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Panel discusses GLBT issues at ND

Talks center on how to construct a more inclusive atmosphere

By SARAH MERVOSH
Assistant News Editor

When Saint Mary's junior Laurel Javors saw a comic implying violence towards the gay community in the Jan. 13 edition of The Observer, she thought of a friend.

"I was in Florence last year, watching my friend Jeff wheeled away in a stretcher," Javors said. "He was beaten to the point where he lost sight in his eye because we was holding his boyfriend's hand."

"These are the realities we face," Javors, a member of Saint Mary's Gay and Straight Alliance, said in a panel Thursday evening.

In response to The Observer

see PANEL/page 4



TOM YOUNG/The Observer

Panel members listen to each other as they discuss instances of discrimination they have encountered at the University and ways to address the issues facing the GLBT community.

GreenND to host 'The Footprint of Food'

By KRISTEN DURBIN
News Writer

As the world continues to search for solutions to global warming and alternative fuels, GreenND, Notre Dame's environmental club, has planned an upcoming Green Summit, titled "The Footprint of Food" to help educate the South Bend community on the impact food has on the environment, in addition to a number of other events.

"Food is a great topic because everyone eats. More importantly, food is central to many of the current environmental and energy concerns," Colleen Kelly, senior and

see GREENND/page 6

AFTLS perform 'Romeo and Juliet'

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Writer

Actors from the London Stage (AFTLS) are reviving the British theatre tradition at Notre Dame during this week's performances of William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," which present the play in its original version, at Washington Hall.

The star-crossed lovers of Verona have spurred an unprecedented cultural following that often inspires moderns twists on "Romeo and Juliet," yet the AFTLS return the show to its Shakespearean roots.

"I would love to see a traditional version since I have never seen the play performed before," freshman Olivia Lee said.

see PLAY/page 3

Camp caters to children of cancer patients

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

When one thinks of the victims of cancer one often thinks of those who struggle daily with the disease. But cancer takes more victims than just its medical patients; for every cancer victim has a family behind them and these people, particularly children, need help as well.

A group of Notre Dame students have been making sure children who have been affected by a parent

who has cancer are not forgotten and get the chance to still be kids despite the mature burden they have at home.

Camp Kesem is a national student-run sleep-away camp that takes place the first week of August for kids ages 6 to 15 whose parents have died from or are currently being treated for cancer. Although the camp is national and several colleges across the country participate, each camp is

see KESEM/page 6



Photo courtesy of Katherine Dorociak

Kesem camp counselors stand together covered in whipped cream after a teambuilding exercise.

Lecture series focuses on changes in business

By SAM STRYKER
News Writer

Anticipating changes in the culture of the business world is a valuable skill in today's fast-paced world, and to keep pace, the Mendoza School of Business is hosting a series of lectures throughout the spring semester titled "Ten Years Hence."

Mendoza has hosted a spring lecture series for the last nine years, and for the last six they have all held the common theme of "Ten Years Hence." This year's lecture series is focused on "The Future of

Capitalism."


The series began Jan. 22 with a panel discussion titled "The Ascent of Money," hosted by Scott Malpas, vice president and chief investment officer at the University of Notre Dame, and Professor Richard Mendenhall. It will conclude April 16 with a lecture by Catherine Mathis, senior vice president of Marketing and Communications for Standard & Poor's.

There will be a total of seven lectures, and if students attend all seven, they can receive one

see MENDOZA/page 4

"Ten Years Hence" Lecture Series

- Jan. 22 - "The Ascent of Money," part one
- Feb. 5 - "The Ascent of Money," part two
- Feb. 12 - Fred Dust, partner and practice lead for IDEO
- Feb. 26 - Harris Diamond, CEO of Weber Shandwick
- March 14 - Hazel Henderson, founder of Ethical Markets Media
- March 26 - John Mackay, chairman and CEO of Whole Foods
- April 16 - Catherine Mathis, senior vice president at Standard and Poors



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New York 28 / 15 **Philadelphia** 30 / 18 **Phoenix** 68 / 48 **Seattle** 54 / 45 **St. Louis** 22 / 19 **Tampa** 75 / 62 **Washington** 33 / 27

Dance Marathon hosts fundraisers

Club aims to beat last year's total with a number of charity events

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

After raising over \$91,500 at Dance Marathon 2009, the Saint Mary's College Dance Marathon club continues to raise funds and awareness for Riley Children's Hospital senior Kelly Deranek, the event's president, said.

With a variety of events planned, the club hopes to raise funds to benefit the Hospital.

"Any amount of money that we raise is money that the Hospital didn't have," Deranek said. "Anything that we can give them is great. Of course we always love to raise more than we did last year, but we have no set goal."

The club hosted "Give Back Night" at Five Guys Burgers and Fries this past Wednesday. A portion of the proceeds from the event that were collected will be added to the grand total which will be announced at the Marathon on March 26 and 27.

The club has several other events coming up

within the next few weeks. Other "Give Back Nights" will be offered, as well as a sale of candy for Valentine's Day.

"We are going to be doing a sale for Valentine's Day where we will be selling sweets that people can purchase and we'll deliver them," Deranek said.

The candy sale will begin on Feb. 8 and will continue through Feb. 12.

Additionally, a Purse Party will be held on Feb. 12, where handbags and accessories will be available for purchase.

Another event that Dance Marathon will be hosting is

Salon Night, which will coincide with a Fannie Mae Candy Sale for Easter on Feb. 22.

The club has a variety of other events, including A Miss-A-Meal where students at the College can give up a meal one night and allow the money that they would have spent on the meal to be donated to the Dance Marathon.

A Charity Denim event and a babysitting night will be hosted as well.

"[We will have] a babysitting night for Riley families in the area that come to our marathon," Deranek said. "We're going to have a night where we volunteer and watch their kids so they can go out for the night."

The club plans on hosting the actual the Dance Marathon towards the end the academic year. At the Marathon students come together from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. to raise awareness for the Hospital.

"The purpose of Dance Marathon is to raise financial and emotional awareness for the Children's Miracle Network but specifically at Riley's Children's Hospital in Indianapolis," Deranek said.

Forms are available on the Dance Marathon Web site and will be accepted through the event.

"Everyone is encouraged, for all three campuses," Deranek said. "We're going to be at Holy Cross sometime in the next few weeks collecting packets and promoting the event. They've had information at Notre Dame Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights to encourage Notre Dame students to come as well."

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Play

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Director of Audience Development Aaron Nichols described the AFTLS as truly unique. The program is in its 35th year and acts as "an actor-driven tour de force," according to the company's Web site.

"The most exciting aspect is that these actors really get down to the meat of Shakespeare's text," Nichols said. "It is fascinating to see a show that has been done more elaborately cut down to its very soul."

The five actors to appear on stage hail from impressive backgrounds and boast résumés that include some of the most prestigious stages in London, Nichols said. These individuals are challenged to divide 20 to 30 parts from the Shakespearean plays and are considered experts on the texts.

"I expect both a strong historical focus and an emphasis on good verse speaking," Department of English research professor John Wilkinson said.

Student interaction is an integral part of the company's tour.

"The classroom workshops are truly an original concept," Nichols said. "The actors are in upwards to 30 to 35 classrooms per week."

Wilkinson will host actress Jennifer Higham in a classroom workshop on Friday and was particularly excited about bringing this "particular tradi-

tion of English acting" to his students in a personal form.

"As for the performance, I am quite interested to see the nurse," Wilkinson said. "She is a challenging character for a modern actor because she is simultaneously a warm and maternal figure, as well as strongly interested in Juliet's marriage prospects, and also very filthy minded."

The objective of Shakespeare at Notre Dame is to embrace "humanist study and the performing arts in the exploration of drama in a Christian context," as stated on the program Web site. The AFTLS is one branch of this mission to bring the study of Shakespeare to the University setting here in South Bend.

A substantial audience is expected when this renowned play takes the stage of Washington Hall, Nichols said.

"We are expecting large crowds because 'Romeo and Juliet' is one of Shakespeare's most popular, albeit most tragic, romances," he said.

Though the plot of 'Romeo and Juliet' and their doomed romance is well known, this unique company should still bring added flair to the classic show.

"I know what happens in the story," freshman Adam Zebrowski said. "But I am still expecting to be entertained, especially by the more comedic parts with Benvolio and Mercutio."

"Romeo and Juliet" will be performed in Washington Hall at 7:30 p.m. tonight.

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all of those who have contributed to the success of *Pray.nd.edu*

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Panel

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comic, student government hosted "Where To Go From Here?: Moving Beyond Fruits and Vegetables," and discussed how the Notre Dame community can create a more inclusive atmosphere, especially for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) students.

Five panelists spoke about their reaction to the comic and offered suggestions for how the Notre Dame community can make progress in the achieving a "Spirit of Inclusion," referring to the University's 1997 formal statement.

Dan Myers, Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, said The Observer comic should be used as an opportunity for progress.

"When something happens like this, like this cartoon being published, it's natural and it's very easy to get focused on the specific individuals who are involved," Myers said. "That's not where I want to focus."

Myers said it is more important to focus on changing the culture at Notre Dame, and he called upon students and faculty to hold themselves accountable.

"When you first came to Notre Dame, you might have wondered how people were going to behave with respect to these issues," he said. "The first time someone made one of these offensive jokes, I bet there was kind of an awkward pause while people figured out whether it was okay to laugh."

"Those are the moments that define our culture," Myers said.

"I'm asking you ... to challenge yourself to step up and be someone who helps change this culture," he said. "I know it's intimidating as hell to do that stuff. I don't blame people to being scared to do it. I'm scared to do it, but you can do it."

Senior Patrick Bears, a member of Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students, called upon both students and faculty to make a change.

"I don't go a week without hearing something odious described as gay or without someone calling someone else a [derogatory term] when they do something they don't like," he

said.

But it's about more than simply changing the type of language used, Bears said.

"It's not just us to stop using 'gay' [...] What I want us to do is to become better students and better teachers," he said. "I would like to see more students interested in queer material and I want to see more teachers offer queer material in their syllabi."

Javors said the Notre Dame community should move forward by engaging mature discussions about sexuality as a way of life.

"God created my sexuality, regardless of what any religious teaching otherwise said. That is what I hold to be true," she said. "I feel like the more people get to know their peers, whether they be heterosexual or homosexual, they will see that exact same thing."

"Sexuality isn't what someone does in bed, but it's what they live out to the world everyday," Javors said. "I challenge both the Saint Mary's and Notre Dame's campuses to really engage in a mature and intellectual way and not just hide behind the teachings of [the Bible.]"

Myers use his 13-year-old son as an example of what it takes for individuals to help change the culture. He said he heard his son on the phone with a friend defending homosexuality.

"You can hardly imagine a more socially intimidating place in life than junior high. [But my son said,] 'Dude, you are being so homophobic right now. You can't just call people 'gay' as a put down,'" Myers said.

"And then he said, 'Seriously I'm going to hang up on you if you don't stop being so homophobic,'" he said. "Saying, 'Dude that is so not cool.' That, I'm telling you, is a hell of a weapon."

"Now if he can do it, you can do it. I can do it. We all can," Myers said.

Other panelists included Sr. Sue Dunn, co-president of the Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students, and Maureen Lafferty, University Counseling Center counselor and psychologist and member of the Core Council.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu



TOM YOUNG/The Observer

Members of the panel listen as an audience member poses a question. The panelists talked about the GLBT experience at Notre Dame and how to achieve a 'Spirit of Inclusion.'

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Mendoza

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academic credit.

Professor James O'Rourke, director of the Eugene D. Fanning Center at Mendoza College, said he believes the "Ten Years Hence" theme holds especially important in today's financial times.

"I think it is important to not just study history and current events for our lessons, but to look forward in some structured speculation to see what life will be like in 10 years time," he said.

O'Rourke said this approach of tackling future problems today is a very logical one in the business world.

"Many of the issues such as water and oil are foreshadowing problems," he said. "It's entirely possible we may devise interventions for altering the outcomes."

O'Rourke also said the series will involve a number of events, ranging from a two-part discussion on PBS's popular series "The Ascent of Money" to discussions with noted leaders in

the business community such as John Mackay, chairman and CEO of Whole Foods, who will speak March 26 on the subject of "Conscious Capitalism."

"We look for people with a connection to Notre Dame who feel that this is part of their pro bono mission," O'Rourke said.

While the theme "Ten Years Hence" has run for the past six years, O'Rourke feels that this year's focus, "The Future of Capitalism," is an especially topical subject.

"This is really a response to the chaos we've seen in markets and the anxiety we've all felt in the last 24 months as this recession has dragged on," he said.

In addition to the discussions on Jan. 22, March 26 and April 16, Mendoza will host the second part of "The Ascent of Money" panel on Feb. 5; Fred Dust, partner and practice lead for IDEO, on Feb. 12; Harris Diamond, CEO of Weber Shandwick, on Feb. 26; and Hazel Henderson, founder of Ethical Markets Media, on March 19.

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Coffee at the Como

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

Tuesday, February 2
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
316 Coleman Morse

The Core Council invites gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning members of the Notre Dame family, along with their friends and allies, to an informal gathering at the Co-Mo.

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CORE COUNCIL
FOR GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL
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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Mayor to defend gay marriage

MEXICO CITY — Mexico City's mayor says he will defend the capital's gay-marriage law and insists the ordinance will take effect in March despite an appeal by federal prosecutors.

