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Scene pages 12-13

Friday

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# THE OBSERVER

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## BOXING

in the

## Shadows

By NOREEN GILLESPIE  
News Writer

It's Monday in the gym, and after four weeks of practice, Notre Dame junior Brigid McHugh is getting the chance to do what she's been training for two seasons to do: enter the ring.

In the thunderstorm of pounding gloves, the air that hangs heavy with smells of musty leather and sweat, she warms up normally, counting out loud doing jumping jacks with the other 69 members of the boxing army. You can't tell she's nervous.

She probably should be. It's week five in the women's boxing team veteran season. After completing the fall instructional novice season and four weeks of intense training with the returning members of the team, it will be McHugh's first time in a real match-up inside the ring.

Athletics come easily to this confident, self-described tomboy from Georgia. She was a member of the rowing team and track team her freshman year. Being in the center of the athletic stage isn't unfamiliar — she was often in the spotlight as a member of her high school's basketball team.

McHugh was matched with a teammate during week three, when captains evaluate boxers in the ring. After boxing with a captain, coaches and captains rank the boxers on a scale of 1 to 4

in skills, and match them according to skill and height. The system is to ensure both safety and an evenly-matched fight so that the athletes have the chance to use their skills without fear of getting pounded. Today's match — a dress rehearsal for the sparring in week six of the season — is the first real chance McHugh has to fight.

But despite the precautions, getting in the ring makes nerves electric. Two rounds of two-minute bouts can seem like two days — even for a composed athlete like McHugh.

"I've got butterflies," she says, pacing nervously with eyes sizing up the ring.

### Fighting in the Shadows

It is here, in this den of sweat and strength, the women's boxing team calls home. It is here they train, day after day, week after week, in a tucked-away basement in the lower level of the Joyce Center.

The program, in its sixth year of operation, follows the same training pattern as the storied men's program. They learn the same combinations, same fight strategies, work with the same coaches and train in the same gym. They raise money for the Bengal Missions, and send a joint check with the men's team every year after the Bengal Bouts. Including training and service, the programs are practically identical.

see BOXING/page 4



NELLIE WILLIAMS/The Observer

Senior captain Kari Jerge eyes two of her Notre Dame Women's Boxing proteges as they practice fighting to get ready for upcoming matches in the Joyce Center ring.

## Asian media hits campus

By KIFLIN TURNER  
Assistant News Editor

This weekend Notre Dame will host its first International Conference on Globalization and Media in Asia.

The conference is not only a first to Notre Dame, but it could also be a first in the United States as well.

"This is also, we believe, the first time this kind of conference is held in North America," said Mike Wan, conference organizer and an instructor in the department of film, television and theater.

"It's different than any other conference — we have a combination of leading figures of

the entertainment world and also scholarship," said Wan.

What distinguishes this conference from most others is the presence of speakers other than those belonging to the scholarly community. Michelle Yeoh, acclaimed Asian actress and star of "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" adds another dimension to the conference by bringing insider perspectives to the discussion.

"It is a conference which is unlike any other in that it provides for a gathering of figures from entertainment and media and scholars working in film and television," said Lionel Jensen, department chair of the East Asian languages and literatures department.

"It is really rare to have conferences in which there are anything more than just simply scholars — normally it's just scholars debating any number of issues relating to a field of focus for them," said Jensen.

Other panelists include senior Hollywood executives and major filmmakers from Asian and media scholars, including Notre Dame alumnus William Pfeiffer, CEO of Hong Kong-based Celestial Pictures. Pfeiffer will give the keynote address today in McKenna Hall at 4 pm. Pfeiffer has become the most influential Hollywood executive in

see MEDIA/page 8

## School seeks new architecture chair

By HELENA PAYNE  
Assistant News Editor

Since School of Architecture chair Carroll Westfall announced his plans to step down, the Office of the Provost has established a group to conduct a national search for a replacement.

The search committee, chaired by provost Nathan Hatch, includes associate provost Maura Ryan and architecture professors Norman Crowe, Michael Lykoudis and John Stamper. According to executive assistant to the provost Mary Pugel, the committee formed at the beginning of the current acad-

emic year as the first step toward the selection process of a new chair.

"The committee has really just begun to identify candidates," said Pugel.

Westfall said he would continue working in the architecture school in some capacity, but he wants to spend more time on his research and writing.

"I told [those in the provost's office], 'Start looking now and I'll step aside whenever you find somebody,'" said Westfall.

The search committee has already contacted the architecture

see CHAIR/page 8

INSIDE COLUMN

# A Friendship Lost

I remember several songs from when I was younger and in the Girl Scouts. One that sticks out in my memory the most is entitled "Make New Friends." It goes

*Make new friends, but keep the old  
One is silver and the other's gold.  
A circle's round, it has  
no end*

*That's how long I want  
to be your friend.*

I remember learning this song in the second grade, just after I had joined Brownie Troop 3278 in San Diego, California. This song made me feel like I belonged, like I was wanted and that I had been accepted by the other girls as one of them.

That song taught me the value of friendship, that as long as we have our friends we can accomplish anything and we will always have our friends, and that other friends can never and will never replace the ones that we already have. I have kept that as one of my ways of thinking over the years. I have always been open to meeting new people and making new friends. And every new person that I meet can never replace any of the long-standing friends that I have. There are so many stories I could tell from all of the experiences that I have had from all of my friends. A friend of mine from high school, Dixie, was one of the thuggish, 'I'm not going to take nothing from nobody,' type of people. As far as I can tell, I was the only one she let mess with her. Maybe that was because I carried a long metal stick with me for half of the school year... but I digress. When we email each other now or talk to each other on the phone, she always asks "Who ever thought a thug would turn out so good" and it has become a kind of joke between us as we discuss how life has treated us.

I have several other friends like this from high school and many like that here at Notre Dame. It has been joked, "Who don't you know on campus?" Of all of the people I know, I have a core set of people who I consider to be my close friends. You all know who you are - helping me out when my life and world fell apart, shattered, helping me to piece the broken fragments of my life.

But then, after all I have ever believed, I have found people - whom I thought were my friends - turn and step away from me when I needed the extra support. How can this be? This isn't in my model for how friendship works. Is there a limit to the friendship that can exist between two people? If something comes between them, can it not be worked out, discussed with some attempt to remain cordial? Why should a disagreement keep friends apart?

True friends, are people who are there to support you when things go wrong or when you are challenged. It doesn't mean that they have to agree with you, but it means that differences of opinion are there to foster understanding and better friendship. Friendship means as much to me as my life does. I put my heart and soul into it. I would hate to see that thrown away because of a difference of opinion or a misunderstanding.

Contact Angela Campos at campos.2@nd.edu

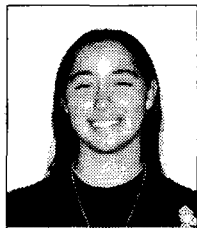
The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

The full text of Father Don McNeill's Feb.20 column appears at: [centerforconcern.nd.edu/sub\\_news.html](http://centerforconcern.nd.edu/sub_news.html)

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

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Angela Campos

Lab Tech

## THIS WEEK IN NOTRE DAME/SAINT MARY'S HISTORY

### Undergrads replaced as card-swipers

Wednesday, October 9, 1985

In an effort to tighten control over students entering and exiting the dining halls, undergraduate student checkers had been replaced by graduate students and help from outside the University. Director of University Food Services, Bill Hickey, said the policy was necessary because of "many, many incidents" which occurred over the past year.

### Graduate Student Council blasts gay policy

Thursday, February 2, 1995

The University of Notre Dame's Graduate Student Council, an arm of the Graduate Student Union, voted to condemn the Office of Student Affairs' move to bar a gay and lesbian group from meeting on campus. The council passed a resolution to "strongly condemn the University's action to expel Gays and Lesbians of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College from campus."

## BEYOND CAMPUS

Compiled from U-Wire reports

# U. Wisconsin ponders use of race in admissions

MADISON, Wis

The question of using race as a factor in admissions is one that is far from being resolved, as evidenced by pending court cases related to the issue. In terms of University of Wisconsin-Madison's admissions policy, race is one of many considerations, according to Rob Seltzer, director of admissions.

This policy is "perfectly legal," he said. The Faculty Senate is set to hear the annual report Monday from the Committee on Undergraduate Recruitment and Financial Aid. The report includes, among other things, statistics regarding target minorities and non-targeted students admitted and not admitted to the university.

Opponents of the university's system say there is a need for a

change.

Fred Mohs, a member of the UW System Board of Regents, continually has voiced his concern over the current policy. He said using race as a factor in admissions was intended to be temporary, and now that it has been around for 30 years, it is becoming permanent.

"A temporary boost is one thing," he said. "A permanent policy that divides qualifications on a long-

term basis is another. I really believe this country needs to have the starting line and the finish line the same for everyone when it comes to academia."

He said universities would achieve diversity better without using race-based admissions.

"Most of our targeted minorities are admitted without consideration of race," he said.

While Mohs said he was against using affirmative action in college admission, he said he did not oppose it in other areas, such as financial aid and hiring policies.

Until there's a ruling on a case involving the admissions policy of University of Michigan's law school, UW-Madison officials will not change their policies, Seltzer said.

The Daily Cardinal

## TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

### Feds to prosecute for mail fraud

PHILADELPHIA

Magistrate Judge Jacob Hart and lawyers on both sides of the mail fraud case agreed in a preliminary hearing Tuesday that there would be sufficient probable cause to continue with the prosecution of Preshal Iyar. The 19-year-old Temple University freshman was arrested earlier this month on three counts of mail fraud. U.S. Postal Inspectors had compiled enough evidence in early February to prove she may have violated certain federal codes. After the hearing, Iyar's lawyer, Mark Douple, declined to comment on the case, stating only there was an "ongoing investigation." He said he was uncertain as to what penalties Iyar could be facing if found responsible or partially responsible. The freshman has been referred to the University Disciplinary Committee but is not currently facing expulsion since she has not been charged or convicted, Temple officials said.

Temple News

## UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

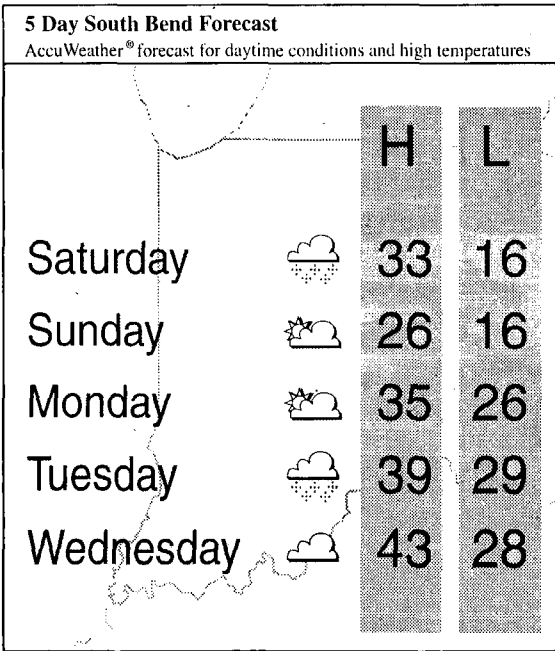
### Apartment complex bans kegs

OVIDO

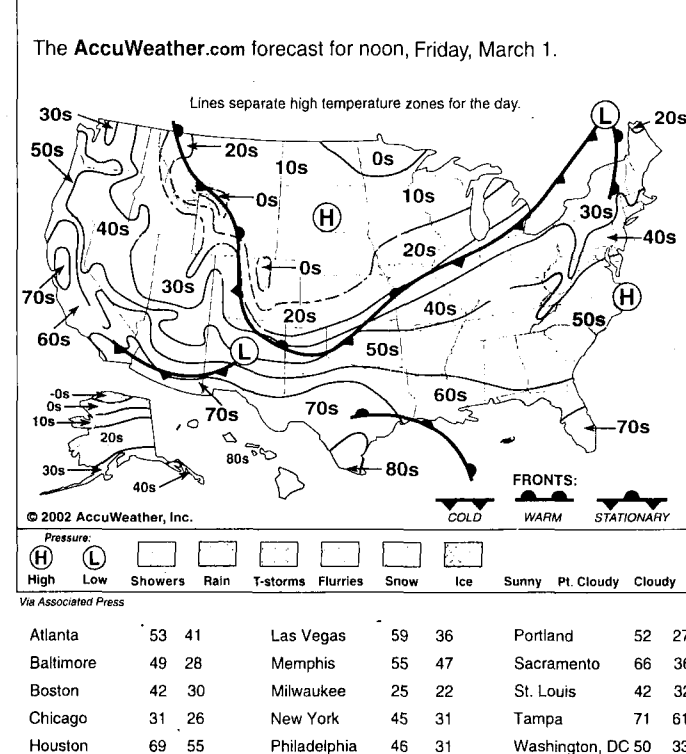
As part of its efforts to discourage underage drinking, University of Central Florida-affiliated apartment complex Knight's Crossing now is enforcing a ban on kegs, a policy that is making residents unhappy. A group of freshmen residents at Knight's Crossing discussed the issue. University students and apartment residents Jon Jelinek, Jodi Eller and Karen Russell spoke openly about their displeasure with the previously unenforced rule. They said the rule, which stipulates kegs are not allowed in residents' apartments, was not pointed out to them among the dozens of pages that compose their lease agreements. As college students, they feel management clearly should have spelled out and explained such a hampering restriction. The students believe the ban is unfounded since Knight's Crossing did not crack down on kegs or keg parties in the first semester.

