event will be marked by an afternoon of activities in the student center, culminating in a concert by new and upcoming female recording artist, Colbie Caillat.

The name SMC-Tostal was modeled after an Irish spring festival from the 1960s An-Tostal — short for Annual Tostal — according to senior Cassie Callon, SAB Coordinator.

"The Student Activities Board has been putting on this event all four years that I have been here," Callon said.

"As far as I can find in the yearbooks, SMC-Tostal has been celebrated since the 1970s here at [Saint Mary's] and has just been one of those traditional events that never lost steam."

Special events for the day include a performance by "Katius," an alternative rock band from Dayton, Ohio, in the Student Center Lounge. There will also be a caricature artist and balloon animals available from 12 to 3 p.m., Callon said.

There will also be a special dessert bar in the Noble Family Dining Hall for dinner.

The headlining event of the day is a free concert at 7 p.m. in O'Laughlin Auditorium featuring Colbie Caillat, accom-

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INSIDE COLUMN

Chocolate
box men

I would not be who I am without what happened. I would not be stronger, I would not be wiser, I would not be prepared. We cannot learn without being taught, and we cannot know what flavor of love we like without tasting them all.

Ashley Charnley

News Production
Editor

Just because you were surprised by the coconut center you ate, doesn't mean the creamy caramel won't be the one you pick next. However, even if you get four hundred bad flavors in a row, you have to know, that eventually you will find your favorite. You will find the guy who is milk chocolate all the way to his center. That, my dear friends, is why you continue to take a bite.

In the meantime, all of these wasted calories begin to add up. We begin to regret every bite. Worse yet, we dread the next. We actually look at our next romantic venture as though we are lambs out to slaughter. So, why does a single girl continue with the box of chocolates? Well, simply, because she has to. There is no way to sugar coat it ladies, pun intended. However, instead of cursing the less appetizing flavors and spitting them out without a second thought, learn from them. Try to remember what you noticed about them when you first laid eyes on them. Prospective men are all the same. They make us smile, they make us laugh, and they give us those little tinges of excitement about being with someone again.

You remove the lid. The aroma of beautiful, rich chocolate fills your nostrils. They are molded into beautiful shapes, and it is taking every ounce of restraint you can muster to prevent yourself from plunging in. Without even tasting it, without one little bite, you already think you know just how perfect it will be. Then, the rueful moment when you realize that the inside does not match the outside. One of the advantages of a guy is that you can ask him his flavor.

Beware of the marketers though, ladies. Some will try to tell you they are filled with things they aren't, others will tell you that you should deny your taste buds and dive in. Eventually though, with practice, these self-advertisers will be much easier to spot. I guarantee to you, the one who will satisfy you most, will have to sell himself the least.

Don't get me wrong, here. I love chocolate in all shapes and sizes. There is a flavor for everyone. So guys, just because one girl doesn't like coconut doesn't mean the next one won't. This is a two way street. Russell-Stover wouldn't make a flavor that no one likes, and in the same way there is a girl for every guy.

Life is like a box of chocolates, and ladies, it is time for you decide what you get.

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

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@saintmarys.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: WHO IS YOUR MAN/GIRL CRUSH?



Carolina Surla

senior
off-campus

"Kimya Dawson because she'll be at Legends this Saturday at 9."



Nick Zarazua

senior
off-campus

"Barack Obama."



Erin James

senior
off-campus

"Julia Roberts."



Paul Holt

senior
o-f campus

"Serpico."



Jackie Collins

senior
Pasquerilla East

"Hillary Clinton. I dig the manly pant-suits."



Gabriel Ymalay

junior
Keenan

"David Beckham."



CASEY CARNEY/The Observer

Students and moderator and chair of the department of Africana Studies Richard Pierce discuss race relations at a town hall style forum in McKenna Hall on Wednesday.

OFFBEAT

Man complains about assessment made in office

GARDEN CITY, NY — Harvey Levinson might be the last person his neighbors would expect to complain about the assessment on his condominium. After all, he's the county assessor.

But Levinson has asked the Nassau County Assessment Review Commission to knock more than \$200,000 off the \$502,080 value his own office set for his two-bedroom condo in an upscale Long Island development. If approved, the change

would shave an estimated \$1,700 off his \$13,000 property tax bill for 2009-2010.

Levinson said he was simply trying to point up a clerical error that caused a 75-percent spike in his assessment.

Oregon woman enters station, receives DUI

NEWPORT — The Oregon State Police arrest drunken drivers on the road every day. But it's not often when the drivers show up drunk at a state police office.

Troopers charged Ruby

Ann Pederson, 42, of Newport with driving under the influence of intoxicants after she came to work to clean the state police office.

A trooper said she showed signs of being intoxicated after driving to the office with her 12-year-old son. A blood-alcohol test showed her level was 0.19 percent — more than twice the legal limit.

She was also charged with recklessly endangering another person.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Donna Smith, from Michael Moore's movie 'Sicko,' will speak about her experience in the documentary and the current state of healthcare tonight at 6 in DeBartolo room 126.

Colbie Caillat will be performing at Saint Mary's tonight at 6 in the Angela Athletic Facility as part of SMC Tostal.

A Frozen Four Gamewatch will be set up in the Joyce Center for students to watch the Notre Dame Hockey Team play against Michigan tonight at 9, doors open at 8. There will be free food and giveaways.

The play "The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus", a Christopher Marlow play about a professor who sells his soul to the devil, will be performed April 10-13, 17 and 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Decio Mainstage Theater at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

The Vietnamese Student Association of ND is hosting the 6th annual "Vietnamese Interacting As One" conference April 11-13. The theme this year is "Golden Dreams-Redefining Success for our Generation." Visit www.via1.org for conference information.

Anne Thompson, Chief Environmental Correspondent at NBC News, will give a lecture called "Green is the 'new black,' but will it stay in style?" Friday at 10:40 a.m. in Jordan Auditorium at the Mendoza College of Business.

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	TODAY		TONIGHT		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW
	58	50		52		55		43		42		50
				49		37		28		25		30

Atlanta 76 / 57 Boston 66 / 42 Chicago 51 / 37 Denver 38 / 31 Houston 83 / 72 Los Angeles 72 / 50 Minneapolis 45 / 33 New York 68 / 48 Philadelphia 72 / 50 Phoenix 80 / 55 Seattle 55 / 40 St. Louis 67 / 52 Tampa 84 / 67 Washington 72 / 51

Russert to deliver Red Smith lecture

Special to The Observer

Tim Russert, Washington bureau chief of NBC News, will deliver the 25th anniversary Red Smith Lecture in Journalism at Notre Dame on Monday.

Russert's lecture, "When Politicians Meet the Press," will begin at 8 p.m. in Washington Hall. Tickets are required for the talk, and they are available without charge at the LaFortune Student Center ticket office.

Moderator of "Meet the Press" since 1991 and the network's chief political analyst, Russert also serves as senior vice president of NBC News and as anchor of "The Tim Russert Show," a weekly program on MSNBC. He joined NBC in 1984.

Russert received an honorary doctorate from Notre Dame in 2002, when he also delivered the commencement address. He's the author of two best-selling books: "Big Russ and Me" (2004) and "Wisdom of Our Fathers" (2006).

Named the most influential Washington journalist in magazine rankings, Russert is the recipient of numerous awards, including an Emmy, and he's a member of the Broadcasting & Cable Hall of Fame. He holds 43 honorary doctorates from American

colleges and universities.

The Red Smith Lecture in Journalism was established in 1983 to honor the sportswriter and 1927 Notre Dame graduate Walter W. "Red" Smith, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for distinguished commentary in 1976. At the time of his death in 1982, Smith was a columnist for The New York Times.

The Smith Lectureship seeks to foster good writing and to recognize high journalistic standards. It is administered by the John W. Gallivan Program in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy at Notre Dame. Previous Red Smith Lecturers include James Reston, James J. Kilpatrick, Art Buchwald, Charles Kuralt, Judy Woodruff, Ted Koppel, Jim Lehrer and Frank McCourt.

The series is made possible by a gift from John and Susan McMeel and Universal Press Syndicate. A South Bend native and 1957 Notre Dame graduate, John McMeel is chairman of Andrews McMeel Universal, the parent company of Universal Press Syndicate. He's a member of both the advisory council for Notre Dame's College of Arts and Letters and the advisory committee of the Gallivan Program.

Senate

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will be held next week.

Events include an ally pledge campaign at the dining halls and LaFortune, a screening of the film, "Boys Don't Cry" and T-shirt distribution. The week will culminate with a Holocaust Memorial on South Quad next Friday, with a prayer vigil for hate crimes at the Grotto that evening.

According to former Social Concerns Chair Karen Koski, student government was involved in adding an academic panel on "History, Catholicism and Homosexuality," which will feature history professor Gail Bederman and theology professor Mary D'Angelo.

"The speakers were what we were looking for in shedding an academic and historical perspective on relationships and issues [on] how people view homosexuality," Koski said.

Gender Issues Committee co-chair Patrick Tighe announced that campus will hold Take Back the Night on later in April to

spread awareness about rape and sexual assault.

"It's going to involve a rally and march around campus where men and women will actually speak out about how they've been sexually assaulted. It will end at the Grotto with a prayer service," he said.

In the University Affairs Committee, student body vice president Grant Schmidt said they are continuing to plan election initiatives to raise student awareness on 2008 campaign issues. He suggested polling students to gauge what issues students are interested in or to set up posters contrasting the candidates' issue positions. Schmidt also said that the committee will discuss how to bring popular speakers to campus.

"It's a formality that [Father Jenkins] did invite Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and John McCain to campus, and Hillary took up that offer by sending Chelsea," he said.

In addition to University Affairs, Schmidt said he is working with Community Relations chair Gus Gari to discuss a Domer Dollars campus proposal. Schmidt plans to discuss the pro-

posal next week.

After enough senators arrived, Schmidt officially convened the meeting, and the Senate unanimously passed two resolutions that proposed adding amendments to the Student Body Constitution, which would require the president and vice president to take oaths of office.

In other Senate news:

♦Joy Hwang, Residence Life Committee Chair, said her committee set their top seven priorities for the term, including free DVD rentals in the Huddle.

♦Howard Hall is hosting a bone marrow registry in the Dooley Room from 12-8 p.m. today. This allows participants to become potential bone marrow donors if their DNA matches cancer patients in need of transplants.

♦Keenan Hall will hold its annual Muddy Sunday mud volleyball tournament April 20. Teams can register on Keenan's website, and proceeds from the event will be donated to Habitat for Humanity.

Contact Claire Reising at creisin2@nd.edu

Tostal

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panied by singer/songwriter Jason Reeves.

Caillat, 22, is most recognized for her recent hit song, "Bubbly."

While Caillat was not exactly the performer that SAB originally set out to find, they were quite happy with the match.

"We had our eye on a group of performers," Callon said. "Once we started calling around to agencies to see which performer best fit with our Tostal date, Colbie [Caillat] seemed like a perfect match. We are very excited to have such an up-and-coming female artist visit our campus."

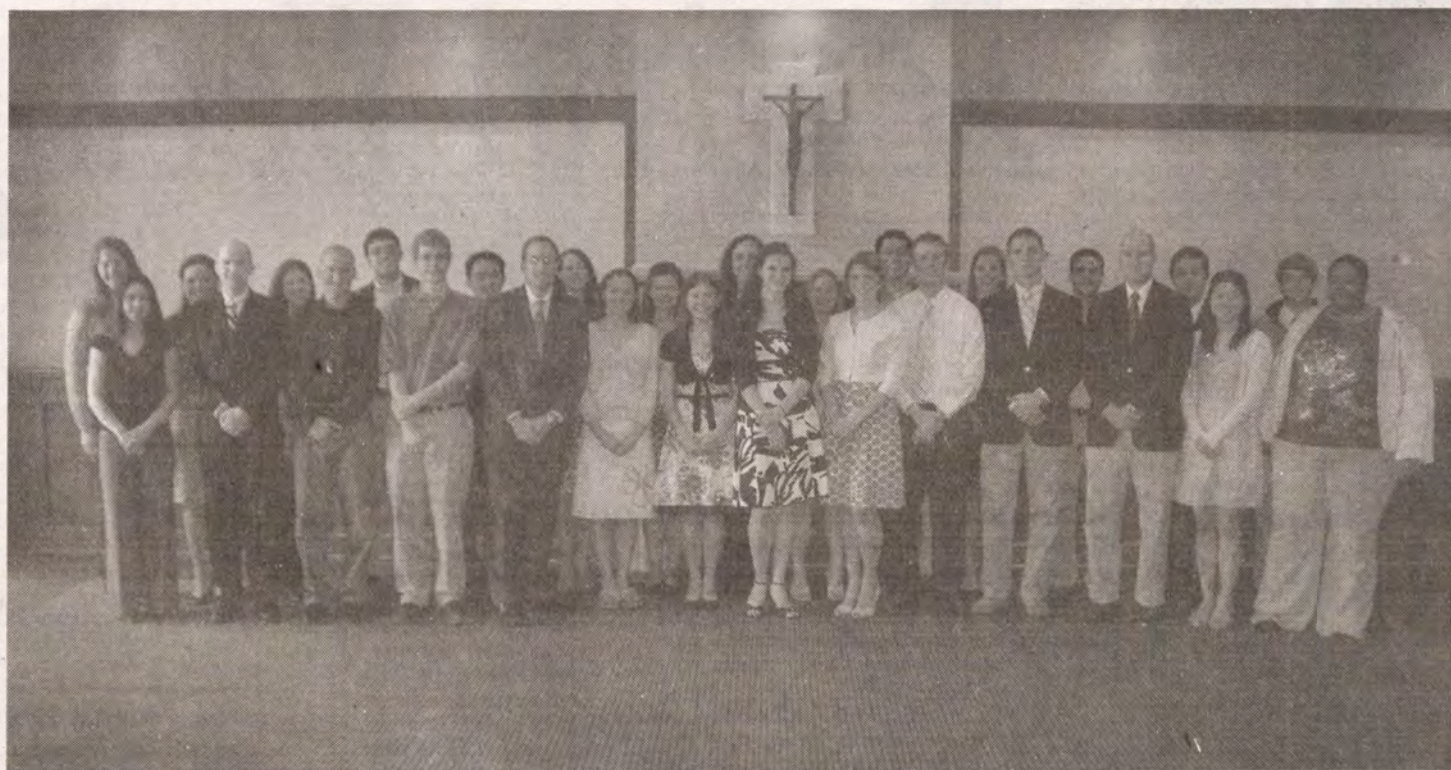
The concert has been much anticipated around Saint Mary's campus, and SAB's hard work to put on this event

year after year is appreciated by students.

"I'm very excited to experience my first SMC Tostal," freshman SAB member Rachael Chesley said. "I've witnessed all the hard work that gets put into it and I can't wait for Saint Mary's students to kick back and have a great night," she said.

Contact Nikki Taylor at ntaylo01@saintmarys.edu

This past Sunday, these sixteen Candidates for Full Communion, with the help of their sponsors, completed their initiation into the Catholic Church by receiving the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at the 11:45 a.m. Mass in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Please keep them in your prayers and help us to welcome them into our Catholic Community.



Pictured (from L to R, Candidates in Bold): Allison Muscolino, **Jessica Martinez**, Katie Dugan, **Brian Bodnar**, Bethany Fischer, **Ryan Fischer**, John Kyler, **William Hayman**, Jim Lee, **Joe McNamara**, Kelly Levis, Emma Brizius, Kathryn Zellweger, **Katlyn Spingstead**, Erin Locke, **Jessica Morris**, Laura Bradley, **Kathleen Sullivan**, Santiago Rosado, **Matt Swift**, Christina McCool, **Blake Jones**, Brian Barrett, **David Ray**, Richard Kim, **Stacey Moon**, Brad Mattan, **Sade Murphy** (Not pictured: Ben Safranski, **William Zech**, Maria Jourdan, **Brook Buck**)

Forum

continued from page 1

Pierce said, and added that the speech should instead be used as a "springboard" for discussion.

The question of what defines the black community, posed by Pierce, sparked discussion between the audience and panel.

"Definitions are changing as racial definitions are changing, but when it comes to much of the community, much of our community that we call America, there is a very distinct attitude toward persons of color and that would define, especially if they come from African descent, the black community," Rev. Timothy Rouse from the First AME Zion Church in South Bend said.

Denise Challenger, doctoral candidate in the department of History at York University, Toronto, felt that "there are multiple voices [in the black community] but we share a common historical past which has changed over the centuries."

She added that the term 'black community' "is a very political term at times" and can become problematic when an individual speaks on behalf of the entire black community.

Audience members and panelists discussed the definitions of 'black' and 'black community' particularly in America.

"You're talking about a context in which the society has not lived up to its principles and values, that as African Americans, we have to contend with and I think that creates a unique experience that you don't find in the world today. The African American experience within the American

context is unique, it's special," political science professor, Darren Davis said.

Audience members discussed ways of defining the black community. Some felt that the black community is one with a shared history of oppression, and some that the black community results when its members are labeled as black.

Political implications — such as problems receiving medical care and housing — were discussed as common problems that members of the black community in America face.

Pierce asked the audience to raise their hands if they thought that a black child, adopted and raised by two white parents in a largely white community, would be considered part of the black community. The majority of audience members raised their hands to say that the child in question would be considered part of the black community.

Challenger saw this situation — as well as Obama's speech — as getting to the question of what it means to be black.

"I think we really need to get to this understanding of 'the child needs to know what it means to be black,'" Challenger said. "If we look at Barack Obama himself, he is still struggling...he wasn't 'black enough.' He says it in his speech. We need to decide what does make a person black...if [Obama] wasn't multiracial or black defined as multiracial, how would he have responded to Reverend [Jeremiah] Wright and how would his remarks have been taken?"

Pierce gathered from the audience and the panelists that the definition of the black community was made by members outside of the community.

Panelists also addressed the role of history in Obama's speech.

"The words that came to me as I was thinking about the speech were 'truth' and 'reconciliation,'" Monica Maria Tetzlaff, associate professor of history at Indiana University South Bend, said.

Tetzlaff said that Obama made "very accurate historical references that the American public can learn from."

Panelist Jennifer Mason McAward, associate professor in the Notre Dame Law School, emphasized the importance of remembering history. "One of the points I took from Senator Obama's speech is that we have to always be aware of that history — the devastating history of racial injustice, and this idea of equality that was written into our constitutions," she said.

The meeting also addressed inclusion and who should participate in conversations about race relations in the United States.

Rouse said the central racial

conflict in America exists between blacks and whites.

"The heart of racism in America has to do with the oppression of the negro by the white slave owners...We have to address the issues honestly and then we can move on to some of the more aggregate issues," he said.

Challenger disagreed and said that dialogue across various groups of people would enhance the discussion.

"Multiple voices can participate in the discussion," she said. "I think it would be incorrect to say that only blacks have suffered through racism...multiple voices don't necessarily dilute the dialogue."

Davis felt that Obama's speech addressed the complaints and issues of various groups.


"Because we are a nation of migrants, immigrants, the thing I took away from Barack Obama's speech is that we all have gripes. African Americans have gripes, Latinos have gripes, and guess

what — white people have gripes. One thing I took away from the speech is that not only is there this black anger that has to be dealt with in a certain way, there's also this white resentment that has to be dealt with as well," Davis said.

In consideration of Reverend Wright's controversial comments about America, Davis said that "part of the difficulty, I think, is understanding how whites reacted to something that we all here all of the time — even in church — that that is a critical version of patriotism...it's critical, constructive patriotism," he said. "It's so surprising to me that certain things will stick to Barack Obama as if he is his pastor's keeper," he said.

Davis and Tetzlaff brought up truth and reconciliation as methods to healing and moving racial relations in a more positive direction.

Contact Emma Driscoll at edriscoll@nd.edu



April 10-12, 7:30 p.m.
April 13, 2:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$10-\$5
Little Theatre

574-284-4626
MoreauCenter.com

The Department of Communication and Performance Studies presents

Stop Kiss

A tragicomedy by
Diana Son

Mature theme and language

Directed by Katie Sullivan
Scenery designed by Melissa B. Blalko
Costumes and Lighting designed by
Michaela G. Duffy



International Festival Week

April 10th Thursday

Drop-In Tahitian Dance
- Rockne Memorial, Room B20
- 8:00pm

"My American Girls"
Caribbean Diasporas Film Series
Guest Speaker: Karen Richman, Professor
- 126 DeBartolo Hall
- 7:00pm-9:00pm

"Mrs. Ratcliffe's Revolution"
Nanovic Institute Film Series
Producer Leslie Udwin will be present!
- Browning Cinema
- 7:00pm and 10:00pm

WORLD & NATION

Thursday, April 10, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Panel grants photographer amnesty

BAGHDAD — An Iraqi judicial committee has dismissed terrorism-related allegations against Associated Press photographer Bilal Hussein and ordered him released nearly two years after he was detained by the U.S. military.

Hussein, 36, remained in custody Wednesday at Camp Cropper, a U.S. detention facility near Baghdad's airport.

A decision by a four-judge panel said Hussein's case falls under a new amnesty law. It ordered Iraqi courts to "cease legal proceedings" and ruled that Hussein should be "immediately" released unless other accusations are pending.

Robbers escape with \$1 million

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Robbers shot and wounded six people at Malaysia's main international airport before fleeing with \$1 million, police and news reports said.

The robbers fired at security guards accompanying two currency exchange workers who were carrying a bag of cash at Kuala Lumpur International Airport Wednesday, the Bernama news agency said.

District police chief Zahedi Ayub said two bystanders were also wounded in the robbery. The victims all have been hospitalized with gunshot wounds to the legs, the reports said.