Mayor Marcelo Ebrard says the federal appeal on constitutional grounds is wrong. He says nothing in Mexico's constitution prohibits same-sex marriage or adoption by gay couples.

The city's legal adviser, Leticia Bonifaz, said Thursday the first gay marriages will be performed in early May while the Supreme Court hears the case.

The federal Attorney General's Office said Wednesday it filed a challenge with the Supreme Court arguing the law violates constitutional provisions on the family and the protection of children.

The law is a first for Latin America

Sri Lankan president seeks harmony

COLOMBO — Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa pledged to seek reconciliation with minority Tamils after his sweeping re-election, but did not indicate how he plans to deal with their demands for greater rights.

Critics said this week's balloting showed the country's ethnic divisions that fueled decades of war were again near a breaking point, with many minorities apparently voting for the opposition or staying away from the polls.

NATIONAL NEWS

Official opposition to 9/11 trials

NEW YORK — Opposition to the government's plans to hold the Sept. 11 terrorist trial in New York City intensified Thursday, one day after Mayor Michael Bloomberg revealed he had changed his mind and now hoped the trial would be held elsewhere.

Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., said he has introduced a bill that would prohibit the use of Justice Department funds to try Guantanamo detainees in federal civilian courts. Hours later, New York Gov. David Paterson said he wants discussion with federal officials on the issue of venue.

Author J.D. Salinger dies at 91

NEW YORK — J.D. Salinger, the legendary author, youth hero and fugitive from fame whose "The Catcher in the Rye" shocked and inspired a world he increasingly shunned, has died. He was 91.

Salinger died of natural causes at his home on Wednesday, the author's son, actor Matt Salinger, said in a statement from Salinger's longtime literary representative, Harold Ober Associates, Inc. He had lived for decades in self-imposed isolation in a small, remote house in Cornish, N.H.

"The Catcher in the Rye," with its immortal teenage protagonist, the twisted, rebellious Holden Caulfield, came out in 1951, a time of anxious, Cold War conformity and the dawn of modern adolescence. The Book-of-the-Month Club, which made "Catcher" a featured selection, advised that for "anyone who has ever brought up a son" the novel will be "a source of wonder and delight — and concern."

LOCAL NEWS

Court to rule on legal mother

INDIANAPOLIS — Infant R's birth certificate lists his father's name. But the space for his mother's name is blank, and will remain so until the Indiana Court of Appeals decides who his legal mother is.

The 11-month-old boy referred to as Infant R in court documents was conceived by in vitro fertilization. His genetic parents are a northern Indiana married couple who donated the sperm and egg. His birth mother is the wife's sister, who volunteered to carry the baby.

The couple — known as T.G. and V.G. in court records — then petitioned Porter County Circuit Court to have the genetic mother's name on the child's birth certificate.

Roeder admits to church slaying

Trial continues in Wichita for murder of prominent abortion provider Dr. George Tiller

Associated Press

WICHITA — The judge in the trial of a man accused of murdering an abortion doctor dealt the defense a major setback Thursday, ruling that the jury cannot consider a lesser charge of manslaughter.

The ruling came hours after Scott Roeder took the stand in his own defense and admitted killing Dr. George Tiller, saying he acted to save the lives of unborn children.

Roeder's attorneys had hoped to win a lesser conviction of voluntary manslaughter, which requires them to show their client had an unreasonable but honest belief that deadly force was justified. The charge carries a considerably lighter sentence than murder.

Roeder testified that he considered elaborate schemes to stop the doctor, including chopping off his hands, crashing a car into him or sneaking into his home to kill him.

But in the end, Roeder told jurors, the easiest way was to walk into Tiller's church, put a gun to the man's forehead and pull the trigger.

Testifying as the lone defense witness, Roeder calmly explained what he admitted publicly months ago — that he killed Tiller to save unborn children.

"Those children were in immediate danger if someone did not stop George Tiller," Roeder said as the jury watched attentively but without a hint of surprise.

"They were going to continue to die," he said. "The babies were going to continue to die."

Roeder has pleaded not guilty to murder in the attack at the Wichita church where Tiller was an usher. Witnesses have described how Roeder walked into the building's foyer on May 31 shortly after the service started, approached Tiller and fired



Scott Roeder, accused of murdering prominent Kansas abortion provider Dr. George Tiller, listens while the judge speaks at his trial on Thursday in Wichita.

a single shot before fleeing.

After Roeder's testimony, District Judge Warren Wilbert ruled that the jury would not be permitted to consider the manslaughter charge because abortion, including late-term abortion, is legal in Kansas and because Tiller did not pose an imminent threat.

"There is no immediate danger in the back of a church," the judge said. He also ruled out a second-degree murder conviction, which does not involve premeditation, because it was clear Roeder planned the killing.

"It would be hard for a reasonable fact-finder to find anything other than the defendant formulating his belief and then planning on multiple occasions ... to

carry out his intention to (kill) Dr. Tiller."

In a November interview with The Associated Press, Roeder publicly confessed to shooting Tiller, who was one of the few doctors in the country who performed late-term abortions.

Roeder, 51, of Kansas City, Mo., said he considered other ways of killing Tiller, including driving his car into Tiller's or shooting him with a shotgun. But he said he was concerned those approaches could hurt others.

"I did what I thought was needed to be done to protect the children," Roeder said. "I shot him."

He testified that he wrapped the .22-caliber handgun in a piece of cloth and buried it in a rural

area. The weapon has not been recovered.

Prosecutors were careful during the first few days of testimony to avoid the subject of abortion and to focus on the specifics of the shooting. The judge said he did not want the trial to become a debate on abortion, but he said he would give Roeder a great deal of "latitude" when discussing his beliefs because they were integral to his defense.

Throughout his questioning, Roeder appeared calm and collected, waiting quietly each time prosecutors objected to something he said about medical procedures or late-term abortions, which the judge forbade him from testifying about.

GREAT BRITAIN

University denied access to climate data

Associated Press

LONDON — The university at the center of a climate change dispute over stolen e-mails broke freedom of information laws by refusing to handle public requests for climate data, Britain's data-protection watchdog said Thursday.

A cache of e-mail exchanges between leading climate scientists that were stolen from the University of East Anglia's climate research unit and recently made public show that the institution ignored at least one request from the public for data, the Information Commissioner's Office said.

The watchdog said it received com-

plaints about the university from David Holland, a retired engineer, in 2007 to 2008, but it has only recently come to light that his requests for data were ignored.

"The e-mails which are now public reveal that Mr. Holland's requests under the Freedom of Information Act were not dealt with as they should have been under the legislation," it said in a statement.

The thousands of leaked e-mails — made public on the Internet just before the U.N. summit on global warming in Copenhagen in December — sparked an international debate over whether scientists had exaggerated the case for man-made climate change.

Climate skeptics — including Republican lawmakers in the U.S. — claimed that the e-mails showed scientists secretly manipulated climate data and suppressed contrary views about climate change.

One of the e-mails disparaged climate skeptics, and a scientist said "the last thing I need is news articles claiming to question temperature increases."

Another complained about "getting hassled by a couple of people" to release temperature data that suggests uncertainties about climate change. "Don't any of you three tell anybody that the U.K. has a Freedom of Information Act," Phil Jones, the director of climate research unit, wrote in one e-mail.

Kesem

continued from page 1

unique to a specific university. Camp Kesem Notre Dame is completely run, funded and organized by Notre Dame student volunteers.

"Our mission at Camp Kesem is two-fold," senior Emily Stewart, the co-chair of the camp, said. "We provide an experience for kids who are dealing with the stress of cancer and it's an awesome way for Notre Dame students to touch these kids in a very real and personal way."

Notre Dame began participating in Camp Kesem in 2002 and since then the camp, which is free of charge, has been very popular with the 60 campers that come every summer and the student counselors alike.

"Once you do it as a counselor you get addicted," junior Rani Gallardo, the camp's programming director, said. "I've never heard of a student just doing it once; all of counselors come back again and again."

Volunteering as a counselor at Camp Kesem is more

than directing kids in activities; counselors assume a whole new range of responsibilities — the greatest of which is creating a relaxed and stable environment for children coming from very different home lives.

"Being a counselor is a hybrid of having fun and being a role model," Stewart said. "Having us as role models, people who love to play and have fun, shows the campers an adult figure who represents a break in what can be a very sad life."

Stewart said many of the campers have to take on adult roles in their homes because of their parents' daily dealings with the effects of the disease. She described one 10-year-old camper who was responsible for doing all of her family's laundry because her mother was constantly too sick from treatments and her father was always tending to her bedside.

"These kids have atypical childhoods," junior Katie Dorociak, who is in charge of student support for Camp Kesem, said. "This week is a chance for them to let go of

their responsibilities."

The focus of the week is for the kids to have fun and complete activities such as sports, arts and crafts, drama and teambuilding exercises.

"Teambuilding is an important exercise because it allows the kids to know that they can trust one another as well as us," Gallardo said.

The camp is designed so the kids don't have to talk about cancer related issues if they don't want to, but they know that all of their fellow campers are going through a similar situation, which provides comfort.

"A little part of the day is when the kids journal and reflect on the day's experiences," Dorociak said. "They can open up and share if they want to; it's about healing and knowing that they aren't alone."

Gallardo believes what sets Camp Kesem apart is that it is primarily a summer camp, but it is one that is for a group of children often lost in the shuffle.

"The kids really need this," she said. "Camp Kesem is very unique because it offers kids with these specific backgrounds to come together in this safe environment; everyone there can sympathize with one another because they all understand what one another is going through."

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden3@nd.edu

"We provide an experience for kids who are dealing with the stress of cancer and it's an awesome way for Notre Dame students to touch these kids in a very real and personal way."

Emily Stewart
co-chair
Camp Kesem



Photo courtesy of Katherine Dorociak

Notre Dame's counselors at Camp Kesem pose in front of a sign welcoming campers last summer.

GreeND

continued from page 1

GreeND president, said.

Kelly said this year's summit, which will be held on Feb. 22, has a different structure than in past years because participants will rotate through tables on four different topics, including climate change and sustainable seafood. The leaders of the summit are also collaborating with Food Services, which stresses sustainability as part of its mission.

"Through collaboration with Food Services, this event will have both a Notre Dame and global focus," Kelly said. "I imagine that the success of past Green Summits will continue with this year's Summit, as this event is more interactive, creative and relevant."

The summit is made possible due to the collaboration of the Office of Sustainability, GreeND, ND for Animals, GlutenFreeND, Student Government and Students for Environmental Action. Kelly said this broad collection of groups allows the message of sustainability to spread to many different students and has contributed greatly to the club's success.

In addition to educating Notre Dame about food sustainability, GreeND also runs two environmental education programs for local elementary school students to further their mission of education, outreach and leadership development, Kelly said.

Last semester, GreeND participated in the first Lugar Collegiate Energy Summit, which focused on educating others about energy and sustainability. In response to the summit, GreeND created an educational program in a fourth grade class at St. Adalbert's School.

According to Kelly, GreeND members teach an environmental or energy-related lesson to the students and share a book or activity with the students after each lesson.

"The purpose of the education program is to energize elementary students about science and the environment," senior Alice Griesemer, who is in charge of the education program, said. "We want them to understand important scientific concepts that are part of the Indiana educational standards and connect them to environmental concepts that will enable them to be better stewards of the earth."

GreeND also sponsors an after-school environmental education program for young students.

In addition to the summit and education programs, the club's Green Fashion Show, taking place on April 23, will be bigger and better than last year's show, according to Griesemer.

"The location has changed from the LaFortune Ballroom to Legends which more than doubles our capacity," Griesemer said.

Griesemer also said, in addition to being green, all the outfits will follow a theme that moves through all 24 hours of the day, "from the pale colors of sunrise to the deep tones of night."

According to Griesemer, most pieces used in the show are found at secondhand shops or designed by students using recycled materials in order to conserve the energy used to assemble, package and ship new items of clothing.

"The main purpose of the event is to show students that it is possible to be fashionable and trendy while still choosing environmentally friendly products," Griesemer said.

GreeND will also run a simulation of COP15, the climate talks in Copenhagen, in March. The event will be similar to a combination of a Hunger Dinner and Model UN, according to Griesemer.

"It is a great opportunity to learn about the difficulties diplomats faced in brokering a deal and to understand the outcome of the actual meeting," Griesemer said.

Contact Kristen Durbin at kdurbin@nd.edu



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MARKET RECAP

Stocks				
Dow Jones	10,120.46	-115.70		
Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume:	
1,062	102	2,764	2,097,822,653	

AMEX	1,800.96	-19.80
NASDAQ	2,179.00	-42.41
NYSE	6,956.99	-78.62
S&P 500	1,084.53	-167.52
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	10,246.77	+5.33
FTSE 100 (London)	5,145.74	-71.73

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
CITIGROUP (C)	+1.25	+0.04	3.24
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	-1.15	-1.26	108.57
BK OF AMERICA CP (BAC)	+1.18	+0.18	15.37
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	-0.49	-0.49	14.28

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+0.39	+0.14	3.66
13-WEEK BILL	0.00	0.00	0.07
30-YEAR BOND	+0.35	+0.16	4.57
5-YEAR NOTE	+1.09	+0.26	2.41

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.07		73.71
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-1.20		1,084.5
LEAN HOGS (cents/lb.)	+0.45		69.40

Exchange Rates			
YEN			89.7450
EURO			1.3928
CANADIAN DOLLAR			1.0646
BRITISH POUND			1.6120

IN BRIEF

Microsoft earnings up 60 percent

REDMOND, Wash. — Microsoft Corp. said Thursday that earnings in the most recent quarter jumped 60 percent, helped by a rebound in personal computer sales.