Central Florida Future

## LOCAL WEATHER



## NATIONAL WEATHER



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## Trustees review recycling standards

By ALLISON ROCHE  
News Writer

The fate of 20 ounce bottles of pop across Saint Mary's campus will be determined by the Board of Trustees the next time they meet on April 19 and 20.

The board will then decide whether to give final approval to the Student Environmental Action Coalition's proposal for administrative financing of campus-wide glass and plastic recycling.

SEAC president, Teresa Lorenz, said the proposal is a response to requests from the student body.

"Students and faculty would approach us and ask why the College didn't provide plastic and glass recycling, and what was the SEAC doing about it. When the College began switching vending machines from aluminum to plastic, people really began to question the aluminum recycling," Lorenz said.

The SEAC's proposal, originally written in April 2000, garnered support from the BOG in October 2000 and was most recently approved by the Faculty Assembly.

According to Susan Dampeer, assistant to College president Marilou Eldred, administrators and faculty on the College Budget Committee are currently reviewing the proposal in order to make a recommendation to the Administrative Council. The Administrative Council, composed of Eldred and the College's vice presidents, will then make their recommendation to the Board of Trustees.

Due to support the proposal has already received from administration, Lorenz said she is optimistic about the final approval.

"We really don't anticipate the request to be turned down," she said.

Although the administration supports the idea of glass and plastic recycling, budget constraints might prevent the SEAC proposal from being implemented. Saint Mary's currently spends \$20,000 annually for aluminum, paper and cardboard recycling. The additional cost of recycling glass and plastic would be about \$30,000.

"There are requests for funds from every department in the College. This year alone there were requests totaling \$1,684,000 and funds available of approximately \$450,000," Dampeer said.

The slow approval process has not deterred the SEAC, which has begun some recycling efforts on its own. One of the members of the group, Emily Miller, organized about 12 other members to place boxes for plastic and glass recyclables in their residence halls. The volunteers use a College truck to bring the boxes' contents to a recycling center in South Bend.

No figures are available for how much the SEAC has recycled so far, but Lorenz said it is "a lot." However, due to the limited number of volunteers, not every building on campus can be covered.

"Last year Dr. Watt in the biology department took the recyclables over to the Notre Dame recycling dumpster at married student housing. She got into trouble from Notre Dame because their dumpsters were filling up every week from the recyclables we would bring over. And then, too, after a point she would have to make three or four trips over there," Lorenz said.

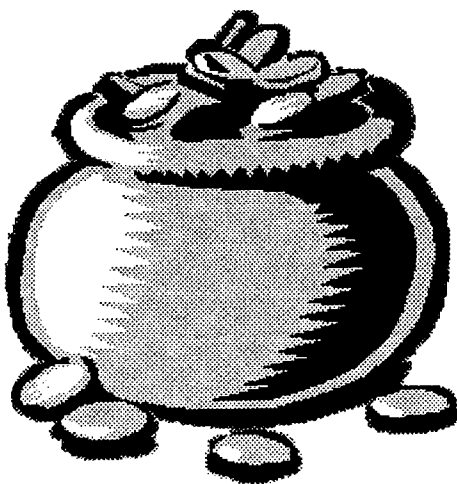
If the Board of Trustees gives the SEAC their approval in April, the new recycling program could start immediately.

Contact Allison Roche at  
roch0584@saintmarys.edu.

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**Recycle  
The Observer.**

## Scholarship targets int'l students

Special to The Observer

A new University of Notre Dame scholarship program named in honor of a Panamanian archbishop is making it possible for students from Latin America to attend his alma mater.

Named in memory of Father Mark McGrath, archbishop of Panama from 1969-94, the McGrath Scholars Program at Notre Dame provides need-based scholarship aid to qualified students from throughout Latin America.

In addition to the scholarship support, the program also includes a fund that provides students with support programs for a variety of counseling, tutoring, communication, cultural and social services.

Notre Dame currently enrolls about 760 international students from 100 countries worldwide, including 150 from Latin America.

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# Boxing

continued from page 1

Except for one thing.

When the men's boxers took their skills into the public ring last week with the start of the annual Bengal Bouts tournament, the women held their own series of spars in the Joyce gymnasium — in private.

Since the program began six years ago, the women haven't been allowed to fight in public. While they are allowed to have a private set of fights during the final week of the spring season, the move to any public series of fights seems to be a long way off.

Most of the women's boxers try not to think about it. At least not often.

"You are really forced to focus on your own strengths and weaknesses, not just if you win or lose," said sophomore boxer Jessica Brogan. "But I would like to see the girls do something like this in public. I don't think anyone who's down here wants to be hidden."

## Fighting to Fight

Eight years ago, Aimee Catrow didn't have a team to fight with. The sophomore who had a desire to box joined the men's boxing program and began training informally with the team.

Catrow was lured into boxing by watching Bengal Bouts her freshman year, and like

most who join the women's boxing team, she had no prior experience with the sport.

It took her two years before she convinced administrators and coaches to

give their blessing for a women's program. Catrow had to overcome who hurdles: starting a new program, and choosing one with a significant stigma around it.

After all, women didn't box. And it wasn't just at Notre Dame. Women were banned from the sport by USA Boxing until 1993, when 15-year old amateur boxer Dallas Malloy filed a federal court case in Seattle against the boxing governing body. Malloy won the case after a judge ruled the ban was an act of gender discrimination. Still, even with the ban lifted, the sport isn't widely publicized, and the first national championship competition for women wasn't held until 1997.

College boxing programs were — and still are — rare. Even today, with the Notre Dame boxing team fully recognized as a club sport, the University is the only institution in the country that offers a women's collegiate boxing program except for the service academies, where learning the sport is mandatory.

Tom Suddes, one of three coaches for the men's and women's team, helped Catrow

get the team off the ground. "Once we got around the fact that women do box, the only real issue was what we were going to work toward," Suddes said.

The program matured into a very different program from the one Catrow started. In 1996-97, only 50 women came out for the fall novice season. The following year the total rose to 100, and has stayed at about the same.

The women stayed out of the ring during the first season, focusing on skill development. Today they include a week of instructional sparring and supervised,

non-scored sparring into the six-week spring season.

Because competition isn't public and isn't scored, the program takes on a distinctly different focus than the men's program. There is a higher emphasis on form and style here, and more intensity placed on the individual. "With the ladies, it's a different thing," Suddes said. "They're in it for the self-improvement, self-confidence, self-discipline."

It shows in their individual training styles. In practice, partners will stop each other to correct form, patiently demonstrating and carefully critiquing each other's execution. The women's team, Suddes said, tends to be more focused in the absence of a competitive tournament to work toward. "They're here for a different reason," Suddes said. "And I don't think it's self defense. To train two hours a day, they have to get something else out of it."

Coached by seven team captains and three coaches who rotate between both the men's and women's programs, the push of the women's program is on the individual boxer.

With a coaching system that relies heavily on peer instruction and teamwork, teammates self-police and help each other better technique. The captains are the legacy of the program, Suddes said, and a powerful example for the younger boxers moving through the program.

"I didn't know what to expect when I became a captain," said Kari Jerge, a captain who runs the day-to-day administration of the program. "But I don't think anything this year lit me up as much as when I see girls loving this program the way I love it."

The peer-driven instruction, combined with coach's oversight, has produced skillful athletes. There are some on the team that can even throw punches as well or better than the guys, Suddes said. But when captains came to coaches last fall with an idea for a campus event tentatively dubbed "Friday Night Fights," they were encouraged not propose it to Student Activities. The event was supposed to showcase bouts between the veteran captains at a small campus venue. But coaches' concerns about the skill level of some of the boxers and whether the program was ready to go public doomed the proposal.

"The problem is the public perception of women's boxing is still very negative," said Jerge. "We want the respect we deserve. My fear of turning this into a public thing is the misconceptions."

The perception of boxers as violent also plays into the stereotype of women's boxers, and in a Catholic environment, that doesn't always play well.

For a program that trains in the shadows, overcoming those stereotypes in order to cultivate an accepting environment for a public event is difficult.

"If you look at the men's bouts, there can be a lot of blood," said captain Beth Rinkus. "It can be pretty violent. Since they never come to watch us, they don't see it's more about form and control. This isn't violent. But they assume it's going to be that way with the women, and they have a big problem with that."

Still, while the captains occasionally field questions from novice boxers who wonder why they can't fight in public, right now, fighting in public might not fit with the mission of the program.



Top: A Notre Dame boxer guards her face during a practice session.

Right: Sophomore Jessica Brogan takes a round of punches as part of her workout routine.

## Photos by Nellie Williams

"The interesting thing about this program is that our win is getting in the ring, period," Jerge said. "I don't feel we need points or judges, wins or losses. For a lot of the girls, it's a huge battle just to get themselves in the ring."

## The Battle Within

Inside the ring, McHugh has a square area of about 14 by 10 paces to throw punches at her opponent. Tapping her gloves against her partner's, the two walk carefully around the ring, sizing up the competition in small, square steps.

Driven by adrenaline — and maybe nerves — she starts on the offensive.

She throws once.

She throws twice.

She connects, then backs away, pulling her arms in front of her chest in a defensive stance.

But her opponent rebounds, throwing punches until McHugh gets caught. She ducks, moves away, and connects with her opponent so hard, she rolls her eyes as she recovers.

Walking out of the ring, she jokes with the supervising coach. "I've never done this before!" she says, defending her performance. But down here, in this basement gym, this isn't something anyone has done before. As she rehashes her test match with her teammate, the two talk about what went well, what didn't, and what they need to improve on.

They're also glowing with pride. "It takes a kind of unique person to want to get punched in the face," she says, laughing as she unties her boxing gloves and spits out her mouth guard.

The athletes here know they are unique, know they are competing in a sport most women don't ever think about. They know they compete in something that isn't ever considered feminine, and something a lot of people consider violent.

But athletes like McHugh and Brogan are driven down here by passion, a desire for perfection and an insatiable thirst for competition. Brogan, also a self-described tomboy from Granger,

worked all summer with her mom running and lifting weights to get in shape for the season. Now that she's survived almost two seasons, there are still days when the normal workouts aren't enough, and she runs and lifts before or after the two-hour marathon at the Joyce gymnasium.

There are still moments, though, when she has a gut check. Wonders what she's doing. Once during training, she threw a punch, connected, and hit so hard she made her opponent cry.

She immediately felt guilty.

"I felt so bad, seeing someone cry right in front of me," she said. "But then I thought, whoever I'm fighting came out here to fight too. She has every opportunity I have to work on her defense and offense. She knows what's coming, and so do I."

## Inside the Ring

It's Monday in the gym. This time it's time for the final round, the last chance. Today is the day when the athletes who have trained for six weeks, pacing and punching, jumping and jabbing, bouncing and bouting, will face off in the ring and put their skills to the test.

There's a small crowd of friends gathering around the ring. Roommates, boyfriends, parents. Nervous chatter fills the room. In the corner behind the ring, Brogan, with gloves laced tightly, practices throwing punches.

Her match-up isn't easy. She's boxing a captain, Katie Schwerdtmann, evidence of the advanced level of skill her hours of practice have helped her develop during the season. It won't be easy. Schwerdtmann's a senior, a three-year veteran, and she's known to be a tough fighter.

Inside the ring, captain Jerge greets the team milling around the ring.

"This is our competition, the best part of our season," she says to the athletes, nervously awaiting their chance to box, and watch their teammates box. "We want to see even fights. We don't want to see people beat up," she finishes, cautioning to keep the fights under control.

Behind her, Brogan and Schwerdtmann chat quietly. It's an even fight, they promise each other. They want to show the team good fighting technique, good punches. They tell each other to have a good fight. Showcase what they've learned.

They tap their gloves. The fight begins.

It isn't an easy fight. Both throw their punches hard, much harder than most of the competitors here. Brogan shows she's the amateur of the two fighters, getting caught for most of the first round under Schwerdtmann's flurry of punches. She keeps her concentration, keeps her gaze fixed, tries to avoid the thud of a connected punch.

It doesn't work.

Round one is over.

But round two is a different story. With two minutes behind her in the ring, she's learned her territory, knows her opponent's fighting style. She whispers, softly mouthing directions to herself as her punches begin connecting. One. Two. Three. She's back in the match.

Round two is over.