The guards said they opened fire at the getaway car, and police found about 40 cartridges on the ground.

NATIONAL NEWS

Lawyers defend polygamists' privacy

SAN ANGELO, Texas — Lawyers for a polygamist sect that is the subject of a massive child-abuse investigation argued in court Wednesday that although its members' multiple marriages and cloistered ways may be unusual, they have a right to their faith and privacy.

Gerry Goldstein, a San Antonio lawyer representing the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, also told a judge that the search of the temple in the sect's West Texas compound is analagous to a law enforcement search of the Vatican or other holy places.

Goldstein asked the judge to throw out at least some of the search warrants as unconstitutional, but failing that urged authorities to handle any documents seized with respect.

Governor signs mental health bill

RICHMOND, Va. — The governor signed into law Wednesday a package of legislation aimed at tightening the state's mental health system and improving campus security in response to last year's deadly Virginia Tech shootings.

The new laws, which go into effect in July, are intended to improve oversight and accountability of a mental health system harshly criticized after a mentally disturbed student killed 32 people and himself at Virginia Tech on April 16.

"It has been a difficult year, but it has been a year where people haven't shrunked from trying to learn and improve," Gov. Timothy M. Kaine said at the bill-signing ceremony as lawmakers and the parent of a student wounded in the shootings looked on.

LOCAL NEWS

State senators hopeful for tax break

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana Sen. Evan Bayh and U.S. Rep. Baron Hill are optimistic that Congress will create a new property tax deduction this year for homeowners who don't itemize on their federal returns.

The deductions being pushed by the two Indiana Democrats are in separate bills aimed at helping homeowners and businesses weather the housing crisis. The Senate was expected to approve its version of the legislation Wednesday.

That includes a provision Bayh proposed that would create a deduction for homeowners who don't itemize of up to \$500 (\$1,000 for joint filers) in this year's state and local property taxes.

Petraeus: Don't expect troop buildup

Top commander in Iraq said he's aware of military strain during questioning by legislators

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — America's war commander in Iraq told Congress Wednesday he is unlikely to endorse any fresh buildup of troops even if security in the country deteriorates, signaling that the limits of the U.S. military have been reached for now.

Gen. David Petraeus, closely questioned by lawmakers for a second day, described Iraq as a frail state still struggling to provide its own security. That volatile situation figured in his recommendation to President Bush that a gradual pullout of U.S. troops be halted this summer — a recommendation Bush is expected to embrace in a speech Thursday.

But Petraeus also spoke of the burden on U.S. ground forces, and Bush will address that, too. In his speech at 11:30 a.m. EDT, Bush will announce plans to cut the combat tours of active-duty soldiers from 15 months to 12 months. The reduced deployments will not apply — at least initially — to any soldiers currently serving in Iraq, unless conditions improve to the point that commanders believe some could go home early.

Petraeus said, "I am keenly aware of the strain" on the military, noting his own deployment since 2001. "And I can tell you that there is nothing that a commander feels more than, in fact, the losses that we have sustained over there."

His resistance to the idea of any renewed increase of troops for Iraq reflects — at least in part — the reality that the rotation pool of some 1.3 million soldiers and Marines has been exhausted. Army soldiers in particular have faced repeated tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, and senior officers warn that the service's "strategic reserve" is at an all-time low.



Petraeus, left, the top U.S. commander in Iraq, said chances are remote that he'll ever endorse another troop buildup in Iraq.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. Mike Mullen, says current troop commitments in Iraq make it impossible to send extra forces into Afghanistan.

Andrew Krepinevich, president of the independent Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments in Washington, noted that Petraeus' promise to the House Armed Services Committee was a limited one. The four-star general is expected to resign his command position at the end of the year.

While Democratic contenders Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton have promised voters they would start withdrawing troops if elected, Republican John McCain

supported last year's troop increase and believes conditions on the ground should dictate force levels.

Still, Krepinevich said, it's easy to imagine that Army officials agreed to the 2007 buildup on the assumption that Petraeus would give troops a "breather" at some point. Every commander "rotates them out of the line every once in a while to get rested and refitted. Otherwise, you really do burn up the force," he said.

Petraeus wants the U.S. to complete, by the end of July, the withdrawal of the 20,000 troops that were sent to Iraq last year to deal with the violence there. Beyond that, the general proposed a 45-day evaluation period, to be followed by an indefinite peri-

od of assessment before he would recommend any further pullouts.

The plan leaves open the possibility that roughly 140,000 U.S. troops will be in Iraq when voters head to the polls this November and Bush leaves office next year.

"We think it makes sense to have some time, to let the dust settle, perhaps to do some adjustment of forces, re-evaluation," Petraeus told House members on Wednesday.

When asked by Rep. Silvestre Reyes, D-Texas, whether he would call for another influx of U.S. troops if security conditions deteriorated during that 45-day window, Petraeus said that would be a last resort.

CHINA

Tibetan monks call for return of Dalai Lama

Associated Press

UQU, China — Tibetan monks in western China called for the return of their exiled spiritual leader Wednesday, as a top official warned that any disruption of the Olympic torch in Tibet would be severely punished.

It was the second time in as many months that Tibetan monks have interrupted media tours led by Chinese authorities.

The emotional outburst at the Labrang monastery in Xiahe, a town in Gansu province, began when a few monks started yelling slogans as journalists on a government-organized trip entered the nearby main prayer hall.

"We want human rights, we want the

Dalai Lama back, we want to preserve our religion and culture," said one monk, who switched from Tibetan to Chinese when asked by an ABC reporter.

Footage shot by Hong Kong broadcaster ATV showed seven or eight monks dressed in red robes emerging on a large square, raising the snow lion pennant of independent Tibet, labeled a "reactionary flag" by China's communist regime. Their numbers grew to about two dozen during the 10-minute incident.

Since anti-government protests turned violent in Tibet's capital of Lhasa on March 14, authorities have tightly restricted access to Tibet and parts of western China where additional unrest has broken out among

Tibetan communities.

Abroad, the Olympic torch relay — which Beijing hoped would showcase its rising economic and political power — has been beset by protests over Tibet and China's human rights policies.

Tibet's governor told reporters in Beijing on Wednesday that he was prepared for Tibet activists to cause trouble when the torch passes through the Himalayan region next month en route to Mount Everest.

Champa Phuntsok, the Chinese-appointed head of the Tibetan Autonomous Region, said he believes supporters of the Dalai Lama, blamed by Beijing for instigating unrest in Tibet and western China, will use the relay to publicize their cause.

Arrests

continued from page 1

had stolen laptops and cell phones before.

At around 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, NDSP received another phone call reporting suspicious behavior by a man between Badin and Howard Halls. When NDSP responded, they found the suspect walking towards the Rockne Building and stopped him for questioning. The man matched the "general description" of the suspect seen in residence halls at the time of recent burglaries. He was not, however, seen in any dorm on Tuesday, and "could not be detained," the statement said. NDSP gave him a No Trespass Notice.

NDSP is looking for a link between the arrest and detainment Tuesday and recent burglaries in residence halls, Chapman said.

"Right now, we haven't found [a link], but that doesn't mean that there's not

[one]," he said.

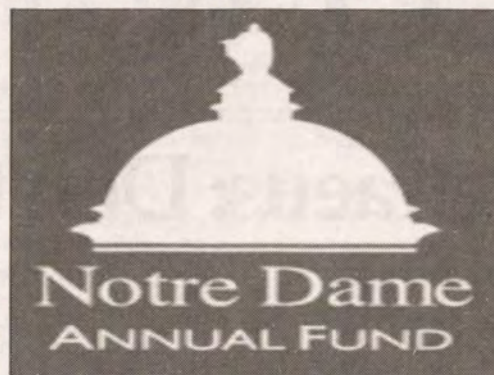
Residents of Lyons and Howard hall reported laptops and wallets stolen between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. last week. The burglaries in Howard took place on April 1, and the burglaries in Lyons happened on March 26.

The suspect in both cases has been described by "several people" as a black male, between 5-foot-8 and 5-foot-11, with a thin build, "frizzy long black hair" in a pony tail or braid, possibly bad or missing teeth and possibly sporting facial hair stubble. NDSP director Phil Johnson said last Monday.

NDSP learned that Valparaiso University has experienced similar burglaries with a suspect whose description matched that of the suspect in Notre Dame's recent campus robberies, Johnson said last week.

Claire Reising contributed reporting to this story.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu



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IN BRIEF

Janey attacks Census Bureau

WASHINGTON — The company hired to help modernize the 2010 census blamed government officials Wednesday for technology problems that will force census-takers to continue using paper and pencil.

The Census Bureau announced last week that it will abandon plans to use handheld computers to count the millions of residents who do not return census forms mailed out by the government.

Cheryl L. Janey of Florida-based Harris Corp., the company supplying the computers, told a House committee that census officials failed to adequately spell out the specifications for the computers.

"It was just this past January, two years after the contract was first issued, that we received more than 400 new and altered contract modifications," Janey told the House Oversight Committee.

Fed approves nationwide alert system

WASHINGTON — Federal regulators Wednesday approved a plan to create a nationwide emergency alert system using text messages delivered to cell phones.

Text messages have exploded in popularity in recent years, particularly among young people. The wireless industry's trade association, CTIA, estimates more than 48 billion text messages are sent each month.

The plan stems from the Warning Alert and Response Network Act, a 2006 federal law that requires upgrades to the nation's emergency alert system. The act tasked the Federal Communications Commission with coming up with new ways to alert the public about emergencies.

"The ability to deliver accurate and timely warnings and alerts through cell phones and other mobile services is an important next step in our efforts to help ensure that the American public has the information they need to take action to protect themselves and their families prior to, and during, disasters and other emergencies," FCC Chairman Kevin Martin said following approval of the plan.

Airline cancels over 1,000 flights

American works to fix faulty wiring after increased scrutiny from federal regulators

Associated Press

DALLAS — Business trips and vacations were disrupted for tens of thousands of travelers Wednesday as American Airlines canceled more than 1,000 flights — nearly half its schedule — to fix faulty wiring that could cause a short-circuit or even a fire and explosion.

It was the latest — and largest — in a wave of cancellations at major U.S. airlines that have caused long lines at ticket counters and made flying even more stressful than usual.

Executives at American said safety was never compromised, and they suggested the nation's biggest airline was the victim of suddenly stepped-up scrutiny by federal regulators.

American estimated that more than 100,000 travelers were booked on the canceled flights. Many had to scramble to book new flights and were stranded at hotels far from home.

The airline had already scrubbed 460 flights on Tuesday after federal inspectors found problems with wiring work done two weeks ago, during the first set of shutdowns.

The issue stems from an order that the Federal Aviation Administration gave airlines in September 2006 — and gave airlines until last month to meet — about the bundling of wires in the auxiliary hydraulic systems of MD-80 aircraft. The fear is that improperly bundled wires could rub, leading to an electrical short or even fire. However, no serious incidents have been blamed on the bundles, the FAA



American Airlines canceled more than 1,000 flights Wednesday, as it spent a second day fixing the wiring on some of its jets.

said.

American officials thought they had fixed the problem last month. But this week, FAA inspectors found problems with the work done on more than a dozen planes. American said it had no choice but to ground all 300 of its MD-80s to deal with the wiring bundles.

American operates about 2,200 daily flights, more than one-third with MD-80s. Nearly half the cancellations were concentrated at two airports, in Dallas and Chicago.

At New York's

LaGuardia Airport on Wednesday, hundreds of passengers stood in check-in lines or milled about, using cell phones to get updates on their flights. The airline offered free doughnuts, coffee and orange juice, but there were few takers.

"They should be able to predict these kinds of things," said Laura Goodman, whose flight home to Dallas was canceled. She said would miss an important meeting because the airline couldn't rebook her until Thursday.

New Yorker Michelle Soss had hoped to steal a few days in Albuquerque, N.M.

"I covered my kids' schedules, I covered my work schedule to get away for a few days," she said. "I don't know if I'm getting anywhere."

American's cancellations came after similar delays at Southwest, Delta and United. Last week, hundreds of travelers were marooned when Aloha Airlines and ATA Airlines shut down and filed for bankruptcy protection.

Bush outlines foreclosure prevention plan

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration announced new steps Wednesday to help more homeowners head off foreclosure, clashing with lawmakers in both parties who want the government to step in with a broader housing rescue.

Scrambling to counter Democratic calls for a large federal housing aid package, the administration said it would use an existing Federal Housing Administration program to enable more low- and moderate-income homeowners to refinance into government-insured mortgages with monthly payments they can afford.

It is a more modest version of a concept Democrats have recently been pushing to respond to the housing crisis, which would have the FHA back from \$300 billion to \$400 billion in restructured loans for distressed borrowers if lenders were

willing to take a substantial loss on the mortgages.

The administration's idea, however, would reach far fewer borrowers than the Democrats' proposal — roughly 100,000 rather than between 1 million and 2 million — without requiring lenders to take large losses.

Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., the Financial Services Committee chairman, opened a hearing on his broader plan by noting sarcastically that the timing of the administration's proposal was a "remarkable coincidence." He later said that in light of repeated warnings by Federal Reserve economists about the consequences of inaction, President Bush appeared to have realized that stonewalling would not work.

Frank told regulators that the plan was a recognition that some government action was needed, and that it should start with lenders taking losses on distressed loans.

"Anyone who thinks we should do nothing," he said, "will have to deal with me and the Bush administration."

Bush's plan would expand the program created last year, known as FHASecure, designed to help homeowners who have some equity in their homes and have kept up with their mortgage payments but are facing a hefty rate hike to refinance into a government-insured fixed-rate loan.

Democrats say the initiative has done too little for struggling homeowners and doesn't reach the vast majority of hard-pressed borrowers.

Under the expansion, homeowners would be eligible for refinanced FHA loans even if they had made a couple of late payments.

"Our common ground is to help FHA become a safe harbor for many Americans," FHA Commissioner Brian Montgomery said at the hearing.

Obama

continued from page 1

were present. He explained his reasoning for running for president while he was still young, citing Martin Luther King's "Fierce urgency of now." He said the ongoing war, the recession and the mortgage crisis necessitated change that could not wait.

"We can be too late, and the hour is upon us," he said.

Obama placed emphasis on improving education, but said it started in homes with good parenting.

"Every child is our child," he said. "Every child deserves support, every child deserves the American dream, and we need to start investing in those children."

To foster educational improvements, Obama said, he wants to reward teachers by paying them higher salaries.

Standardized tests alone should not determine educational improvement, he said. Instead, students should receive a well-rounded education that includes art, music and civics.

To continue his educational goals, Obama said he will offer \$4,000 per semester in tuition credits to college students with the stipulation that students serve their community in some way. He offered the Peace Corps as an example of the service required.

"We invest in you, you invest in America," he said.

To keep jobs in America, Obama said he would end tax cuts to companies that shipped jobs overseas. He also pledged to roll back President George Bush's tax cuts for the wealthy and give them to people who needed them.

Obama's health care plan, he said, is intended to accommodate both those with health care and those without. For families with health care, he said he would lower premiums by \$2,500. If families had no plan, he would make available plans similar to the government plan he receives as a member of the Senate. The plan would have no conditions, and if a family could not afford it, the government would subsidize it on a "sliding scale," he said.

He ended with a discussion of the war in Iraq, which he said he opposed from the start. He pledged to pull the soldiers out of Iraq, which he said distracted the country from the war in Afghanistan "that we needed to win."

Notre Dame sophomore Angela Anido, whose father is a teacher, said she appreciated the proposal to increase teachers' salaries. "It was really moving," she said.

Fellow sophomore Alena Christiansen was also impressed by the speech. "It was relatable to every race, every gender, every person," she said. "He's an awesome speaker."

Contact Brill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

"Every child is our child. Every child deserves support, every child deserves the American dream, and we need to start investing in those children."

Barack Obama
Illinois Senator



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PAKISTAN

7 killed in street fighting

Associated Press

KARACHI — A street fight between political rivals spiraled into rioting in Pakistan's biggest city Wednesday, with armed men smashing cars and setting fires. Five people burned to death in one building and two were shot and killed.

It was the worst political violence Pakistan's new government has faced since taking office last month, vowing to curtail the powers of U.S.-allied President Pervez Musharraf and cement democracy after eight years of military rule.

The trouble broke out when pro- and anti-government attorneys punched and beat each other with sticks near the main courts complex in Karachi. Soon after, armed men began shooting and torching cars in several districts, witnesses said.

A nearby building was set ablaze, and five charred bodies were found on the sixth floor, said police officer Syed Sulaiman. Two other people died of gunshot wounds, including a paramedic whose ambulance came under fire while trying to the injured.


Salman Naguri, a 22-year-old shopkeeper, said he saw two men on a motorbike shoot at passing ambulance, which crashed into an electricity pylon.

"For 15 or 20 minutes an injured man was crying for help from inside the ambulance but nobody helped him," Naguri said. When another ambulance crew arrived, the man was dead, he said.

It was the second episode to tarnish a powerful lawyers' movement that led months of protests against Musharraf, galvanizing his opponents and contributing to the defeat of his allies in February parliamentary elections.

Attorneys from the movement were involved in an assault Tuesday on former Cabinet minister Sher Afgan Niazi, who was beaten as he emerged from his office. Police hurried him into an ambulance, which was stoned and had its ignition key stolen, forcing security forces to push it away from the scene.

A group of lawyers allied with the pro-Musharraf Mutahida Quami Movement, or MQM, had been protesting the assault on Niazi when the violence erupted in Karachi.



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page 10

Thursday, April 10, 2008

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Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Chris Hine.

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$100 for one academic year; \$55 for one semester.

The Observer is published at:
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame
and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER:
Send address corrections to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779

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Wisdom comes in sheep's clothing

Do you have many people in your life who know you — who really, really know you? Sure, we all have lots of friends, pals, buddies, acquaintances, section-mates; people we love to sit next to and chat with in this class or that; people we eat lunch with because we always see them in the dining hall on Monday-Wednesday-Friday. But with whom do you really have intimate, life-giving relationships, the ones that have built up layers of strength and knowledge, forgiveness and grace over time? Who do you trust enough to let in on your embarrassing flaws, your deepest fears, your most far-reaching dreams, and who has let you in on theirs?

Kate Barrett

Faithpoint

One of the most famous images in all the gospels has given its name to the Fourth Sunday of Easter: Good Shepherd Sunday. This weekend, as we do each year on the Fourth Sunday of the Easter season, we will read from one of the gospel passages in which Jesus describes himself as a shepherd who knows his sheep so intimately that they will follow the sound of only his voice and no one else's.

I have always wondered about this phenomenon — I mean, I get my own children's voices mixed up sometimes, when I can't see which one of them I'm talking to. And yet these sheep — perhaps hundreds of them, who by all accounts are dumb as dirt — know the guy who leads them in and out to eat each day just by listening for him, and don't get it wrong, ever.

Jesus describes for the Pharisees a

shepherd who knows the name of each of his sheep, and who leads them out of the sheepfold by means of an intimate relationship which has obviously been built up over time: "The sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ... He walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice."

Of course, Jesus used this analogy, which anyone listening in that sheep-laden time and culture would have understood, to explain why he came as God's son — to know each and every one of us by name and to call us safely to everything we need. Those sheep needed only a patch of good grass to chew on and maybe somebody who would keep an eye out for wolves or poachers; we have a much more serious need for that shepherd who knows our name. The one who tells us, as we will hear on Sunday, that he came for us so we "might have life and have it more abundantly."

Wouldn't it be great if it were just that easy? If we could just recognize the voice of Jesus whenever we needed to figure out where to go, what choices to make, what direction to turn? If we have a significant decision to make, we just listen for the voice of Jesus, recognize it above all the competing din, and boom — we're good. Just as the sheep, by listening to the shepherd, knew where to go for lunch, we could hear the voice of life and know exactly what to say, or do, or choose in our search for the life Jesus promises.

Here's where we could learn from the sheep. They know the shepherd's

voice because they have made a habit out of listening for it, many times a day. Deep in their little brains, they know their very lives depend on that shepherd and that they'd better be paying attention. We will certainly recognize the voice of Jesus more easily if we make a point to pray each day, to listen intently to how our shepherd speaks to our hearts.

And here's where we're much luckier than the sheep. Our God, who knows each of us by name and knows the sound of each of our voices, speaks to us first of all through the sacraments and through our prayer, but also through the voices of those most significant and life-giving relationships in our lives. If we hear and recognize the voice of Jesus when we listen to or read the Scriptures, when we receive the Eucharist or the sacrament of Reconciliation, we will be able to discern his voice in the sounds of the people in our lives whom we love most deeply and who truly love us. We will recognize the "thieves and robbers" of the gospel for who or what they are — people, material things, ambitions, insecurities, false desires, that come to "steal and destroy" — and who will only distract and deter us from the abundant life God promises us through Jesus Christ.

Let's learn a lesson from the sheep: listen, and listen good.

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

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Luck is a dividend of sweat. The more you sweat, the luckier you get."

Ray Kroc
American entrepreneur

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Alcohol: Enemy of academic and moral development

No kegs. No hard liquor. No "games" (although drinking is never a game). These were the first baby steps toward alcohol eradication taken years ago, and it seems that a next step must be taken. Alcohol is a deterrent toward the academic and moral development of students here at Notre Dame, due to its damaging effects on the spirit and body, which were raised in Daniel Cerrone's article ("Rethinking alcohol consumption," Apr. 4.)

Some disturbing facts about the effects of alcohol were presented to me in the form of a PIL-LARS poster by my roommate freshman year. "Did you know ... consuming five or more alcoholic beverages in one night can affect brain and body activity up to three days?!"