The PC industry bounced back during the 2009 holiday shopping season after one of its roughest years to date. Microsoft's earnings are closely tied to computer sales because its two most profitable divisions make the Windows operating system and Office business software.

Microsoft said its net income for the fiscal second quarter that ended Dec. 31 rose to \$6.7 billion, or 74 cents per share, compared with \$4.2 billion, or 47 cents per share, in the year-ago period. Revenue increased 14 percent to \$19 billion.

The latest version of Windows, called Windows 7, was released during the quarter. Revenue from the Windows business jumped 70 percent.

Eroding town appeals lawsuit dismissal

ANCHORAGE — One of Alaska's most eroded villages wants to revive a lawsuit that claims greenhouse gasses from oil, power and coal companies are to blame for the climate change endangering the tiny community.

The city of Kivalina and a federally recognized tribe, the Alaska Native village of Kivalina, filed the case in federal court in San Francisco in 2008, but it was dismissed in October. Now they're appealing to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, with their opening brief due March 11.

Oil giants Exxon Mobil Corp. and BP PLC are among two dozen defendants named in the lawsuit. Representatives for the two companies declined to comment Thursday.

"These are matters for the courts," said Rob Young, an Exxon spokesman. "We supported the original decision."

Kivalina's attorney, Matt Pawa of suburban Boston, said the plaintiffs want monetary damages to help with the estimated \$400 million cost to relocate the northwest Alaska village. Residents have chosen a relocation site, an area known as Kiniktuuraq, about two miles southeast of the current location.

Gas pedals warrant recall

Toyota, world's largest automaker, recalls and stops producing millions of top-selling vehicles

Associated Press

DETROIT — Toyota has begun shipping parts to fix the faulty gas pedals that led to a still-expanding recall and an unprecedented decision to stop selling and building some of its top-selling models, but it still could not say Thursday when millions of its drivers would get their cars fixed.

The world's largest automaker, bleeding millions of dollars a day in lost sales, also declined to say where the parts are going — to plants so production can start again or to dealers so they can start fixing cars sitting in their showrooms or already on the road.

Amid the uncertainty, the recall grew wider. Toyota expanded the recall beyond an initial 2.3 million vehicles and said it would recall an untold number in Europe and about 75,000 in China because of bad gas pedals that can become stuck.

The recall even spread beyond Toyota. Ford Motor Co. stopped production of some full-sized commercial vehicles built by a Chinese joint venture because they have accelerators built by the same parts supplier as in the Toyota recall.

Separately, Toyota recalled 1.1 million more vehicles this week because of floor mats that can bend and hold down the gas.

The gas pedal system recall includes 2009-2010 RAV4, the 2009-2010 Corolla, the 2009-2010 Matrix, the 2005-2010 Avalon, the 2007-2010 Camry, the 2010 Highlander, the 2007-2010 Tundra and the 2008-2010 Sequoia.

Toyota said the maker of the faulty gas pedal systems, CTS Corp. of Elkhart, Ind., was cranking out replacements at three factories, and that some of them already been shipped to Toyota.

At the same time, Toyota engineers are working with CTS to develop ways to repair, rather than replace, the pedal systems in existing



AP

Toyota models that have been withdrawn for sale are seen at a storage lot for Keyes Toyota in the Van Nuys area of Los Angeles on Thursday.

cars and trucks, said spokesman Brian Lyons.

But there was no estimate for how long it would be until customers can get their cars fixed. The parts are being made at CTS plants, but Toyota has not said where they're going within its system of plants and dealers.

"We're well past the root cause identification, and we're well past what needs to be done to change the pedal assembly itself," Lyons said.

House lawmakers, meanwhile, said they intend to hold a Feb. 25 hearing to review the complaints of sudden unintended acceleration in Toyota vehicles. "Like many consumers, I am concerned by the serious-

ness and scope of Toyota's recent recall announcements," said House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Henry Waxman, D-Calif. In a statement, Toyota pledged its "full cooperation" with the committee.

The episode has tarnished Toyota's once-sterling image of reliability. Experts say the longer it goes on, the more Toyota's competitors will benefit.

Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said he had no details of how the problems would be fixed but said he had "no criticism of Toyota on this. They followed the law and they're doing what they're supposed to do."

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration offi-

cials met with Toyota representatives to discuss the fix on Thursday, but no details were announced.

The automaker does not need regulatory approval to make repairs or replacements, but company officials do not want to proceed with a fix if the government has concerns, said people familiar with the decisions who requested anonymity because the meeting was private.

Asked whether Americans should continue to drive the recalled vehicles, LaHood said he would "encourage them to take their car to the Toyota dealer. That's what we're telling people to do. That's what Toyota is telling people to do. That's the safest thing to do."

Pa. hires inspectors for wells

Associated Press

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania is taking new steps to ensure public safety amid a rush to drill into what geologists believe could become the nation's largest natural gas field, Gov. Ed Rendell said Thursday.

The state plans to hire more inspectors to monitor a growing number of well sites and is writing tougher rules to prevent gas from leaking into nearby homes and water wells, Rendell said.

He called them "decisive, progressive protections for the people of Pennsylvania."

Among other things, 68 new well inspectors would be hired to join the more than 100 already on staff, while the proposed new rules would lower the maximum well pressures, raise stan-

dards for well cement and pipes, and require drilling companies to restore water supplies they pollute.

The rules were available on the Web site of the Department of Environmental Protection, which is accepting public comments on them for 30 days before it plans to submit them to a rule making board.

An industry group, the Marcellus Shale Coalition, said in a statement that it supports the state's moves, as did several environmental groups that say the drilling could put the environment and public health at risk without more protection.

However, Erika Staaf of PennEnvironment pointed out that the proposed rules were drafted without the public's input.

Myron Arnowitt, director of Clean

Water Action's Pennsylvania chapter, said more staff is also needed for the department's other bureaus, such as its water-quality division.

"One of our concerns is that a lot of the impact from the drilling is found in our rivers and streams and our drinking water," Arnowitt said.

In the last three years, dozens of gas companies have flocked to Pennsylvania in hopes of tapping into the huge Marcellus Shale gas formation which lies beneath much of Pennsylvania.

All told, the department has issued more than 2,500 drilling permits since the beginning of 2005, when the current wave of activity on the gas field began. Thousands more could be issued this year. Meanwhile, the industry has drilled or is drilling more than 1,000 wells.

McKenna campaign pilfers alumni data

The publication of this column specifically on this Friday was set merely by chance since it was scheduled by an editor at The Observer, in part, as a small component on a master semester schedule for all columnists. It is the first of my long-standing Friday columns which just so happens to coincide on the weekend before Notre Dame alumnus and Illinois Republican Gubernatorial candidate Andy McKenna's primary election next Tuesday. So while the timing of this column may appear calculated, it is the first regularly scheduled opportunity to convey an experience that began while The Observer was on hiatus.

Direct e-mail solicitations on behalf of the McKenna/Murphy candidates began several months ago from a Notre Dame classmate of McKenna. Last fall, I mysteriously received "McKenna for Illinois" solicitations as part of their e-mail list server. To my astonishment, the campaign was using an e-mail address listed only with the Notre Dame Alumni Association ... and only temporarily for two weeks while moving.

The campaign began with an innocent "fellow classmate" endorsement announcing that McKenna had become a



Gary Caruso

Capitol
Comments

candidate and noted reasons why classmates should provide support to him. For months now, I have been bombarded with e-mails asking for donations, reporting on McKenna's plans and surges in the polls. I've been wished a "Happy New Years" (sic) — hopefully referring to both the primary and elections cycles as "years" rather than what I suspect is simply a sloppy misspelling. I also was made aware of newspaper endorsements and was even asked to participate in the Illinois Republican primary's early voting process a few Mondays ago, although I do not believe that as a Democrat, I can participate in their party's voting process. But then again, it is Illinois.

Therefore, the breach of ethics tale within this column is not an attempt to create an "October surprise," an election term coined in reference to last-minute revelations the weekend before an election — the two most recent and notable affected each of George W. Bush's presidential elections. In Bush's first run for the presidency, it was discovered that records in Maine indicated that Bush had a driving under the influence or DUI charge. On the weekend before Bush's reelection, Osama bin Laden released a recording criticizing both Bush and Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry. In each case, though one was positive news and the other negative news, Bush weathered those surprises.

Let's face it, McKenna family members have been elected Notre Dame student body presidents and sat at the highest

levels of the University's Board of Trustees. Their dedication to Our Lady's campus is beyond reproach. But the inappropriate mining of Notre Dame alumni data by other Domers in support of McKenna is a breach of political ethics inexcusable for any Notre Dame graduate. The University officially bans the use of lists for solicitations, and institutes electronic limits on downloads to a maximum of 500 files. Unfortunately, the McKenna campaign circumvented those limitations which ultimately phished me into their digital campaign net.

Last Friday, at University President Fr. John Jenkins' Washington, D.C., reception following the Right to Life March, I sat at length discussing the e-mail data breach with several University officials including those from our alumni association office. They emphasized their guiding principle of neutrality and privacy protections with all proprietary data collected from alumni. They further clarified the University's policy to me and acknowledged that they are well aware of how McKenna supporters maneuvered around the firewall limitations. I left our discussion with the impression that the breach's loophole had been closed once and for all.

As one who has tumbled within the rough world of campaigns and developed a thick political skin, the data breach initially in my mind was more of a campaign spam one-ups-man-ship until I heard complaints from others who considered the incident a breach of the University's

trust. Moreover, campaign tactics do not excuse or lessen the deleterious effect such digital maneuvering has within our alumni ranks. For many who leave their politics at the edge of campus, this is not just the phishing of alumni e-mail addresses. It is a break in the trust that they placed in their support for Notre Dame because they believe that they personally are being used as a commodity — good only until the candidacy of McKenna (or any other soliciting alumni) ends.

Party affiliation is not the issue regarding this data breach. Prior University service or official status is not the issue either. Regardless of whether or not McKenna personally knew of the efforts or the initiative was by rogue fellow alumni, a Notre Dame education should have taught them such values and ethics principles that they would have turned to other social media outlets or limited themselves within the University guidelines. Being given much and expecting much in return especially applies to those among us who interact with others who call Notre Dame "home."

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame '73, serves in the Department of Homeland Security and was a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at GaryJCaruso@alumni.nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you, and goodbye

My best year at Notre Dame was a year abroad in Innsbruck, Austria. I learned more in those 10 months that impacted my life than my three year undergrad and two years MBA at Notre Dame. It wasn't book learning. It was learning how to grow up, to be independent and how to rely on yourself. How to hitchhike from Amsterdam to Innsbruck with 75 cents in your pocket. How to deal with auto mechanics across Europe to repair your VW. How to survive Christmas abroad by organizing a ski hostel in the Austrian Alps and inviting members from all Notre Dame clubs to come and spend the holiday together. How to make locals your friends and integrate within a culture. How to take off on a bike and ride to Le Havre, France, 800 miles away. Innsbruck, surrounded with majestic mountains and wonderful people was a Shangrila for those that took a risk and committed early to spend a year there. Too bad you current students will miss this opportunity of a lifetime.

Auf Wiedersehen Innsbruck.

Peter Burke
alumnus
Innsbruck '70
Jan. 28

Concerns and recommendations

Editor's Note: This guest column was written by members of the Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students as well as the former Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Network.

We come together as former members of the Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students, as well as the former Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs, to address the Jan. 13 publication of "The Mobile Party." We believe that the creation and allowance of this deplorable comic to go to press is evidence of the systemic problems of homophobia and prejudice that continue to exist on campus.

During our respective tenures, we worked tirelessly to advise the administration on how to remedy the very issues of hate, homophobia and intolerance promoted in the comic strip. We knew firsthand of students who were so uncomfortable in what was supposed to be their "home away from home" that they would pray before falling asleep that they didn't wake up in the morning. Because of this, we worked to ensure that every gay and lesbian student felt secure and safe enough to actualize his or her full potential as a scholar, individual, and contributing member of the community. We hoped when we left that we had made it a more welcoming place. However, this recent event is an unfortunate confirmation that more needs to be done.

Even though this publication has resulted in outrage, we found the apology from The Observer Editorial Board greatly lacking. Except for a cursory mention of the Core Council, never once did their statement address the harmed community directly. They also never stated what the comic contained, why it was hurtful, and to whom it was directed. Even upon reading the University's official response, we were still dissatisfied. The response merely echoed what was said by The Observer. This vagueness demonstrates that Notre Dame has not yet acknowledged the presence of a gay and lesbian community. The students negatively affected by this deserve more.

Over the course of our collected years at Notre Dame, we have been involved in an innumerable number of committees, advisory sessions and presentations related to tolerance and education about issues related to sexuality. However, those things can only do so much to create systemic change. They should not be used as a replacement for direct and concrete action by the University. It seems, at times, that all of these discussions and forums only exist to quell the demands being made for real action. It's time for the University to put real substance behind what it claims to promote, instead of attempting to pacify the gay and lesbian members of its community with lip service.