"I didn't think I could box like that last week!" she laughs, hugging Schwerdtmann post-match. The crowd that gathered around the ring is clapping, and teammates slap them on the back in good-luck wishes. It's over, this six-week buildup of nerves, anxiety and confidence checks. It's over, this four minutes in the ring. It's over.

It's an accomplishment. Even though she'd trained, she wasn't prepared for the crowd of people watching her, judging her. But after fighting with a captain, surviving, and connecting punches, she knows she did well.

"It was definitely shocking, seeing all of those people," she said. "It was the biggest thing I had to get over when I got in the ring."

But as she unlaces her gloves, unwraps her hands, and removes her gear, she knows she'll get back in. She knows she'll be back in the gym, next season, for the rush the ring gives her.

"I can't wait for next year," she says, smiling.



## WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

### Guantanamo detainees refuse food:

Incensed that two guards stripped a detainee of his turban during prayer, nearly two-thirds of the prisoners captured in the Afghan war refused lunch Thursday and chanted "God is great" in Arabic in their first mass protest since arriving at the base. Tension has been building among the 300 inmates who have been held at Camp X-ray, the remote U.S. naval base in eastern Cuba, since January.

### Pro-Taliban militant free on bail:

The pro-Taliban leader of a top radical Islamic party was freed from jail Thursday after four months. After his release on the order of a Lahore court, Qazi Hussain Ahmad spoke with supporters and charged that President Gen. Pervez Musharraf had given away Pakistan's military bases to the United States.

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### Charity help NYC schools:

As students returned Thursday to two schools near ground zero for the first time since Sept. 11, a charitable foundation said it was giving \$1.8 million to those schools and six others. Vartan Gregorian, president of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, said the money is the first installment of \$10 million the foundation has pledged to aid recovery efforts following the World Trade Center attack.

### Texas executes convicted killer:

A convicted killer was put to death Thursday night, just hours after a federal appeals court lifted a stay blocking his execution. Monty Delk, strapped to the death chamber gurney, shouted gibberish and obscenities before he was given a lethal injection. "I am the warden," Delk shouted as the warden asked him if he had any final statement. Delk was convicted of shooting to death Gene Olan Allen II in 1986.

## INDIANA NEWS BRIEFS

### Prison warden loses master keys:

Locks in some of the most critical areas at the state's largest prison have been changed after the warden lost two master keys, leading officials to lift a partial lockdown. Prison officials decided to end the partial lockdown Tuesday even though most locks at Westville Correctional Facility still need changing, assistant superintendent John Schrader said. All sensitive areas of the prison, including medical storage cabinets and fire escapes, have been equipped with new locks.

## INDIA



AFP Photo

A woman carries firewood she managed to take from burning wreckage in a street of Ahmedabad on Thursday after Hindu activists violently protested Wednesday's attack by a Muslim mob on a train carrying Hindu activists.

# Hindu rioters kill 58 Muslims

Associated Press

### AHMADABAD

Angry Hindus set fire to homes in a Muslim neighborhood Thursday and then kept firefighters away for hours, dragging out one former lawmaker and burning him alive. At least 58 people died in revenge attacks triggered by a Muslim assault on a train.

Police in western Gujarat state appeared outnumbered or unwilling to act to quell what appeared to be the worst rioting to hit the country in nearly a decade.

The officers stood in bunches, watching as groups of Hindus, wielding

iron rods and cans of gasoline or kerosene, roamed Ahmadabad attacking Muslims in their homes, shops and vehicles.

The government promised to send the army to Ahmadabad, the region's main city, to end the rampage. But there were fears the violence would spread Friday, when Hindu nationalists called for a nationwide strike.

In Thursday's worst attack, 38 people — including 12 children — died when some 2,000 Hindus set fire to six homes in an affluent Muslim neighborhood.

Some trapped residents

made frantic telephone calls to police and firefighters. But police said they arrived two hours later and firefighters were delayed by more than six hours because of blockades by rioters.

A former lawmaker, Ehsan Jefri, fired at the rioters when they tried to enter his house, but he was dragged out and burned alive.

Elsewhere in Ahmadabad, rioters pulled a Muslim truck driver out of his vehicle and killed him at a roadblock, police said. Other Hindus made bonfires with goods looted from shops, and 20 men tore

down a small mosque.

J.S. Bandukwala, a Muslim and human rights activist, said his house was attacked by Hindus who "lobbed burning rags and pelted stones," before his Hindu neighbors took him to safety.

In a few instances, police opened fire on rioters, killing two and wounding six in Ahmadabad and two other towns, police said.

The violence was in retaliation for an attack Wednesday in Godhra, a town south of Ahmadabad, where Muslims set fire to a train carrying Hindu nationalists, killing 58 people, including 14 children.

## Market Watch February 28

Dow Jones 10,106.13 - 21.45

Same: 223 Composite Volume: 1,367,154,947

AMEX: 865.58 + 0.94

NASDAQ: 1,713.49 - 20.39

S&P 500: 1,106.73 - 3.15

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INTEL CORP (INTC)	-4.48	-1.34	28.55
RIVERSTONE NETW (RSTN)	-49.67	-3.77	3.82
ORACLE CORP (ORCL)	+1.53	+0.25	16.62

Associated Press

### WASHINGTON

Action on campaign finance legislation was pushed back to at least next week.

Sen. Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., put off plans to try to bring the bill, which bans unregulated "soft money" donations to the national political parties, to the Senate floor. His office said he would await the outcome of talks between the main proponents and opponents of the bill.

Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., the chief opponent, held a second round of

talks Thursday with Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., co-sponsor of the bill with Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis. They are looking for a formula to complete the most significant change in campaign finance law since 1974.

McConnell said he objects to the bill in its present form and, under Senate rules, a single senator can prevent legislation from moving forward.

The Kentucky Republican contends limits on campaign contributions violate First Amendment free speech rights and is asking for what he says are minor "technical" changes.

After their meeting, McCain said a separate bill may be proposed to make

technical adjustments to his legislation, but most alterations McConnell wants would be opposed as "very substantive" changes.

Among those was a McConnell proposal to index for inflation limits set on amounts political action committees can give to candidates in regulated "hard money."

The Senate passed the McCain-Feingold bill last April by 59-41. On Feb. 14, the House passed a similar version 240-189, and Senate supporters want to pass the House bill without change so it can be sent directly to President Bush for his expected signature.

# Senate delays campaign finance bill

*University of Notre Dame*

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### BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

## Surplus goes to student center

By SARAH RYKOWSKI  
News Writer

With a sizeable surplus from last year's budget, the Saint Mary's Board of Governance donated money toward the construction of the new student center and funded new clubs and activities.

"Hopefully we can give more back to the students," executive treasurer Kim

Jensen said. "I still have clubs coming to ask for funding and recognition, some of the money will go for that. If nothing comes it will carry over until next year."

The money BOG spends each year comes from the student activity fee, \$150 each student pays at the start of the fall semester.

According to Georgeanna Rosenbush, Director of Student Activities, the fee was not always that high.

"In 1991 and 1992, we hardly had any money," Rosenbush said. "The student fee used to be \$40 dollars. Then they did a survey of like colleges, and found that the average student activity fee was \$150 a year."

After this survey, Saint Mary's raised the fee to \$75 a year.

"That's what gave people money to do things," Rosenbush

said. "Without that, people would laugh at us."

The eventual doubling of the activity fee, Rosenbush said, was caused by inflation and rising costs for events and transportation, among other things.

"Those costs have gone up, especially the parent weekends," Rosenbush said. "Students didn't want to combine events, and we couldn't keep those events going otherwise."

With the higher student activity fee, Rosenbush believes, more students are able to participate in activities such as formals and parent weekends. If students had to pay all of those costs individually, many would be cut out.

"The money in the budget is used for your classes, your halls, the five boards, the parent weekends, the senior formal, and senior week," Rosenbush said. "We also use the money to pay for buses and other transportation to events, and to pay for the events."

The expenses vary from year to year, and it is Jensen's responsibility to see this year's expenses do not exceed the budget.

"It changes from year to year," Rosenbush said.

Contact Sarah Rykowski at  
ryko2948@saintmarys.edu.

## Media experts talk about music, sex

By JOCELYN CUBBON  
News Writer

Several Notre Dame sponsors presented a panel discussion called "Sex, Music and You" to focus on music's effects on society, relationships and individuals. The three panelists shared their views on topics ranging from music videos to beauty to rap music.

Early in the discussion, the panelists reacted to clips of popular music videos featuring glamorous, yet scantily clad, women, and discussed whether it was beauty or exploitation.

Maynell Thomas, an entertainment attorney and producer, said music videos were products of commercialization, taking the place of music tours, and that the women are "a promotional tool to use...to sell music." She also said many women chose to perform in music videos "to take the next step" in their entertainment careers.

Le Alan Jones, a college student and author of "Our America: Life and Death on the South Side of Chicago," emphasized that many of the youth watching music videos do not realize that the flashy videos don't represent real life.

"[The video] creates a vision, but falsifies how to get to it," said Jones.

Abe Thompson, famous radio personality, entrepreneur, educator, author and motivational speaker, said that people are attracted to the flashiness of music videos, but that they have the choice whether or not to buy what they sell. Thompson said many people are affected by music in ways of which they are

unaware.

"What you put in your mind affects you more than [what] you put in your stomach," said Thompson. "It stays there."

Reactions from the student audience focused on topics such as beauty versus exploitation, the double standard for women in entertainment and society, and competition.

Part way through the discussion, a video by fourteen-year-old rapper Little Bow Wow was shown with girls and women, dressed in trendy clothes, dancing around the star. Many of the students in the audience were appalled by the video and by the ideas of sex and money such videos put in the minds of today's youth. They wanted to know ways to change the moral standards of today.

Jones suggested that in order to make a difference, people have to become more than reactive, but proactive.

"You find something that is real ... tangible ... and do it," said Jones.

The panelists discussed the effect of image and stressed the importance of the power of an individual. They encouraged students to work for their goals and to make a difference.

"Be an individual. You have the option to do what everyone else does, but it is your choice. One step at a time," said Thompson.

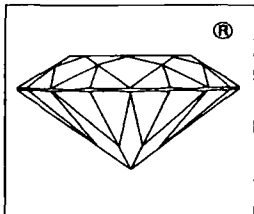
The discussion's sponsors were the Notre Dame NAACP; Multicultural Student Programs and Services; the Film, Television, and Theater Department; and the Junior Class.

Contact Jocelyn Cubbon at  
jcubbon@nd.edu.



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## Chair

continued from page 1

advisory council, as well as other individuals in the architecture field for guidance in the process, said Pugel, adding that the committee hopes to find the new chair by the end of the academic year.

Because of the School of Architecture's standing in the architecture world, Pugel said the committee has undertaken a "quite expansive" search.

"Our School of Architecture is a very distinguished place and it has a long tradition of leadership of classical and traditional architecture," said Pugel. "It would be an appealing place to be for an architect and an academic leader who is trained in those traditions and interested in continuing to move our school forward as a leader."

Under Westfall, the School of Architecture has maintained its status as a school of classical and traditional architecture, with an added focus on city building, also known as urbanism. Westfall was involved in the formation of the South Bend Urbanist Center on Main Street,

among other architectural projects in the area.

"I've tried to expand our presence in the architecture world," said Westfall, adding that he has tried to influence the South Bend community positively as well through projects downtown and on the Northeast side.

"There's been tremendous cooperation from the city and the county and other agencies and organizations," said Westfall, who came to Notre Dame as the architecture chair in 1998.

After he steps down, Westfall said he would devote more time to tracing the history and fortunes of classical architecture in America and urbanism for a future book project.

"This is a tremendously invigorating place to be and there's not much chance to direct that vigor in researching and writing when you're in the administration position that I'm in," said Westfall, indicating that he would still continue to teach while conducting research.

Currently, Westfall holds the Frank Montana chair in the School of Architecture, which he will retain after he steps down as the school chair.

Hatch, who chairs the search committee, was unavailable for comment.

Contact Helena Payne at  
payne.30@nd.edu.

## Media

continued from page 1

Asia in the last 20 years, said Wan.

"[Pfeiffer] pioneered the globalization of media in Asia and the slogan now adopted by Hollywood studios is 'think globally, script locally,'" said Wan. "We want to put Notre Dame on the map, in the national attention when it comes to media globalization."

The conference takes place at a momentous time in an expanding globalization trend of pan-Asian media.

"This conference focuses on media globalization, not just globalization in terms of economics, business or things like that," said Wan. "Media globalization has a huge impact on people around the world — not to mention culturally, economically and in cinematography."

Jensen pointed to the intensified interest in Asian studies and a substantial increase in student enrollment in the department of East Asian languages and literatures as factors contributing to the importance and success of the conference.

"There's been an enormous amount of growth in Asian studies at Notre Dame in the last year and a half," said Jensen.

The conference, sponsored by 20 University programs and organizations, received most support from the department of East Asian languages and literatures with Jensen's assistance and the department of film, television and theatre with the support of department chair Donald Crafton.