Moreover, "two consecutive nights of drinking five or more alcoholic beverages can affect brain and body activity for up to five days!" The poster is blatantly saying that alcohol will adversely affect the students' learning even after the deed has been done. It is unbelievable to me that the administration can be aware of these facts and still turn a blind eye to the rampant consumption of alcohol on campus. Do they want students to fail?

This is absurd. Alcohol consumption also leads to poor decision-making; stupid things can be done (I have heard of kids running through hall-

ways with alcohol paraphernalia, right past the rooms of Assistant Rectors, and of others who lose personal items such as clothing and musical instruments) but many possibly life altering decisions can be made as well (for example, I know a student who habitually rides his bike around campus and South Bend while drunk, putting his life in perilous danger).

Alcohol is a main vector of sexually promiscuous activity here on campus, and many locales off. It is a depressant not only of our mental activity but also of our moral development. As a Catholic University whose goals are to educate the mind and develop the soul, Notre Dame should seriously reconsider its stance on on-campus permissibility of alcohol.

Alcohol use runs counter to the goals and mission of this great university. The prohibition of alcohol would cause an increase in academic and moral development here at Notre Dame. Mr. Cerrone, I tip my hat to you, for trying to bring change for the better.

Ryan Slaney
sophomore
Carroll Hall
April 8

Stir-fry changes a good thing

Sorry, Cornelius ("Unnecessary change in stir-fry," Apr. 8), but I believe you may have fudged your argument concerning the new change in stir-fry process at North Dining. I, too, was rather annoyed at the loss of tong privileges, but a 30-second conversation with the stir-fry guy cleared everything up.

Any leftover food served by a non-food services employee (i.e. students) must be disposed of at the end of the day. So at the end of every day, all the food self-served by students must be thrown out according to health regulations. If the food is only handled by food services staff, however, that food can be saved for the following day instead of being wasted. Over the course of a school year, this adds up to a heck of a lot of food being saved.

The decision to fix this problem reflects Notre Dame's mission to make a positive impact on our environment through the elimination of wastefulness. So when it comes down to it, I will gladly wait a few extra minutes in the stir-fry line and eat a few extra pieces of pasta and pepperoni in order to contribute to this mission.

Mark Weber
junior
Keenan Hall
April 8

Top 10 reasons to love The Backer

We would like to respond to Didier Lewis's derogatory Lollerskates comic strip printed on April 7. We are proud proponents of the Linebacker Lounge as South Bend's superior drinking establishment and would like to elucidate the reasons why:

1. Longevity — This institution has served the Notre Dame community for over 45 years!
2. The Music — At what other bar can you hear "Ghostbusters" played on a Saturday night? Or Toto and N'SYNC mixed in with "Get Low," "Apologize," and Soulja Boy?
3. Potent Long Islands — You only remember the good times.
4. Location — Within walking distance from campus and TC, saving you money on cab fare.
5. Freebies — Drink ticket with \$5 cover and freshly popped popcorn.
6. The Backer Pole — I dare you to lick it.
7. Merchandise — Because everyone wants a T-shirt exclaiming "I Rode the Linebacker Pole."
8. Website Bios of Your Favorite Bartenders —

www.backernd.com.

9. Special Events — Have you ever been to a wedding reception or bachelorette party at the Backer? I have, though not for anyone I knew ... yet!

10. Old Alumni — "These boys don't need Viagra ..." (Yes, this was a real pick-up line used at the Linebacker Lounge.)

If the Backer truly sucked as Lewis's comic claims, why is it packed every Friday and Saturday night of the year? In 50 years would you come back for a football game and go to "The Feve?" Of course not! Yes, the Backer Sludge is disgusting, but the experience is unlike any other. Call it sketch if you must, but as Greg "The Curfew God" says, "If you don't have fun at The Backer, it's your own damn fault!"

Christine Scacco and Rachel Murphy
seniors
Farley and Breen-Phillips Halls
April 8

Drinking not purely a personal choice

For some reason, a lot of college students seem to believe that drinking is a compulsory aspect of college life, a precept as fundamental as any listed in the Bill of Rights. Certainly, the 2,000 students who stormed the Main Building 24 years ago in protest of Notre Dame's then-new alcohol policy would agree.

Being in college doesn't entitle us to do as we please and we must remain sensitive to the effects of our choices — whether they involve alcohol or not — on other people.

Although I do not drink alcohol, I've always believed that the decision to drink in college is a matter of personal choice as long as those who drink respect those who don't. However, my patience runs thin when one person's choice becomes another person's problem. I can't imagine that my dorm's cleaning people

are amused as they scrub the vomit of drunken students from toilet seats after a weekend of "responsible" drinking.

Certainly, excessive drinking by Notre Dame students has rankled local residents and undermined relations between Notre Dame and nearby communities.

There's nothing intrinsically wrong about drinking, but a heavily inebriated person simply cannot appreciate how offensive his or her actions can be to others. It's pretty disgusting when a person is so intoxicated that he confuses a sink with a urinal.

Colin Littlefield
freshman
St. Edward's Hall
Apr. 8

The consequences of drinking

Drinking is an important part of life at Notre Dame, as it is on virtually every college campus. In fact, it is so integral to the culture here that it is difficult to imagine what it would be like if no one drank. Beer and college life seem to be a match made in heaven.

What then is the problem? College students love to have a great time and alcohol just makes things even better. To this I say, "Party on!" But where should we draw the line? Should we even draw a line? College is a time of great freedom, of trial and error, of finding oneself. It's also a time when we can do lots of things that we won't be able to do in 10 years. While it may seem alright to get drunk 2-3 nights a week in college, once someone has a family to take care of, doing this may warrant the label "alcoholic."

The issue is not whether one should drink or not, for this is simply a matter of personal preference. The issue is rather how a person should drink. Put simply, we must decide whether getting so drunk that one vomits, has blurry vision, and cannot remember what happened is worth the temporary pleasure it gives. One finds in life that many things give lots of pleasure, but in the end, if taken to an extreme do more harm than good. Eating lots of chocolate ice cream and watching TV all day will make you fat and lazy. Regularly visiting a prostitute would give lots of pleasure at the time too, but leave one feeling empty and perhaps with a STD.

While these may seem like extreme examples, the analogy holds true for regularly getting very drunk. It's a hell of a lot of fun in the moment, but is it really worth the consequences?

Richard Ybarra
senior
Morrissey Hall
April 8

Win the crowd (by writing a column for Viewpoint) and you will win your freedom!
Contact Kara at kking5@nd.edu



JULIE GRISANTI | Observer Graphic

By MARK WITTE
Assistant Scene Editor

"Stop Kiss," directed by Katie Sullivan, opens tonight and runs through Sunday at the Little Theater at Saint Mary's College. Starring SMC senior theater majors Caroline Walker, as the confident Callie, and Ayslinn McGovern as the Midwestern Sara, the play chronicles a friendship that develops between the two characters and a kiss they share which forever changes their lives. It is a story about relationships, the power of love and the devastating effects of intolerance, hate and violence.

The play appealed to Sullivan both in credentials and in theme.

"I am always looking for a play which features great roles for women," she said. "I am interested in supporting women playwrights, and I am particularly interested in contemporary plays which have been

received well by the larger theatrical and literary community."

As well, the play's deeper matters were hard to pass up.

"The play spoke loudly to me in its plea for non-violence in our world," Sullivan said. "Both in the larger global picture and in the small individual choices we make every day."

"Stop Loss" was written by the black playwright Diana Son and first performed in 1998 at The Public Theater in New York City. Although it's been a decade since then, the play's theme has grown stronger and more pertinent in Sullivan's opinion.

"Nearly ten years later, I find the specter of violence in this play even more heart-rending than Son's message of love and eventual self-sacrifice," she said.

"Stop Kiss" is a tragic comedy, whose characters Sullivan trusts will make its audience laugh, think and possibly cry.

"I am hoping to touch viewers with

their story and help them see that, at the basic level, people everywhere are so much more alike than different," she said.

Operating in 23 short scenes, the play makes use of a "converging timeline," a theatrical technique which allows the play to jump back and forth between "pre-kiss" and "post-kiss" scenes. The unusual structure is something that will challenge audiences to really pay attention to what's going on, and as Sullivan hopes, lend sophistication to the play.

The structure of the play actually benefited the director and her actors who had difficulties with scheduling.

"Until last week, we only had our seven actors available together on the same night one time," Sullivan said. "However, the scene-by-scene structure of the show really made this much less of an issue than it would have been in a more conventionally written play."

Sullivan also said that working

with the lead actresses has been a delight.

"I feel so fortunate to have them in these roles," she said. "They are both hard-working, serious actors who are very receptive to notes, enjoy the process of rehearsing, and yet are low-maintenance and easy-going with a director."

Moreover, Sullivan felt that their dedication paid off and that both Walker and McGovern grew immensely as actors during their two months of rehearsal.

"I especially applaud them because in addition to having to go back and forth in time (and emotional states) constantly, they now have to be able to handle the practical matters like extremely fast costume and set changes," she said.

However, Sullivan has faith that both her actresses as well as her entire thirteen man crew, including a feline, are up to the task. All she needs now is an audience.

Contact Mark Witte at mwitte@nd.edu

Joseph Arthur's 'Let's Just Be' pales in comparison

By JAMES COSTA
Scene Writer

Joseph Arthur has been spoiling us for the last eight years. With such albums as 2000's "Come to Where I'm From," 2002's "Redemption's Son" and 2004's "Our Shadows Will Remain," Arthur listeners have been treated to superb solo albums. A significant element of the "OC" and "American Pie" period of American teen culture, Arthur's song "Honey and the Moon" was featured on both the popular Fox show and in "American Wedding." Unfortunately, the level of achievement in Arthur's 2007 release, "Let's Just Be," is sadly mediocre. The album contains a few wonderful moments, but unfortunately, the majority of the album sways between crashing and clunky where Arthur never seems to find his

stride.

The problem with this record isn't even that its particularly bad music, because it's not. It's fine. Some of it is even good, and a few of the songs border on excellence. The problem is that Arthur himself has been so good in the past that anything, which doesn't quite measure up, seems bad.

Perhaps the most prevalent feeling expressed on the record is one of emptiness. Where earlier records

were filled with tender, emotive, yet subtly powerful imagery, this new set of songs seems mostly vacant of any real emotional expression.

Maybe that's what Arthur was going for.

After singing from the core for eight years, it is entirely likely that he needed a fresh perspective on the music. If so, then he's achieved it. Unfortunately, by achieving a new perspective, he's also lost (for the moment) his distinct and lovely way of expressing thoughts and feelings through distinctly unique and original song.

The album is at its best with the tracks "Take Me Home" and "Chicago." On "Take Me Home," Arthur returns for a wonderful four minutes to the feelings and styles that made his earlier album releases so poignant and memorable. Relying on a simple chord structure, with



Photo courtesy of wiredset.com

Joseph Arthur (center) and the Lonely Astronauts will likely let down fans with the weak and emotionless album "Let's Just Be."

soft drums and a melancholy singing voice, Arthur sings of the moments after love has been lost when two old lovers face each other with a sad tenderness found only in the meeting of soft hearts and aching desires: "I can see the sun / I think the evening's done / Take me home / You look good on your own / Sometimes it's good to say goodbye / Before you make it to the end of time." It's a brilliant, sad song, perfect for those moments when you want the music to make you think, rather than lament. It's a song of memories and one that anyone who's learnt to say goodbye will understand and appreciate.

The next track, "Chicago" turns up the tempo a good bit in the wake of "Take Me Home." Reminiscent of earlier Arthur tunes like "In the Sun" and "Can't Exist," the song is a call to a significant another to trust and to

believe in Arthur's words and promises. He sings: "Your mirror is destroyed / I see you now trying to avoid / The truth of who you really are / The heat will stay with the flame / So your beauty never will change / To me you will always be a star." It's clear that Arthur is trying to convince someone to stay around and to hold onto a feeling that has become fractured and distant. With its rousing chorus, the song is catchy and a joy to listen to on repeat.

Basically, the record is OK. It's definitely more rocking than the earlier Arthur stuff, though it doesn't quite equal the majestic power and beauty of the prior releases. If you're willing to accept a new sound and perspective, then album is worth a look. If not, download "Take Me Home" and "Chicago" and you'll be set.

Contact James Costa at jcosta1@nd.edu

Let's Just Be

Joseph Arthur and the Lonely Astronauts

Released by: Lonely Astronaut

Recommended Tracks: "Take Me Home," "Chicago," "Lack a Version" and "Yer the Reason"



Midwest Undergraduate Film Conference returns to Notre Dame



JULIE GRISANTI | Observer Graphic

By MARK WITTE
Assistant Scene Editor

The 2nd Annual Midwest Undergraduate Film Conference kicks off this Friday at the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, and runs through Saturday evening. Admission is free and all speakers will present in Browning Cinema. Assistant Professors of Film, Television and Theater, Christine Becker and Christopher Sieving co-organized the conference and have worked to collect undergraduate authors of 30 of the best papers on film and media from all over the Midwest.

All students in Notre Dame's FTT Honors Program were encouraged to submit proposals to the conference, but proposals from non-Honors students were accepted as well.

The Conference, which began last year under the direction of Associate Professor of Film, Television and Theater, Pam Wojcik, is once again a landmark event.

"[T]his is the sole undergrad-only media studies conference in the country," Becker said.

Six Notre Dame seniors were among those chosen by Becker and Sieving to present this weekend along with undergraduates from other schools such as Indiana, Northwestern, the University of Chicago and Loyola University Chicago.

Becker sees the conference as an instrumental learning experience for all the students involved.

"It's a great way for these students to learn more about media studies, it helps students develop relationships with their peers from other area schools, and it also gives them professional presentation experience," Becker said. "Many of the presenters are interested in going on to graduate study, so the conference offers a great place for them to get a taste of that kind of advanced academic experience."

The topics for the weekend's papers are wide-ranging and diverse. Topics include "Female Revenge Films," "Forgotten Film Stars," Canadian and Iranian cinema, classic directors such as Alfred Hitchcock and Robert Bresson, as well as discussions of more recent films — like "Atonement," "Stranger Than Fiction" and "Se7en."

But the conference isn't just for FTT majors.

Senior Honors student Brittany Lash, who will be presenting her paper entitled "The Modern Popular Hero in Cinema" on Friday evening, stressed that the conference is for all

students, encouraging students of every major to attend the event.

"I think non-FTT majors would be surprised by how interesting it is," she said. I'm talking about heroism and 'Independence Day.' Another paper is on 'The X-Files.' It's not just films you haven't heard of."

And there are other reasons for attending too.

"[Students] should come because they get to hear these great new ideas that their peers are writing instead of dry, academic drivel in their text books. We're presenting on a lot cool shows and movies," said Senior Honors student Jenni Fong, who will be giving her paper entitled, "Because We Believe: Cult TV

"[T]his is the sole undergrad-only media studies conference in the country," Becker said.

Fandom and The X-Files" on Saturday.

The conference is also a way to reward students for their outstanding work.

"They're doing work that is of publishable quality," said Becker, "This conference will help to give them the recognition they deserve for those efforts."

The conference will function in three person panels with each panelist presenting a 20 minute paper, followed by 15 minute question and answer session run by a moderator. Becker pointed out that she was very pleased with how many of the moderators and panelists lined up. "For instance, FTT's Donald Crafton will be moderating the panel on silent film exhibition," she said. "And he's one of the leading experts on silent cinema, so I know that both he and the students will find the experience and the sharing of knowledge really gratifying and productive."

Jessica Burgers, a senior Honors student will close out the conference Saturday with an examination of the children's subgenre of horror in her paper, "Children's Horror in the 1970s and 1980s."

"My interest in the topic is based on my own experiences with and enjoyment of children's horror when I was younger, such as R.L. Stine's Goosebumps series, the television show 'Are You Afraid of the Dark?' and the film 'Hocus Pocus,'" Burgers said.

Other Notre Dame students who will be presenting at this weekend's conference include, senior Maria Iuppa, presenting her paper, "A Hint of Perversion: Domesticity in Hitchcock's Shadow of a Doubt," and Breana Leader presenting on "Disney and Counterculture." On Saturday, senior Cassie Belek will present her paper 'Pos-Mens': Product Integration in "30 Rock."

Contact Mark Witte at mwwitte@nd.edu



Midwest Undergraduate Film Conference Schedule Browning Cinema, April 11-12

Friday

10-11:15 a.m. National Cinema, National Identity
Daniel Platt, Loyola University
Emily Zuckert Church, Notre Dame
Martha E. Polk, Carleton College

11:30-12:45 p.m. Dangerous Women
Matt Fagerholm, Columbia College
Maria Iuppa, Notre Dame
Abby Lee, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

2-3:15 p.m. Adaptation and Reformulation
Kelly Welch, Illinois State University
Hayley M. Pogue, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Breana Leader, Notre Dame

3:30-4:45 p.m. Representations of Christianity
Joseph Brandon Colvin, Western Kentucky University
Scott Elbin, University of Toledo
Justin Sherwood, University of Illinois at Chicago

5-6:15 p.m. Heroes and Anti-Heroes
Brittany Lash, Notre Dame
A. Kay Terrell, Indiana University
Matthew Ownby, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Saturday

9-10:15 a.m. Unconventional Auteurs
Julia Reeves, University of Chicago
Mallory Richard, Wilfrid Laurier University
Samuel B. Prime, Northwestern University

10:30-11:45 a.m. Silent Film Exhibition
Sawyer J. Lahr, Columbia College
Alison White Jarzyna, Carleton College
Andy Lauer, Carleton College

1-2:15 p.m. New Research in Television Studies
Jenni Fong, Notre Dame
Carla Barton, Northwestern University
Cassie Belek, Notre Dame

4-5:15 p.m. Transgressive and Hybrid Genres
Justin Rice, Indiana University
Mike Lippert, Wilfrid Laurier University
Jessica Burgers, Notre Dame

For a complete schedule with paper topics go to
<http://fft.nd.edu/mufc.shtml>

BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL

Western Conference turns up the heat in second half

No. 8 Anthony Travel looks dominant in route to tourney finals

By ANDY ZICCARRELLI and GRIFFIN DASSATI
Sports Writers

With an 11-7 lead at half time, Western Conference was able to hold Team 318 to one basket and pull away with the 21-8 win.

Freshman Graysen Petersen-Fitts credited the inspirational halftime speech of senior William David William as the reason for the spark.

"It's really their last chance to make a run," Petersen-Fitts said of Western Conference's win.

The first half was evenly matched, with neither team being able to take control of the court. But the second half was a different story as Western Conference's defense allowed for the win. Western Conference's defense was able to keep 318 "on lockdown" allowing its offense to pull away. Petersen-Fitts attributes the team's success to his own abilities.

"Sometimes I feel like it's really not fair when I'm on the court," he said. "I had to have had at least 15 rebounds. I kind of lost count."

For those unsure of the name, the Western Conference is the NBA's dominant league, home to the best players and teams in the league. By placing themselves on the same level, it is clear this Bookstore team does not lack confidence.

For a team with a couple of varsity athletes, such talent and athleticism is expected. However, in the future, do not expect Western Conference to need a halftime speech to fire them up.

"The second half is indicative of what this team is capable of," Petersen-Fitts said.

Western Conference will take the court again on Sunday, looking to advance into the round of 64.

No. 8 Anthony Travel def. Last Team In 21-6

Despite an early run, Anthony Travel sent Last Team In packing 21-6 in the third round of Bookstore Basketball.

Before the game, Anthony captain sophomore Mike Henry admitted that he wasn't ready to rely entirely on his team's No. 8 seed to create an easy win against Last Team.

"We don't look past anyone," Henry said. "We're focused on the here-and-now. We're focused on this game and only this game."

Sophomore Pete Dolan, another Anthony team member, added his own thoughts about the upcoming contest.

"The scoreboard says 0-0 right now, and we won't quit until it says 21 on our side. That said, we think our better is better than their better."

Despite his captain's modesty, Dolan's prediction did come to fruition fairly quickly. Anthony started out on a 6-0 run, with effectively executed offense by Henry, Dolan, and fellow sophomores Andrew Cavanagh, Nate Sonoskey and Chad Breeden.

But Last Team wasn't ready to quit yet, as they closed the gap to 6-3 with an offensive run of their own. Retaliating, Anthony went on a 5-0 run before entering halftime.

After a short break, Anthony continued their run-and-gun style, accelerating the pace on the fast break and pushing their lead to 17-4. Despite two quick baskets by Last Team, Anthony closed the game out on a lay-up by Henry.

"Even though they had the height, we had the hustle and we thought that would win out in the end," sophomore Aaron Pierre said. "We came off our two-game winning streak with a lot of confidence, we underestimated our opponents and they played really well."

Team Two-Liner def. The Buttercutting Ballers 21-6

Despite an inspired late run by the Buttercutting Ballers, Team Two-Liner's effective first

half ultimately earned a 21-6 victory and advanced to the next round.

Two-Liner began the game on a 17-0 run and looked poised to go wire-to-wire in a shut-out victory, but just then the underdog Ballers got the inspiration they needed from a very unexpected source; an ankle injury to their captain, senior Melinda Welch.

After the injury, the Ballers were forced to take on Team Two-Liner five-on-four, but they went on a small run of their own, drawing the score to 17-6. After the game, Welch expressed her emotions about her team's effort.

"I felt like I was letting my team down," she said, "but they came back and scored six just for me."

But Welch's teammate, junior Matt Townsend, revealed that the injury might just have been a part of the Ballers' strategy.

"We created a good diversion with [Welch's] injury," Townsend said. "And it almost worked. We almost came back."