We call on the University to address this shameful episode in a way more befitting a reputable institution of higher learning that prides itself on "seek[ing] to cultivate in its students ... a disciplined sensibility to the poverty, injustice,

and oppression that burden the lives of so many." We feel that the following actions need to be taken in order to show the public that Notre Dame is a place where everyone, gay or straight, is welcome and valued.

1) The University must take direct action to address the underlying problems of homophobia on campus. A declaration needs to be made that this type of behavior will not be tolerated by a school that states that "God's grace prompts human activity to assist the world in creating justice grounded in love."

2) As has been advised numerous times in the past, the University must add "sexual orientation" to its non-discrimination clause to officially affirm that no individual on campus is considered a second-class citizen. They must show that all students — gay and straight — deserve equal amounts of fairness, respect and protection. The mere promise of a safe space for everyone is undone when no real body exists to authoritatively create and preserve the vowed environment.

3) An official gay/straight student group must be allowed/established. Notre Dame is the only school on the Top 20 National Research Universities list to not have a recognized gay/straight alliance. Ignoring and undervaluing select members of a community only serves to limit the learning experience for the whole campus.

4) The consultative role of the Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students needs to be taken more seriously. In 2008, the Council composed an internal report to University officials about the serious conditions confronting gays and lesbians at Notre Dame and how to improve campus life and administrative policies. The counsels made were not heeded in a palpable sense, and that lack of action is evidenced by this recent dehumanizing event.

We hope that the University realizes it is time to move forward and takes our concerns and recommendations seriously. We implore the University to use the opportunity presented by this shameful episode to fulfill its obligation "to create a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice." In light of recent events, this is needed now more than ever.

Guillermo J. Alfaro
Alexandre Chapeaux
Mackay Gunn
Brad Mattan
Chris Vierig
Jim Fobert
Joanna Basile
Tiffany Thompson
Andy Magee
Day Zimlich
alumni
Jan. 28

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www.ndsmcobserver.com



By STEPHANIE DePREZ
Assistant Scene Editor

The Actors form the London Stage present their five-person show, William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," for the last time tonight in Washington Hall after a week of classroom work and performances.

There is perhaps nothing more cliché in British literature than "Romeo and Juliet" by Shakespeare. The story is known in grade school, read in middle school, re-read in high school and perhaps beaten to death by the time one gets to college. The quest, then, to make the story of the inescapably star-crossed lovers relevant or entertaining can be quite a challenge.

The Actors from the London Stage (AFTLS) pull it off — and then some. Their no-holds physical rendition is by far the most unique performance of the classic tale on this side of the Atlantic. Going beyond just an "updated version," these five actors thrust the doomed love story into an MTV aesthetic.

Far from Elizabethan, this staging ends up more along the lines of Eliz-Urbethan.

But what are they even doing here? Actress Liz Crowther, who plays the Nurse, Prince and Paris, among others, explains how this group grew from the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC).

"Thirty years ago, a teaching tour was cancelled. The actors were so sad that they decided to stay where they were and mount their own thing. The program took off, and today it is five actors who direct, design and act all the parts," Crowther said. The trick, then, becomes making a story clear on a stripped away stage. "The text stands out," Crowther said, forcing the actors to find new ways to deliver it.

Today the actors are drawn from the RSC, Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and the Royal National Theatre of Great Britain. They are invited to participate in the AFTLS tour, which brings not only a show to Notre Dame, but also lectures, workshops, seminars and classroom appearances. Throughout the week Crowther and her colleagues, Marshall Griffin, Jennifer Higham, Geoffrey Lumb and Martin Parr, tromped all over this wind-swept, snowy campus from class to rehearsal

and back to class, toting the beauty of the Bard.

One might wonder what a lake-effect weather n00b might be thinking. "Blinking heck!" Crowther said.

"Notre Dame is absolutely extraordinary. It's very exciting to be here. We've had nice reactions in class to things," she said. "We even saw a skunk!"

They've also had quite an interesting time navigating campus.

"It's an incredible place. Schools like Cambridge have lots of different colleges, but this is amazing," Crowther said.

They certainly add to its luster with their performance, which takes the stripped down version of the text and spices it up with enough sexual innuendo to keep a high schooler glued.

The performance opens up with all five actors in hoodies, hoods up.

Two rival soccer teams (or should we say football?) begin a game and conflict ensues. From this fray develops a story laced with movement and music. The blocking is so physically involved that it almost becomes a dance, with something visually entertaining going on at all times. What would in any other situation look overly physically explanatory seems appropriate because the actors are completely committed to engaging each other and the audience. Nothing seems like overkill because the flow has so much continuity.

From gang fights to dirty jokes, there is no lack of urban flavor. There is just as much innuendo as needed and it's well played, keeping you wondering if they're really going to go there (and yes, they do). As Crowther pointed out, "It's lovely to have a young Romeo and Juliet, because they can do it so beautifully."

Tonight is the last opportunity to brush up on your Shakespeare and catch these Brits before they move on. "Shakespeare is the most marvelous man," Crowther said. "Four hundred years after death, he's still astonishing people."

"Romeo and Juliet" begins at 7:30 p.m. tonight in Washington Hall. Tickets are \$12 for students. Call (574) 631-2800 or visit the Web site performingarts.nd.edu for tickets.

Contact Stephanie DePrez at ssdeprez@nd.edu



By TATIANA SPRAGINS
Scene Writer

Everyone's classic bedtime story book, "Where the Wild Things Are," is still a favorite today even though it was first published in 1963. Fortunately for those of you who miss those good old days, you'll get a chance to revisit the tale at a whole other level this weekend. SUB will be presenting Spike Jonze's beautifully produced 2009 film adaptation tonight and Saturday.

The movie, with its lovely photography, simple lines and incredible acting by the little boy who plays Max (Max Records), caused quite a stir when it came out and for good reason. Although it is based on a children's book and has "monsters" as main characters, this is no movie for kids. The delicate sentimentality that Jonze brought to the adaptation makes it a movie for the generations who read "Where the Wild Things Are" as children, not for the children still reading it. Be sure you'll feel an unsettling sense of anxiety as you watch Max deal with the Wild Things and all of their naturally childish fears, emotions and thoughts. The result is a sometimes dark, sometimes childishly carefree movie about the mind and emotions of children. It manages to be both charming and heartbreaking all in one.

What is also particularly remarkable is how Jonze manages to adapt this three-minute read into a story plot of two hours. It could have easily been an extension of the book without ever losing any bit of its magic. He details Max's adventures as King of the Wild Things and the viewer, who now has the wise eyes of adulthood and maturity, learns that the wild things are nothing more than children who never grew up. Turns out that where the Wild Things are is where our childhood is, and we're the Wild Things.

Also worth noting is the beautiful cinematography and awesome soundtrack. Yeah Yeah Yeahs' lead singer Karen O and The Kids composed a dreamy track that fits in oh-so-perfectly with basically everything in the movie. Through this compilation, Jonze maintains a sense of innocence that truly characterizes the movie.

"Where the Wild Things Are" will make you laugh and it will make you sad, and when you leave, you will leave thoughtfully reminiscing the days in which you were a Wild Thing yourself, screaming and crying and telling everyone how much you hate them at one moment, only to giggle, cuddle up and tell that same person how much you love them the next.

Contact Tatiana Spragins at tspragin@nd.edu



By MARY CLAIRE O'DONNELL
Scene Writer

"Cause the house always wins. Play long enough, you never change the stakes. The house takes you." Danny Ocean's wise words may have been true for the aggressive Las Vegas strip, but fortunately his words do not ring true for "Casino Night," McGlinn's signature event. Proceeds collected at the event, which takes place Saturday at 10 p.m., will benefit a local charity.

The lovely ladies of McGlinn have been planning this event since October, and Hall President Amanda Bremer "thinks it will be the best Casino Night yet." All proceeds from this year's event will go to St. Adalbert's School in South Bend. McGlinn chose this organization because every Monday through Friday, girls tutor at the after-school program there, so, according to Bremer, the donation "has more meaning than just raising money for a charity." The donation is a great way to see improvement in a place where the girls are already trying to make a difference.

St Adalbert's is a Notre Dame Magnificat School and is therefore already closely tied to the University. The money raised will help provide services to the school located just minutes from campus. Every donation helps improve the school, thereby helping out every child who attends.

For those who have never attended a Casino Night before, the event is a mix of dancing and poker. At 10 p.m., McGlinn girls will be dealing blackjack at a number of tables in one end of South Dining Hall. At 10:30 p.m., a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament will begin. In order to make sure you get a seat, it is recommended to arrive about 20 minutes prior to the start. The top two finishers will receive iPods as prizes.

The Shamrocks have worked hard this year

to make improvements from last year's Night. Due to high demand, they have expanded the poker tournament. Also, for the first time, roulette wheels will be spinning the whole evening for a little extra gambling fun. In order to quench the thirst of all the high rollers, the girls will be offering mock-tails, tried and tested by the Hall Council.

For those not as interested in poker and gambling, there will also be a dance floor. A DJ will be spinning today's greatest hits, so get ready to bump and grind to "Down" by Jay Sean or bust out Beyoncé's moves from "Single Ladies." Also, watch out for intermittent classics such as "YMCA" or "Cha Cha Slide."

If your excellent dancing skills tire you out and you need a quick breather, food will be provided as the perfect pick-me-up for a tiring dancer or Hold'Em player. Furthermore, all the food will go great with the delicious mock-tails being served.

And if poker, roulette or blackjack are not really skills or hobbies of yours, but you still want to bring home a prize, there will be plenty of raffles to enter. Prizes range from gift cards to Target or Chipotle, to gift baskets from South Bend Chocolate Company, movies and even a Nintendo Wii.

Tickets to this exciting and entertaining evening are still on sale. At both dining halls tonight, McGlinn girls will sell tickets for \$5 each. And for those indecisive folks, tickets will still be available at the door at the same price.

So get gussied up in your best mock-tail party attire, remember to bring your good luck charm, whatever it may be, and the lovely ladies of McGlinn will see you at South Dining Hall tomorrow night for a night of big bets and bumping beats.

Contact Mary Claire O'Donnell at modonne5@nd.edu



Getting Lost with 'LOST'

By ALEX KILPATRICK
Assitant Scene Editor

It's everyone's favorite ABC sci-fi show. Whether you watch it for the mystery, the philosophical value, the sweet action scenes, the relationships or just the attractive characters, you can't look away from the screen. If you thought the first few seasons of "LOST" were weird, what with smoke monsters, the appearance of polar bears on a tropical island and an underground hatch with a button meant to be pressed every 108 minutes, you're in for a whirlwind of a sixth and final season. So to prepare you for the final 18 episodes of the show that has had millions watching for the past five and a half years, here is a synopsis to keep you up to date on the happenings of everyone's favorite fictional island.

Season 4 saw the arrival of billionaire Charles Widmore's research team to the island on the freighter "Kahana," as well as the escape of the Oceanic Six from the island, shown in flash-forwards. The Oceanic Six consists of Jack, Kate, Sun, Hurley, Sayid and Claire's baby Aaron. Token evil genius Ben Linus, former leader of the Others, turns an underground dial at the end of Season 4 and as the Oceanic Six leave the island in a helicopter, it dislodges the island from time so that no one in the outside world can possibly find it.

The turn of the dial then causes the remaining survivors of Flight 815 to erratically jump forward and backward through time. Widmore team member, Daniel Faraday, a physics mastermind, explains this fictional scientific phenomenon to the flight survivors and to the viewers at home. At this point, viewers have lost all hope that "LOST" will work within the realm of physics or even some set standard of rules. The producers play with the minds of viewers so that it is entirely impossible to guess what will happen next in the show.

Season 5 followed two plotlines, the first showing the survivors remaining on the island (everyone left from Flight 815 plus Widmore's research team minus the Oceanic Six) jumping around in time until they are eventually stranded with the Dharma Initiative in 1974. The Dharma Initiative is essentially a communal scientific research compound, which began on the island in 1970, that holds utopian ideals and whose origins are first explained in Season 2 with the "Orientation" video by Dr. Marvin Candle.

The second plotline follows the Oceanic Six's lives off the island and their return to the island on Ajira Airways Flight 316 in 2007, nearly three years after they left. Most of the passengers land on the island in 2007, but Kate, Jack, Hurley and Sayid land in 1977. To their immense surprise, they find when they return that the remaining survivors have become part of the Dharma Initiative.

Sawyer, the comic relief of the show, has become LaFleur, head of security for the Dharma Initiative and

is living with Juliet. It is clear that he never got over his relationship with Kate, who was always torn between him and Jack. Jin, Miles and Faraday are also part of the Dharma Initiative, but if you thought it wasn't possible, things get even more complicated when Kate, Jack and Hurley return to the island and must pretend that they are part of an incoming crew for Dharma. Sayid also returns, but is mistaken for a Hostile (which pretty much refers to anyone on the island not part of Dharma) and is imprisoned, where he meets a 12-year-old Ben Linus, whom he attempts to kill. At this point, we learn that "whatever happened, happened." Although these experiences are new for the survivors of Flight 815, it already happened in the overall timeline. Even if Sayid attempts to kill young Ben, he must survive because we already know that he is alive in the 2000s.