The panels will take place today and Saturday in McKenna Hall, and a special screening of "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" followed by a discussion with star, Michelle Yeoh at 101 DeBartolo beginning at 4 pm. Panel information and times can be found at [www.nd.edu/~eall/conference](http://www.nd.edu/~eall/conference).

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## VIEWPOINT

page 10

Friday, March 1, 2002

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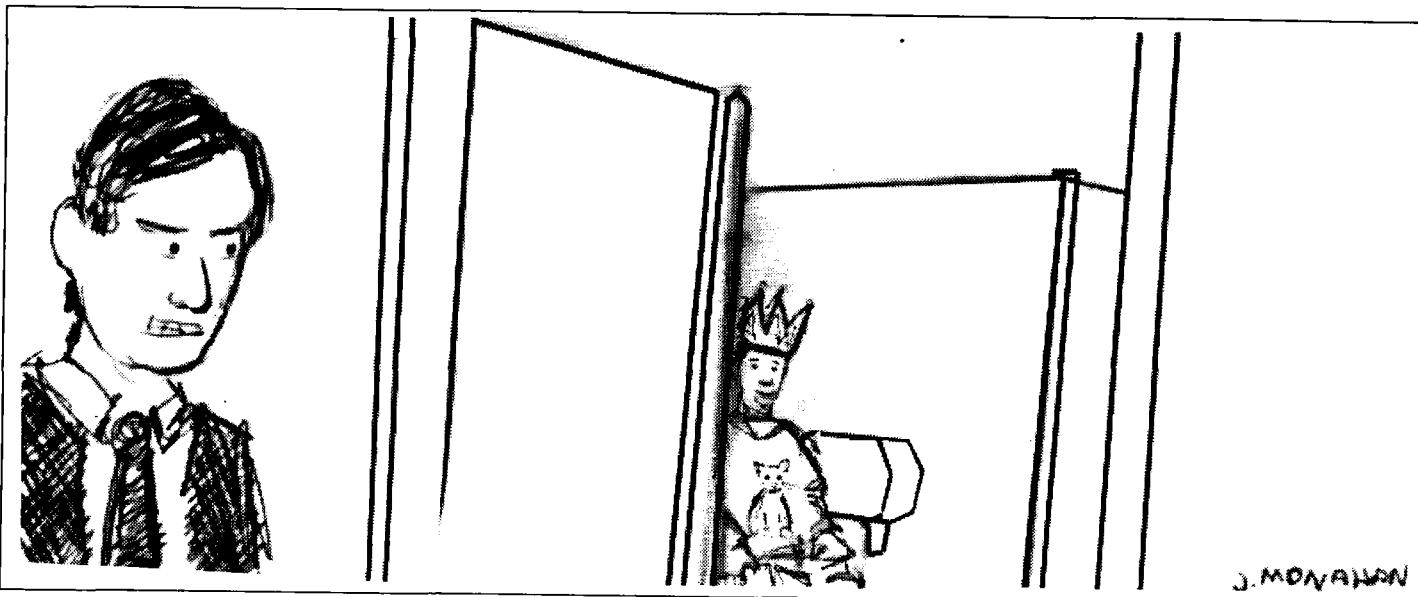
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The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editor and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Mike Connolly.



## Era candidates win elections

If anyone is an expert on the value of student government or the impact of so-called "era candidates" who run in student government elections, I am. During my junior year, almost exactly 30 years ago, I ran for student body president at Notre Dame. I lost to a candidate who wore a Burger King crown and chose as his running mate, a cat!



Gary Caruso

## Capitol Comments

The King and his cat's popularity began when the King proclaimed that he was the prime mover, thus he only campaigned from toilet stalls in each dorm. His success was sealed after he spoke from behind a burning bush on one of the balconies at Walsh Hall (a burning trash can substituted for the bush). His appeal swept across campus 30 years ago because all election cycles have an ebb and flow as constituencies change.

Former Speaker of the House Thomas "Tip" O'Neill (D-Mass.) claimed that all politics was local. Indeed that is true in the real world. When applied to campus student government politics, it is even more true. Student government exists to make life more pleasant while matriculating at Notre Dame. And heaven knows that task is virtually impossible.

President-elect Libby Bishop and running mate Trip Foley had the right message and image at the right time to satisfy the current student mood. That political atmosphere was created by the prior year of student representation.

When students feel comfortable, they stick with what seems to be working. If they perceive a slick, outgoing political stuffed shirt in office, they want change. Campus cycles are as inevitable as Democrats following Republicans in office only to be fol-

lowed again by Republicans followed once more by Democrats. The cycle never breaks; the timeline of the cycle varies.

Early in my junior year, the student body president had a demonstration of more than 3,000 students support him at a Campus Life Council meeting. The huge crowd forced the meeting to move to the engineering auditorium in an effort to accommodate the angry students. Students were jammed into hallways, stairwells and the auditorium protesting a proposed ban of kegs on campus.

The incumbent student body president thanked us for our show of support. Then he told us that he would negotiate with the administration using the turnout as his position of power. The bootlicker then sold out the students so that he could obtain a letter of recommendation to Yale Law School from a very senior University official. The letter began, "If you take anyone from Notre Dame this year, you take (him) first."

As a result, student government became a joke in the minds of the students the following spring during the student body election cycle. We could not impeach the lame duck, although as alumni we defeated him twice for a national alumni board position a few years later. That spring, the mood of the campus begged for a King and his cat to be the successors.

I am proud that I carried my hall while the King carried all the other halls. I had a good campaign about cutting through red tape, improving meal plan options, bringing more concerts to campus and addressing programs that would help students — parking, pari- etals and bookstore policies to name a few. My campaign made sense when the electorate wanted chaos.

After one of the other candidates challenged the King for not having a student as a running mate, the King made a fake Notre Dame ID for the cat. Students loved it. The King foiled a would-be bureaucrat's attempt at political nonsense. The election was all but certified at that point.

The Observer ridiculed the King for his proposal to abolish student government. However, after the election the King appointed his trusty roommate, "The H Man," as the caretaker of the government. We did not cut through red tape, nor did we add any new services that were long overdue. But student government survived not one year with the King, but two. He was a sophomore when he won and was reelected the following year.

Libby Bishop is riding a wave of gender acceptance, especially as the University approaches the 30th anniversary of coeducation. Her election, making her the second woman student body president at Notre Dame, parallels the King's reelection. The timing and the mood have coincided like the alignment of the Zodiac.

For Brian Moscona who served as a loyal vice president and paid his dues in the campus political system, I suggest that you do not try to analyze why you lost. For five years following my loss I attempted to understand how intelligent students at a premier university like Notre Dame voted for a King and his cat.

It is as explainable as the New England Patriots beating both the Pittsburgh Steelers and St. Louis Rams. Like the sports gods in the sky ordained the Super Bowl, the electorate gods were calling the shots. Moscona probably will make a great politician outside of Catholic Disneyland. Fate teaches you how to run against a cat or a significant campus anniversary. It is a learning experience, not the end of your life. The twists of fate are such that we can expect to see Moscona someday in the nation's capital.

Gary J. Caruso, Notre Dame '73, served in President Clinton's administration as a Congressional and Public Affairs Director. His column appears every other Friday, and his email address is [Hotline@aol.com](mailto:Hotline@aol.com).

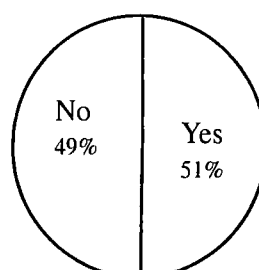
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## NDTODAY/OBSERVER POLL QUESTION

Should the dining halls serve meat on Fridays during Lent?

Poll courtesy of NDToday.com  
Total Votes: 467

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Any preoccupation with ideas of what is right or wrong in conduct shows an arrested intellectual development."

Oscar Wilde  
writer

## VIEWPOINT

Friday, March 1, 2002

page 11

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Homosexual immorality questioned

*Biblical evidence is  
an oxymoron*

How dare Becket Gremmels call another student closed-minded when he is the very antithesis of understanding and tolerance. After reading Mr. Gremmels' letter from Feb. 28, I found myself disgusted with this condescending attitude. Who are you to say that homosexuality is evil? The definition of evil is an act intentionally done to harm or injure another person. Does this really describe sexual preference? If you want to talk about acting maliciously against others, let's look at your letter when you likened homosexuals to people who murder their parents, kidnappers, pedophiles and thieves. Please! If you want a quote from the Bible, how about this: "Let the ones without sin cast the first stone." You also may need to touch up on the Bible's teachings.

Which brings me to my next point. Biblical evidence is an oxymoron. When was the last time you heard Genesis being used as evidence in a courtroom? When has the Gospel of Mark been cited at a congressional hearing? Never. That's because these are not facts. You cannot mistake Church doctrine for indisputable truth. In the Torah, it is written that we should not eat certain species of hoofed animals. Does that make me evil? Orthodox sects of some faiths stone women for unveiling their faces in public. Do not fall into the trap of relying absolutely on the teachings of others without critically thinking for yourself. If I am not mistaken, about 20 devout Muslims took the lives of nearly 6,000 Americans all because their religion told them that they were justified. Whose book is right? Yours? Do not be so quick to answer yes.

The Pope and the Church are allowed to have their own opinion. However, it is your responsibility as a human being to question what you are told and decide for yourself what is worth believing. Right now you sound like nothing more than a mindless drone, ranting about what could have been a discussion full of relevant points and counter arguments. You, however, have completely failed to touch on any of them.

Mr. Gremmels' main point for hating homosexuals is the fact that "scripture makes it quite clear that homosexual acts are a moral evil." He talks about how the Catholic Church should take pride in its preservation of tradition. If you ask me, the Church taking pride in the tradition of social intolerance is about as great as South Africa celebrating apartheid. The Catholic Church has plenty of things to be proud of, but I would not think that the Pope will be writing you a letter of thanks for your contribution to canon law. It is ravings like yours that have caused so many people to leave the Church in utter disgust.

Jonathan Diffley  
sophomore  
Sorin College  
February 28, 2002

*Scripture's words can  
be misconstrued*

Although I've never been compelled to write to The Observer before, I would like to question Becket Gremmels' claim that "Scripture makes it quite clear that homosexual acts are not only a moral evil, but are a mortal sin."

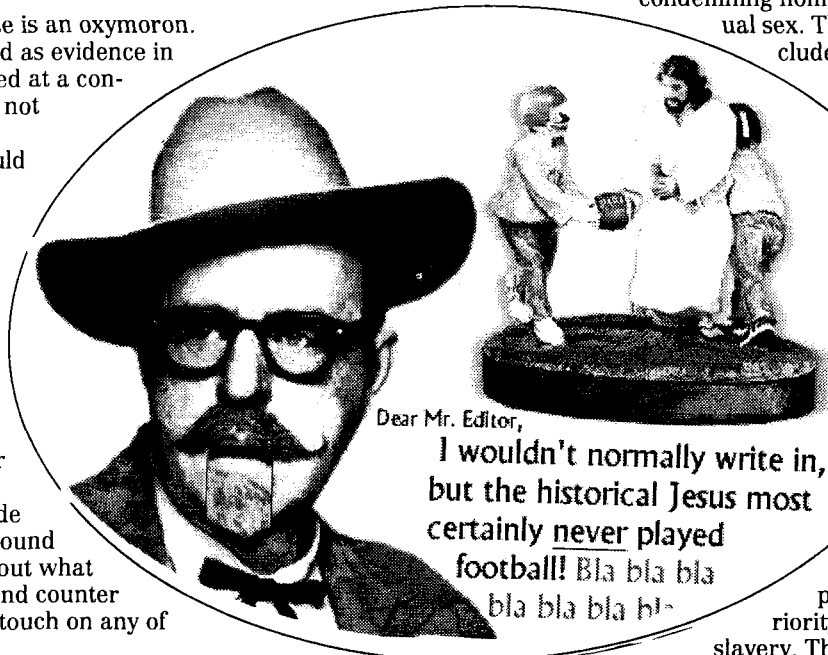
Gremmels uses the story of Sodom and Gomorrah to argue his point. If you read the story literally, God burned the cities to punish the men for homosexuality. But if you consider the story within its context, it is clear that God was unhappy with the mob's abusive treatment of strangers and its desire to commit gang rape. Condemning homosexual rape is quite different from condemning homosexual orientation or even consensual homosexual sex. This passage should not be generalized to conclude that God hates homosexuality.

On a literal level, biblical words can be misconstrued to serve almost any purpose. White supremacists take the story of Phineas (a man rewarded by God for killing his tribal chief and the chief's foreign-born mistress) as validation for murdering interracial couples and minorities. And according to Leviticus, stoning disobedient children is okay. The examples are endless.