But after giving up six points, Two-Liner turned the defense up and finished the game strong, coasting to a 21-6 win. After the game, Two-Liner captain sophomore John Maier applauded the Ballers' attempt at a comeback.

"It was a valiant effort," Maier said. "Stuff just fell for them, and it really speaks clearly as to how powerful [they] can be."

After complimenting his opponents, Maier conveyed the pride he feels for his team after their first two wins.

"I think our team really starts hard in the back and finishes quick in the front," he said. "We've had two pretty weak teams [so far] and we think they should probably take up another sport...like knitting. Other than that I think we'll be tested coming up against our next opponent."

Contact Andy Ziccarelli at aziccare@nd.edu and Griffin Dassatti at gdassatt@nd.edu

"Sometimes I feel like it's not really fair when I'm on the court. I had at least 15 rebounds. I kind of lost count."

Graysen Petersen-Fitts
Freshman

"The scoreboard says 0-0 right now, and we won't quit until it says 21 on our side. That said, we think our better is better than their better."

Pete Dolan
Sophomore

SMC TENNIS

Belles get drubbing from Flying Dutch

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's fell to Hope 8-1 Wednesday afternoon, dropping its overall record to 5-9, 1-3 MIAA.

The Flying Dutch swept the doubles matches, and won five of the six singles in their victory over the Belles.

"Today was a tough match against Hope," sophomore co-captain Camille Gebert said. "They are a very strong team, with a lot of experience."

In the doubles matches, Saint Mary's could not carry over its momentum from last week's 3-0 domination at Olivet. Hope's sophomore Lucy Himes and junior Sammi Stille defeated Saint Mary's No. 1 doubles pair Gebert and freshman Jillian Hurley 8-2, resulting in their eighth loss as a pair this spring. Saint Mary's No. 2 doubles duo of sophomore co-captain Lisa Rubino and freshman Betsy Reed lost 8-6 to senior Christine Garcia and sophomore Danielle Werley, bringing them to an overall record of 5-7 as a pair. Hope's Katherine Garcia and Nicole Spanguolo defeated Saint Mary's No. 3 doubles pair Freshmen Jessica Kosinski and Franca Peluso 8-5.

"Our doubles did not pull

through, which put us at a disadvantage early on," Gebert said. "We had a couple of close matches which could have gone either way. I think that we could have improved in our doubles."

The Flying Dutch continued to show their team's strength in the singles matches, winning all but one. For the fourth time this season, Hurley was the only Belle to win in singles play. Hurley defeated Hope's C. Garcia 6-0, 6-0 at the No. 2 spot for her twelfth victory of the season. No. 1 singles player Gebert lost to Hope's Stille 6-2, 6-1 while No. 3 Reed was defeated 7-5, 6-4 by Werley; Marissa Kooyers beat No. 4 Kosinski 6-1, 6-1; No. 5 Rubino lost 6-2, 6-4 to Himes, and No. 6 Peluso was beaten 6-2, 6-1 by Hope's K. Garcia.

"I hope that we can use all of this experience for the conference tournament," Gebert said. "We will be seeing all the teams there for a second time. It will give us a chance to redeem ourselves. It's just a matter of getting over the hump."

Saint Mary's next faces conference rival Tri-State at home. The Belles and the Thunder will play this Saturday at 1:00.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

SMC GOLF

Saint Mary's earns second place start

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's started off the MIAA qualifiers strong after shooting a 337 and placing themselves in second place behind Olivet with only two qualifier events remaining.

"I thought we played well today," Belles coach Mark Hamilton said. "Unfortunately, Olivet played as well as they possibly could have."

Heading into the second of three MIAA qualifiers, the Belles are 18 strokes behind Olivet who shot a 319 on the first day.

Freshman Rosie O'Connor led the Belles with a round of 80 and classmate Emily Gore was not far behind notching a solid 84.

The next two qualifying

rounds will be held April 25-26. Before then, the Belles will look to improve at the Vasser Invitational in New York this weekend and at the Illinois Wesleyan Spring Fling the following weekend.

Looking ahead to the last two days of qualifying in a few weeks, Hamilton believes that the first place spot is still within the Belles' reach.

"Hopefully we can even it up in the next round and head into the final day with a good chance to win," Hamilton said.

The team who sits in first place at the end of the three qualifying days will clinch a spot in the Div. III National championship tournament in May.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker1@nd.edu

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PERSONAL

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AROUND THE NATION

Thursday, April 10, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NCAA Men's Lacrosse Inside Lacrosse Top 20

rank	team	record	points
1	Duke	11-1	350
2	Syracuse	8-1	347
2	Virginia	10-1	322
4	Georgetown	7-2	294
5	Cornell	8-1	290
6	Navy	9-2	269
7	Maryland	7-3	259
8	North Carolina	7-3	224
9	NOTRE DAME	7-2	182
10	Bucknell	8-2	164
11	UMBC	7-3	159
12	Drexel	9-2	155
13	Army	7-3	122
14	Brown	7-2	117
15	Johns Hopkins	3-5	108
16	Ohio State	7-3	108
17	Princeton	4-4	73
18	Denver	7-4	67
19	Loyola Maryland	5-4	66
20	Hofstra	4-4	32

NCAA Women's Lacrosse Bounce/Inside Lacrosse Top 20

rank	team	record	points
1	Northwestern	11-0	220
2	Princeton	9-0	206
2	Maryland	11-1	199
4	Virginia	10-2	185
5	Syracuse	10-2	177
6	Pennsylvania	9-1	162
7	Georgetown	8-3	139
8	NOTRE DAME	9-3	131
9	North Carolina	10-3	127
10	Duke	7-5	123
11	Boston University	10-2	121
12	George Mason	8-2	98
13	Yale	8-4	89
14	New Hampshire	10-2	83
15	Vanderbilt	8-2	68
16	Towson	9-3	35
17	Johns Hopkins	5-6	34
18	William & Mary	6-6	25
19	Oregon	7-6	24
20	Stanford	7-6	23

GWLL Men's Lacrosse Conference Standings

team	conference	overall
Ohio State	3-0	7-3
Denver	1-0	7-4
NOTRE DAME	1-1	7-2
Quinnipiac	0-1	6-2
Bellarmine	0-2	6-4
Air Force	0-1	2-5

Big East Women's Lacrosse Conference Standings

team	conference	overall
Syracuse	3-0	10-2
NOTRE DAME	2-1	9-3
Georgetown	2-1	8-3
Rutgers	2-1	7-6
Loyola Maryland	1-3	6-7
Connecticut	0-4	1-12

around the dial

GOLF

2008 Masters — First Round
4:00 p.m., ESPN

NCAA MEN'S HOCKEY FROZEN FOUR

Boston College vs. North Dakota
5:00 p.m., ESPN2

NOTRE DAME vs. Michigan
8:30 p.m., ESPN2B

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL



Stanford coach Trent Johnson yells at officials before being ejected during the first half against Marquette in the NCAA tournament on March 22. Johnson is expected to be named LSU head coach by Thursday.

Johnson leaving Palo Alto for LSU

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — LSU intends to hire Stanford's Trent Johnson, who led the Cardinal to the round of 16 in this year's NCAA tournament, as its new coach.

Several people at LSU familiar with the selection process said a formal announcement was expected by Thursday. The people asked to remain anonymous because the hiring was not yet official.

Stanford athletic director Bob Bowlsby said in an e-mail to The Associated Press on Wednesday afternoon that Johnson was given permission to talk to LSU but had not yet

resigned.

"LSU notified me that they wanted to talk with him this morning as I was leaving Tampa" following the women's Final Four, Bowlsby said. "The position probably pays twice what ours does so I expect he feels he has to listen. Trent has not informed me that he has accepted another position."

Johnson has been at Stanford for four seasons, compiling an 80-48 record.

He had said recently he hoped to remain at Stanford, and had been slated to meet with Bowlsby on Thursday to discuss a new contract.

Stanford hired Johnson

in 2004 to replace Mike Montgomery, who left for the NBA's Golden State Warriors for two seasons and last week was hired by Bay Area rival California.

Johnson was an assistant at Stanford before going to Nevada and then returning to the Cardinal.

Stanford lost to Texas in the regional semifinals of the NCAA tournament.

Stanford's twin 7-footers, Brook and Robin Lopez, announced last week they would hire agents and enter the NBA draft, forgoing their final two seasons of eligibility.

LSU went to the Final Four only three seasons ago, but failed to make the

NCAA tournament in each of the last two years. The Tigers went 13-18 this season, and former coach John Brady was fired during the year.

Assistant Butch Pierre took over on Feb. 8 and led LSU to victories in five of its last nine contests, but the Tigers lost in the opening round of the Southeastern Conference tournament.

LSU considered a range of candidates, including Travis Ford at Massachusetts, Anthony Grant at Virginia Commonwealth and Oliver Purnell at Clemson. Ford and Purnell both withdrew from consideration Tuesday.

IN BRIEF

Guillen's 15-day suspension delayed until Tuesday

NEW YORK — Jose Guillen's 15-day suspension was put on hold through Tuesday by Major League Baseball and the players' association, an indication they are nearing an agreement that would eliminate the penalty and toughen the sport's drug rules.

Guillen and Jay Gibbons were suspended Dec. 6 by commissioner Bud Selig following media reports linking them to performance-enhancing drugs. Major League Baseball and the players' union announced March 28 they were putting the suspensions of Guillen and Jay Gibbons on hold for 10 days, giving lawyers more time to reach an agreement that would toughen the drug policy.

Lawyers have said for several weeks that the sides are close to a deal, and two said Wednesday that the sides have narrowed their differences to the point where they are confident an agreement will be reached.

UCLA's Love and Collison undecided about NBA

LOS ANGELES — UCLA All-American Kevin Love and teammate Darren Collison have not yet decided whether they will make themselves available for the NBA draft, coach Ben Howland said Wednesday.

He dismissed a report on the Los Angeles Times' Web site that said the players had decided to leave and were expected to hire agents, which would prevent them from returning to the Bruins next season.

"It's an erroneous report," Howland, adding that Love and Collison were very upset about the report because they had yet to discuss their future with their families.

College players have until April 27 to declare for the June draft.

Love, a freshman center, led the Bruins in scoring (17.5 points) and rebounds (10.6). Collison, a junior point guard, was a third-team All-American who averaged 15.2 points and 3.9 assists.

Favre not ruling out comeback with Packers

GULFPORT, Miss. — If the Green Bay Packers are ravaged by injuries this season, Brett Favre might consider returning should the team reach out to him.

Favre understands the kind of challenge he would face should he opt to go back to the NFL after ending his record-setting 17-year career. And he made it clear he is not changing his mind at this time.

"But to think that if they called me in October and told me, 'Hey, we need you this week.' That would be hard," Favre said in a story that appeared on the paper's Web site on Tuesday.

There has been a steady flow of speculation that Favre would have a change of heart in the wake of the March 4 announcement the league's only three-time MVP was retiring.

Favre added he would not return unless he was in shape.

MLB

Diamondbacks stretch winning streak to six

Napoli hits first career grand slam for Angels

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Arizona can still win the close ones, too.

The Diamondbacks stretched their winning streak to six games on Wednesday with a 4-3 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Eric Byrnes hit a go-ahead, two-run single in the seventh-inning off Hiroki Kuroda and Micah Owings (2-0) allowed three runs and seven hits in seven innings as the Diamondbacks finished a three-game sweep of the Dodgers.

"We've been scoring some runs and getting some early leads," Arizona manager Bob Melvin said. "Today, a little bit different. They got the lead early on and had some momentum, then we got the big hit."

All six victories in the streak have come against NL West foes. Arizona swept three at Colorado before their home-opening series against Los Angeles.

The Diamondbacks used power hitting to beat the Dodgers 9-3 and 10-5 in the series' first two games. This time, Arizona looked like the team that went 32-20 in one-run games a year ago.

"It's a scrappy team that happens to be able to hit some home runs, too," Byrnes said. "I know we hit a lot of home runs in those first two games, but I think the greatest thing about this team is we can win games in different fashions."

Brandon Lyon, who had blown his prior two save chances, retired the side in order in the ninth for his second save, although he got a scare when Blake Dewitt flied out to the left field wall.

Byrnes, who went 3-for-5, ended Kuroda's afternoon with a two-out, bases-loaded single that brought in the tying and go-ahead runs in the sixth. Byrnes' hit came on Kuroda's first pitch.

"Amazing stuff," Byrnes said of the Japanese pitcher. "But the one thing we tried to take advantage of was how many strikes that he was throwing. I know in my approach I wasn't going to wait around."

Kuroda called the pitch to Byrnes his biggest mistake of the day.

"Although I allowed too many hits today, there weren't many hits I thought that really got the sweet spot of the bat," Kuroda said through an interpreter.

In his first start of the season, Arizona's Augie Ojeda matched his career best with three hits, one a double.

Kuroda (1-1), in his second start since coming to the Dodgers from Japan, gave up four runs — two earned — and nine hits in 5 2-3 innings.

James Loney helped make up for his earlier error at first base with his first home run of the season, a solo shot that barely cleared the fence in right field, evading Justin Upton's glove, to give the Dodgers a 3-2 lead in the sixth. Loney extended his hitting streak to a career-best nine games.

With his relief corps a bit worn down, Melvin said the team needed the seven solid innings from Owings, who started the streak with a win in Colorado.

"I thought he was pretty sharp," Melvin said. "There were times

when he might not have the command that he did in Colorado, but boy, to give seven innings there when our bullpen was not full up down there, those guys know it."

Los Angeles manager Joe Torre said that it's important that his struggling young hitters not lose confidence.

"Whether it's a child you have in your house or someone that you hire to do your lawn, there's something about youngsters that they lack a little patience," Torre said. "They get a little anxious to where they overdo sometimes. I'd rather have them overdo than not care."

The Dodgers took their first lead of the series in the second when Juan Pierre doubled to right with a runner on first and Upton threw to second base rather than hitting the cutoff man.

Arizona took advantage of Loney's throwing error on a potential double-play grounder in the fourth, taking a 2-1 lead on a run-scoring grounder by Reynolds — his major league-leading 13th RBI — and Upton's run-scoring single. Andre Ethier's sacrifice fly tied the score in the fifth.

Angels 9, Indians 5

ANAHEIM — The Los Angeles Angels usually don't rely on home run clusters like the one they had against Cleveland on Wednesday. But the Indians are giving them up at an alarming rate, and one thing led to another.

Mike Napoli hit his first career grand slam, Garret Anderson and Casey Kotchman also went deep against Paul Byrd, and Vladimir Guerrero added a three-run shot against Jensen Lewis in a victory.

"We're hitting home runs right now, which is good for us, but we're a situational team," Napoli said. "We know what we've got to do. Moving guys over, going from first to third, being aggressive on the bases — that's who we are."

"But anytime you get home runs up and down the lineup, it's pretty good."

Dustin Moseley (1-1) allowed four runs on nine hits and struck out five over six innings after getting staked to a 6-0 lead. The Indians rallied with four runs in the sixth as Jhonny Peralta homered, Casey Blake hit an RBI double and Kelly Shoppach added a two-run shot.

But Guerrero greeted Lewis with a drive to left-center in the seventh for a 9-4 lead after Chone Figgins led off the inning with a broken-bat single and Gary Matthews Jr. reached on a fielding error by Blake at third base.

Byrd (0-2) allowed six runs and five hits in three innings, raising his ERA to 11.05. The 37-year-old right-hander, whose name was included in the Mitchell Report on performance-enhancing drugs, had his \$7.5 million option for this season picked up by the Indians after capping off a 15-8 campaign with victories in both of his post-season starts.

"It's been a distraction at times when I'm not on the mound, but it hasn't really caused me to lose concentration," Byrd said of the Mitchell controversy. "My head's pretty clear. I just haven't had my command at all and I haven't had very good stuff. To pitch up here, you have to have one of the two, and I have neither right now."

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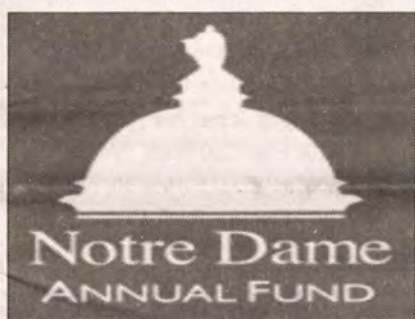
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OLYMPICS

Tightened security in San Francisco



Olympic torch bearers walk surrounded by security on Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco Wednesday. Security was tightened due to protests.

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Security was tightened on the Golden Gate Bridge and elsewhere around the city Tuesday as officials prepared for massive protests of China's crackdown in Tibet during the Olympic torch's only North American stop on its journey to Beijing.

The Olympic flame was whisked to a secret location shortly after its pre-dawn arrival Tuesday following widespread and chaotic demonstrations during the torch relay in London and Paris. Activists are protesting China's human rights record, its grip on Tibet and support for Sudan despite years of bloodshed in Darfur.

The flame is scheduled to be paraded through the city Wednesday on a six-mile route that hugs San Francisco Bay. Already, one runner who planned to carry the flame dropped out because of safety concerns, officials said.

It began its 85,000-mile journey from Ancient Olympia in Greece to Beijing on March 24, and was the focus of protests from the very start.

Hours after it arrived in San Francisco, protesters marched to the Chinese Consulate, calling on China to cease its heavy-handed rule of Tibet.

Meanwhile, a few miles away in Chinatown, leaders of China's expatriate community held a news conference calling for a peaceful relay, and said they were proud China was selected to host the summer games.

In Beijing, International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge said the body's executive board would discuss Friday whether to end the international leg of the torch relay because of the demonstrations. He said he was "deeply saddened" by the previous protests and was concerned about the relay in San Francisco.

"We recognize the right for people to protest and express their views, but it should be nonviolent. We are very sad for all the athletes and the people who expected so much from the run and have been spoiled of their joy," Rogge said.

Hundreds of activists carrying Tibetan flags and wearing tradi-

tional clothes gathered in United Nations Plaza, a pedestrian area near San Francisco's City Hall, to denounce China's policy toward Tibet and the recent crackdown on protesters there. They then marched to the Chinese Consulate as part of a daylong Tibetan Torch Relay.

"This is not about us battling the torchbearers," Lhadom Tethong, executive director of Students for a Free Tibet, told the crowd outside the consulate. "This is about the Chinese government using the torch for political purposes. And we're going to use it right back."

San Francisco was chosen to host the relay in part because of its large Asian population.

David Lee, executive director of the Chinese American Voters Education Committee and a professor of political science at San Francisco State University, said while many Chinese agree with critics of China, on the whole, Chinese-Americans feel a tremendous sense of pride that the Beijing Olympics chose San Francisco as the only relay site in North America.

At a news conference Tuesday, businessowners asked for calm.

"We are begging for five hours of peace," said Sam Ng, president of the Chinese Six Companies, a prominent benevolent association.

Some residents also expressed dismay at the protests.

Ling Li, 29, who immigrated from China's Guangdong Province eight years ago, said she was disappointed that this pivotal moment in her country's history was being marred by demonstrations. She believes that Tibet is a rightful part of China and its quest for independence should not be part of the Olympics.

"If I support the Olympics, of course I don't support the protests. This is the first time China has had the Olympics. We should be proud of this," she said.

Pro-Tibet activists and other human rights groups said they'd encouraged their supporters to protest peacefully and not disrupt the relay or the torch runners.

"We can be effective without (disruption)," said Allyn Brooks-LaSure, a spokesman for Save Darfur. "Disrupting tomorrow's ceremonies couldn't possibly embarrass Beijing any more than their disastrous Darfur policy already has."

NBA

Thomas to conclude '08 season with Knicks

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Isiah Thomas will finish the season as the Knicks' coach, but needs a good explanation for why things went so horribly wrong for any chance to last beyond that.

New president Donnie Walsh said Wednesday he plans to meet soon with Thomas, and he wants to know why a team he thought could be good instead will finish as perhaps the worst in franchise history.

Walsh insists he hasn't decided on Thomas' future with the team, but the Knicks' 22-56 record entering their game against Charlotte clearly works against the coach.

"You can say I have an open mind as far as any conversation I'm going to have," Walsh said. "I still don't think we've played well, there's a lot of things I want to talk about. So it's not totally open. It's not like I'm going in saying, 'Well, this has all been great, so what do you want to talk about?'"

Walsh said he expects their conversation to happen before the regular season ends next week. But no matter what he decides, he expects Thomas to be on the bench for the remaining games.

"Yeah, I would say that we're going to go through the season because there's only four games left," Walsh said, "and I'm going to use this period to try to take a look at the whole situation so I'm in a position to make whatever decision is going to be made — if there are any."

Walsh was hired last Wednesday to replace Thomas as team president, and put off any decision about Thomas' remaining job until after they could meet in person. The Knicks were on a road trip at the time and didn't return until the weekend.

Walsh had left town by then to clean out his desk in Indiana, where he recently announced he was leaving the Pacers after 24 years in their front office. Walsh didn't return to New York until Tuesday, and said he

still hasn't even seen Thomas.

That will change soon. Walsh attended the game against the Bobcats, and the Knicks also are home for games Friday and Monday before closing the season at Indiana on April 16.

Walsh wants details about specific things that happened this season, such as the Thomas-Stephon Marbury feud that sent the season spiraling out of control after only five games. Marbury left the team in Phoenix after Thomas threatened to remove him from the starting lineup, and the Knicks lost their next six games.

Thomas also had disagreements on the bench during games with Quentin Richardson and Zach Randolph, and he'll need to decide how honest he wants to be with Walsh about whether he was at fault. He also yanked center Eddy Curry from the starting lineup, and Curry lost his confidence and took a major step back with his play this season.