This brings us to "The Incident." We meet the Hostiles when Ben is brought to them to heal the gunshot wound inflicted by Sayid. The Hostiles include Richard Alpert (one of the Others who never ages), Eloise Hawking and Charles Widmore, who are all on the island in 1954, when a hydrogen bomb called Jughead is buried underground to keep it from going off for at least 50 years. When Faraday warns the island's inhabitants in 1977 of an impending catastrophe involving electromagnetic energy at the Swan Station, they remember the bomb buried on the island in the 1950s and decide to detonate it in order to prevent the construction of the Swan and ensure that the plane never crashes on the island in 2004, ignoring the theory of "whatever happened, happened." Of course, when the bomb is dropped into the Station during the Season 5 finale, it does not immediately go off and some of the energy is released. Juliet accidentally falls into the station with the bomb and sacrificially detonates it during the last second of the show, leaving viewers with a cliffhanger.

Another significant side plot involves the body of Locke, who was killed by Ben off the island in 2007. His body is brought on Ajira Airways Flight 316, but when many of the passengers land on the island in 2007, Locke is found alive and is on a mission to go kill Jacob, the island's highest authority. However, we learn at the end of the season finale that the man who appears to be Locke is in fact Jacob's rival and long-time acquaintance, the Man in Black, who dislikes Jacob bringing people to the island, feeling that it leads to violence and destruction, and desires to kill him, with a loophole. In 2007, he manages to kill him by taking on the form of Locke and coercing Ben to kill Jacob in his residence inside the four-toed statue.

Still confused? If you are in need of more of a recap, a special synopsis episode will air on ABC on Tuesday at 8 p.m. The final season of "LOST" will premiere with a two-hour episode directly following at 9 p.m.

Contact Alex Kilpatrick at akilpatr@nd.edu

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Andy Murray defeats Cilic, moves on to final

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — There he was, mouth agape, roaring like a Highlands warrior in full battle cry in “Braveheart.”

The force from Andy Murray’s lungs seemed to add heft to the forehand winner he hurled down the line. The match turned there — in the fifth game of the second set — and it would not be long before the 22-year-old Scot was on his way to the Australian Open final.

After dropping serve twice in the opening set to Croatia’s Marin Cilic, Murray recovered to win the semifinal 3-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2 and reach his second Grand Slam final. “It was really important because I don’t want to say the match was slipping away from me, but the momentum was definitely with him,” Murray said.

Now, with only top-ranked Roger Federer or Jo-Wilfried Tsonga ahead, he is one win from breaking a drought for British men at the four majors that dates to Fred Perry in 1936.

That’s a lot of pressure on Murray. It proved too much for the likes of Tim Henman, John Lloyd and others. But the pressure valve was released, at least for a few sets Thursday night, in one riveting point.

Murray raced to the net to reach a ball that had caught the net and dropped onto his side. He then made a lunging volley to extend the rally and sprinted back to the baseline to chase down Cilic’s deep lob. Somehow, spinning as he swung the racket blindly right to left, he hit a forehand winner past Cilic.

Then he roared a prolonged roar.

The challenge from Cilic, who had beaten Murray in straight sets in the fourth round of the U.S. Open, faded. The more than eight hours he had spent on court across five matches had taken its toll.

“He played some really aggressive tennis ... was putting me under a lot of pressure,” Murray said. “But, yeah, that shot made a big difference. I just managed to chase it down.”

After watching the replay, he added in his understated monotone: “I never realized my mouth was so big.”

And, by the way, he insists he practices that shot.

Murray is the first British man to reach two Grand Slam finals in the Open era and the first to reach the Australian Open final since Lloyd in 1977. He will

watch Friday night’s semifinal between Federer, a three-time Australian champ, and Tsonga, the 2008 runner-up.

Federer, who beat Murray in the U.S. Open final in 2008, is in his 23rd consecutive Grand Slam semifinal — more than double the previous record stretch — and has won a record 15 major singles titles.

The Swiss star was in every Grand Slam final last year, losing in Australia to Rafael Nadal and losing at the U.S. Open to Juan Martin del Potro.

But Murray, who beat an injured Nadal in the quarterfinals, has a 6-4 record in head-to-heads with Federer and is 2-1 against Tsonga. That gives hope to millions of Britons. And that’s also why Murray is happy to be on the other side of the world.

“You don’t really feel it that much. Wimbledon is a bit different, especially in the lead-up to the tournament,” he said. “But when you’re away, don’t take any notice of it ... just kind of avoid it, I guess.”

There are no expectations on Tsonga. He can swing with the freedom he did in his five-set win over 2008 champion Novak Djokovic in the quarterfinals.

In 11 Grand Slam tournaments, he’d never played a five-set match. Now he’s played two back-to-back. Immediately after beating Djokovic, to avenge his loss in Australia two years ago, he told the stadium fans he was ready for more right away, pointing to the crowd and asking for volunteers.

But he faces the best in the business in Federer. After falling a set and a break down against No. 6 Nikolay Davydenko in the quarterfinals, Federer changed gears and won 13 straight games to take the match away from the Russian, who had been riding a 13-match winning streak.

Justine Henin did much the same thing to Zheng Jie, who won only the first game of their semifinal on Thursday. Henin, once ranked No. 1, saved three break points in the next game. That was the start of a 12-game roll that ended 6-1, 6-0 in 51 minutes — the shortest match of the tournament and the most lopsided in 27 years.

Henin, only two tournaments into a comeback from a year and a half in retirement, is aiming for an eighth Grand Slam title and first in Australia since 2004. She’ll have to get past four-time Australian Open champion Serena Williams first. And Williams has never lost a final at Melbourne Park.

NFL

Super Bowl a great matchup

Associated Press

MIAMI — Peyton Manning, the Big Easy.

Hardly a stretch for a nickname, you know. The NFL’s dominant player can claim New Orleans heritage, after all. At 6-foot-5, 230 pounds, he’s no shrimp. And as the only four-time league MVP, he makes this quarterbacking thing look simple.

Yet when Manning leads his Indianapolis Colts onto the field next Sunday against the Saints in as juicy a Super Bowl matchup as anyone could imagine, all of Nawlins — heck, pretty much any place in Bayou Country — will be wishing the worst on their native son.

Sorry, Peyton, the Saints take precedence in their quest for a first NFL championship.

Manning, whose father Archie was the first Saints superstar, understands.

“It’s certainly an exciting opportunity for our team to be going back to the Super Bowl down in Miami, and I’m very happy for the New Orleans Saints and, of course, the entire city of New Orleans,” Peyton Manning says. “My parents live there, my older brother Cooper lives there. Eli and I have both participated in philanthropic organizations down in New Orleans, whether it’s Katrina relief or just various charities. So New Orleans is a huge part of my life, as well as Eli’s life. My dad’s been a part of the Saints organization for 39 years in some ways. We definitely have strong ties.

“The Saints have had a great year. They deserve it, and I know the city is excited. And the New Orleans Saints players do just wonderful things for the community down there. It’s been a great relationship between the players and fans, and what a great way for these players to reward them with a trip to the Super Bowl.”

But it’s Manning’s job to spoil the party, to put some misery into the Miami Mardi Gras for those Saints and their fans. Nobody is better equipped to do so.

Manning once was criticized for failing to win big games, and his career playoff record is just 9-8. He’s won six of the last eight, though, and led the Colts to the championship three years ago, in the rain in Miami. Indy is 16-2 this time around, and it might have been a perfect 18-0 if the Colts hadn’t pulled Manning and other starters in the final



Drew Brees (left) and Peyton Manning will lead two of the most prolific offenses in the NFL this year in the Super Bowl.

two games of the regular season.

Manning set an NFL record for 300-yard playoff games with his seventh in last week’s AFC championship win over the Jets. He has 22 TD passes, five this year, and averages 284 yards through the air in the postseason.

Against two of the league’s stingiest defenses — Indy beat the Ravens before the Jets — Manning was masterful.

The Saints (15-3) aren’t exactly the 1985 Bears. On defense, they’re not even the 2009 Colts.

Still, Manning is cautious. “You know a team is going to have a Super Bowl package,” he says. “There are two weeks to prepare. That’s more things they can change. You have to prepare for the unexpected.”

The unexpected? Such as the Aints in the Super Bowl?

Let that one roll around your mind like the good times on Bourbon Street.

The Saints were one of five teams never to get this far; the Lions, Jaguars, Browns and Texans are the remaining outsiders. Clearly, now, the Aints are dead, and a franchise that had no home in 2005 after Hurricane Katrina ravaged New Orleans has become one of the most successful clubs in the nation’s most popular sport.

And while Indy has become as much a football town as a basketball haven thanks to Manning and his minions, it’s difficult to find any city as infatuated with — or as dependent on — its team as Nawlins is now.

Times have been hard for the city, which still is in

recovery mode from Katrina. Nothing has provided quite the boost that the Saints’ ascendancy has given New Orleanians.

Indeed, a city steeped in a culture all its own shares a very fundamental trait with the rest of America: pride in local triumph. It’s not something Saints fans are accustomed to, but it’s something Drew Brees believes can become habit.

“Winning definitely can be contagious,” he says.

The best way to establish such a habit: win next Sunday in the biggest game in New Orleans football history.

“It’s a moment I’ve been waiting for for a long time,” Brees said. “The job is not done yet but obviously we’re going to enjoy this. Now we’ve got to finish it in Miami.”

Can they? If history is an indicator, why not? After all, the Buccaneers had an even uglier resume and they won it all seven years ago, beating one of the premier franchises, the Raiders.

We know the Saints will attack on offense, and getting in a shootout with the Colts is not such a bad idea; New Orleans led the league with 510 points. The Saints, who forced 39 turnovers, must be proactive on defense to match the aggressiveness with which the Colts have performed recently — just as Indy did in its Super Bowl run after the 2006 season.

If Manning gets free rein, he’s likely to have the answer for all those “Who Dats?” they’re proudly screaming in the French Quarter.

It might even be a Big Easy for him.

CLASSIFIEDS

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the toilet, and then wash it in the
sink. It won't work.

"Sorry this isn't Heineken snow for
you."

"With all due respect, Madam
President, ask around" - J. Bauer

"I have killed two people since mid-
night. I haven't slept in over 24
hours. So maybe you should be a
little more afraid of me than you are
now." - Jack Bauer

Dream Team Forever
MDJ

"The world isn't ready for the wall of
quotes." - J. Yurkovich.

"That's our starting goaltender!"

"Not at the table, Carlos!"

AROUND THE NATION

Friday, January 29, 2010

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 13

Division I AP Women's Basketball Rankings

	team	previous
1	Connecticut	1
2	Stanford	2
3	NORTRE DAME	4
4	Ohio State	5
5	Tennessee	3
6	Nebraska	7
7	Duke	6
8	Texas A&M	9
9	Georgia	8
10	Xavier	11
11	Oklahoma	13
12	North Carolina	14
13	Florida State	15
14	Baylor	10
15	Oklahoma State	12
16	West Virginia	16
17	Georgetown	19
18	LSU	18
19	Texas	20
20	TCU	23
21	Virginia	25
22	Iowa State	NR
23	Penn State	NR
24	Green Bay	17
25	Georgia Tech	22

CSCAA Men's Swimming Rankings

	team	previous
1	Texas	1
2	Stanford	2
3	Arizona	4
4	California	3
5	Auburn	5
6	Florida	4
7	Michigan	7
8	Virginia	9
9	Ohio State	12
10	Minnesota	8
11	Tennessee	11
12	Georgia	10
13	Southern California	13
14	North Carolina	14
15	Florida State	15
16	Louisville	16
17	LSU	18
18	Purdue	19
19	Texas A&M	22
20	Alabama	21
21	Kentucky	16
22	UNLV	18
23	SMU	21
24	Virginia Tech	24
25	Indiana	24

USHO Division I Women's Ice Hockey Rankings

	team	points
1	Mercyhurst	149
2	Minnesota	136
3	Clarkson	116
4	New Hampshire	99
5	Minnesota Duluth	97
6	Northeastern	69
7	Harvard	51
8	Connecticut	38
9	Providence	32
10	Wisconsin	31

around the dial

Winter X Games
7 p.m., ESPN

NBA



Atlanta Hawks guard Jamal Crawford is fouled by Glen Davis of the Boston Celtics during the fourth quarter of their last game Jan. 8. The two teams will face off once again tonight at Atlanta at 7:30 p.m.

Hawks look for fourth win over Celtics

Associated Press

ATLANTA — The Atlanta Hawks are trying to show they belong with the elite teams in the Eastern Conference.

A four-game sweep of the Boston Celtics would be an impressive way to make the statement.

The Hawks will try to complete the regular-season sweep of the Celtics on Friday night. They will play another important conference game Saturday at Orlando.

The Hawks, fourth in the Eastern Conference last season, are contending with the Celtics and Magic for second place behind Cleveland.

Joe Johnson and Al Horford were selected as Eastern Conference All-Star reserves on Thursday.

Horford, averaging 13.6 points and 9.8 rebounds, will make his first All-Star appearance. He finished third in voting for Eastern Conference centers.

“When you start the season you set goals for yourself,” Horford said. “That’s definitely one of them.”

Johnson, who leads the team with 21.3 points per game, will make his fourth straight appearance.

The Hawks have two All-Star selections for the first time since 1998. They hoped Crawford, second on the team with 17.4

points per game, and Smith also would receive consideration from the Eastern Conference head coaches.