While some see the Bible as the word of God, I see it as a collection of writings (sometimes contradictory) put together by various authors, with each author biased towards personal beliefs. As a result, the Bible reflects the thoughts and opinions of the society in which these authors lived. This reflection may or may not describe God's will. For example, the Bible has several passages about the inferiority of women and the oppression of people through slavery. These passages echo cultural norms at the time, and we would not consider them representative of God's intentions.

Pulling isolated passages from the Bible to justify intolerance is a dangerous practice. I find it hard to believe that Gremmels can accuse others of "not being very open-minded." To me, open-mindedness entails acceptance. I'm surprised that with his expertise in theological doctrine, he is not familiar with the passage that begins, "He who is without sin, let him cast the first stone."

Meghan DiPerna  
senior  
off-campus  
February 28, 2002

'Monologues' break  
a culture of silence

I am an anonymous rape victim. You pass me on the quads, see me in the dining hall and observe me at Mass, always blending in, one of a sea of smiling Notre Dame faces.

I am not a rape victim in the conventional sense. There was no brutality, no late night walk in the woods. It happened here, not far from the shelter of campus. Blurred by alcohol, the night comes back to me in frantic images and phrases. I don't remember the bar we stumbled into after the dance and the walk off-campus to his house escapes me. But it happened — and I have never again been the trusting person I once was.

Lacking the courage to confront him in person, afraid of backlash from his many friends and frightened by the emotional repercussions of pressing charges, this letter and a few select confidantes have been my only outlets. My parents don't know. After weeks of going through the motions, tears finally broke loose the other night.

The University must address the culture of silence that conceals my story and the hundreds of others just like it. Producing "The Vagina Monologues," a play that simultaneously explores the stifled, everyday violence perpetrated against women, while uplifting female sexuality, is a step in the right direction. However frank and potentially shocking the language used may be, I can assure you that repression is a far worse offense. Freedom of speech is a glorious thing. This is one subject that we need to talk about.

Anonymous  
February 25, 2002

Poverty sucks — even  
with a VCR

As is often the case with the right wing within the Catholic Church, they have missed Christ's message about poverty and, indeed, 2,000 years of thinking on the issue of social justice. This is truly obvious in the case of Christine Niles and her recent unfocused diatribe against the poor and Europeans. As with last semester's assault on the "brooding sullen class," Ms. Niles misses the mark. The fact that the working poor in the United States have more material goods than the poor in other nations should not condemn them to ridicule.

Rather, Ms. Niles should feel ashamed to have let a pregnant woman work on the construction of a church rather than rest in the comfort of her own home. Whatever happened to family values and raising the standards of living in Ecuador and elsewhere? Isn't there a better measure of the standard of living than the number of VCRs? As she railed against socialism in Europe, she failed to see the strong support of laborers for programs of national health care, education and wage and price supports.

She derides the English for their anti-materialism, which she interprets as anti-Americanism. Is she accusing the Brits of VCR envy or angry over their seeming lack of concern? European socialists understand that basic social needs are far more important than providing entertainment. Bread is far more important than circuses.

Perhaps Ms. Niles should consider a sabbatical from law school and attend courses on Catholic social justice and statistics. Since she believes that the poor in the United States are so well off, perhaps she would like to change places with them. When God graces her with children, I pray that she not be burdened with church construction in her fifth month.

Ms. Niles seeks an answer to the question of what should be the appropriate gap between rich and poor. A simple answer is all that is needed. None. If there is to be no difference in the kingdom of heaven, then there should not be one on earth.

Daniel Byrne  
visiting lecturer, history department  
February 28, 2002



## SCENE

page 12

Friday, March 1, 2002



AMANDA HUGHES/The Observer

Sophomore Amanda Holland as La Marcolfa stands over Giuseppe (senior Brian Barone) and the soldier Il Marchese di Trerate (junior Luke McLaurin) after Francesco (senior Will McGrath) has beat some sense into them.



AMANDA HUGHES/The Observer

Senior Brian Barone as Giuseppe (left) and Il Marchese di Trerate (junior Luke McLaurin) armed with an umbrella and a sword are dueling for the hand of La Marcolfa.

La Marcolfa

By LAURA KELLY  
Associate Scene Editor

In an interesting twist on checking out the competition, Laura Colangelo remembered sitting in the audience of the January production of Moliere's "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme." The senior FTT and Italian major came to the play without knowing a word of French, but wanted to see how much she could understand anyway. Happily surprised, Colangelo found that she could not only follow the story, but enjoyed the performance as well.

This experience bolstered Colangelo's confidence as the director of "La Marcolfa," an Italian play running Sunday and Monday in the Washington Hall Lab Theatre. The show is entirely "in italiano," yet Colangelo and her cast are certain the production will entertain and amuse even those whose knowledge of the Italian language is limited to the menu at the Olive Garden.

Drawing its laughs from physical humor, "La Marcolfa" was chosen by Colangelo specifically for its universal appeal and easy-to-understand story.

"The play is full of people falling down, breaking things, hitting each other — the kind of things that translate into any language," Will McGrath, a cast member, said. "And we make things clearer through our actions and gestures."

Although the play is set in 1848, the farce is a relatively recent work by the Nobel Prize-winning Italian playwright Dario Fo. The plot's twists and turns revolve around a marquis (junior Luke McLaurin) who has fallen into debt and will go to drastic lengths to impress his lover, the princess (sophomore Randi Belisomo). When the marquis discovers that his aged and ugly servant Marcolfa (sophomore Amanda Holland) is hoarding a winning lottery ticket, he sets out to convince the old

woman to marry him.

The love stories complicate further once one of the marquis's creditor, Giuseppe (senior Brian Barone), also learns of Marcolfa's prize and decides to pursue her hand in marriage as well. Giuseppe's duly enraged fiancée (senior Lauren Beyer) and the wily servant Francesco (senior Will McGrath) fill out the lively cast as they embark on story with a surprising conclusion.

The project is Colangelo's dream child, part of a research project she is undertaking with Professor Colleen Ryan-Scheutz of the Italian department. Funded with a grant from the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program under the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, the project is an investigation into the use of theatre as a tool for foreign language acquisition.

The idea of doing a show in Italian developed during conversations with Ryan-Scheutz, a professor who taught Colangelo both at Notre Dame and during an intensive seven-week summer program at Middlebury College during the summer of 2000.

"The premise of the project is to see how theatrical production can serve as a bridge for the often difficult transition between lower-level language classes and literature courses; a level where many students get frustrated and drop the language," Colangelo said.

The director and faculty advisor starting working together last fall, first researching other studies on the use of theatre in learning a foreign language. Next came the challenging step of choosing a play.

"We needed a production with a good number of evenly distributed parts, one that used physical humor so the audience could easily understand it [even without knowing Italian] and one that used common language, with modern phrases and vocabulary

# IRISH INSIDER

Friday, March 1, 2002

THE  
OBSERVER

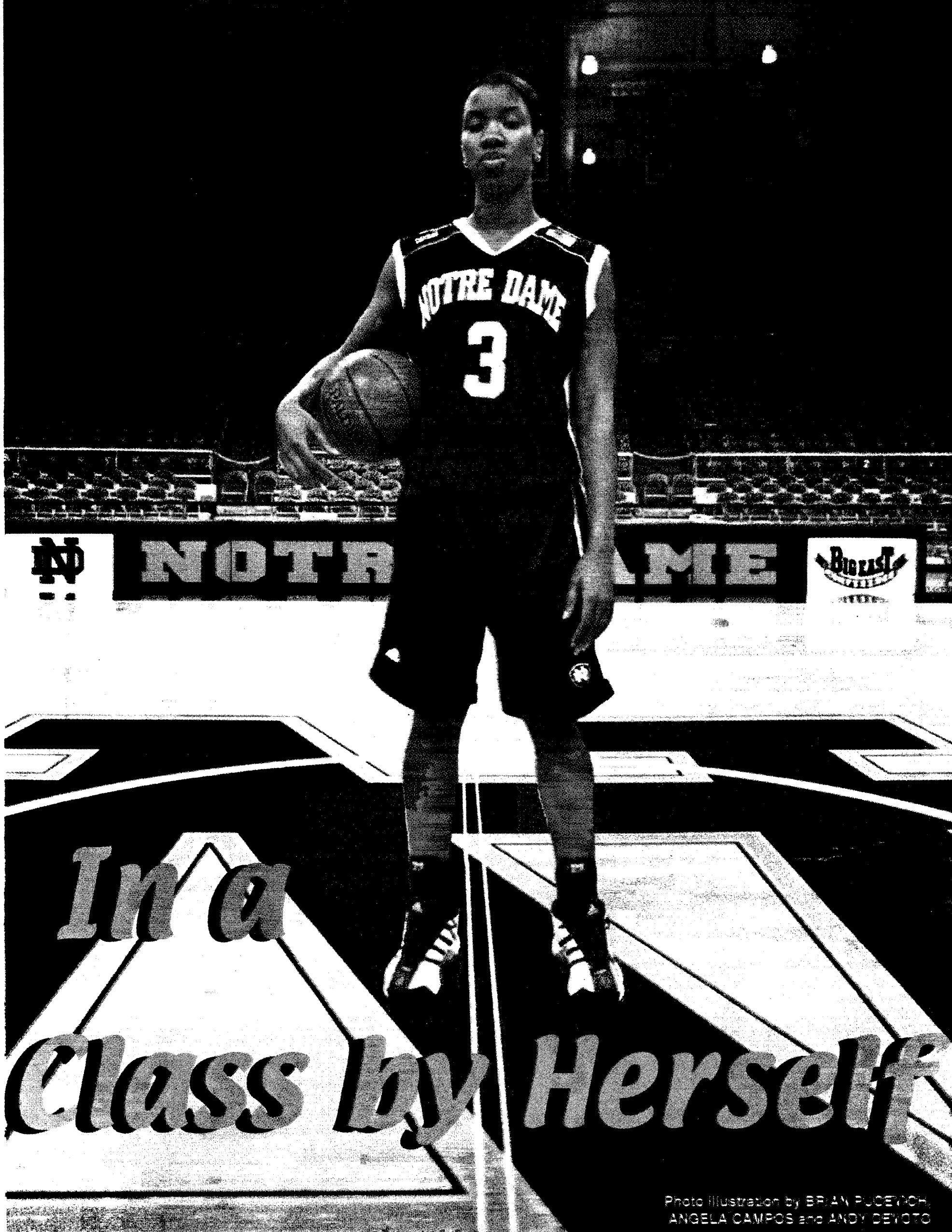


Photo Illustration by BRIAN PUCERICH,  
ANGELA CAMPOS and ANDY DEVOTO

# Irish look for best basketball at Big East

By KATIE McVOY  
Associate Sports Editor

Early this season, Irish head coach Muffet McGraw said she wanted her team to be playing its best basketball during the Big East season. At the end of this season she said no one will remember the first ten games that saw the Irish struggle.

What they will remember is the end of the season.

"I think during the Big East we definitely achieved our potential," McGraw said. "During the pre-season, we certainly struggled more than I think we wanted to, but overall, I wanted us to be playing our best basketball right now and we are."

Despite a loss to Villanova to end the regular season, the Irish are in a good place heading into Big East tournament play, a place McGraw hoped for at the beginning of the season.

"I guess I had hoped to come in second in the league, honestly," McGraw said.

As the No. 2 team in the conference, the Irish have a first-round bye on Saturday and won't play until 6 p.m. on Sunday night, where they will face the winner of the Syracuse-West Virginia game. No matter what team they play, the Irish have history on their side.

During the Syracuse game Notre Dame's underclassmen took the reigns. When the Irish faced the seventh-ranked Orangewomen on Jan. 29, it was not much of a battle at the Joyce. The Irish took home a 71-46 win under the leadership of freshman Allison Bustamante who had a career-high 21 points. The Syracuse zone provided a good opportunity for Irish 3-point shooting.

"Whenever an opposing team is playing some sort of zone, I'm thrilled because I like to find the areas and take the open 3's," Bustamante said following the win. "But you know, they left me open."

The Irish bench totaled 44 points that night. The bench will

be key for the Irish in the three-day tournament, especially considering Notre Dame has not even played back-to-back this season.

"I think mentally we need to be able to go three days in a row," McGraw said. "We haven't even played back-to-back so that's a disadvantage for us ... That's when the advantage of having a bench will help us."

Starting forward Jackie Batteast also grabbed her eighth double-double of the season in that game.

If the Irish face Syracuse, they will have to look out for the Syracuse four-guard lineup that will put freshmen Katy Flecky and Batteast, both of whom will play the three spot, on a perimeter player.