"I would say that, again, this has been an extremely challenging year and it's been a unique year that's presented unique and different problems, and you know our record is not good," Thomas said. "It's not good. We've had a poor performance out on the floor. That's not a permanent situation. The situation we're in now is not permanent."

Speaking before Walsh, Thomas continued to act as if he is part of the future — as he always does — and again talked about winning championships in New York. He worked three years under Walsh in Indiana as the Pacers' coach and both say they have a good relationship, so perhaps he has reason to believe he has a chance to stick.

Thomas assembled this entire team that will miss the playoffs for the fourth straight year. While he stresses that the Knicks were "pretty far down" when he arrived as president in 2003 but are "positioned pretty properly" now, Walsh needs to know why that hasn't shown on the court.



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IRLL 30108	<i>20th Century Irish Literature</i>	Prof. Sarah McKibben (MW 11:45-1:00)
IRLL 30307	<i>The Irish Tradition I</i>	Prof. Hugh Fogarty (TR 3:30-4:45)
IRLL 40304	<i>Poetry and Politics in Ireland</i>	Prof. Breandán Ó Buachalla (TR 2:00-3:15)
IRLL 60203	<i>Scottish Gaelic</i>	Prof. Peter McQuillan (TR 2:00-3:15)
IRLL 60305	<i>Clasaíci na Gaeilge</i>	Prof. Breandán Ó Buachalla (W 6:00-9:00)

Language Courses

IRLL 10101:01	<i>Beginning Irish I</i>	Staff/TBA
IRLL 10101:02	<i>Beginning Irish I</i>	Prof. Tara MacLeod
IRLL 10101:03	<i>Beginning Irish I</i>	Staff/TBA
IRLL 10101:04	<i>Beginning Irish I</i>	Prof. Muireann Ní Bheaglaoich
IRLL 10102:01	<i>Beginning Irish II</i>	Prof. Ciara Connolly
IRLL 10102:02	<i>Beginning Irish II</i>	Prof. Tara MacLeod
IRLL 20103:01	<i>Intermediate Irish</i>	Prof. Brian Ó Conchubhair
IRLL 20103:02	<i>Intermediate Irish</i>	Prof. Sarah MacKibben
IRLL 20203:01	<i>Advanced Readings in Irish Culture</i>	Prof. Brian Ó Conchubhair
IRLL 60101:01	<i>Beginning Irish I</i>	Staff/TBA
IRLL 60101:02	<i>Beginning Irish I</i>	Prof. Tara MacLeod
IRLL 60102:01	<i>Beginning Irish Language II</i>	Prof. Ciara Connolly
IRLL 60102:02	<i>Beginning Irish Language II</i>	Prof. Tara MacLeod
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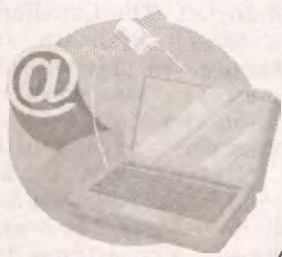
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NHL

Defending champion Ducks open playoffs

Dallas holds head-to-head advantage 5 to 3



Ducks forward Travis Moen, right, and Phoenix forward Shane Doan fight for the puck in Anaheim's 3-2 win Sunday.

Associated Press

ANAHEIM — Forget about the Ducks' being defending Stanley Cup champions. Anaheim coach Randy Carlyle has — or at least that's his story as Anaheim prepares to open its Cup defense.

"I can't remember last year," Carlyle said Wednesday. "Every year your team is different. The reference to last year is old news. We're trying to create an identity for ourselves now."

"We've got a playoff series against a very difficult opponent, an opponent that has given us a lot of trouble over the course of the season."

The Ducks, trying to become the first team to repeat as NHL champions since Detroit in 1997-98, begin the playoffs against the Dallas Stars on Thursday night in Anaheim.

The Stars won five of eight against Anaheim during the regular season and got a shootout point in one of the losses. They outscored the Ducks 24-15.

"They've got a good offense and they can score some big goals," Anaheim goalie Jean-Sebastien Giguere said. "They're going to be dangerous on the power play, so we've got to not take too many penalties and not give them too many chances on the power play."

After a slow start this season, the Ducks took on the look of a champion again after Scott Niedermayer and Teemu Selanne decided not to retire and rejoined the team. Anaheim went 32-12-4 after Niedermayer came back in December, and were 20-5-1 following Selanne's return on Feb. 5.

Two of the wins came in their final two games against Dallas.

"They're a different team with Niedermayer and Selanne back," said the Stars' Brenden Morrow, asked about Dallas taking the regular-season series. "But if that helps guys feel more relaxed, sure."

Dallas goalie Marty Turco, noting that the Stars are very

familiar with Anaheim, said their confidence is high.

"We know the type of team they are and how they're going to play. We've seen them when we've played against them and seen them numerous times on TV against other teams," Turco said. "There won't be any surprises."

While the Ducks were surging down the stretch of the regular season, the Stars were struggling. Dallas went 4-8-2 in the last 14 games to finish fifth in the Western Conference, five points back of the fourth-place Ducks.

"We need to keep our special teams rolling, stay disciplined, play to our strengths and not crack in the third period, something we struggled with late in the season," said Morrow, who had a career-best 32 goals and 74 points this season.

Giguere, who won the Conn Smythe Trophy as the 2003 postseason MVP and was outstanding in the playoffs again last year, said the series against Dallas could be a close one.

"We know it's going to be a good matchup, there are going to be some tight games, some heavy checking and possibly some fights and stuff like that," he said. "It should be an entertaining series for the fans — and for us."

The Stars likely will be without one of their key players, at least for the start of the playoffs. Defenseman Sergei Zubov, who had surgery for a sports hernia injury, has been outstanding for Dallas on the breakout.

The Ducks also will be missing one of their top players, Corey Perry, although he's expected to be available later in the series. Perry, the team's second-leading scorer, has been sidelined by a lacerated leg tendon.

Carlyle smiled and made a couple of predictions, saying, "You know there's going to be things that are going to happen in a playoff series. You know there's going to be new intensity, and there's going to be panic; there always is."

Please recycle The Observer.

Charel

continued from page 24

This past season, she guided Notre Dame to a No. 15/13 ranking and a Sweet 16 berth before falling to Tennessee 74-64.

The Monessen, Penn., native had the biggest night of her career in her penultimate game, when she scored a career-high 35 points in Notre Dame's 79-75 overtime win over Oklahoma in the second round of this year's NCAA Tournament.

Allen was the first Irish

player to notch over 1,500 points, 500 rebounds, 200 assists and 200 steals. She finished her Notre Dame career in the top 10 of 10 different categories, including eighth in scoring with 1,566.

The Los Angeles Sparks fulfilled most people's expectations by taking two-time national player of the year Candace Parker, a forward from Tennessee, with the first overall pick. Parker led the Lady Vols to back-to-back national championships and was the Most Outstanding Player both years.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzapa5@nd.edu

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NBA

LeBron dominates Nets

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — So much for LeBron James' aching back.

After missing two days of practice because of back spasms, James scored 33 points as the Cleveland Cavaliers overcame a 14-point deficit to defeat the New Jersey Nets, 104-83, Wednesday night.

James' back problems have been headline news all over town this week. He didn't practice Monday and Tuesday to rest the back and a decision whether he would play against the Nets wasn't made until Wednesday morning.

While the NBA's leading scorer moved stiffly at times during his 35 minutes on the floor, the results were vintage James. He was 11-of-21 from the field, made 10-of-13 from the line, grabbed seven rebounds and had eight assists.

In James' mind, there was no doubt he was going to play and play well.

"I'm going to do what I have to do to help us win," he said. "I didn't feel 100 percent, but I felt I could do everything in my arsenal that needs to be done for us to

win."

Teammate Wally Szczerbiak, who scored 14 points, was succinct in his analysis of James.

"He's unbelievable," Szczerbiak said.

The win came at an opportune time for the Cavaliers, who had lost six of eight coming in — including two straight at home. Cleveland maintained its two-game lead over Washington for the fourth seed in the Eastern Conference.

"We needed this win," James said.

For much of the game it looked like Cleveland's troubles would continue. The Nets led 67-53 midway through the third period before the Cavaliers

went on a 23-7 run, which saw James score eight points.

Cleveland led 76-74 lead going into the fourth quarter. Bostjan Nachbar's 3-pointer to begin the period gave New Jersey a one-point lead, but that would be New Jersey's last field goal of the game.

With James getting a rest, the Cavaliers scored the next nine points. Sasha Pavlovic had a jumper, Joe Smith scored two baskets, and

Szczerbiak added a 3-pointer to go ahead, 85-77.

By the time James returned with 6:24 to play, the Cavaliers were up, 87-77. New Jersey went scoreless on 10 straight possessions and didn't score again until Vince Carter's two free throws with 4:36 left. The Cavaliers took a 90-79 lead on James' three-point play with 4:23 to play. The Nets were 1-of-20 from the field and scored nine points in the fourth.

"Defensively, I know it made Coach Brown happy," James said. "It makes us happy. The offense is easy when you can defend like that."

The turn of events didn't make Nets coach Lawrence Frank very happy.

"We couldn't buy a field goal and we couldn't get a stop," he said. "That was a 35-point swing."

"It's tough when you're not hitting shots, not making layups and calls we felt we should have gotten, we weren't getting," said Carter. "It was a triple-threat negative."

Zydrunas Ilgauskas 13 for the Cavaliers. Daniel Gibson and Delonte West scored 12 apiece.

Carter scored 19 points and Richard Jefferson added 15 to lead New Jersey, which won the first three meetings this season against Cleveland.

*"I'm going to do what
I have to do to help
us win."*

**LeBron James
Cavaliers forward**

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Find out more information about Office 2007 for Windows on the OIT's website at oit.nd.edu/office/, as well as information on the recently-released Microsoft Office 2008 for Macintosh. The new version of Office for Mac has similar file compatibility issues that Mac users will want to learn how to resolve.

Please feel free to contact your departmental computer support representative or call the OIT Help Desk at 631-8111 if you have further questions.



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WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Wildcats defeat Irish to end winning streak

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Writer

The No. 8 Irish (9-4, 2-1 Big East) found out the hard way why the top-ranked Northwestern Wildcats are three-time defending National Champions and are now riding a 33-game winning streak.

The host Wildcats (12-0) scored the game's first 15 goals in a dominant 16-2 effort to end Notre Dame's winning streak at four games. Senior attack Heather Ferguson and freshman midfielder Jackie Doherty scored the only two Irish goals, as Northwestern successfully shut down Notre Dame's high-powered offensive attack.

Junior Jillian Byers, who broke the Irish all-time scoring record in her last outing, and senior Caitlin McKinney, who owned a program-best 51-game point streak, were both victims of a high-pres-

sure Northwestern defense that the Irish prepared for but couldn't answer.

The Irish were able to keep the game scoreless for the first seven minutes, but within a span of two minutes, the Wildcats scored three times to take a 3-0 lead. Ten minutes later, Northwestern went on another run, scoring five goals in two minutes to blow it open at 8-0.

The Wildcats entered the half up 11-0 and added four more goals before Ferguson finally put one home with under 18 minutes to play. Northwestern scored once more before Doherty's goal left with just over two minutes left to finish the scoring at 16-2.

The Irish will look to rebound when they close out their five-game road swing at Big East rival No. 7 Georgetown.

Contact Matt Gamber at
mgamber@nd.edu

ND SOFTBALL

Lux shines in Irish victory

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame dominated Eastern Michigan in a double-header, winning 10-1 and 5-1 yesterday and earning their seventh and eighth consecutive wins.

Sophomore first baseman Christine Lux led the Irish to victory in the first game, setting a school record for RBIs in a single game with seven. Lux started her big day off early, capping off an Irish rally a double in the first inning that drove in two runs and gave Notre Dame a 4-0 lead.

In the bottom of the second, Lux ripped a two-out single to plate two more runs and extend the lead to 7-0. Finally, Lux ended her big day with a three-run homer to right center to put the Irish up 10-1.

Notre Dame junior Brittany Bargar pitched four innings of three-hit ball, giving up only one run and striking out six. With the win, Bargar improved her record to 18-6 on the year. Junior Christine Farrell pitched the fifth inning for the Irish.

Notre Dame relied on solid pitching in the second game. Freshman Jody Valdivia pitched seven innings, gave up only one run, and struck out a season-high 14 batters.

Eastern Michigan made the



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Sophomore first baseman Christine Lux swings at a pitch during Notre Dame's 2-1 win over Toledo on April 2.

Irish work for the win this time, though. The Eagles got on the board first in the second inning when freshman Stacie Skodinski knocked a double to left-center that scored junior Heather Han and put EMU up 1-0.

Lux once again came up big offensively for the Irish, smacking an RBI single in the third inning to tie the game at one.

Notre Dame waited until the fifth inning to take the lead, and when they did, it was Lux in the middle of the action. After seniors Sarah Smith and Katie Laing had already drove

in runs with two outs to put the Irish up 3-1, Lux came up with Laing standing on first base. On the fourth pitch from Eastern Michigan pitcher Jaclyn Caro, Lux ripped a triple to left-center causing Laing to score. On the day, Lux finished 5-6 with a home run and nine RBIs.

The Irish are set to host Rutgers on April 12 in the newly constructed Melissa Cook Stadium. The game begins at noon.

Contact Sam Werner at
swerner@nd.edu

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Record

continued from page 24

people are like, 'Oh my God, it's the hit-by-pitch record.' Well, I'll take it."

Lilley said he did not even know he was approaching the record until a teammate told him about it late last season. After that, though, Lilley said he was on a mission to reach uncharted territory.

"I said, 'Okay, here we go. We'll shoot for it,'" Lilley said. "I've never practiced getting hit ... But when we're playing, there are a lot of times I intentionally do get hit by a pitch."

And the senior said all the bruises he has accumulated have not persuaded him to back off the plate any time soon.

"I'm shooting for 100," he said.

Lilley cracked the record books amidst a two-out rally that broke the game open for the Irish. He reached base to put men on first and second for Ryne Intlekofer. The sophomore second baseman then laced a triple down the right field line to score two. Sophomore centerfielder A.J. Pollock followed with a triple of his own to stake the Irish to a 5-1 lead.

Irish freshman starting pitcher Ryan Sharpley surrendered a run the first inning to give Manchester a 1-0 edge. But Sharpley and freshman righty Evan Danieli held the Spartans scoreless for the next four innings as the Notre Dame offense built an 11-1 lead by the end of the fifth stanza.

"Our starters went out there and took care of business," Irish coach Dave Schrage said.

Pollock went 3-for-3 with a single, double and triple before being pulled in the fifth inning for sophomore Bill Warrender. Lilley went 2-for-2 with a single and triple but was also taken out in the fifth.

Manchester chipped into the Irish lead with seven total runs in the sixth, seventh and eighth innings but enough damage had already been done to bury the Spartans.

"I'll give Manchester credit," Schrage said. "They had 10 hits ... so I'll give Manchester credit for hitting the ball

well."

After Manchester cut into the deficit, Notre Dame added a run in both the sixth and eighth innings on run-scoring sacrifice flies by junior first baseman Casey Martin.

Sharpley got the win for the Irish and senior righty Justin

Gingerich closed out the victory in his Notre Dame debut. Gingerich gave up just one hit and struck out two in one inning of work.

"Justin Gingerich threw really

well in the last inning," Schrage said. "He executed his pitches really well. He's been working really hard and he got rewarded today."

Contact Fran Tolan at
ftolan@nd.edu

Wildcats

continued from page 24

the polls.

The sophomore pair of Cosmina Ciobanu and Colleen Rielley delivered under pressure with the doubles point on the line. Their 8-5 win over junior Nazlie Ghazal and freshman Maria Mosolova brought the sophomores to 17-1 for the dual season.

Ghazal bounced back from a doubles loss to put Northwestern on the board by beating Krisik in two matches 6-3, 6-3.

No. 122 Ciobanu earned another point for the Irish. Playing in the No. 3 slot, Ciobanu ousted No. 25 Murray 6-3, 6-2. Ciobanu's record stands at 9-5 playing in the No. 3 spot — Ciobanu's victory was the last of the evening for the

Irish as the top-ranked team in the country began firing on all cylinders.

No. 42 Lui evened the match at two with a win over Rielley 6-2, 7-5. The loss ended Rielley's personal three-match winning streak.

Junior Katie Potts put up a valiant effort from the No. 6 spot but could not grind out the win. Sophomore Suzie Matzenauer fought off Potts' second set tiebreak win to shutout Potts in the third. The 6-4, 6-7 (5-7), 6-0 win by Matzenauer left the Wildcats needing to win just one of the two remaining matches to earn the overall victory.

Notre Dame had a chance to comeback and win with the match in the hands of its No. 1 and No. 2 singles players — Buck and Tefft.

No. 41 Tefft faced her toughest opponent of the year in Northwestern's No. 3 Mosolova. After dropping

the first set, Tefft rallied in the second, but ultimately Mosolova came out on top, winning the match 6-1, 7-5.

Buck was amidst her battle with No. 5 Rose when the match was clinched for Northwestern. Buck won the first set 6-2 but lost the second, 4-6. In an abbreviated third set, Buck prevailed 1-0 (10-7).

No. 5 Rose is the highest ranked player Buck has ever beaten. The senior captain has now defeated eight of her last nine opponents.

Despite winning the doubles point for the eleventh match in a row, the Irish came up just short the win.

Notre Dame will look to start a new winning streak this Friday at 3 PM, when the No. 61 DePaul Blue Demons come to the Courtney Tennis Center.

Contact Dan Masterton at
dmastert@nd.edu

Brey

continued from page 24

even hold a banquet.

"The great thing about this award is that there was no dinner or banquet or media blitz, because that's who Skip was — he was low-key," Brey said. "We thought we should just get lunch or go to an Irish bar."

Brey said that, going forward, he will be involved with the giving of the award. He said he hopes that all future winners — along with Prosser's son, Mark — will be similarly involved.

"Mark and the previous award winners could honor the new recipient together," he said.

Contact Chris Khorey at
ckhorey@nd.edu

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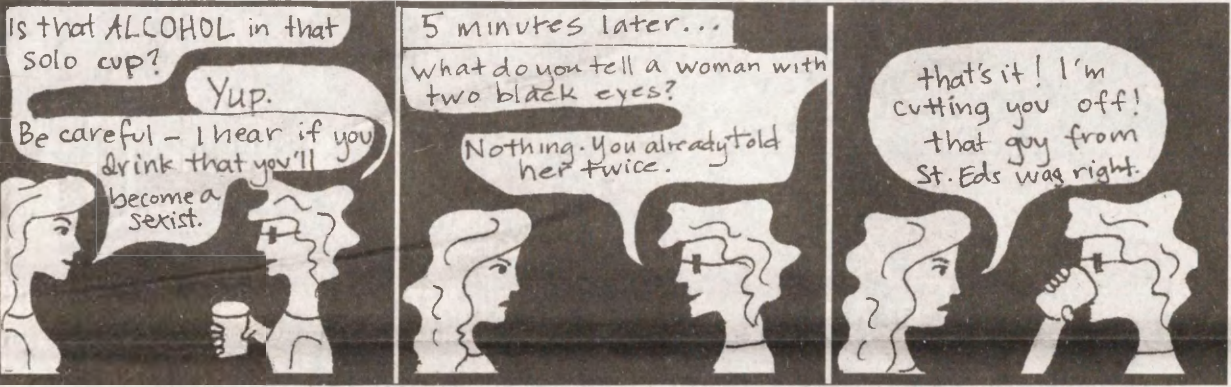
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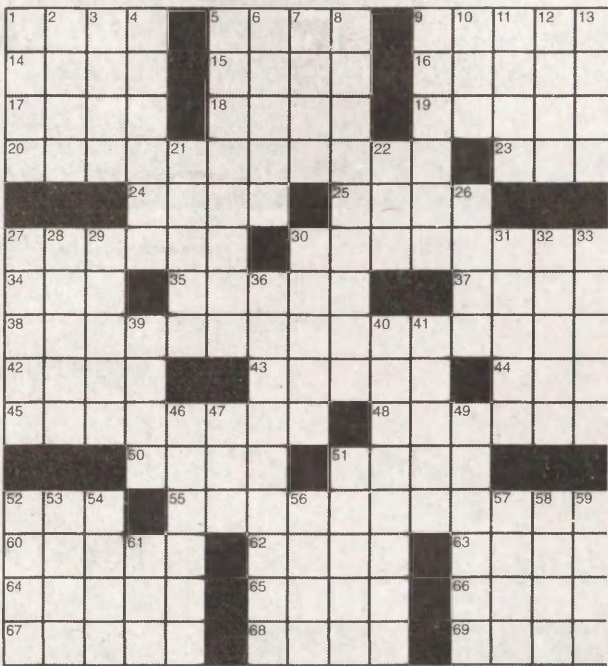
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CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Sari, e.g.
 - 5 Gloomy
 - 9 Place for an emoticon
 - 14 Life of Riley
 - 15 Asian princess
 - 16 Dodger All-Star pitcher Eric
 - 17 Some
 - 18 Deuce follower
 - 19 Begin operating or stop operating
 - 20 Confirmation or uncertainty
 - 23 Fathomed
 - 24 Stadium sound
 - 25 Some Grammy winners
 - 27 Belief in a life of harmony with nature
 - 30 Unchanged or novel
 - 34 Kobold
 - 35 Repeated setting for Georges Seurat paintings
 - 37 Discussion spots
 - 38 Words of praise or words of condemnation
 - 42 TV's Kojak
 - 43 Respectful refusal
 - 44 Pen's partner
 - 45 Approve or penalize
 - 48 Willie Mays and teammates
 - 50 Deborah nominated for six Academy Awards
 - 51 Accord
 - 52 It's definite
 - 55 Easy to see or impossible to see
 - 60 Entangle or disentangle
 - 62 Minimal tide
 - 63 E.R. part: Abbr.
 - 64 Comedic title role for Renée Zellweger, 2000
 - 65 Univ.
 - 66 California's ____ Valley
 - 67 Chaotic
 - 68 Olaf's girlfriend in Lemony Snicket books
 - 69 Sporty car roof option
- Down**
- 1 Last under use or erode under use
 - 2 "Hurlyburly" playwright David
 - 3 "No returns"
 - 4 "Great" czar
 - 5 Grounds for legal action
 - 6 Gary Burghoff role of TV and film
 - 7 L., B. or J.
 - 8 Revealing garment
 - 9 It might be spiked
 - 10 Jiang's husband
 - 11 Like kids at a circus, maybe
 - 12 Dope
 - 13 Remaining or gone
 - 21 Martini's partner
 - 22 Paris accord
 - 26 Sort through
 - 27 Fair housing?
 - 28 Welcome to paradise?
 - 29 Commonly ____ ring
 - 31 Away from the office
 - 32 Don't exist
 - 33 Shenanigans