Atlanta had won six of seven before a humbling 105-90 loss at San Antonio on Wednesday night. The Hawks reviewed game film of the loss Thursday but were eager to look ahead to the Celtics.

“I don’t think they look at us as a rivalry yet, but I think that they totally see that they can see us down the line,” Atlanta’s Jamal Crawford said Thursday. “They want to send a message and we want to continue to play well against them.”

The Hawks’ last season

sweep of the Celtics came with three wins in 1998-99. Their last 4-0 sweep was in the 1995-96 season.

Crawford said a sweep of the Celtics would help prove the Hawks belong with the top teams in the conference.

“That would be a big statement because everybody had us the fourth-best team but now we’re right there in the mix with the top three,” Crawford said. “It will be interesting to see what happens.”

Josh Smith said the Hawks can’t assume regular-season success will provide any postseason guarantees should they face the Celtics again.

IN BRIEF

Josh Cribbs likely to return to Browns next season

LAUDERHILL, Fla. — Cleveland’s Josh Cribbs is feeling more confident that he’ll be playing for the Browns next season.

Cribbs, the multitalented wide receiver and kick returner who’ll play for the AFC in Sunday’s Pro Bowl, said earlier this month that he thought it was “unlikely” he’ll play another game for Cleveland after a \$1.4 million contract offer for next season.

But on Thursday, he indicated that new Browns president Mike Holmgren has reached out to him and “wants to get something done soon.”

Cribbs says he would “love to play for the Browns” and hopes that his contract situation is worked out.

Cribbs holds the NFL record for career kickoff return touchdowns with eight.

Dwight Freeney recovers from injury just in time

INDIANAPOLIS — Colts defensive end Dwight Freeney has missed a second straight practice Thursday with a sprained right ankle.

Coach Jim Caldwell said Freeney was “coming along” in his recovery but did not provide details. Team president Bill Polian has maintained Freeney will play in next week’s Super Bowl.

Starting cornerback Jerraud Powers sat out with a left foot injury after missing Sunday’s AFC championship game with the injury.

Starting safety Melvin Bullitt also was added to the practice report with a knee injury Thursday. He did not practice and the Colts have not said which knee Bullitt hurt.

Two other Indy players — safety Antoine Bethea (back) and backup tight end Jacob Tamme (ankle) — were limited at workouts.

Kansas athletes stick around one more season

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Sherron Collins consulted family, friends and coaches before deciding between the NBA and one more season at Kansas. Cole Aldrich took a similar approach.

Mostly, though, they talked to each other. I’m not going without you, or something along those lines, is what they said.

This was always going to be a package deal.

After a spring-long discussion, the decision was one more year. The NBA and its riches could wait. They wanted another national championship. Together.

“Cole was the one calling, meeting with me and telling me he needed me to come back,” Collins said. “He had a chance to make some money, too, but he wanted to come back. Altogether, it was a good deal.”

NFL

Pro Bowlers' trip to South Florida bittersweet

Associated Press

MIAMI — For 86 of the NFL's best players, the season is ending where they wanted: in Miami.

Their timing's off, though.

With a new venue and new slot on the league calendar, the Pro Bowl will be played Sunday as a preliminary to next week's Super Bowl on the same field.

It definitely feels like a warmup act.

"There's a bittersweet taste," said quarterback Tony Romo, a late addition to the NFC roster after his Dallas Cowboys came up two wins shy of a Super Bowl berth. "You're always hoping to play in the big game."

The NFL is trying to transform the Pro Bowl into a bigger game by playing it before the Super Bowl for the first time. In a one-year experiment, the league also moved the game from Honolulu, its home since 1980.

The results: increased media coverage and the best attendance in 51 years, with a sellout crowd of more than 70,000 expected.

The changes haven't helped participation, though. Seven Colts and seven Saints are missing because they're preparing for the Super Bowl, a drawback to playing the Pro Bowl first.

Defections by players citing injuries were high, as usual. More than a dozen pulled out, leaving the all-star teams with only some stars.

"That has been historic," said Frank Supovitz, the NFL's senior vice president for events. "That's nothing new."

And that's not what the league sought to fix by changing the date and site of the game, Supovitz said.

"The changes were meant to look at two things: Whether we could create more excitement with the Pro Bowl being the first event of Super Bowl week, and whether it would have an impact on TV ratings," he said.

Ticket sales show the excitement level is up, Supovitz said. And he's optimistic about the television audience for the game.

"It's being shown on a weekend when there's usually no football and interest in the NFL is at its highest," he said.

Those tuning in will see established stars such as Ray Lewis, Antonio Gates and DeMarcus Ware, as well as first-time Pro Bowlers such as DeAngelo Williams, Clay Matthews and

Matt Schaub. The TV audience they attract will help the NFL decide where and when to play future Pro Bowls.

The game will return to Honolulu in 2011 and 2012, but the league hasn't decided whether

to hold those games before or after the Super Bowl. The Pro Bowl site for 2013 and beyond hasn't been determined.

Players had mixed reactions to this year's changes. Many said they preferred the old schedule so those in the Super Bowl could also be available for the Pro Bowl.

"I'd rather have it after the Super Bowl," 49ers linebacker Patrick Willis said. "I truly believe next year we're going to be in the Super Bowl, and I want to play in the Pro Bowl too."

But Romo said he could see the appeal of putting the Pro Bowl first.

"There's something to be said for playing the game during the season," he said. "I think more people are interested."

By moving the game to the Super Bowl site, the NFL created a bigger spotlight for the Pro Bowl. There are 1,076 credentialed media members this week, compared with 334 in

Honolulu a year ago.

That's good for the league, and maybe not so good for the all-stars.

"There's a lot more media here, that's for sure," said eight-time Pro Bowl center Kevin Mawae, addressing a throng of reporters after an AFC practice. "It's not as relaxed here. There's a little more hustle and bustle here than there would be at the resort where we stay in Hawaii."

Still, practices this week were

pretty laid back. AFC offensive linemen ran pass patterns. Browns kick returner Joshua Cribbs took a wildcat snap. Eagles receiver DeSean Jackson threw a pass on an end-around. Bengals receiver Chad Ochocinco practiced punting and kicking and said he may boot one in the game.

The primary goal seemed to be having a few laughs, which at the end of a long season was understandable. For players

who came up short of the Super Bowl, the Pro Bowl can be a consolation prize worth accepting.

Running back Adrian Peterson decided not to play, then changed his mind two days after his Vikings lost in the NFC championship game.

"I was beating myself up, and then I realized that really wasn't the right route to go," Peterson said. "I'm here, and I'm going to enjoy myself."

"There's a bittersweet taste. You're always hoping to play in the big game."

Tony Romo
Cowboys quarterback

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SMC SWIMMING

Seniors prepare for final regular season meet

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's took first in eight out of 13 events last weekend, and have a chance to build on that success in the final meet of the regular season tonight against Calvin and Alma.

In the past few weeks, each individual swimmer and the team as a whole has progressed, producing season-best times and finishing in the lead.

The freshman and senior

classes in particular are looking to end the regular season on a high note.

"Calvin is a good team, but I'm sure I'll see season-best times from many of my teammates at the meet," senior Meredith Lierz said.

Freshman Ellie Watson took first in both the 200-yard individual medley and 500-yard freestyle last week, but now she wants more.

"My goal this weekend is to get a season-best in the 500 freestyle," Watson said. "It would also be great if I could win both distance events."

Another powerful freshman, Katie Griffin, has taken first in the 200-yard freestyle and 200-yard backstroke many times in the past and is looking to continue her streak.

As this is the final regular season meet for the senior class, seniors Sara Niemann and Lierz hope to finish strong.

After finishing first in the

1,000-yard freestyle and second in the 500-yard freestyle, Niemann said she hopes to end her season with continued success.

"I'm sure I'll see season-best times from many of my teammates at the meet."

**Meredith Lierz
Belles senior**

Lierz, who just returned from a knee injury last weekend, is looking for big things from herself and her teammates. Last week her return came in the form of a first

place finish in the 50-yard freestyle. While her knee has not completely healed, she is ready to tough it out once again.

"The one event I'm looking most forward to is the 400-yard freestyle relay," Lierz said. "I'm hoping we can drop more time there before we get ready for conference."

The Belles will travel to Calvin in Grand Rapids, Mich. to take on Calvin and Alma at 6 p.m. tonight.

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinnera@nd.edu

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MEN’S TENNIS

Notre Dame heads to ITA Regionals in Ohio

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

The Irish return to the courts this weekend as they travel to Columbus, Ohio, to face Tulsa in the first round of the Ohio State regional of the ITA’s National Team Indoor Championships.

“Tulsa beat us last year 4-2 in a pretty hard-fought match played in Tulsa,” Irish coach Bob Bayliss said. “They have hosted the NCAAs twice in the last few years and have put a great deal of resources and support into tennis.”

The other first round match-up will be No. 3 Ohio St. against No. 51 New Mexico. The winners of both matches will then play at 12:30 p.m. Sunday to see who will advance onto the Championships, hosted by Virginia on Feb. 12-15 at the Boars’ Head Sports Club.

“Goals for the weekend are to advance to the finals and play well there, most likely against Ohio State,” Bayliss said. “The Buckeyes are certainly a formidable team, as evidenced by that lofty No. 3 national ranking, but we hope to show that we are better than last year’s team.”

In order to adjust for the Buckeyes and their home courts, the Irish have abandoned their own home courts lately.

“We have been preparing for

the quicker courts at Ohio State by practicing at the South Bend Racket Club,” Bayliss said. “We have spent a significant amount of time emphasizing holding the baseline to take away time from the opposition and finishing points at the net.”

No. 30 Notre Dame opened the 2010 season last weekend with wins over William & Mary and IUPUI while falling to No. 2 Virginia.

“I think we performed well at times [last] weekend,” Bayliss said. “Against William & Mary we played a bit tight at times, something that is understandable in the first competition of the year.”

Last season, the Irish met Tulsa at the National Team Indoor Qualifiers, in Tulsa. Then-No.12 Tulsa defeated the Irish in the opening round of the tournament 4-2, but Notre Dame rebounded on the second day to sweep No. 20 Texas Tech, 4-0.

Notre Dame has qualified for the ITA National Team Indoor Championships eight times since 1991. Their best showing came in 1992 when they took third, and made back-to-back appearances in 2007-2008.

The Irish look to advance Saturday as they take on Tulsa at 1 p.m. in Columbus.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

ND MEN’S SWIMMING

Irish host tough competition

By ANDREW OWENS
Sports Writer

This weekend, the Irish will square off in their last meet before the Big East Championships next month.

The Irish, who are receiving votes in the latest CSCAA Top 25 Poll, will match up against Iowa, Denver and Missouri in the Shamrock Invitational Friday and Saturday at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Missouri and Denver also received votes in the latest poll, but are unranked.

The Irish are hoping that a recent training trip to Puerto Rico over the holidays will help them in the final month as they prepare for the Big East

Championships. They will look to rebound after three consecutive losses dropped them to 4-4 on the season.

They dropped each of their two matches a couple weekends ago, against Michigan State and Louisville, respectively.

The Irish won six events against the Spartans but it was not enough in a 179-121 loss. Freshmen Bill Bass and Wesley Mullins, junior Michael Sullivan and senior John Lytle all won individual events. Lytle won both the 200-yard individual medley and the 50-yard free.

The other Irish win came in the 400-yard free relay. Juniors Joshua Nosal and Thomas Van Volkenburg, senior Andrew Hoffman and Bass all competed

in the event for Notre Dame.

The disappointing loss was followed by a very close defeat the next day for Irish coach Tim Welsh’s squad. They dropped a competitive 166-134 match to conference rival Louisville. The loss gave the Irish a 1-1 conference record on the season.

Lytle once again was victorious this time in the 100 and 200 free events. Juniors Wesley Villaflor and Nathan Geary and sophomore Petar Petrovic also picked up victories for the Irish.

The Irish need every win they can get right now as they attempt to win their fifth Big East title in six seasons.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles hope to break streak at Alma

By TIM SINGLER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s travels to Alma Saturday in hopes of ending a three-game conference losing streak that has dropped the Belles into a three-way tie for third place in conference standings with Adrian and Olivet.

Despite Alma’s (3-15, MIAA 2-7) poor record, the Belles

(10-8, 5-5 MIAA) will need to concentrate heavily on this game and not overlook it.

“Alma is a good team despite their record,” Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. “At this point in the season, there are no easy games. You have to prove yourself as a team every night you compete — especially in this league.”

Saint Mary’s will need to focus on the frontcourt during

the game as the Scots’ two top scores are both forwards. That means senior Anna Kammrath and company will need to not allow any second chance points inside the paint or allow too many offensive rebounds.

Saint Mary’s will travel to Alma Saturday for a 3 p.m. tip-off.