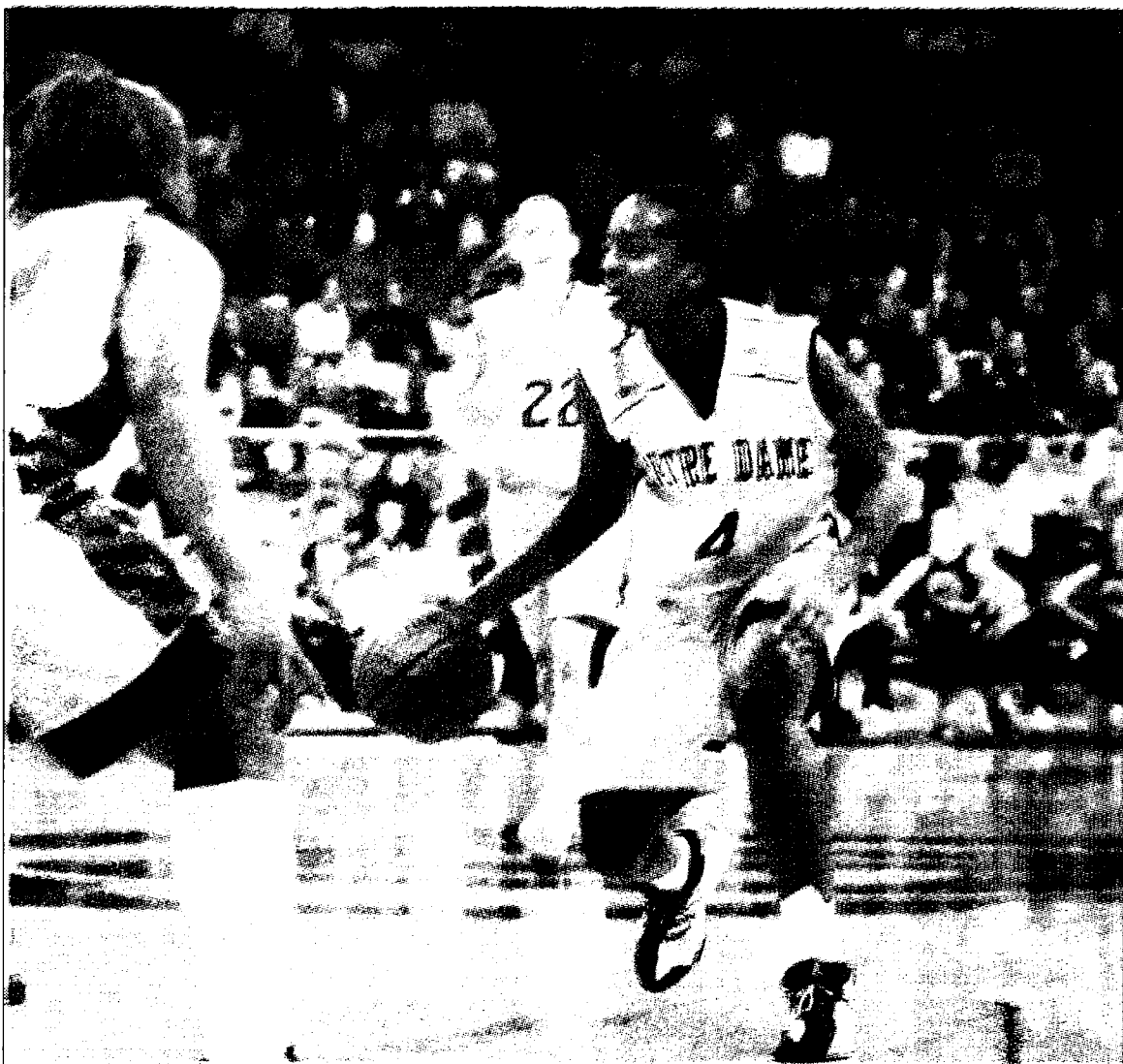
Although the point margin wasn't quite as big against the Mountaineers, the Irish won with the help of the veterans. Playing without leading scorer Jackie Batteast, Notre Dame defeated West Virginia 72-63. Junior guard Alicia Ratay had a season-high 31 points while Ericka Haney grabbed 15. Those 15 points were a season-high for Haney, who has been on a hot streak.

"I'm just glad things have changed," Haney said looking ahead to the Big East tournament. "It's obviously showed in the way people are playing."

With Haney and Ratay both on hot streaks, they will be an asset to the young team as it heads into the tournament. McGraw will be counting on them to lead the team on and off the court this weekend.

"They've been there before, they know what it's like," McGraw said. "Hopefully we'll have Jeneka Joyce and she can fill in for Le [Severe]."

Luckily for the Irish, they will have no chance of playing either Big East team that has defeated them this season unless they meet up in the finals. Both Connecticut and Villanova are bracketed so they will not face Notre Dame until the final round.



NELLIE WILLIAMS/The Observer

Junior guard Alicia Ratay watches as sophomore Le'Tania Severe dribbles past a Syracuse defender during a 71-46 win on Jan. 29. The Irish could face Syracuse in the quarterfinals.

In order to get to that final game, the Irish have to remain focused on their game and deal with some of the challenges that face them. The first of those is a possibility of three straight days of play.

"I think they just have to mentally really be focused," McGraw said. "We have to go expecting it to be hard and just be able to maintain that intensity."

The Irish will also have to deal with playing away from the Joyce Center. While the entire Big East Tournament is on neu-

tral territory, Notre Dame only played one game in neutral territory this season, losing to Michigan in early December.

"It's obviously easier than playing someone on their home court," McGraw said. "... We're all equal. We all have the same advantages and disadvantages."

Finally, Notre Dame will have to play at Lewis Brown Athletic Center at Rutgers. When the Irish faced the Scarlet Knights, they had trouble finding the basket early on and only shot 50 percent from the free-throw line.

The Irish tip-off on Sunday at 6 p.m.

## Notes:

♦ Freshman Jackie Batteast, who sat out the last four games due to a partially torn posterior cruciate ligament is expected to be play in Sunday's game. She dressed for Tuesday night's game against Villanova.

Contact Katie McVoy at  
mcvo5695@saintmarys.edu.

## Sizing up the competition



### Connecticut Huskies

The Huskies are undefeated this season and are outscoring their opponents by an average of 30 points. Five Connecticut players average double digits scoring. The veteran team runs a smooth offense and a defense that shuts opponents down.



### Boston College Eagles

The Eagles, who are 20-0 when leading at the half, are led in scoring by sophomore guard Amber Jacobs. Jacobs has averaged over 16 points a game in the last seven contests. The team's 21 wins is the third-most in team history.



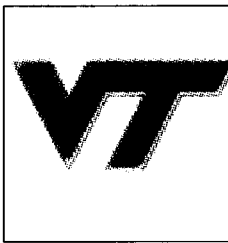
### Villanova Wildcats

The Wildcats have won eight of their last 10 games and are coming off of a 48-45 victory against the Irish. They have hit 123 3-pointers in their last 12 games and are one of only two teams to defeat the Irish this season.



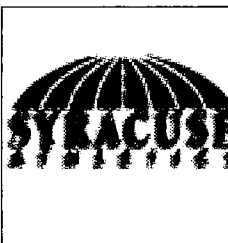
### Miami Hurricanes

The Hurricanes defense leads the Big East with 14.4 steals a game. Led by Chanivia Broussard (14.0 points per game), Miami pulled an upset victory against Boston College on Tuesday.



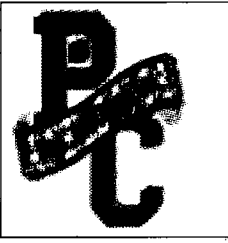
### Virginia Tech Hokies

Sophomore center Ieva Kublina grabbed her ninth double-double on Tuesday and leads the Hokies in scoring (15.2 points-per-game). The Hokies have only won two of their last six games.



### Syracuse Orangewomen

The Orangewomen are enjoying their first winning season since they went 16-13 in the 1989-90 season. Syracuse often plays four guards and is led by guards Julie McBride and Jamie James.



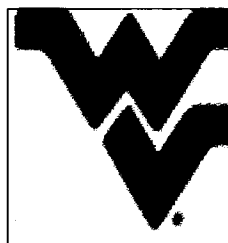
### Providence Friars

The Friars are led by graduate student Dani Trippany, who is in her last year of eligibility. Trippany is the only player to average more than nine points a game. She has led the team in rebounding in 14 of the team's contests.



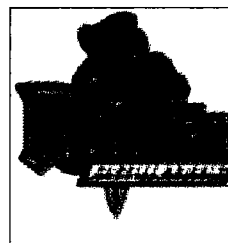
### Seton Hall Pirates

The Pirates are without junior Leslie Ardon, who tore her ACL on Jan. 1. Prior to her injury, Ardon led the Pirates, averaging 13 points. Cecilia Lindqvist is now the leading scorer with 12.5 points per game.



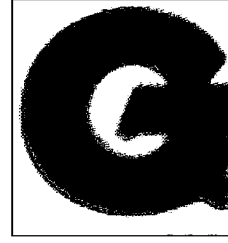
### West Virginia Mountaineers

The Mountaineers, who are enjoying their first winning season since 1996-97, are on a three-game losing streak, culminating with a loss to Connecticut on Tuesday. Kate Bulger leads the Mountaineers with her outside shots.



### Rutgers Scarlet Knights

The Scarlet Knights are hosting this year's tournament, but they have only won one of their last eight games. Rutgers is led by junior guard Mauri Horton.



### Georgetown Hoyas

Sophomore forward Rebekkah Brunson missed the first nine games of the season before returning on Jan. 23. The Hoyas are on a three-game losing skid heading into the tournament.



# BENGAL BOUTS

Friday, March 1, 2002

THE  
OBSERVER



*Mark of a  
Champion*

Photo Illustration by Lisa Velte,  
Angela Campos and Andy DeVoto

## 125-pounds



VS.



SHAWN NEWBURG JASON MCMAHON

### PICKS

BRIAN BURKE  
Newburg  
PAUL CAMARATA  
McMahon  
MIKE  
CONNOLLY  
Newburg  
LISA VELTE  
Newburg

Shawn Newburg is the top seed in the lightest Bengal Bouts division and will try to polish off his bracket Friday night against hard-hitting senior Jason McMahon. Newburg was impressive in the quarterfinals, using steady lateral movement for all three rounds to avoid punches and shrugging off hits his opponent was able to land. McMahon's aggressiveness forced the referee to stop his quarterfinal match, and in the semis he again came out on the attack. With a strong right hand and speedy combinations, McMahon will be ready to slug it out Friday night. But Newburg's strength is his movement and should make the difference.

-Paul Camarata

## 135-pounds



VS.



T.J. D'AGOSTINO MATT FUMAGALLI

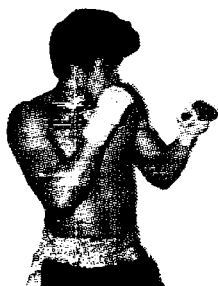
### PICKS

BRIAN BURKE  
Fumagalli  
PAUL CAMARATA  
Fumagalli  
MIKE  
CONNOLLY  
Fumagalli  
LISA VELTE  
Fumagalli

Matt Fumagalli has been up and down in the last two Bengal Bouts, from the 130-pound title his sophomore season to being upset in the first round a year ago. In what will be his final appearance in the Bouts, the top-seeded Fumagalli is looking to capture his second career title. He will be challenged in the finals by sophomore T.J. D'Agostino, who will try to use a distinct height advantage to slow Fumagalli's movement and quick punching. In the semifinals, D'Agostino showed impressive ring presence to take over the tempo of the match from a more fiery opponent. Using his long reach he earned a split decision to advance. To outlast Fumagalli, he will have to again dictate the pace and try to fight downhill.

-Paul Camarata

## 160-pounds



VS.



CHRIS KITALONG MARK DE SPLINTER

### PICKS

BRIAN BURKE  
Kitalong  
PAUL CAMARATA  
Kitalong  
MIKE  
CONNOLLY  
Kitalong  
LISA VELTE  
Kitalong

The young and the old will tangle for the title of the 160-pound division when senior Chris Kitalong faces freshman sensation Mark De Splinter. A quick and rangy athlete, Kitalong demonstrated both his speed and an array of skilled punches to move easily past his first two opponents. De Splinter also showed his toughness in a semifinal split decision victory, going toe-to-toe against a fighter similar in style and size. He will face his toughest competition yet, where Kitalong only needs to rediscover his smooth, attacking style to bring a Bengal Bout title back to his native Palau.

-Paul Camarata

## 165-pounds



VS.



CLAY COSSE CHRIS MATASSA

### PICKS

BRIAN BURKE  
Matassa  
PAUL CAMARATA  
Matassa  
MIKE  
CONNOLLY  
Matassa  
LISA VELTE  
Matassa

This final pits the two favorites who both had preliminary-round byes. Cosse, a junior captain, was physically superior to his two previous opponents, but will face a very technically sound boxer in Chris Matassa. Matassa has very quick hands and is skillful at countering when fighters charge at him.

Cosse will look to fight inside, trade punches with Matassa, and employ a hook that did plenty of damage in prior fights.

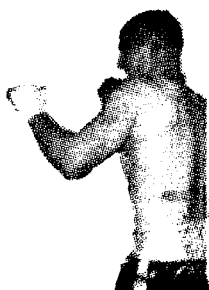
Matassa on the other hand will keep his distance and move around the ring in attempt to frustrate Cosse. He will look for openings and score with a fast jab cross-combo.