Puzzle by Matt Ginsberg

- 36 "No nation is permitted to live in ____ with impunity": Jefferson
- 39 Equine ankle
- 40 Gotham
- 41 Dr. ____ Hahn of "Grey's Anatomy"
- 46 Twinings competitor
- 47 Non-std.
- 49 Sitting
- 51 "O, sing to the Lord a new song," for one
- 52 Add to or remove from
- 53 Fabled slacker
- 54 12/24 and 12/31
- 56 Converts to a cause, briefly
- 57 Broadcast
- 58 Fictional submariner
- 59 Move gracefully or move clumsily
- 61 Nav. rank

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I	L	L	A	T	T	O	E	S	T	E	A	D
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S	A	M	O	A	F	R	I	T	O	S		
R	M	S	P	A	W	N	B	R	O	K	E	R
B	O	Y	D	N	A	R	Y	E	L	S	A	
I	W	O	U	L	D	R	E	P	O			
N	U	C	L	E	A	R	F	A	M	I	L	Y
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L	E	N	D	L	P	A	L	N	E	E	D	S
E	S	S	A	Y	A	W	E	Y	E	A	S	T

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HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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Answer: A
Yesterday's Jumbles: DUNCE OZONE FRIEZE BLUISH
Answer: When the cats performed for the animal trainer, he was — "LIONIZED"

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- CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Keshia Knight Pulliam, 29; Austin Peck, 37; Cynthia Nixon, 42; Dennis Quaid, 54
- Happy Birthday:** It will be the well-planned ideas that make the most difference in your life this year. Instead, throw yourself into something that will help you advance physically, personally, professionally and financially and feel the satisfaction of accomplishment. Your numbers are 5, 12, 23, 26, 36, 40
- ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Separate your emotions from work or school projects or you may fall short of your goals. A little creative accounting will help you financially when you need a little extra cash. 4 stars
- TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Drum up whatever help you can get. You can offer your idea to someone who can give you hands-on assistance but don't give away too much in return. This is not the time to exaggerate. 3 stars
- GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** You will hook up with interesting people who will influence your life. Love is looking positive and the action you take today could very well lead to a better relationship with someone important to you. 3 stars
- CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Too much talk will lead to trouble. Someone will try to trick you into divulging information that may hurt you later on. Listen and gather all the information you can to keep the upper hand. 3 stars
- LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You can dance your way to victory today with your charm, fun-loving attitude and entertaining way of dealing with others. Learn from past mistakes and you will succeed. 4 stars
- VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Don't be too trusting with your possessions. Someone is likely to take advantage of you, playing on your sensitivity to a situation that you are trying to resolve. If someone is asking for a handout, refuse. 2 stars
- LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Mix fun with a little serious discussion about your future plans and you will grab the attention of someone who can help you. Love is a big draw today, so remember to work on your relationship. 5 stars
- SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Make whatever adjustments are required at home in order to get more accomplished. A home office will help you make extra cash or get into something that will help you enhance your skills. 3 stars
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Give yourself a chance to catch up at home. Today is the perfect time to finish personal business. You have to make the alterations necessary to save money and your emotional well-being. 3 stars
- CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Things won't run smoothly today so you may as well kick back and take a break. You owe it to yourself to enjoy the company of friends or to take a mini vacation. Love issues may arise. 3 stars
- AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Put time and effort into your surroundings. Adding comfort or a luxury item to your home will bring rewards in the way you are treated by friends and family. Love is looking good. 5 stars
- PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Be careful not to show your emotions if you want to come out on top. Accepting someone's offer to help will end up costing you dearly in the future. You won't get something for nothing. 2 stars

THE OBSERVER

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Coach Brey receives first annual Skip Prosser award

By CHRIS KHOREY
Senior Staff Writer

Notre Dame coach Mike Brey has won a lot of awards — but only one that commemorates one of his best friends.

Brey received the first annual Skip Prosser Man of the Year Award at the Final Four this weekend in San Antonio.

"It's flattering given what Skip stood for in our profes-

sion," Brey said. "He was one of the good guys and a true teacher. He's the kind of gentleman you'd want your son to play for."

Prosser, who coached at Wake Forest, died on July 26, 2007 soon after returning from Operation Hardwood in Kuwait, a program in which Brey also participated.

But the two knew each other well before their trip to the Middle East. Brey said they

had a lot in common.

"We both got our start as high school coaches," Brey said. "That's why we were kind of joined at the hip."

"That was an experience we had in our past that really helped us and we used to talk about that often."

Prosser also had connections to Notre Dame. He got his break in coaching at a camp hosted by former Irish coach Digger Phelps in 1985. It was

there that Prosser met Xavier coach Pete Gillen, who hired him as an assistant.

Prosser was planning on visiting Brey for the Notre Dame-Georgia Tech football last fall, a missed opportunity that the Notre Dame coach said made him emotional.

"He had never been out to a Notre Dame football game," Brey said. "It was sad when I thought about that after the fact."

Brey said that the award is an important way of remembering Prosser.

"More young guys in our profession should use Skip Prosser as an example, a guy that was in coaching and teaching for the right reasons," Brey said. "He was very grounded."

So grounded, in fact, that the award named after him didn't

see BREY/page 22

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Sacramento bound

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame guard Charel Allen was taken 43rd overall in Wednesday's 2008 WNBA Draft by the Sacramento Monarchs.

Allen said she was still unsure of whether she would be drafted going into the event.

"My coaches gave me confidence that I would [get drafted], but I was still nervous watching it," she said in a phone interview Wednesday.

The 5-foot-11 guard is the seventh Irish player drafted in the last eight years, the most recent of which was in 2006 when guard Megan Duffy went to Minnesota in the third round.

Allen was taken with the last overall pick in the draft that was a compensatory selection for Sacramento after their third round selection last season was voided for selecting an ineligible player — Meg Bulger from

West Virginia.

Allen said she was nervous as the draft wore on but relieved when she finally heard her name called.

She attended the draft workout in Tampa during the Final Four earlier this week to show off her skills.

The Monarchs used their first round pick on Maryland center Laura Harper (10th overall) and took both Texas A&M guard A'Quonesia Franklin (38th overall) and UTEP center Izabela Piekarska (40th overall) in the third round.

Allen was a first team All-Big East player in both her junior and senior seasons. This season, Allen lead the Irish in points per game (15.1), minutes per game (30.2) and 3-point shooting percentage with a minimum of 30 shots (38.1 percent). She also grabbed 5.6 boards per game and had 84 assists compared to only 68 turnovers.

see CHAREL/page 20



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Senior guard Charel Allen drives to the basket during Notre Dame's 70-55 win over Seton Hall on March 1. Allen was taken 43rd overall in the draft.

BASEBALL

Irish topple Manchester

Lilley sets Division I record for number of times being hit by a pitch

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

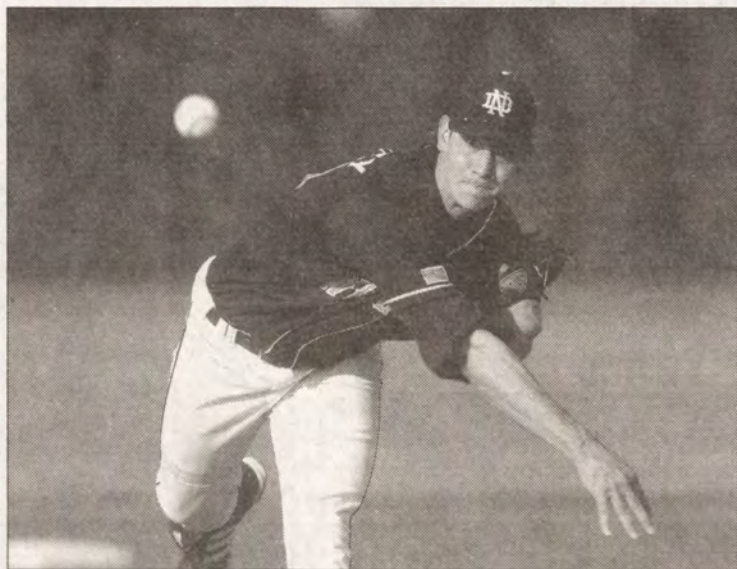
Notre Dame defeated Division 3 Manchester College 13-8 at Frank Eck Stadium Wednesday. The Irish plated runs in six of the eight innings in which they batted as sophomore centerfielder A.J. Pollock fell just a home run short of hitting for the cycle.

But the biggest story of the game was a hit batsman.

In the second inning, Irish shortstop Brett Lilley was plunked for the 93rd time in his career, a new NCAA Division 1 record.

"It feels pretty good. It is a record," Lilley said. "A lotta

see RECORD/page 22



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Freshman Ryan Sharpley pitches during Notre Dame's 13-8 win over Manchester Wednesday night.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Squad falls narrowly to top-ranked Wildcats

By DAN MASTERTON
Sports Writer

No. 20 Notre Dame was not able to continue its nine-game winning streak as it fell narrowly to No. 1 Northwestern 4-3 Wednesday.

The Irish (16-8) continued their doubles dominance, winning two of the three doubles matches to earn the 1-0 lead.

Northwestern (20-1) took the first match as junior Georgia Rose and senior Alexis Conill reeled off a quick 8-1 victory over Notre Dame's No. 2 pair, sophomore Kali Krisik and freshman Kristen Rafael. Rafael is

now back in action after missing time due to a sprained ankle.

Northwestern sophomore Samantha Murray took the court alongside sophomore Lauren Lui at No. 1 doubles in place of Rose, who normally competes in the top spot. Lui and Rose are ranked No. 14 in the country when playing together, but Murray and Lui maintain an even higher rank, earning the No. 13 spot in the country.

However, the Irish boast the No. 1 duo in the nation of senior Brook Buck and junior Kelcy Tefft. The dynamic pair defeated Murray and Lui 8-2 to improve their record to 9-1 since taking the top spot in

see WILDCATS/page 22

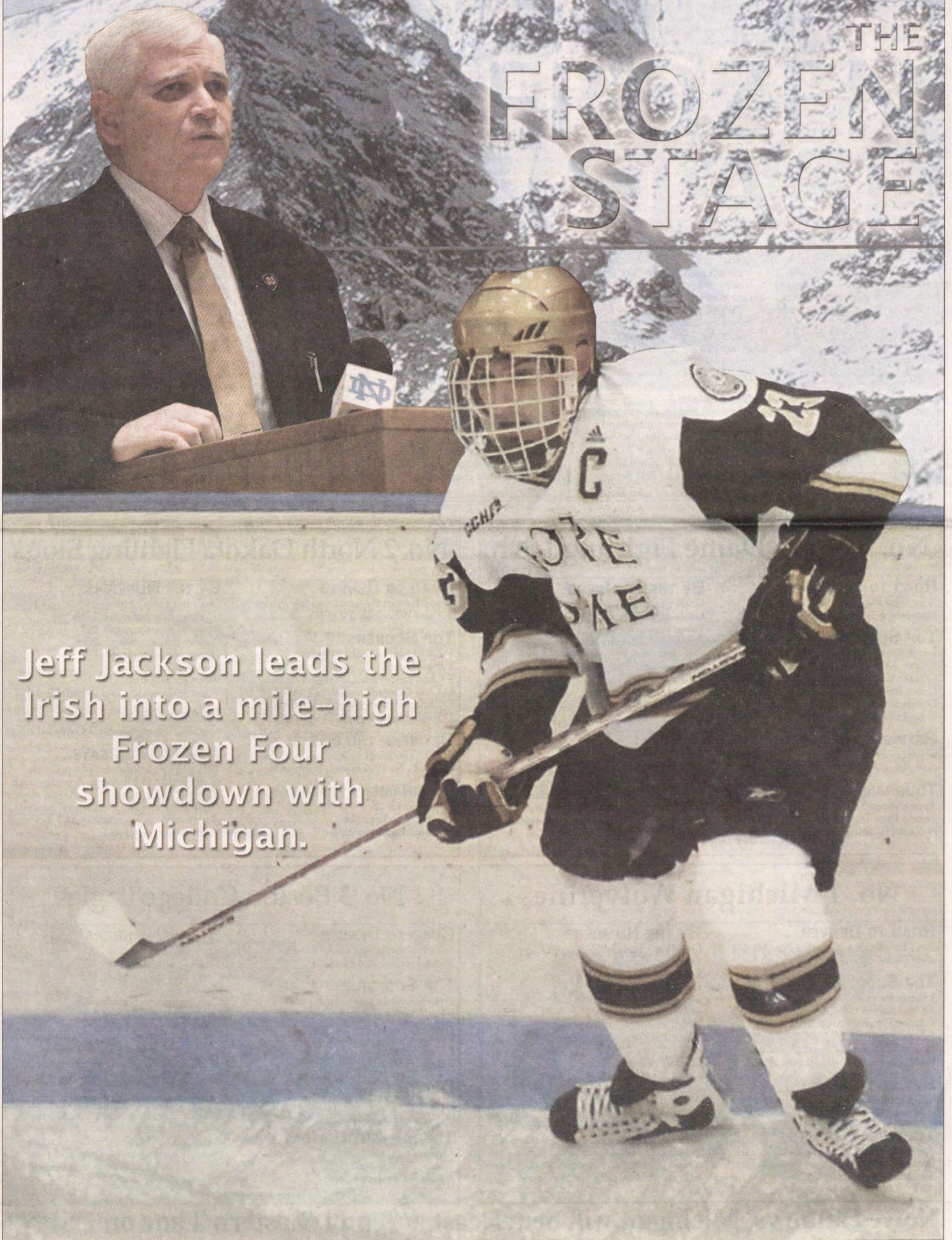
IRISH INSIDER

Thursday April 10, 2008

THE
OBSERVER

THE FROZEN STAGE

Jeff Jackson leads the Irish into a mile-high Frozen Four showdown with Michigan.



Notre Dame hockey has come a long way in 40 years

Notre Dame captain Mark Van Guilder joked during Sunday's awards show that his freshman year banquet was held in Parisi's restaurant in front of six or seven non-team members.

Van Guilder wasn't exaggerating, but the crowd laughed.

They laughed because looking at this year's elaborate, two-hour ceremony in a large auditorium, it was strange to ever think that no one cared about Irish hockey.

Notre Dame has played hockey for almost 40 years now in the modern era, going back to 1968 when Father Theodore Hesburgh charged a high school hockey coach, Lefty Smith, with running the new team and making sure the Joyce Center rink generated a profit.

Lefty brought the Irish to the top five in the country within six years and packed the rink. But when the powers-that-be at Notre Dame decided to deemphasize hockey, it resulted in a year of club status in 1983 followed by years of Div. I independent status.

It took until this year, until an Irish team backed into the NCAA Tournament and then made a surprise run through a Regional,

for Notre Dame to make the Holy Grail of college hockey — the Frozen Four.

The nearly four decades between Lefty's first squad of three scholarship players and today's national semifinalists were a giant wave of successes and failures. But through the peaks and valleys, Irish hockey has done what it did best this season — persevere.

Mike McNeill is now Notre Dame's volunteer assistant coach and has been for the past two seasons. McNeill was raised in South Bend around the hockey program through his father, Tim McNeill, who was Lefty Smith's longtime assistant coach.

"I grew up your typical rink rat, the son of a guy who spends all his time at the rink," Mike McNeill said. "It was like a pack of young kids that would always be going to the games."

McNeill remembered the packed bleachers of the Joyce Center in the 1970s, when the Irish played in the WCHA against traditional powers like Minnesota and Wisconsin.

"Wisconsin would come in buses upon buses and make a sea of red," he said. "Then as a group of kids, if you were ten years old or something, you had your rat pack and you'd try to get in there and incite the Wisconsin fans a little bit."

McNeill and his rink rats, along with many other South Bend kids, worshipped the Irish players of the 1970s like Bill Nyrop and Brian Walsh. Notre Dame hockey, in only its first decade,

had made a huge impact not just on campus, but in the community, where the program had developed youth and high school leagues.

"You get to know the [players], it's a big deal if they pat you on the back, they might call you by your name," McNeill said. "There's a lot of things that go through the years, but [Irish hockey players] are all good guys. They take the time to work with the young kids."

But in the 1983 season, Notre Dame dropped out of the CCHA and reduced its hockey team to club status. McNeill, fresh out of St. Joseph's High, joined the team in 1984 when it was promoted to varsity status again — but to a Division I independent.

"We would go from a trip to like Alaska over fall break and play both Alaska teams," McNeill said. "We would go out and play Air Force Academy, but then right after that weekend we might have Dayton or Dearborn (Michigan), Lake Forest. We went to a Christmas tournament and it was a big deal for us — we got to play Yale."

Notre Dame didn't rejoin the CCHA until 1992, and by that time it was being coached by Ric Shafer after Smith retired in 1987. The Irish meandered along until 1995 when former Irish All-American Dave Poulin took over on the bench.

Poulin reinvigorated the program and eventually brought Notre Dame to its first NCAA Tournament appearance in 2004, but retired from coaching in

2005.

Mark Eaton, now a defenseman for the Pittsburgh Penguins, played under Poulin from 1997-98 and chose Notre Dame for the education because he didn't have aspirations of a pro career. He played so well under Poulin's coaching that he made the "extremely tough" decision to chase that now-real professional path after only a year at Notre Dame.

"They ran such a good program with Dave Poulin being a former NHL guy," Eaton said. "Looking back with the practices he ran, they were very much how NHL practices were run. If you're looking to take the next step to the pro level, how Notre Dame goes about it, it prepares you well for the next level."

Eaton said Notre Dame players have a reputation in the NHL for something more than their hockey skills.

"Teammates know you went to Notre Dame so if there's a feud that needs to be settled ... they know he's usually good for the right answer."

Since Jeff Jackson arrived in South Bend in the spring of 2005, that reputation of a strong mix of athletics and academics at Notre Dame has attracted top recruits. Players, like this year's senior class, have been recruited by Poulin, who brought into Jackson's philosophy also and forged a team chemistry that wins games.

And there's also the shared connection that hundreds of alumni have through Notre Dame

hockey. Former players from the 70s, 80s and 90s have flooded the hockey office in recent days with e-mails encouraging the team.

At the front of that pack has been last year's senior class, eight players who took the Irish to a No. 1 ranking and a league championship last season.

"Even before we got on the plane in Colorado Springs, I think most of the seniors from last year had called," Van Guilder said. "They're all fired up."

Senior defenseman Dan VeNard joked about a one-liner from defenseman Noah Babin, who graduated last year.

"I think Babin had the best line: 'Look what we can do once we get rid of the deadweight from last year,'" VeNard said. "They're just as instrumental to this year's success as the guys playing here right now. Without their support and what they've done in past years, we wouldn't be here right now."

On that April weekend at Parisi's three years ago, it was impossible for Van Guilder and the other four seniors to imagine going to a Frozen Four.

But without the 40 years of trial and error and the hard work of the program's founders and those after, the Frozen Four could still have been an ice dream for Notre Dame hockey.

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

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu



Kyle Cassily

Senior Sports Writer

No. 5 Notre Dame Fighting Irish

ROAD TO DENVER

Won West Regional, beating New Hampshire 7-3 and Michigan State 3-1

TOP SCORERS

F Erik Condra (OUT; 15 goals, 23 assists)
F Ryan Thang (17 goals, 13 assists)
C Mark Van Guilder (12 goals, 17 assists)
C Ben Ryan (10 goals, 16 assists)
D Kyle Lawson (5 goals, 20 assists)
C Kevin Deeth (9 goals, 13 assists)

BETWEEN THE POSTS

G Jordan Pearce (1.95 goals-against, .917 save pct., 22-14-4 record, 2 shutouts)

TOURNAMENT HISTORY

Appearances: 3
Frozen Four Trips: 1
National Championships: 0

BY THE NUMBERS

Goals per game: 2.89
Goals-against per game: 2.02
Power play percentage: .154
Penalty-kill percentage: .896
One-goal games record: 9-6
Overtime record: 0-1-4
When scoring first: 19-5-1
When leading after 2nd period: 23-1-0

BEST WIN

Nov. 9: 2-1 at then-No. 1 Miami

JEFF JACKSON SAYS...

"The way we played last weekend, we showed that we're a very strong transitional team — transition to defense and transition to offense. That helped make the difference for us in scoring some key goals."