Contact Tim Singler at tsingler@nd.edu



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ND TRACK & FIELD

Irish head to two-day meet

By KAITLYN MURPHY
Sports Writer

The Irish will travel south to Bloomington, Ind. this weekend to compete in the Indiana Invitational along with 21 other teams. The two-day meet begins Friday. The majority of the first day of competition consists of preliminary rounds of 60-meter sprints and hurdles. Saturday's contests will end the meet with invitational races and relays. All field events on Saturday will also be invitational. The format of the meet will be key for the Irish, as it is the first two-day meet of the season. Big East Championships are less than a month away, and the Indiana Invitational will help the team prepare mentally and physically for grueling two-day competitions. It is also the team's first away meet of the season. The team will rely on the con-

sistent and dominating performance of the Schipper brothers, sophomore Kevin and senior Matt, on the field in the pole vault. This duo has finished in first and second, respectively, in the team's first two meets of the season. The team will also look to senior Jaclyn Espinoza for her leadership and consistent throws in the shot put. Irish throwing coach Adam Beltran praised Espinoza's work ethic. "Her ability to focus and stay in the zone never ceases to amaze me" Beltran said. Espinoza's stability will be essential to keeping the throwers on track during the taxing two-day meet. On the track, freshman Nevada Sorenson will look for her third first-place finish of the year in the 60-meter hurdles. Her male counterpart, junior Justin Schneider, is also expected to be a force in the same event. Based on her performances in the first two meets of the season, mid-distance runner

senior Joanna Schultz should compete at a high level in both the 400- and 500-meter races. With regards to goals for this meet, the team will look to reach more Big East and NCAA provisional qualifying marks. The team has hit two NCAA provisional qualifying marks, one set by the sophomore Schipper in the pole vault with a height of 5.20-meters and the other by Schultz in the 400 with a time of 53.82. In the beginning of the season, Irish coach Joe Plane identified the long-term goal for the indoor season as "send[ing] as many individual men and women and relay teams as possible to the NCAA tournament." This meet will be a crucial in determining Notre Dame's place among a competitive line-up of colleges. The first race will start Friday at 3 p.m. and Saturday at 10:30 a.m.

Contact Kaitlyn Murphy at kmurph28@nd.edu

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

ND opens in Disney World

Observer Staff Report
Big East reigning champion Notre Dame looks to follow up a spectacular 2009 season by traveling to Florida to take on the U.S. National Team in two preseason exhibition matches. The Irish will be a part of the 2010 Champion Challenge at Disney's Wide World of

Sports. The Champion Challenge is designed to be a competitive start to the National Team's preparations for the World Championships in July. Though the ninth-ranked Irish will be losing some crucial talent including the legendary all-time scoring leader Jill Byers at attack along with

defender Shannon Burke at the other end of the field, both of whom graduated last spring, their young roster has its share of veteran leadership. Senior Gina Scioscia at attack will lead a squad featuring seventeen underclassmen that likely will catch the conference off-guard when they begin regular season play in February.

FENCING

After great start, Notre Dame readies for more

By KEVIN BALDWIN
Sports Writer

The Irish will take to the piste again this weekend in the Northwestern Duals in Evanston, Ill. to take on some of their top rivals from the Midwest and elsewhere around the country. Both the men's and women's squads will also have the opportunity to continue what is currently a perfect season following a flawless performance in New York last week. The Irish trounced top-ranked Penn State in the St. John's Duals on Sunday, with the men going 16-11 against

competition Saturday while fellow freshman James Choy went 9-6 in the men's saber. The women's side featured freshman Abigail Nichols going 12-5 in the saber competition. Sunday's St. John's Duals put some of the squad's veteran skill to the test with Harvard and Penn State challenging the Irish in every event. Sophomore Gerek Meinhardt at foil and junior Barron Nydam at saber led the men's team in the victory. Sophomore Courtney Hurley continued her success from last week's tournament in the North America Cup going 9-3 on the day in New York in the women's épée


"We proved that we can fence against [top competition]. That's an important message we want to send to the top teams."


Janusz Bednarski
Irish coach

their top rival while the women claimed a hard-fought 14-13 victory over the Nittany Lions. The men also posted wins against No. 3 Ohio State and No. 4 Columbia on Saturday in their sweep of the NYU Invitational. The women matched their success taking down top challengers No. 4 Columbia and No. 5 Northwestern finishing 10-0 after the first week of intercollegiate competition. "It was a very good tournament, good results we fenced the top teams from the nation, among them national champion Penn State and Ohio State Harvard was also a pretty strong team," Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. "We proved that we can fence against them. That's an important message we want to send to the top teams." The NYU Invitational featured some new faces on the collegiate stage with freshman James Kaull on men's épée earning a 12-5 performance in his first appearance in NCAA

while Darsie Malynn and Radmilla Sarkisova had some clutch wins in the women's foil competition. Juniors Hayley Reese and Sarah Borrman had the performances of the day, coming up big against Penn State in a dramatic comeback victory at saber and foil, respectively. If the Irish can match the results of last week's tournament, they will likely be ranked first in the next coaches' poll. Don't think that will slow down their drive to succeed, the team has remained focused on the day-to-day practice and to take the season one step at a time. "We won against [Ohio State] this weekend but we will have other challengers such as Princeton and North Carolina and matches against Wayne State so we have to watch our rivals after this tournament in New York," Bednarski said. The two-day tournament opens Saturday. Contact Kevin Baldwin at kbaldwi@nd.edu

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Kickoff

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concern for the Irish. The team was hampered by injuries all through the fall, and no one was quite sure what to expect. "The doubles teams really hadn't played together," Louderback said. But if the girls were having any problems adjusting, they certainly didn't show it last weekend. In particular, Louderback praised the number two doubles team of senior Cosmina Ciobanu and freshman Chrissie McGaffigan, saying he was impressed with their performance. "I was really happy with number two doubles," he said. Ciobanu and McGaffigan won both their matches, winning handily against Wisconsin and pulling out a close one against Iowa. Overall, the team went an impressive 5-1 over the weekend in doubles, with the only loss coming at three doubles against Wisconsin, losing a close match, 8-6. Equally impressive was Irish number one singles player, sophomore Kristy Frilling, who handled the Hawkeye's highly touted No.

65 Sonja Molnar. Frilling won in straight sets, 6-0, 6-3. The girls know this weekend presents a whole set of new challenges. "This weekend, we've got tougher matches against some top-40 teams," Louderback said. "DePaul has a doubles team in the top 10 and North Carolina also has teams ranked ahead of us." The Irish aren't letting their high ranking go to their heads either, as senior leadership has helped the girls stay humble and hungry. "They haven't [been paying attention to the high-ranking]," Louderback said. "We have three seniors. They've been through it. The reality is that it's nice to be ranked early, but it really doesn't matter until we play some of these top teams." This weekend presents the first of two matches the girls have set on the schedule against DePaul this year, with a possible third meeting to occur between the teams in the Big East tournament. The girls start the weekend off at 3 p.m. on Saturday, and will play at either 9 a.m. or 1 p.m. on Sunday. Contact John Helms at jhelms2@nd.edu

Big East

continued from page 20

us,” Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. “I’m not worried so much about the playing on the road because we have a veteran, experienced point guard that can really stand the pressure. I’m not as worried about the environment, just that they’re a really good team, and everyone in the Big East is tough at home.”

Syracuse (16-4, 3-4) had a sensational start to the season, finishing its out-of-conference schedule undefeated in 13 games and breaking into the AP Top 25 rankings. Since then the stars have unaligned, and the Orange have fallen to eighth in the conference rankings. Still, McGraw says they are a much more dangerous team than their record suggests.

“They’ve had a couple of close losses, so I think they’re an excellent team, definitely one of the most talented,” McGraw said. “They definitely have a great scoring team, and they’re really good defensively. They’re just long and athletic. They play a zone similar to what the men’s team plays and it’s really effective.”

In addition to the talent they bring on defense, the Orange boast an offense ranked third in the Big East in points per game and field goal percentage. Leading her team with 14.5 points and 7.6 rebounds per game, Nicole Michael directs a transition offense that looks to catch the Irish off guard at a moment’s notice.

“They’re a challenge. Nicole Michael, a first-team Big East type of player, she is really, really talented,” McGraw said. “She’s a big guard at 6-1, so she can really

shoot over a lot of our guards. She’s got a nice three-point shot, can put it on the floor, plays around the basket. She’ll post up small guards.”

Michael is not the lone threat. Junior guard Erica Morrow provides support on the wing, while freshman standout Kayla Alexander gives the Syracuse another weapon under the basket.

“They’ve added a great post player in Kayla Alexander,” McGraw said. “She’s just a freshman, but now they have the inside-outside that they didn’t have last year.”

Led by junior forward Becca Bruszewski’s 10 points, Notre Dame had its way in the post against Providence Wednesday night. While the Syracuse centers will be a more difficult challenge, McGraw still expects her rotation of Bruszewski, junior forward Devereaux Peters, and senior center Erica Williamson to contribute once again.

“Becca’s come along. She’s had two good games in a row. Erica Williamson is coming off a really good game against Providence, so we expect to use her quite a bit defensively,” McGraw said. “I think the post players are really coming alive right now.”

Tipoff is at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Note:

♦ Fifth-year senior guard Lindsay Schrader is one of seven players who have been added to the 2009-10 State Farm Wade Trophy Watch List Thursday. Since 1978, the trophy has been awarded to the women’s national player of the year in college basketball.

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

Rutgers

continued from page 20

our margin for error is very, very thin,” Brey said. “If we don’t fight, we’re going to get beat by anybody in this league, whether it’s Villanova, Syracuse or someone below us in the standings. We’ve got a heck of a challenge Saturday to see if we can bounce back on the road.”

Notre Dame will look to rebound after falling 90-72 to the Wildcats this week. Despite trailing by just one point at half-time, the Irish were blown out in the second half by senior Scottie Reynolds and Villanova.

Senior forward Luke Harangody scored 21 points and gathered 10 rebounds in the defeat.

“Their depth got to us, and I know we’re frustrated with how we shot free throws again tonight on the road,” Brey said. “You’ve gotta turn it around really quick or you’ll get beat on Saturday.”

Notre Dame missed 11 free throws and committed an uncharacteristic 14 turnovers in the game.

Rutgers may be just the opponent for Notre Dame to solve its recent problems against, having lost all eight Big East games this season by at least nine points. Guard Mike Rosario leads the Scarlet Knights in scoring, averaging 15.3 points per game.

While the Irish defense was exposed by Villanova, Rutgers should pose a much easier challenge. The Scarlet Knights are averaging less than 56 points per game and almost 16

turnovers.

Brey said that he may continue to expand his rotation on Saturday after freshmen Joey Brooks and Jack Cooley saw time in the loss to the Wildcats. Notre Dame had gone just seven or eight players deep in most of its Big East games this season.

“We’re certainly confident in Joey, he’s played some good minutes,” Brey said. “He’s emerged as someone we can use and we want to keep getting him reps.”

The Irish bench also received more minutes because of foul issues against the Wildcats, with junior guard Ben Hansbrough fouling out and Harangody getting called for four.

Tip-off Saturday at the Bradley Center is scheduled for 6 p.m.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

CCHA

continued from page 20

Friday, with junior wing Callie Ridderwall notching his second hat trick of the season in the win.

The Irish picked up another point in a shootout loss Saturday night.

Freshman goalie Mike Johnson kept Notre Dame alive with an outstanding 45 save effort in the 1-1 contest.

“[Johnson] has been the guy since the end of the first half,” Jackson said. “As long he’s playing like he is, he’s going to keep getting starts.”

Absent in the 1-1 tie was

the Irish’s power play, going 0-for-4 as Notre Dame could only muster 27 shots against the Lakers’ 46. The Irish have not converted a power play in their last 10 opportunities.

“Between penalties and injuries, we’ve had a tough time keeping units together,” Jackson said. “There’s been guys playing on the power play who’ve never even practiced it because we’ve had guys who were in the penalty box or guys who were injured. When you take guys that are power play specialists out of the lineup, your continuity changes.”


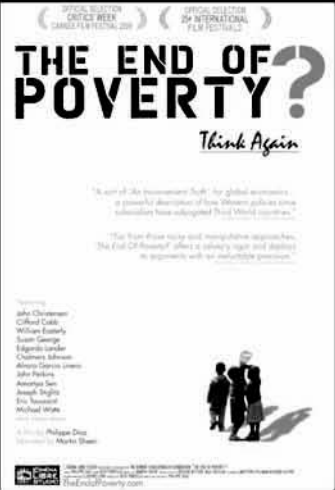


Notre Dame will struggle with injuries again this weekend, with five players

listed on the injury report against Nebraska-Omaha (12-11-5, 8-10-2-1 CCHA). In total, Irish skaters have missed 51 games this season due to injuries.

“I’m really proud of how this team’s played over the last couple of weekends considering,” Jackson said. “The team itself is a wounded warrior. This team is overcoming all kinds of stuff to compete on a nightly basis, and that’s all that matters right now.”

Notre Dame will play Nebraska-Omaha on Friday and Saturday at the Joyce Center, with the puck-drop at 8:05 p.m. each night.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu



In a world with so much wealth, why is there still so much poverty?

The End of Poverty?

Not Rated; 97 minutes; English, Spanish, French language with English subtitles

The End of Poverty? is a daring, thought-provoking and very timely documentary by award-winning filmmaker Philippe Diaz, revealing that poverty is not an accident. Renowned actor and activist Martin Sheen narrates **The End of Poverty?**, which explains how today’s financial crisis is a direct consequence of unchallenged policies that have lasted centuries.

Executive producer Clifford Cobb will discuss the film following the first screening.

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Office of the President



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WILL SHORTZ

- Across
- 1 Sony computer brand

5 River of Germany

9 One who worked in a "dismal little cell"

12 A-list wannabe

14 Georgia border river

15 Order in the court

17 Blanch

18 "Piece" org.