-Brian Burke

## 190-pounds



VS.



KEVIN BRANDL JOHN LYNK

### PICKS

BRIAN BURKE  
Brandl  
PAUL CAMARATA  
Lynk  
MIKE  
CONNOLLY  
Brandl  
LISA VELTE  
Lynk

Lynk will bring an aggressive and cocky attitude to the ring when he meets Brandl in the championship. As he did against Zizic, Lynk is expected to charge at his opponent from the start, using powerful jabs to the midsection to wear his opponent down.

Brandl will also look to be more conservative than Lynk and pull out his big punches when the opportunity presents itself.

-Joe Hettler

## HEAVYWEIGHT



VS.



STEFAN BOROVINA CARLOS ABEYETA

### PICKS

BRIAN BURKE  
Abeyeta  
PAUL CAMARATA  
Abeyeta  
MIKE  
CONNOLLY  
Abeyeta  
LISA VELTE  
Abeyeta

In what appears to be an outstanding final, Abeyeta will need to start quicker than his last fight if he hopes to win. Abeyeta also has a rather large weight advantage on the smaller and quicker Borovina.

Borovina will, once again, rely on consistently landing jabs and combinations to become the champion. Abeyeta will look to defend the title he won last year by connecting with a powerful hook.

-Joe Hettler

## 145-pounds



VS.



ANDREW HARMS

JEMAR TISBY

PICKS

BRIAN BURKE

Tisby

PAUL CAMARATA

Tisby

MIKE  
CONNOLLY

Tisby

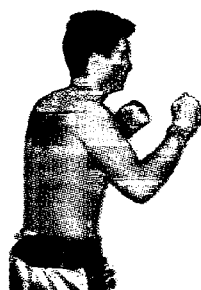
LISA VELTE

Tisby

Jemar Tisby has surrendered superior height to each of his first three opponents but advanced to the finals with fast hands that more than compensate for a shorter reach. A straight puncher who somehow finds every seam in the other fighter's defense, Tisby works his combinations inside to both the body and head. In the finals, he'll face off with junior Andrew Harms, who also knows how to deliver flurries of punches. Harms, the top seed at 145-pounds, finds success by controlling the ring space and keeping his opponent on the defensive. While he will try to use a balanced attack that includes power in both hands, Harms will be challenged by Tisby's ability to go in, out, and up into space.

-Paul Camarata

## 155-pounds



VS.



JOHN NOWAK

BROCK HECKMANN

PICKS

BRIAN BURKE

Heckmann

PAUL CAMARATA

Heckmann

MIKE  
CONNOLLY

Nowak

LISA VELTE

Heckmann

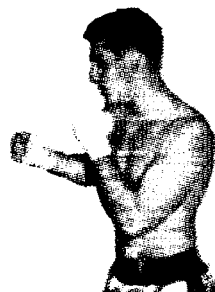
Top-seeded senior Brock Heckmann is only a victory away from winning both his weight class and his second consecutive Bengal Bouts championship. Heckmann takes command of his matches by fighting from the center of the ring and seemingly descending on his opponents with strong, measured punches. Sophomore John Nowak will try to disrupt Heckmann's technique with his own strong left hand. The aggressive southpaw demonstrated his resilience by winning a narrow split decision in the semifinals. In previous rounds, Nowak has slowed his opponents with a powerful hook, but he'll need more than that for the antidote to Heckmann, who no other boxer has yet been able to solve.

-Paul Camarata

## 170-pounds



VS.



DOMINGO MAYNES

RYAN HERNANDEZ

PICKS

BRIAN BURKE

Hernandez

PAUL CAMARATA

Maynes

MIKE  
CONNOLLY

Maynes

LISA VELTE

Maynes

The cornermen should not even bother yelling "stick and move" for this one. Both Maynes and Hernandez make no bones about coming out and brawling from the start. Both fighters will fight in close, and it could come down to who is able to take the most shots to the face.

Maynes is an athletic fighter who came out swinging for the fences in the semifinals, throwing an endless barrage of wild punches.

Hernandez will also brawl, but worked at throwing straighter punches in the semifinals, which paid off in the third round.

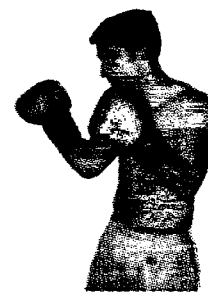
A close call, since it will be more a battle of will than strategy, but an entertaining match nonetheless.

-Brian Burke

## 180-pounds



VS.



MATT SARB

MARK CRINITI

PICKS

BRIAN BURKE

Sarb

PAUL CAMARATA

Criniti

MIKE  
CONNOLLY

Criniti

LISA VELTE

Criniti

When Criniti meets Sarb in the finals, it will be finesse versus power. Sarb will look to pound his opponent as he has done in his previous fights by aggressively charging at him, while Criniti hopes to avoid punches and then move inside for jabs and quick combinations.

Criniti has experience in fighting a defensive match and that should play to his advantage. Sarb is also taller than Criniti, but this is a disadvantage Criniti has seen before. Criniti will be looking for his third straight title while Sarb hopes to grab his first championship.

-Joe Hettler

## 72nd ANNUAL BENGAL BOUT FINALS

♦ Date: Friday, March 1, 2002

♦ Time: 8 p.m.

♦ Location: Joyce Center

Defending 2001 Champions

Brock Heckman - 155-pound (2001 150-pound)

Mark Criniti - 180-pound (2001 175-pound)

Carlos Abeyeta - Heavyweight



# The conquering power of humility

## ♦ Criniti fights for friendship and charity, not glory in the ring

By MIKE CONNOLLY  
Sports Writer

Beneath the bright lights of the Notre Dame Fieldhouse boxing ring, then-freshman Mark Criniti's head snapped back in a crimson explosion of blood. Instinctively, the fighter responded to the blow by thrusting his left fist forward into his opponent's face. His opponent's head gushed blood as the crowd roared its approval.

When the final bell rang a few minutes later, Criniti was left with a bloody nose, a split-decision defeat and his favorite moment in the ring.

"That was the hardest I've been hit," the now-senior captain said. "But it was also probably my best experience in the ring."

When two-time champion Mark Criniti recounts his boxing career at Notre Dame, he focuses on the only time he lost. He glosses over his two titles.

He admits that he's proud to be a senior captain but he only really gets excited talking about the only loss in his Bengal Bouts career.

Ask him about his first title win sophomore year when he upset both the No. 2 and No. 1 seeds to win, and he'll tell you he shouldn't have won. He talks about how he was shocked and slightly ashamed to win a bout he

thought he had lost.

"When the final bell rang, I honestly thought he got me," Criniti said about his split-decision win against Joey Lenisky. "When they announced the result, I was honestly surprised. I really didn't think I deserved to win the fight."

Only after watching a tape of the fight later will Criniti begrudgingly admit he won the fight.

Ask him about his junior year, when he defeated another defending champion, Rob Joyce, in the finals to win his second-straight title, and Criniti will temper his joy with disappointment.

Sure, he was happy to win the fight, but he was equally sad that his victory came at the expense of one of his friends.

"I was happy that I won, but I was also kind of disappointed that someone had to lose that fight," he said.

Criniti will talk at length about the only fight he ever lost at Notre Dame. He will gush about the hours of training, the hundreds of push-ups and the camaraderie he shares with his fellow boxers. But when it comes to talking about his

championships, he closes up. He's proud of his accomplishments, but he would rather talk about other things.

"There is something about this whole experience — something about training with your team, then getting into the ring with your teammate and beating the hell out of each other and being opponents in the ring and then stepping out of the ring and being friends again," Criniti said. "There is

*"When the final bell rang, I honestly thought he got me. When they announced the result, I was honestly surprised. I really didn't think I deserved to win the fight."*

Mike Criniti  
boxing captain



LISA VELTE/The Observer

Mark Criniti lands an overhand right on Keith Arnold during the 180-pound semi-finals on Wednesday. Criniti will face off against Matt Sarb tonight.

nothing else that comes close to what that feels like."

Nearly every fighter in Bengal Bouts will tell you he doesn't fight for the glory.

They will all tell you they do it for the friendships that they make and the charity money they raise.

But for some reason, when Criniti tells you that winning isn't the most important thing to him, you believe him a little more.

Maybe it's because he never intended on fighting in the Bouts when he first started training with the club. The former St. Joseph High School soccer captain felt like he was getting out of shape after Christmas break his freshman year.

Two of his roommates convinced him to join the Boxing Club — because hundreds of push-ups, sit-ups and jumping jacks would get him into better shape.

"I got an incredible workout. I just kept coming back and coming back. I really wasn't that great at it when I started," Criniti said. "I really felt that I wasn't going to fight because I wasn't good at it."

But a funny thing happened when he stepped into the ring for his first spar with junior captain Mike Romancheck. He didn't get crushed. Romancheck easily scored more punches than Criniti, but the freshman held his own in the ring.

"I surprisingly did well against him — which basically means I didn't get a bloody nose and he didn't knock me out. I felt pretty good moving around with him," Criniti said. "Every time I stepped into the ring to spar, I felt better and better. I thought to myself, 'Hey, I am not too bad at this.' I just decided to go out and give it a shot at the tournament."

The first time Criniti stepped into the ring, he upset third-seeded Zach Allen before falling to Chen in the semi-finals. After that loss, Criniti was hooked. He came back for the fall novice program as a sophomore, and won his first Bengal Bouts title in the spring.

"I was completely hooked. A lot of

that had to do with the officers and the captains my freshman year. They spotted some potential in me," Criniti said. "After going through that and being part of something as powerful as Bengal Bouts, you can't let it go. You want to stay in it as long as you can. Once I got myself into that situation and heard congratulations from the guys, I knew I was going to be doing it for the next three years."

Three years and two titles after he got walloped by Chen, Criniti is down to his last fight.

Now, he will finally admit how important it is for him to win a third title.

He has invested too much time, effort and energy to walk out of the ring for the last time without another championship.

"I think I am feeling more pressure this year than I have in my previous three years. A lot of it doesn't have to

do with being a captain or everything that goes along with it," Criniti said. "I just know it's going to be the last fight I am going to fight in the Bengal Bouts. I want to go out on top. I want to go out as a three-time champion."

That's the closest Criniti gets to

bragging. The closest Criniti gets to boasting. He wants to go out as a three-time champion.

But he also quickly adds an amendment to that statement.

"Regardless of what happens — and it would be disappointing to lose — I am not going to hang my head about it," Criniti said. "I've experienced something that not many people have experienced."

After sitting down with Criniti for even a few moments, something tells you that even if he walks out of the fight without a third title, he will still be a champion.

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LISA VELTE/The Observer

Senior captain Mark Criniti prepares himself before a match. Criniti does not fight for the glory but for the spirit of charity.

# Sole senior soars above early-season struggle

## ♦ Haney finds success, takes leadership role in second half of season

By NOAH AMSTADTER  
Sports Editor

For any college athlete, senior year is never easy. For most, there's the impending reality of life after sports on the distant horizon — and the pressure to find a job that goes along with that scary truth.

Seniors also have the responsibility of leadership. It's the seniors who are generally named team captains. It's the seniors who feel the burden of setting an example for younger teammates — both on and off the court.

Most teams have a few seniors. Last year's NCAA champion Notre Dame women's basketball team had five — including the nation's best player, Ruth Riley, and a fifth-year All-American point guard who had already been to a Final Four in Niele Ivey.

But when those five graduated last fall, they were replaced by six freshmen. Left with the pressure of leading this motley crew was just one senior — forward Ericka Haney. Initially it was a challenge that Haney relished.

"I think I have a big load on my shoulders to carry this year," Haney said in August. "But I'm actually ready for the challenge."

But by December the load was heavier than Haney originally expected, and the burden began to affect her play. A Dec. 6 loss at Purdue dropped the defending champions' record to 2-4. Haney, who averaged 11 points and 5.7 rebounds in 29.1 minutes per game as a junior, didn't reach double-figures until the eighth game of the season.

"I was pretty unhappy because I really couldn't adjust to everything," Haney said. "I really didn't talk much to anybody about the problems that I was having. It was really hard to try to be that leader and try to play and not be performing well."

By mid-January, Haney had returned to the starting lineup after coming off the bench for four games in December but was playing sparingly. In a two-game road trip to Providence and Connecticut, Haney played a combined 17 minutes, including a scoreless performance in just 12 minutes against the No. 1-ranked Huskies.

Soon after, Haney decided to sit down for a chat with head coach Muffet McGraw to discuss the struggles of both Haney and the 10-7 Irish, who at that point were on the bubble for qualifying for the NCAA tournament.

"When you're really frustrated, you really need to get it out, and I think she

just needed to tell me how she felt and I was really happy that she did," McGraw said.