No. 2 North Dakota Fighting Sioux

ROAD TO DENVER

Won Midwest Regional, beating Princeton 5-1 and Wisconsin 3-2 (OT)

TOP SCORERS

F T.J. Oshie (18 goals, 25 assists)
F Ryan Duncan (17 goals, 22 assists)
F Chris VandeVelde (15 goals, 17 assists)
D Chay Genoway (8 goals, 21 assists)
D Taylor Chorney (3 goals, 21 assists)
D Robbie Bina (2 goals, 22 assists)

BETWEEN THE POSTS

G J.P. Lamoureux (1.62 goals-against, .935 save pct., 26-10-4 record, 6 shutouts)

TOURNAMENT HISTORY

Appearances: 23
Frozen Four Trips: 18
National Championships: 7

BY THE NUMBERS

Goals per game: 3.05
Goals-against per game: 1.76
Power play percentage: .191
Penalty-kill percentage: .874
One-goal games record: 7-4
Overtime record: 3-1-4
When scoring first: 21-4-1
When leading after 2nd period: 22-3-1

BEST WIN

March 22: 4-2 vs. then-No. 2 Colorado College

JEFF JACKSON SAYS...

"They're a little bit more of a pro-style team, similar to Michigan. A north-south team with great transition but even more a physical style team. They're well-coached, they have great goaltending, and they're tough defensively, too."

No. 1 Michigan Wolverines

ROAD TO DENVER

Won East Regional, beating Niagara 4-1 and Clarkson 2-0

TOP SCORERS

F Kevin Porter (33 goals, 29 assists)
F Chad Kolarik (28 goals, 26 assists)
F Aaron Palushaj (10 goals, 31 assists)
F Max Paciorek (15 goals, 23 assists)
D Travis Turnbull (15 goals, 27 assists)
F Mark Mitera (2 goals, 21 assists)

BETWEEN THE POSTS

G Billy Sauer (1.89 goals-against, .927 save pct., 30-4-3 record, 4 shutouts)

TOURNAMENT HISTORY

Appearances: 31
Frozen Four Trips: 23
National Championships: 9

BY THE NUMBERS

Goals per game: 3.95
Goals-against per game: 1.96
Power play percentage: .205
Penalty-kill percentage: .869
One-goal games record: 9-4
Overtime record: 2-1-4
When scoring first: 29-0-3
When leading after 2nd period: 26-1-2

BEST WIN

Oct. 12: 4-3 vs. then-No. 2 Boston College

JEFF JACKSON SAYS...

"They're the No. 1 team in the country for a reason. They're the most dynamic team in the country and they're tremendously gifted offensively. And the thing that goes unsaid about their team is that Billy Sauer has really become a great goaltender."

No. 3 Boston College Eagles

ROAD TO DENVER

Won Northeast Regional, beating Minnesota 5-2 and Miami 4-3 (OT)

TOP SCORERS

F Nathan Gerbe (30 goals, 30 assists)
F Joe Whitney (10 goals, 40 assists)
F Ben Smith (23 goals, 22 assists)
F Benn Ferriero (17 goals, 24 assists)
F Dan Bertram (9 goals, 25 assists)
F Brian Gibbons (13 goals, 18 assists)

BETWEEN THE POSTS

G John Muse (2.26 goals-against, .920 save pct., 23-11-8 record, 3 shutouts)

TOURNAMENT HISTORY

Appearances: 28
Frozen Four Trips: 21
National Championships: 2

BY THE NUMBERS

Goals per game: 3.57
Goals-against per game: 2.27
Power play percentage: .217
Penalty-kill percentage: .839
One-goal games record: 96-6
Overtime record: 4-3-8
When scoring first: 17-4-3
When leading after 2nd period: 18-0-3

BEST WIN

March 30: 4-3 (OT) vs. then-No. 3 Miami

JEFF JACKSON SAYS...

"They're a very up-tempo team — there's not a tremendous difference between them and UNH. They're a good transitional team with great speed, and they have talented defensemen that help them create that transition."

Notre Dame vs. Michigan will be telecast at 9 p.m. Eastern Time on ESPN2

Been there, done that

Jeff Jackson's 1992 Lake Superior team had similar path to championship as 2008 Irish

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

This may be Notre Dame's first trip to the Frozen Four in the program's history, but forgive the team if it acts like it's been there before. Irish head coach Jeff Jackson knows a thing or two about winning on college hockey's biggest stage.

Jackson already has three national championship rings from his time at Lake Superior State University, two as head coach in 1992 and 1994. The 1993 Laker squad came within one game of giving Jackson a three-peat, falling to Maine in the title game. In total, the Michigan State alum has a 41-10 overall postseason record.

A familiar feeling

While he said every team he's coached is different, Jackson saw similarity between this year's Notre Dame team and his 1992 championship team at LSSU. He said the biggest parallel between the two squads is the fact that both teams were expected to win a championship the year before.

In 1991, Jackson's Lakers won 28 games without a loss, and won 26 over that stretch, before falling to Clarkson in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Last year, Notre Dame went 32-7-3, by far the best season in school history, and was ranked No. 1 in the country heading into the NAAs. However, the Irish fell in the second round of the Tournament to eventual champion Michigan State.

After graduating eight seniors from the 1991 team, and losing future NHL All-Star Doug Weight early to the draft, Jackson's 1992 Lake Superior team finished the season with a mediocre 5-5-2 stretch in its last 12 games. But it got hot at the right time, won the CCHA tournament, and steam-rolled through the NCAA tournament, scoring an average of six goals per game during the championship run.

Notre Dame's second-half struggles this season have been a bit

more pronounced — the Irish went 6-8-4 over their last 18 games. The Irish turned it on, for the CCHA tournament, tough, and came within 3.4 seconds of beating Miami (Ohio) and advancing to the CCHA championship against Michigan. So far in the NCAA Tournament, the Irish showed a similar late-season scoring prowess to the 1992 LSSU team, as Notre Dame has averaged five goals per game in its two Tournament wins over New Hampshire and Michigan State.

"I don't know if we had the same kind of struggles [as this year], but we had a tough spell in January," Jackson said of his 1992 team.

Dave Gilbert, who played on the 1992 Laker team and is now Notre Dame's equipment manager, said that going into the 1992 Frozen Four in Albany, N.Y., Lake Superior had the same "David vs. Goliath" attitude that Notre Dame has this year.

"It's a very, very similar situation," Gilbert said. "The Frozen Four that year was Wisconsin, Michigan State, and Lake Superior. I've got 2,800 students at Lake Superior and you're looking at three of the biggest, not only hockey schools, but biggest schools in the country."

"It's Notre Dame versus North Dakota, Boston College, and Michigan; teams that have won multiple national championships and been to the Frozen Four a gazillion times, and here's us, making our first appearance."

The road to South Bend

After Jackson resigned from Lake Superior in 1996 to coach the U.S. National Junior team, he took his recipe for tournament success with him. In 1997, the Michigan native led the U.S. team to the silver medal at the World Junior Championships — its best finish ever at the time. But, being Jackson, he only viewed the success as a chance for him to become a better coach.

"It was an opportunity that I just couldn't pass up from a learning perspective, to coach the highest-

level players in the highest-level events internationally, and to try to help American hockey. There was a little bit of patriotism involved in that, too," Jackson said.

After stints as head coach of the Guelph Storm from the OHL and as an assistant with the New York Islanders in the NHL, Jackson arrived at Notre Dame, ready to turn around a program that had won five games the previous season. He never thought that they'd get here this quickly, though.

"Realistically, I expected it to take us five years," Jackson said. "But that was accelerated by a great group of kids."

Upon taking the job behind the Irish bench, Jackson sought to recreate the championship atmosphere he created at Lake Superior. That meant bringing some familiar faces back with him. Soon after he was hired, Jackson contacted former LSSU assistant coach Paul Pooley and, in June, 2005, Pooley was named Notre Dame's associate head coach. The former Providence head coach worked with Jackson at Lake Superior from 1992-1994 and was a key to success on both championship teams. Pooley said the Jackson coaching at Notre Dame is no different than the one that led a small, northern school to glory in the early '90s.

"Of course every coach continues to evolve," Pooley said. "But I think his philosophy is the same and from what I've seen, being away from him for such a long time and coming back together, it's very similar."

Doing the little things right

That philosophy, of course, means playoff success. Pooley attributed Jackson's spectacular postseason résumé to his ability to get players to band together come Tournament time.

"The main thing is his ability to get the guys to play together as a group and focus on the team aspect and the commitments necessary to be successful in the NCAA Tournament," Pooley said.

Jackson's focus on the team is evident in this year's squad, as Notre Dame's 10 tournament goals have come from eight different players. Gilbert said that diverse scoring distribution was another similarity this team has with his 1992 Lakers.

"When it came down to the Tournament time, we just really banded together and got scoring from a lot of different guys," he



Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson gives directions during his team's 7-3 win over No. 1 New Hampshire in the NCAA quarterfinals.

said. "Kind of similar to what we're getting from this team."

Oddly enough, one of the main factors both Gilbert and Pooley pointed to when asked why Jackson's teams have a habit of turning it up a notch in the NCAA Tournament was the fact that Jackson doesn't change anything for the postseason.

"How he approaches things is the same from week to week, which is good because if you don't, you get out of whack — you get too high, you get too low — but he's been very consistent," Pooley said.

Gilbert remembered that steady style from 1992, and says that, while Jackson didn't make any alterations, he was able to get the players to step up their focus and tune into him more.

"I think it was more change in the guys, to be honest with you," Gilbert said. "I think his message stayed pretty true throughout the year, and I can kind of see that now."

The main idea Jackson tries to communicate to his players is that if you concentrate on doing the little things right, greater success will follow. The head coach said this message is even more important in the NCAA Tournament.

"You have to have guys that are focused and disciplined and all the things that we preach all the time," Jackson said. "They get magnified in the playoffs. If they elevate those things in the playoffs, then we stand a better chance of doing well."

So far, Jackson has led the Irish to their first CCHA Championship, their first back-to-back NCAA Tournament appearances and their first Frozen Four. All that's left is to win Notre Dame's first National Championship. The players will look to Jackson to help them achieve that goal this weekend.

"I think it will [help]," senior

captain Mark Van Guilder said. "I mean a lot of people say we're an inexperienced team, it's our first time or whatever. I think having coach Jackson, who's been there before, I think that'll definitely help, maybe calm us down a little bit."

Jackson has already talked to his players about the off-ice distractions they will face upon arriving in Denver. He told the team to get things such as tickets and hotel rooms out of the way before they leave.

"The bandwagon has been jumped onto," Jackson said. "They have to be prepared for the hoopla that's going to happen in Denver. It's going to be chaotic around

here, so staying focused, in this environment is probably the most important thing, not allowing the distractions to impact how you perform in practice. Your mind has to be on the game."

Pooley said all his NCAA Tournament history has taught Jackson how to best get his players to focus on the game at hand.

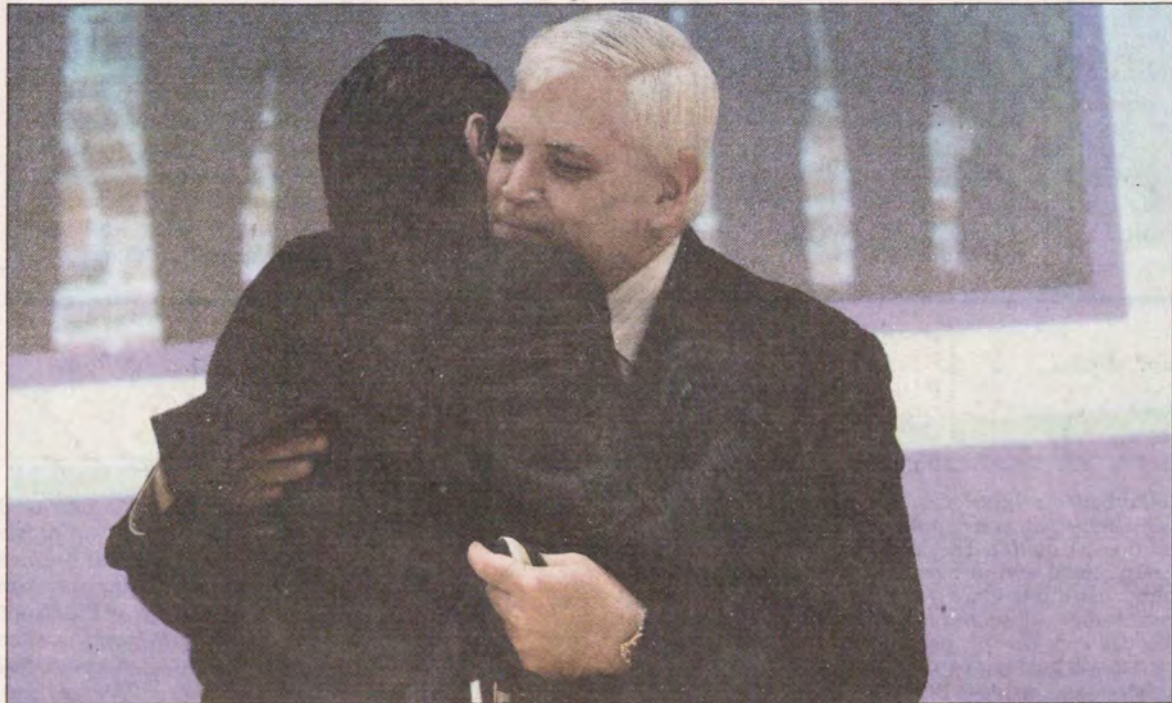
"One thing that coach always does is make sure everything's under control and there's not too many distractions," Pooley said. "Some things we can't control, but the things we can control, we'll make sure that we control them."

Jackson said that success this weekend would be a huge boost to the growing Notre Dame hockey program.

"There's no question, getting to the Frozen Four will help us. That day we win a national championship, whether it be this year or future years, it's going to help us continue to grow this program."

With his fantastic NCAA Tournament pedigree, Jackson seems to be the right man to oversee that growth, and, possibly this weekend, an NCAA title.

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu



Irish coach Jeff Jackson hugs senior Brock Sheahan at the Notre Dame hockey awards banquet Sunday night. Sheahan is one of five seniors that will leave the team after this year.

WU YUE/The Observer

Notre Dame
Fighting Irish

Record: 26-15-4
USCHO/CSTV: 12
USA Today: 5



Jeff Jackson
Third season at
Notre Dame
career record:
253-93-36
at Notre Dame:
71-41-11
against
Michigan: 15-18-1

Jeff Jackson
head coach

Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	YR
1	Jordan Pearce	G	6-1	205	JR
2	Kyle Lawson	D	5-11	207	SO
3	Brett Blatchford	D	5-11	202	SO
4	Dan VeNard	D	6-0	198	SR
5	Teddy Ruth	D	6-0	201	FR
9	Ryan Thang	RW	6-0	200	SO
10	Jutin White	C	6-0	195	JR
11	Erik Condra	RW	6-0	202	JR
12	Stewart Carlin	D	5-11	203	SO
14	Brock Sheahan	D	6-0	191	SR
15	Christiaan Minella	RW	6-1	216	SO
16	Dan Kissel	C	5-9	178	SO
18	Ben Rankin	RW	6-1	205	SR
19	Ben Ryan	F	5-11	190	FR
20	Luke Lucyk	D	6-0	203	JR
21	Keven Deeth	C	5-7	172	SO
22	Calle Ridderwall	F	5-11	172	FR
23	Mark Van Guilder	C	6-2	207	SR
24	Brian D'Arcy	D	6-2	201	SR
25	Christian Hanson	C	6-4	225	JR
27	Ryan Guentzel	F	6-0	176	FR
30	Brad Phillips	G	6-2	171	FR
31	Tom O'Brien	G	5-11	187	SO
33	Garrett Regan	LW	5-11	198	JR

HEAD T


Notre Dame Fighting Irish

LEFT WING


CENTER

RIGHT WING


DEFENSE




16 Kissel




21 Deeth




18 Rankin




28 Cole




2 Lawson




33 Regan




25 Hanson




15 Minella




14 Sheahan




5 Ruth




22 Ridderwall




10 White



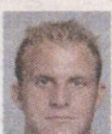
27 Guentzel




3 Blatchford




4 VeNard




9 Thang




19 Ryan




23 Van Guilder



1 Pearce



30 Phillips



31 O'Brien

GOALIE

Boston College
Eagles

Record: 26-15-4
USCHO/CSTV: 7
USA Today: 3



Jerry York
14th season at
Boston College
career record:
801-515-84
at Boston College:
334-180-50
NCAA Tournament:
23-8

Jerry York
head coach

Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	YR
1	John Muse	G	5-11	175	FR
2	Anthony Aiello	D	6-1	195	JR
4	Mike Brennan	D	6-0	209	SR
5	Tim Filangieri	D	6-1	210	JR
6	Tim Kunes	D	6-0	185	JR
7	Carl Snee	D	6-3	205	SO
9	Nathan Gerbe	F	5-5	165	JR
11	Joe Adams	F	5-10	177	SR
12	Ben Smith	F	5-11	200	SO
13	Pat Gannon	F	5-6	165	SR
14	Matt Greene	F	5-8	180	SR
15	Joe Whitney	F	5-6	165	FR
17	Brian Gibbons	F	5-8	160	FR
18	Kyle Kucharski	F	6-3	200	JR
19	Brock Bradford	F	5-9	175	JR
21	Benn Ferriero	F	5-11	192	JR
22	Dan Bertram	F	5-11	190	SR
24	Mitt Lombardi	F	5-11	188	SO
25	Nick Price	F	5-9	180	SO
26	Nick Petrecki	D	6-3	215	FR
27	Andrew Orpik	F	6-3	215	JR
29	Alex Kremer	G	6-0	175	SO
30	Andrew Margolin	G	5-10	165	FR

COACHING

GOALTENDING

IRISH OFFENSE

IRISH DEFENSE

NOTRE DAME

Jeff Jackson knows that to win in the NCAA Tournament. His teams are always firing on all cylinders when the calendar turns to March and that has brought him national championships. It's a pedigree that's hard to beat.

Jordan Pearce spent the second half of the season keeping the Irish in games when their offense couldn't get the job done. He not only filled the void left by Dave Brown, he excelled in it, posting a superb 1.95 goals-against average.

In the second half of the season, Notre Dame flat out couldn't score. But last weekend, the Irish figured out how to score again — and they did it a lot. The offensive creativity they found on the big ice last weekend will need to make another appearance this weekend.

The Irish defense was decimated last season with the departure of three top-flight blue liners. That hasn't mattered as a mix of young talent (Lawson, Cole and Ruth) combined with strong senior leadership (Sheahan and VeNard) allowed only 2.04 goals per game.

MICHIGAN

Red Berenson is no stranger to a national title either. The Michigan coach won one in 1998 and his teams are a constant presence in the NCAA Tournament. His team will be more than prepared for the Irish on both ends of the ice.

Billy Sauer shook off critics this year who said he underperformed in his first two seasons, backstopping Michigan to a CCHA championship. The junior is tough to beat and has yet to lose in the postseason this year.

The Wolverines defense has been overshadowed all year by their explosive offense, but don't be deceived. Michigan can play defense too, allowing 2.0 goals per game. Mark Mitera will be a physical presence in front of the crease, frustrating the Irish.

There is no doubt that the Wolverines can score a lot of goals. They are led by Hobey Baker finalist Kevin Porter, who netted 33 goals and added 29 assists, making him the nation's most dangerous offensive threat. Containing the Wolverines is the ultimate challenge.

ANALYSIS

Jackson won two nationals championships in six seasons at Lake Superior State. That's a title every three years, which puts him on pace for one again in his third season on the Irish bench. Unfortunately it's not that simple, but he can do it.

Pearce and Sauer played similar schedules and posted identical numbers, but achieved different results. Sauer got wins, and Pearce saw his share of losses that weren't the result of his play. On goaltending merits alone, these two are almost a draw.

If the Irish offense from last weekend and the first half of the season shows up, this matchup swings toward the Irish. If not, it could be a long game. Look for more dangling moves a la Dan Kissel against New Hampshire to rule the game.

It's fair to say that Michigan's offense is greater than Notre Dame's defense, but that doesn't mean that the Irish can't defend. Against any other team, and the Irish win this matchup. Just not against Porter and the Wolverines.

Irish
predictions



Kyle Cassily
Sports Writer

Michigan's offense can put you down three goals faster than you can say Rich Rodriguez. But that doesn't matter. The Irish have refound their scoring touch and at least one forward is channeling his inner-Crosby (*cough* Dan Kissel). Notre Dame will score on a flustered Billy Sauer, who will look like his old, porous self. The Irish defense will hold back the Wolverines just enough to play — and upset — BC for the title.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 4, Michigan 3
Notre Dame 3, Boston College 2 (OT)

Matt Gamber
Associate
Sports Editor

On paper
Irish are li
are settled
they will
opponents
break, but
look back.
in the ti
Lamoureux
FINAL SCO

O HEAD

Michigan Wolverines

Michigan Wolverines
Record: 33-5-4
USCHO/CSTV: 1
USA Today: 1

Red Berenson
24th season at Michigan
career record: 644-297-68
at Michigan: 644-297-68
against Notre Dame: 43-9-3



Red Berenson
head coach

LEFT WING	CENTER	RIGHT WING	DEFENSE	GOALIE
39 Pacioretti	11 Porter	24 Kolarik	17 Mitera	3 Vaughan
12 Hagelin	19 Rust	8 Palushaj	4 Summers	34 Llewellyn
16 Winnett	29 Caporusso	9 Turnbull	7 Langlas	5 Kamper
26 Fardig	18 Miller	22 Naurato	36 Sauer	35 Hogan
				31 Hunwick

Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	YR
3	Scooter Vaughan	D	6-0	195	FR
4	Chris Summers	D	6-2	185	SO
5	Steve Kamper	D	5-11	197	SO
7	Chad Langlais	D	5-8	170	FR
8	Aaron Palushaj	F	6-0	185	FR
9	Travis Turnbull	F	6-0	193	JR
10	Chris Fragner	F	6-1	183	SR
11	Kevin Porter	F	5-11	195	SR
12	Carl Hagelin	F	5-11	180	FR
14	Brian Lebler	F	6-2	210	SO
15	Anthony Ciraulo	F	5-6	175	SO
16	Ben Winnett	F	6-1	192	FR
17	Mark Mitera	D	6-3	213	JR
18	Tim Miller	F	6-1	200	JR
19	Matt Rust	F	5-10	180	FR
20	Eric Enblad	D	6-4	201	SO
22	Brandon Naurato	F	6-0	193	JR
24	Chad Kolarik	F	5-11	180	SR
26	Danny Fardig	F	5-11	200	JR
29	Louie Caporusso	F	5-10	185	FR
31	Shawn Hunwick	G	5-7	163	FR
34	Tristin Llewellyn	D	6-1	189	FR
35	Bryan Hogan	G	6-0	190	FR
36	Billy Sauer	G	6-2	180	JR
39	Max Pacioretti	F	6-2	203	FR

IRISH POWER PLAY

Once the second half of the season started, Notre Dame's power play became impotent, going 39 straight man-advantage chances without scoring. The problem, however, became a non-issue after February, and the unit has performed well, if not spectacularly.