20 Italy's first capital

21 Canine warnings

22 Taking too much, briefly

24 With 35-Down, brother of Master Peter

25 Stocking stuffer

26 With 32-Across, one subjected to "incessant torture of remorse"

28 Org. with inspectors

29 Cause for weaving, for short

30 Prepare to drive

32 See 26-Across

35 Something to do twice?

37 It may be rolled

38 "Ho, ho, ho," e.g.

41 Burial place of Macbeth

42 Apportioned, as medicine

44 Noted Bauhaus teacher

45 "Little Women" woman

46 Quick-change artists?

48 25-Across maker

49 Repeated part of "Deck the Halls"

51 Agrarian concern

53 One who saw his name upon the stone of a neglected grave

58 Michael who wrote "Charmed Lives"

59 It's gross

60 Tannenbaum topper

61 Gradual

62 On the ____

63 Tupolev Tu-144s, e.g.
- Down
- 1 Sung parts, as of carols

2 Trapped, after "in"

3 Optimistic assertion

4 "As You Like It" hero

5 Mo. town

6 Kind of rock

7 Ertegun who co-founded Atlantic Records

8 Club steak, e.g.

9 Emma of fiction

10 1843 work in five "staves"

11 "Super!"

12 Pelvic prefix

13 Spanish royal

14 U.S.A.F. E-5

16 "And Winter Came ..." artist

19 Termite tormentor

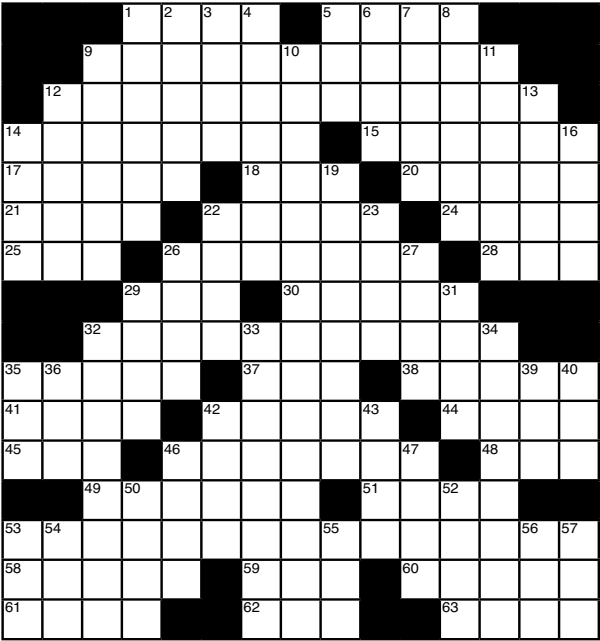
22 1970 hit by Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young

23 Suffix with party

26 It's gross

27 Like Santa's bag on Christmas Eve

29 ____ Perino, George W. Bush's last White House press secretary



- Puzzle by Paula Gamache
- 31 Prime

32 Sleigh bells and such

33 Pirates

34 Iconic flammers

35 See 24-Across

36 Groundbreaking invention?

39 Foam alternative

40 Hutch's head, briefly

42 Junot ____, 2008 Pulitzer winner for "The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao"

43 One with an ancestor: Abbr.

46 S O S, e.g.

47 Sported

50 "The ____ Williams Christmas Album"

52 Na+ and Cl-

53 Manage, with "out"

54 Fancy wrap

55 Protein source

56 Secure

57 Chicago runners

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Chelsea Brummet, 23; Elijah Wood, 29; Nick Carter, 30; Alan Alda, 74

Happy Birthday: If you try to get things out of the way too fast, you will miss an important detail. A job opportunity will allow you to put your creative skills to work. The recognition you receive for your talent and insight will be worth your effort. Your numbers are 5, 13, 22, 27, 30, 33, 45

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Welcome the unexpected. You will be in your element, acting fast and taking care of every little thing that comes your way. The emotional turmoil created by someone close to you will be a telltale sign of what you should do next to make your personal life better. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Someone will interest you with a new hobby or activity. Tag along and you will discover you have lots in common. A potential to make a little money with this joint venture is apparent. ★★ ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take the initiative and deal with any pressing matters immediately. If someone is not pulling his or her weight, you may want to intervene. Be determined and strong about what you want to see happen. ★★ ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Make some personal changes. An attitude adjustment will enable you to come to an agreeSpeak up and let your feelings, thoughts and intentions be known. If you don't say something now, it will be too late to make a difference later on. Let your emotions lead the way. ★★ ★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't be shy when it's so important to keep things out in the open. Talks will lead to change that you may not want but, once you get used to the alterations being made, you'll realize how beneficial this new set of circumstances is for you. ★★ ★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A little pampering or self-improvement will go a long way for you. Someone you care about can share your enjoyment or you should meet late in the day for good food and conversation. Enjoy the moment. ★★ ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Rid of yourself of any laziness. Procrastination will make you look bad and cause criticism. Open up to new trends and incorporate your old ideas with a different twist. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Observing the people around you will be eye-opening. You will discover something that helps you identify what you want to do in the future. You will be invigorated by what you contribute and the response you get from others. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Emotional matters will escalate if you try to run away or avoid a personal problem. Face the music and put what is bothering you in the past. Put your effort into work, not play, if you don't want to be pressured. ★★ ★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take care of business. The demands being put on you emotionally will pose a greater problem the longer you wait. Money-making opportunities are looking good but check the deal out personally, rather than trusting someone else. ★★ ★

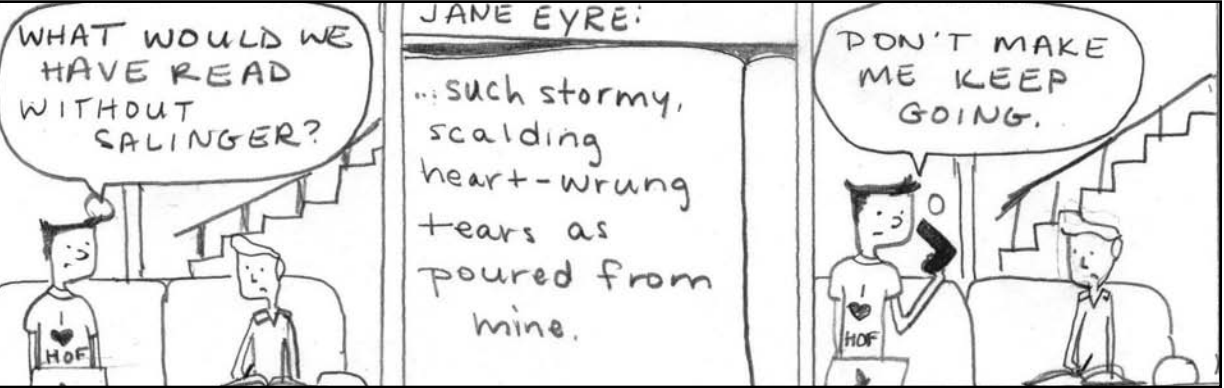
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't make waves, start fights or antagonize someone who can influence your future. Your foggy outlook will cause you to misjudge a situation, leaving you in a vulnerable position. ★★ ★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Initiate entertaining events or activities with friends or someone you love. A commitment made today may be based on a changing situation. Before you make a promise, consider the outcome from several different angles. ★★ ★★

Birthday Baby: You are strong-willed and determined. You are competitive and will never give in or give up. You use your intuition to guide you in personal matters.

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WILL GUAPPONE & BRI KRAFCIK



T.I.N.D

DAN POHLMAN



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JUMBLE
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It was 65 feet, downhill, with a double break. In the hole for one under

WHEN THE GOLFER DESCRIBED HIS INCREDIBLE PUTT, IT BECAME A ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

A: A

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: JOKER TROTH LIMPID INFECT
Answer: What the pool player did when he won the bet — "POCKETED" IT

THE OBSERVER

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FOOTBALL

OT James headlines final official recruiting visits over weekend

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Editor

Irish coach Brian Kelly and his staff will host 13 official visitors, including five Notre Dame verbal commits, this weekend in what will be the final major recruiting push before National Signing Day on Wednesday.

U.S. Army All-American Matt James, an offensive tackle from St. Xavier H.S. in Cincinnati, Ohio, remains one of the top uncommitted players on Notre Dame's board Irish recruiting analyst Mike Frank said.

"Matt James is obviously a

huge recruit for Notre Dame because they really need another lineman in this class," said Frank, who runs the ESPN-affiliated Web site irishsportsdaily.com. "[Scouts at the Army All-American Bowl] said Matt James was the best pass protector they saw the entire week down there, and he's a guy who's really huge on Notre Dame's radar, and a guy they really need to land."

James will choose between Notre Dame and Ohio State on Wednesday, and how he clicks with Irish offensive line coach Ed Warinner could determine his ultimate decision, Frank said.

"I was real impressed with

[Warinner] and think he's a really smart, likable guy, so I think he'll do a good job with Matt this weekend," Frank said. "When you look across at Notre Dame's offensive line depth chart, there just isn't a true left tackle that you can point to. I think with Matt James you can say that. He's a big kid who moves well and pass protects well."

Aside from James and the five Irish commits — athlete Austin Collinworth, quarterback Andrew Hendrix, tackles Christian Lombard and Tate Nichols and wide receiver Daniel Smith — this weekend's visitors have been recruited almost

entirely by the new staff, which, as Kelly has said, searches for "RKGs," or the right kind of guys.

"I think [the coaches] went out to find guys with a fondness for Notre Dame, and I think this is a group of those RKGs coach Kelly likes to talk about," Frank said. "You're not just going to make a visit the last weekend of the recruiting season if you don't have a strong interest in a school."

Those players include running back Brandon Bourbon, defensive ends Bruce Heggie and Kona Schwenke, safety James Ioane, quarterbacks Luke Massa and Derek Roback, and athlete Danny

Spond.

"It's a pretty big leap of faith to go visit Notre Dame this weekend," Frank said. "I think that speaks volumes about how much they're interested in Notre Dame, and I think that speaks volumes about Notre Dame's staff and how quickly they were able to get in on some of these kids and get them interested."

Many of this weekend's visitors have the athletic ability to fill in at various positions of need should they choose Notre Dame, Frank said.

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Carrying momentum

Notre Dame continues into Big East schedule

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

The advantages of playing in the Big East are obvious: immediate national exposure and special consideration during playoff seeding in March. The not-so-obvious disadvantage: playing the toughest road schedule in the country, a reality the Irish will face this weekend as they travel to Syracuse.

Regardless of team allegiance, the Carrier Dome is widely held as one of the more thrilling environments college basketball has to offer. But for No. 3 Notre Dame (18-1, 5-1 Big East), the home of the Orange should be downright hostile Saturday afternoon.

"It's a tough weekend, a tough stretch. This is probably the toughest weekend of the year for

see BIG EAST/page 18



Junior forward Becca Bruszewski scores two points during Notre Dame's 84-59 victory over Providence on Wednesday. Bruszewski leads the Irish against Syracuse Saturday night.

PAT COVENEY/The Observer

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish host ITA Kickoff Weekend

By JOHN HELMS
Sports Writer

After an impressive start to the season against quality Big Ten opponents Iowa and Wisconsin, the No. 6 Irish make their home debut this weekend as they host No. 17 North Carolina, No. 33 Boise State and No. 46 DePaul for the ITA Kickoff Weekend.

Last weekend, Notre Dame knocked off the Hawkeyes, 6-1 and Badgers, 7-0. The Irish will look to ride that momentum into this weekend, particularly in doubles.

"Doubles last weekend I was really happy with," Irish coach Jay Louderback said.

Going into the season, the doubles performance was the biggest

see KICKOFF/page 17

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Rutgers provides another test

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Associate Sports Editor

The Irish will try to stop their recent Big East slide Saturday on the road against Rutgers.

Notre Dame, which has dropped three of its past four, will travel to Piscataway, N.J., in search of a crucial conference win after a loss to No. 3 Villanova Wednesday dropped the team back to 4-4 in Big East play.

The Scarlet Knights (9-11, 0-8) are floundering at the bottom of the Big East standings, but Irish coach Mike Brey said it will be a tough test for his squad to bounce back from another loss in a hostile environment.

"It doesn't matter who we play,

see RUTGERS/page 18



Junior forward Tyrone Nash readies for a rebound against DePaul during Notre Dame's 87-77 victory on Jan. 23.

PAT COVENEY/The Observer

HOCKEY

Home series gives ND a chance to move up

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

Notre Dame hosts conference foe Nebraska-Omaha in a crucial pair of games at the Joyce Center this weekend.

The Irish will need to pick up at least three points to vault fourth-place Lake Superior State in the CCHA rankings; the top four seeds receive a bye in the first round of the conference tournament.

"I've been trying to tell [my team], let's just focus on the game at hand," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said.

"We need to get points every weekend. This team we're playing is a pretty good hockey team. You look at the [CCHA] standings, there's six teams in the mix, anywhere from third to tenth. We're going to have to play our best, considering the circumstances."

The Irish (11-10-7, 7-7-6-2 CCHA) come into the series after picking up four points against Lake Superior last weekend.

The sometimes-anemic Notre Dame offense exploded in a 6-1 road victory against the Lakers on

see CCHA/page 18