IRISH PENALTY KILL

Like last year, the Irish penalty kill is one of the premier units in the nation. They successfully killed 89.6 percent of their man-disadvantages, allowing 21 goals in 202 situations. Their box defense is tough to penetrate and Jordan Pearce allows few shots in from the point.

INTANGIBLES

Notre Dame has had one hell of a season. They spent the first half of the year steamrolling competition, then they wallowed in mediocrity for the second half. Right now, they are surging after two upset victories on college hockey's biggest stage.

OVERALL

The Irish probably never should have been here. But they are. There is no one outstanding part of their game; their success stems from their ability to buy into Jeff Jackson's team-centric, no-individuals philosophy. He knows how to win, and now Notre Dame does too.

Michigan's penalty kill gets the job done, not allowing a goal 86.9 percent of the time. They were one of the units that stonewalled the Irish during their January power-play goal drought and have the ability to do it again.

Michigan's power play was productive this season, scoring on 20.5 percent of their chances. Just like during five-on-five play, if Porter is on the ice, anything can happen and often does. The Wolverines are creative offensively but can suffer from selfish play.

The Wolverines spent a majority of the year as the No. 1 team in the country, then they proved they were by taking the CCHA tournament. They don't lose often and have a long tradition of success in the NCAA Tournament behind them.

Michigan has been arguably the best team in the country all season. They beat the Irish twice in the regular season, even though Notre Dame played strong in the games. They didn't struggle in winning the CCHA tourney and walked through their regional two weeks ago.

The Irish power-play unit against the Wolverine penalty kill will be one of the most crucial battles of the game. If the Irish can get a goal or two on the man-advantage, it will swing the game. These units, however, are a dead draw.

Notre Dame must shut down the Wolverines power play. Michigan is deadly enough with even strength that if the Irish surrender a power play goal or two, they will find themselves in serious trouble.

Michigan hasn't had to deal with very much adversity this season. The Irish have handled it in truckloads, from defeats to injuries. Condra's injury could have broken the Irish, but they responded by marching to their first Frozen Four. Advantage, Irish.

As well as the Irish are playing, the Wolverines are more talented. By all rights, Michigan should win this game and move on, so the overall matchup goes to them. This is a hockey game though, and as ND proved in the regional against UNH, it's anyone's game.

North Dakota

Fighting Sioux
Record: 27-10-4
USCHO/CSTV: 3
USA Today: 2

Dave Hakstol
Fourth season at North Dakota
career record: 105-55-15
at North Dakota: 105-55-15
NCAA Tournament: 9-3



Dave Hakstol
head coach

Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	YR
1	J.P. Lamoureux	G	5-8	152	SR
2	Joe Finley	D	6-7	245	JR
3	Derrick LaPoint	D	6-3	180	FR
4	Taylor Chorney	D	6-0	196	JR
5	Chay Genoway	D	5-8	165	SO
6	Zach Jones	D	5-11	192	JR
7	T.J. Oshie	F	6-0	192	JR
8	Ryan Martens	F	6-0	200	JR
10	Andrew Kozek	F	5-11	195	JR
11	Darcy Zalac	F	6-1	193	SO
14	Brad Miller	F	5-10	170	JR
15	Brent Davidson	F	6-4	224	FR
16	Ryan Duncan	F	5-6	159	JR
17	Rylan Kaip	C	6-1	188	SR
18	Michael Forney	F	6-2	188	SO
19	Evan Trupp	F	5-8	154	FR
20	Matt Watkins	F	5-10	182	JR
21	Matt Frattin	F	5-11	193	FR
22	Brad Malone	F	6-1	197	FR
25	Jake Marto	D	5-11	162	FR
26	Kyle Radke	F/D	6-0	212	SR
28	Robbie Bina	D	5-8	165	SR
29	Chris VandeVelde	F	6-2	204	SO
30	Aaron Walski	G	5-11	179	JR
31	Landon Snider	G	6-0	170	FR

NOTRE DAME

MICHIGAN

ANALYSIS

...heck, I won't even bother. The thing proof that tournament games on the ice and on the ice only, and continue to show higher-ranked they exit signs. They might need a they come out energized and never the run ends against North Dakota le game, as UND goalie J.P. is just too tough.

RE: Notre Dame 3, Michigan 2
North Dakota 3, Notre Dame 1



Sam Werner
Sports Writer

So much has been made of Michigan's explosive offense, and they will come out firing. Jordan Pearce keeps the Irish in the game, though, and the Irish (finally) get a lucky bounce. Jeff Jackson claims his third National Championship as Notre Dame completes a three-game sweep of Michigan State, Michigan, and BC in a complete exorcism of football season.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 3, Michigan 2
Notre Dame 2, BC 0

Irish predictions

Irish forget regional, get to work against Michigan

By KYLE CASSILY
Senior Sports Writer

At the end of one practice early last week, Irish coach Jeff Jackson ordered his players to skate to the goal line, shattering any euphoria still left over from that weekend's West Regional championship.

Jackson, who wanted to condition his players to handle the high altitude and low oxygen of the Frozen Four in Denver, skated them across the length of the rink until some looked ready to taste lunch again.

Freshman Ben Ryan barely made it across the line on his last back-and-forth, pushed to keep going by his teammates' yells.

"It's been good to let us come back to earth a little bit," Irish captain Mark Van Guilder said about the two-week layover between the NCAA Tournament regional and the Frozen Four. "We were feeling pretty good about ourselves after that weekend. But you kind of realize after a few days that, hey, we still have work to do. That and some real tough practices early last week got that out of the system."

The No. 5 Irish have a lot of work left to do when they play No. 1 Michigan tonight at 9 p.m. in Denver in the national semifinal. Notre Dame (26-15-4) lost twice to the Wolverines (33-5-4) during the regular season, stymied by a winning goal with 20 seconds left and then by a poor defensive performance in a 5-1 loss.

The two losses to Michigan came in January at the start of a two-and-a-half month stretch of futility during which the Irish went 9-11-4 prior to the upset 7-3 victory over New Hampshire in the NCAA quarterfinals.

"[Michigan] is on a mission, but I would like to believe our team is too," Jackson said.

"The confidence that we gained last weekend helped us a lot. The game against UNH helped us against Michigan State. The guys understand that, with all the turmoil and all the problems we had in the second half, I think they found out if they pay the price, they can beat anybody."

The Wolverines' offense was the most dynamic and deadly in college hockey this season, led by senior Kevin Porter — a Hobey Baker top-three finalist who led the nation in points with 62 (33 goals, 29 assists).

Porter scored four goals in the NCAA quarterfinals two weeks ago against Niagara and is joined on his line by the nation's No. 3 scorer, Chad Kolarik (28 goals, 26 assists).

"It takes five guys [to stop Michigan's offense]," Van Guilder said. "It takes three forwards coming back as hard as they can ... basically it's all about keeping a good third man in the offensive zone so we don't give up odd-man rushes. Once you give them time and space like that, that's when they can be dangerous."

Before last weekend's regional, the Irish offense was as impotent as the Wolverines' was dangerous. In the 21 games before the NCAA Tournament, Notre Dame scored only 43 goals.

But a seven-goal barrage against New Hampshire followed by three goals in the win over Michigan State against one of the nation's top goalies in Jeff Lerg, has given confidence back to Notre Dame's snipers.

"We were saying in Colorado Springs how nice it would have been if our forwards would have been scoring seven goals a game," Irish defenseman Dan VeNard said. "It wouldn't have been so nerve-racking on the back end."

Michigan goalie Billy Sauer, although not a Hobey Baker finalist like Regan and Lerg, has posted a 1.89 goals-against average, fourth best in the nation. Sauer, a junior,



WU YUE/The Observer

Irish captain Mark Van Guilder carries the puck up the ice during Notre Dame's 2-1 victory in the second round of the CCHA playoffs.

started in net his first two seasons and received criticism at the start for his inability to replicate the success of former Wolverines netminder Al Montoya.

"You don't really look at it from how good the goalie is or isn't," Van Guilder said. "You just look at trying to get people in front of him because any goalie, including him, is going to stop it if he can see it, so you want to get traffic in front of him like we did to the other guys. Make him go post to post, side to side, all of that."

Irish goalie Jordan Pearce will start in net as he has done

nearly all year, posting a 1.95 goals-against average while keeping Notre Dame in close games when the offense couldn't score.

This is only the fourth time in Notre Dame history that a men's team has advanced to an NCAA final four or championship tournament. The first three were men's basketball in 1978, men's lacrosse in 2001 and baseball in 2002.

The puck will drop 9 p.m. Eastern Time at the Pepsi Center in Denver and will be televised on ESPN 2.

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

Blue-line pairings master roles, discover offensive side

By MATT GAMBER
Associate Sports Editor

With a 1.95 goals-against average that ranks sixth nationally, junior goalie Jordan Pearce has earned elite status among college hockey netminders. He's also been credited with much of Notre Dame's success this year, especially considering its troubles scoring goals during the season's second half.

But within the locker room, the team knows the Irish go as the defensemen go.

"We try to play solid defensively and our offense kind of stems from that," Pearce said. "It helps out when our guys cover their areas as well

as they have and keep guys from getting free and keeping shots out on the perimeter. I might have to make a big save or two a game, but other than that, they make my job pretty routine."

The Irish have three pairs of defensemen that log plenty of ice time — sophomore Kyle Lawson and freshman Ian Cole, senior Brock Sheahan and freshman Teddy Ruth, and senior Dan VeNard and sophomore Brett Blatchford. Each pairing has its own defined style and strategy, making all three units valuable to the Irish.

Lawson (five goals, 20 assists) and Cole (eight goals, 10 assists) combine to form the most offensively prolific tandem, with Lawson serving

as the "quarterback," coach Jeff Jackson said, and Cole the sharpshooter.

"[Kyle] makes good decisions with the puck ... and he's as good defensively as anybody," Jackson said. "It's just a matter of putting [Ian] in the position to use his big shot effectively. That's why we've put him in that role, to be much more active shooting on the power play recently."

And it's paid off of late, as four of Cole's eight goals have come in the CCHA and NCAA tournaments. He scored twice in a 6-3 win over Ferris State in game two of the CCHA quarterfinals, before netting one goal in a 2-1 win over the Bulldogs in game three and adding another on the power play in the 7-3 win over New

Hampshire to open the NAAs.

"I've just been finding the seams and guys have been giving me good passes," Cole said. "I've gotten some open shots and I've just been hitting them."

Lawson has transitioned well into his role as the distributor.

"All I'm looking for is to feed him the puck," Lawson said. "He's got that abominable shot, and I'd rather pass than shoot anyway. I've got no problem sliding it over to Ian."

At the opposite end of the spectrum are Sheahan (one goal, 11 assists) and Ruth (two goals, 3 assists), the two hard-hitting enforcers who are almost always charged with stopping an opponent's top lines — which they will try to do tonight against an explosive Michigan offense, led by forwards Kevin Porter (33 goals) and Chad Kolarik (28 goals).

"Brock's leadership back there ... every night, he's a man. He plays against the top lines and the top players as tough as anybody," Jackson said. "Teddy's strong, he's physical, he skates well, and he makes good decisions with the puck ... I love the guy's grittiness, I like his character, and I think he's got a ton of upside [offensively]."

While Ruth scored a big insurance goal late in the West Regional final against Michigan State and Sheahan tallied an assist in the win over UNH, the offensive production they do provide is just icing on the cake.

"We pride ourselves on being strong physically and doing a good job against the other teams' top lines," Sheahan said. "There's certain guys you have chemistry with on the ice, and he's one of them."

VeNard (five goals, seven assists) and Blatchford (12 assists) are a mix of the two, as Jackson has seen major improvements in VeNard's defensive intensity and Blatchford's ability to distribute the puck.

"I try to get into the rush as much as I can and kind of be the second wave of attack," said VeNard, who had scored just two career goals in three injury-plagued seasons coming into his senior campaign. "Brett's a guy who makes a good first pass. We just try to hold our heads above the water and try to stop the third and fourth lines when we're out there."

Regardless of who's patrolling the defensive (and, depending on who it is, the offensive) zone for the Irish, Jackson has confidence in his blue-liners.

"I think that they have developed into one of the best corps of defensemen in the country," Jackson said. "We've got a nice balance of guys that are solid defensively, and we've got guys with offensive instincts, but they all know how to play defense. With the development of the young guys ... and the leadership of the two seniors, we're definitely solid."

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu



WU YUE/The Observer

Irish defenseman Ian Cole takes a shot during Notre Dame's 2-1 CCHA playoff win over Ferris State. Cole has registered four goals so far in the postseason.

Irish get goals from new places without Condra

By MATT GAMBER
Associate Sports Editor

After Irish junior right wing Erik Condra was helped off the ice by teammates after being injured in a March 16 playoff win over Ferris State, one question surged through the minds of nearly every onlooker — how will the Irish deal with the loss of their leading scorer?

That inquiry was answered resoundingly in Colorado Springs, where the Irish pulled off two upsets to advance to this tonight's Frozen Four.

But the less-pondered question remains — how is Condra himself coping with the pain of not only a knee injury, but also the pain of watch his teammates vie for a national title without him on the ice?

The Injury

The game against the Bulldogs was a physical one, with both teams fighting for a chance to extend their seasons by advancing to the CCHA semifinals in Detroit the next weekend.

Midway through the first period, Condra was checked hard at center ice, where he appeared to get tangled with a teammate before crashing hard to the sheet. He lay on the ice for several seconds before play was stopped, at which time he was helped off the ice and into the locker room.

"I always thought positively," Condra said. "I knew it was hurt, so I tried to get off the ice. Once I got in the locker room, I still wasn't sure — I

hopefully thought I'd be able to come back and play the game, but obviously that didn't happen. The docs took a look at it and knew it was pretty bad."

With the Irish fighting for a spot in the CCHA semifinals, they couldn't afford to let Condra's injury keep them from putting away Ferris State — and a newfound sense of urgency was immediately evident, senior captain Mark Van Guilder said.

"It was pretty clear that we needed a lot of guys to step up to pick up for his absence," he said. "There was nothing said during the game, but you could see things really change among the guys over the next

couple shifts — guys realizing the scoring's going to have to come from somewhere, so we better pick it up."

But according to coach Jeff Jackson, it wasn't just the scoring that would need a boost.

"Anytime a player goes down, I'm obviously concerned about the welfare of the player first and foremost,"

Jackson said. "Then you start gaining some perspective about all the areas where you're going to miss him — and it's not just from an offensive perspective. He's one of our top guys on the power play, and we rely on him a lot in penalty-killing and with [the other team's] goalie pulled."

And it wouldn't take long for one of those "other" areas to come into play.

With the Irish desperately clinging to a 1-0 lead late in their CCHA semifinal match-up



Irish right wing Erik Condra, center, gets tangled up with teammate Mark Van Guilder during the play that injured Condra's knee on March 16 against Ferris State, knocking him out for the season.

with then-No. 3 Miami (Ohio), the RedHawks pulled their goalie to create a six-on-five advantage and attempt to score the game-tying goal — and they did just that.

Miami won a crucial face-off in the Notre Dame defensive zone, and RedHawks forward Mitch Ganzak sent the game to overtime by beating Irish goalie Jordan Pearce with 3.4 seconds to play in regulation.

"The funny thing is that's actually the position that Erik Condra would have been in [taking the face-off]," Jackson said after the loss. "We practice that situation, five-on-six, with Erik, but since Erik got hurt last Sunday, we didn't practice it last week with a new player. It's hindsight, but it's one of the areas that you just lose track of the fact that he's the guy that would have been on the ice in that situation. Everybody talks about his losses from other areas, but that's one that even we as coaches didn't anticipate the importance of."

Picking it up

Obviously the Irish have lived to see another day, earning an NCAA tournament berth despite losing both their games in Detroit. But Miami's late goal was a play that could have cost them their season — and yet the Irish have fought on, without their fallen star.

"When you lose a guy like that, especially being a senior, it's your duty to step up," senior captain Mark Van Guilder said. "You can't replace him, but you help out and pick it up a little bit."

And Van Guilder has come through, notching three assists in the 7-3 thrashing of New Hampshire and scoring the game-winner in the regional championship win over Michigan State. He was named the West Regional's most outstanding player.

But the Irish captain is just one of several players who has elevated his game in the place of the injured Condra. Notre Dame received a tremendous unassisted goal from sophomore left wing Dan Kissel, and the Irish have also had key goals from the likes of left wing Ryan Thang and center

Kevin Deeth (Condra's former linemates) and defensemen Kyle Lawson, Ian Cole and Teddy Ruth.

Junior center Christian Hanson was perhaps the most impressive in Colorado Springs, scoring three goals and adding an assist in the two games to earn all-regional honors.

"Erik's the best player on our team, so when he went down, we knew that all the guys around him were going to have to pick it up," Hanson said. "I've just been trying to do my part, get in [near the net] a little more and take a few more chances offensively."

The efforts of the perhaps once-less-heralded Irish players have certainly not gone unnoticed.

"They have definitely picked it up for me," Condra said. "It's good to see them battling and doing all the little things at the right time. We're paying attention to details, and we're taking that intensity to the next level, where it needs to be at Tournament time."

"I've seen guys take it to that next level, which we haven't really seen this year. They're stepping it up, and now that we've seen it, we're going to hold them to that great level of play."

The new biggest fan

For Condra, watching the team he led just a few weeks ago advance to the first Frozen Four in school history is bittersweet.

"It's tough not being there just because I've battled with these guys all year, they have gone so far and it's the opportunity of a lifetime," Condra said. "But I love seeing these guys succeed — they're like my brothers. I want them to do well, and that's all I hope for."

Condra has made it a habit to sit in the locker rooms with his teammates before games before retreating to the stands with the other members of the

Irish team who don't dress — a routine he does "for my own sake," he said.

"It's almost harder to be a fan than a player because you're sitting there and you can't do anything about it," Condra said. "I was probably one of the most excited guys out there when we won, and I

think I'm just as big a part of it now as I was when I was on the ice — and they have helped me with that."

That has been a focus of the team and its coaching staff, Jackson said.

"The thing that's tough for

me is to watch him see what's happening right now," he said. "I don't think anybody's more passionate about playing the game than Erik, and I know that inside it's just killing him not being [on the ice]."

"I want to make sure he stays involved. He's a huge component of our team and he still is, from a leadership and an emotional perspective. I want to make sure he gets the chance to enjoy this, even though he won't be able to fully enjoy it because he's not [on the ice]."

Though Jackson knows the team will miss its star tonight against Michigan, and that Condra himself is certainly unhappy with being injured, the Irish coach knows the experience could help Condra in the long run.

"He hasn't missed a game until now, and this is an opportunity for him to see things from the coaches' perspective and from his teammates' perspective," he said. "You never want to see that happen, but hopefully it'll allow him to heal up and have a senior year beyond anything that he's done thus far."

And Condra hopes for, and expects, the same thing.

"I'll be training hard this off-season because I've seen where this program can be," said Condra, who plans to be back for Notre Dame's first game next fall. "I want to make sure I get a chance to be out there on that ice with them."

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu



Junior right wing Erik Condra handles the puck during Notre Dame's 3-1 loss to Ohio State on Feb. 22.



WU YUE/The Observer



WU YUE/The Observer

The long road to Denver

It hasn't been easy, but the Irish have made it to the Frozen Four anyway. After a fast start that saw Notre Dame climb into the top eight of the national rankings, the Irish went cold — really cold. But Notre Dame couldn't have come together at a more perfect time, coming to life in Colorado Springs by pulling consecutive upsets over North Hampshire and CCHA-rival Michigan State. If the Irish hope to advance to Saturday's national championship game, they'll have to overcome the CCHA (and perhaps the country's) best team in No. 1 Michigan. The Irish gave up a late goal to lose the teams' first meeting 3-2 on Jan. 18, before getting blown out 5-1 the next night at the Palace in Auburn Hills. But as Notre Dame showed in Colorado Springs two weekends ago, anything can happen come Tournament time.



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer



WU YUE/The Observer



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Top left, Irish wing Erik Condra drills a slap shot. Top right, Irish defenseman Ian Cole handles the puck along the boards. Center, Irish center Kevin Deeth crashes the net and scores a goal. Bottom right, Irish wing Garrett Regan plays some tough defense. Bottom left, Irish goalie Jordan Pearce handles the puck.