While Haney believed McGraw had lost confidence in her senior captain, McGraw was simply giving the playing time Haney didn't have to younger players who were more in sync offensively.

"There were a lot of things that she didn't know, there were a lot of things that I didn't know," Haney said. "We kind of got everything down on the table."

After that meeting, McGraw increased Haney's playing time — and the move worked. The Irish nine games in a row before falling to Villanova Tuesday night. Haney finally found her stroke as well, averaging 11.2 points per game over one stretch of six games and stepping into a bigger offensive load when freshman Jacqueline Batteast, the team's leading scorer, was sidelined with a knee injury for four games late in the year.

"Obviously everybody wanted her to have a great year and score a lot of points and lead the team and all," McGraw said. "When it didn't happen early, things kind of snowballed, and it's hard to lead when you're not playing well. Everything suffered about her game, and then she decided, 'This is it, this is senior year, I have to go back to what I'm good at,' and that's what she did."

### The daddy's girl

Throughout Haney's career, from AAU games growing up to the national championship in St. Louis last spring, there's been one constant — the presence of her father, Sidney Haney Jr., usually seated just behind the bench.

The elder Haney has attended all but four of his daughter's games during her Notre Dame career, sacrificing both 25 years worth of off days at the Jeep plant in Toledo, Ohio, and his own automobiles.

"I've probably got 150,000 miles on one of them and probably pretty close to 100,000 on the other," Sidney Haney said. "I've probably worn out about three cars driving up and down the road."

It was her family's influence that paved the steps for Haney to end up at Notre Dame. She started out at inner-city public schools in Toledo, schools she attended until eighth grade. When the time came to choose a high school, Haney wanted to continue on to the public high school with her friends.

Her older brother, Sidney Haney III, went to that public high school and had other ideas.

"He begged and pleaded with my parents to make me go somewhere else," Haney said. "He didn't want me to go there."

So Haney ended up attending Toledo Central Catholic High School, where she starred in both basketball and track and



NELLIE WILLIAMS/The Observer

**Senior Ericka Haney bobbles the ball as freshman Jackie Batteast watches. Haney overcame early-season struggles to lead the Irish late in the season.**

field. That experience paved the way for Haney to move on to Notre Dame, a school Haney would likely never have considered had she stayed in public school.

"I was used to inner-city, all-black schools," Haney said. "I had never been around any other different type of people. I wanted to see how it would be to go to a more diverse school. I think it matured me, made me able to come to Notre Dame."

When she wasn't starring on the basketball court or running to a national ranking in the 100-meter hurdles, Haney was spending her summers traveling the country for AAU basketball tournaments with her father at her side.

"We kind of grew this bond because I think before sports we weren't as close as we are now," Haney said. "We grew this really, really close bond. It was just real tight."

Haney is quick to point out that her father isn't the type to second-guess coaches, nor does he always feel his daughter should have the ball.

"He understands my position, he knows what I'm capable of," Haney said. "He really doesn't allow me to make excuses for myself or blame others. He always tells me to look inside myself and see what I can change to make the situation better instead of pointing the finger, because that's probably the easiest way out."

Haney's parents also saw their daughter's stress earlier in her senior season and her resilience at the end.

"The pressures that she felt being the only senior, I know it was tremendous," Sidney Haney said. "We saw it in her game. We saw her scores go down. We saw her game totally disappear from the Ericka that we knew. She hung in there and she came back."

### The cheerleader becomes the anchor?

That Haney was able to flick a switch and turn a frown of a season upside down shouldn't come as a surprise. After all, she started out as a child dreaming not to play basketball, but to be a cheerleader.

But after Haney was cut from the cheerleading squad in both fifth and sixth grades, she decided to switch her goals further to the middle of the gymnasium

floor. In seventh grade, she took up volleyball and basketball.

"I was very tall," Haney said. "I had a problem with my height actually. As soon as I started playing ball in seventh grade, I found a niche for myself."

Haney had just as easy a time finding her niche on the basketball court for the Irish. Whether she was coming off the bench her first two seasons, or starting as a junior and senior, the focus of Haney's game has always been defense and rebounding.

"We needed a defensive stopper, that was No. 1," McGraw said. "We needed someone who would rebound and run the floor and drive the ball well. I think she's pretty much filled our expectations of what we thought and she's added tremendously to our success over four years."

Haney also found her niche as a leader, overcoming her play and setting an example for the younger players who did not go unnoticed.

"She always came to practice and she played hard and I think that was something that was really something that the underclassmen admire," McGraw said. "She could have really gotten down and really just kind of given up on the season. I think that was something the freshmen really look at her with a lot of respect for that."

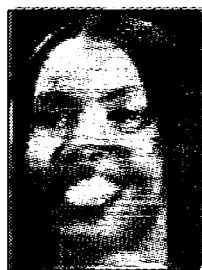
With her days in blue and gold now numbered, Haney has no set plans for life after college. She will earn her degree in Film, Television and Theatre and has worked an internship at WNDU, so a broadcasting career could be in her future.

But Haney isn't quite sure that her basketball career will end at the collegiate level.

"I've considered going out," Haney said of a professional basketball career. "I guess I've learned over the last four years that I don't think basketball defines me as a person. I've done it all my life but I think now I'm kind of ready to move on and see what else is out there. If it's there it's there, if it's not I'll be like a normal person again I guess."

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## up close & personal WITH ERICKA HANEY



Haney

**position:** guard/forward

**year:** senior

**notables:** Haney is the sole senior on the Irish squad. She scored 13 points and grabbed five rebounds in the national championship match-up against Purdue last season.

**birthdate:** July 13, 1980

**hometown:** Toledo, Ohio

**dimensions:** 6-foot

**If she could have dinner with any three people in history, they would be:**

Marvin Gaye, Redd Foxx and Martin Luther King

**The Notre Dame student-athlete she admires most is:** Harold Swanagan

**The best thing about being a student at Notre Dame is:** working at DeBartolo master control

**If she wrote a book about her life it would be called:** Living the Dream

**Since being at Notre Dame she's learned:** to be responsible, mature and hard working

**Her favorite sports team is:** the Houston Comets (specifically Coquese Washington)

**She wears No. 3 because:** it's cool

# Learning lessons along the road to victory

The Irish are not a national championship team, but they have as much, if not more, to be proud of this season as Ruth Riley, Niele Ivey and the rest of the 2000-2001 squad did last year.

Early this season, head coach Muffet McGraw said last year's team was one she didn't need to coach as much; this year's team would be a different story. But after looking at where this team was, where it has come and where it is now, it seems quite obvious that the road they have travelled is one with a successful destination.

When the Irish tipped off for the first time this season against the Ohio Girls' Basketball Magazine All-Stars, it was a different team that took the court. They weren't focused on shooting percentage or turnover ratio. They were looking for a place to begin.

"We're not really worried about shooting percentage. We're not really worried about shots," said assistant coach Coquese Washington after the 76-62 victory. "We're looking at our tendencies. We're looking at getting game-by-game growth and getting better each game."

There was growth each game, but that growth did not come

without some very important lessons.

Lesson one: Practice is different from game experience, but some time off is still a good idea.

The Irish started out the season 2-4, winning just two games at home and dropping four on the road. Just prior to a 78-63 loss to the University of Michigan, McGraw stated what the freshmen on her team were struggling with.

"We're working on that every day, just trying to get them in a game situation," she said. "I think they're all very smart, and you ask them to diagram a play or tell you what's supposed to happen and they'll tell you exactly what's supposed to happen. The problem is in the heat of the game."

Despite the fact that the Irish needed some game time, they also needed some rest.

Following a long road trip over the Thanksgiving holiday, they needed some time to rest. Not only that, they needed some time to practice, because young players cannot do it on their own.

"We need experience in the game, but there's a lot of things we've got to fix," McGraw said in early December. "So I think that this time it's an advantage to have some time off."

Lesson two: You can't expect national championship caliber play from a team that has recently been to the prom.

The media did it, the fans did, opposing teams did it — they built up the hype surrounding the defending national champions. What they failed to realize

was that this team was not the defending national championship team. It was a team that was composed mostly of freshmen and had lost some of its best players.

"We keep talking about when Ruth [Riley] was a freshman; that's the season this should be compared to, not last year," McGraw said. "We're 2-3 in 1998 ... that's going to happen with a young team. Don't worry about the record."

By the time early January rolled around, things were looking bad for the Irish. On Dec. 28, during a game that was a blow-out the season before and should have been a refresher for the team following the Christmas holiday, the team fell to Rice 72-61. McGraw broke down into tears at the press conference following the game. It looked as if the Irish had hit rock bottom.

But then, things started to change.

The team picked up its first road victory with a 69-65 win against Miami to start off the Big East season on the right track, and from there things fell into place.

"I really think that since the Miami game, that win on the road, the team just seemed to come together in January in the Big East," McGraw said on Monday. "I think they saw it as a second chance, a second season."

And for the Irish, that's what it looked to be.

"We feel like we're moving in the right direction," assistant coach Kevin McGuff said following a 68-56 win against

Pittsburgh on Feb. 5. "We're gaining some momentum as we head into the rest of the season."

In the 15 games following the Miami victory, Notre Dame only lost three contests and the lessons continued.

Lesson three: You can't take any team for granted.

The Irish traveled to Seton Hall in February, remembering a solid victory they had against the Pirates earlier in the season. However, they learned a lesson worth remembering when Seton Hall almost pulled out a victory.

"This is a really important lesson for us to learn, that you can't take anyone lightly," McGraw said. "You need to come out and be prepared ... that's what we have to guard against, just being over-confident."

Lesson four: The most recent lesson for the Irish is that individual improvement helps, but it's teamwork that counts in the end.

It wasn't that the Irish did not have potential in the early part of the season or even that they didn't have any early successes. Freshman Jackie Batteast grabbed Big East Rookie of the Week honors six times, Teresa Borton and Allison Bustamante and Katy Flecky and Kelsey Wicks all had their share of good games. But they rarely had them at the same time. And that was frustrating.

"I think it's hard when you see the potential and you realize you're not hitting it yet," McGraw said. "... I think it was harder for me because I saw what we could be and we

weren't there yet."

But then the Irish were.

In three of their last four games, playing without Batteast, the Irish have come together as a team for real. Flecky stepped into the starting position and took home a Big East honor of her own. Ericka Haney, who had been showing marked improvement since Connecticut, began consistently scoring in double figures, and Ratay found her home making her own shots and scoring points up in the 20's.

Following the Rutgers game, Notre Dame's first attempt without leading scorer Batteast, Flecky summed up the team's lesson.

"We all were supposed to go out and do a little bit more, and if we all do a little bit more, then it comes together as a team as a big improvement," she said. "So I think that's what we did ... Jackie being out is a big loss to us but it gave a lot of people opportunities."

Now the Irish have won nine of their last 10 games, and although Tuesday night's loss to Villanova was a reality check, they're ready to face the real competition of a Big East tournament.

This team may not take home a national championship, but they have proved that with work, they have what it takes to be competitors.

Contact Katie McVoy at [mcvo5695@saintmarys.edu](mailto:mcvo5695@saintmarys.edu). The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

## Do it all night long one more time

### The Observer's 35th Anniversary Reunion

#### April 20, 2002

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information or to RSVP





# SCENE

theatre

Friday, March 1, 2002

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## La Marcolfa

that the actors at this level could use," Colangelo said.

The student director eventually decided on "La Marcolfa," a play she had seen while studying abroad in Florence and had also studied in class at Notre Dame. Tryouts were held around p.

"We advertised in Italian classes and lots of people came out," Colangelo said.

Beyond rehearsals, the cast and crew also underwent oral interviews conducted by Ryan-Scheutz as part of the research for the study. They were given reading selections from another comparable play in order to determine their language level and ability and will go through similar final interviews after the production to assess their progress. Colangelo ultimately hopes to publish these findings in a scholarly journal.

In addition to previous acting experience and work on costume design, Colangelo directed the spring 2000 production of "A Merry Death."

"Directing is my favorite part of theatre," Colangelo said. "I love coordinating the entire artistic vision, being able to look at the finished project and to know I had a part in all of it."

With her double majors, she was able to get the project sponsored by both FTT and the department of Romance Languages and is now earning credit for her work as a FTT Special Studies Project. The 11 members of the cast and crew will also receive one credit for their involvement, but the real benefit of their work comes from the improvement in their language skills, as every aspect of the production is conducted in Italian.

"All the rehearsals, all the warm-ups, every trip off-campus with the [costume and

set] designers to get supplies — everything is in Italian," said Colangelo. "The goal here is an immersion experience."

"Overall, it's been tough, but it's really helped my Italian," McGrath said. "It was daunting to memorize my lines, since it's a lot harder to improvise in Italian than in English, but it was a great experience and helped me keep up my language skills."

The six cast members, three scene managers, costume designer and set designer have all reached at least an intermediate level of Italian and Colangelo thinks that the difference in their abilities has helped everyone advance.

"I have seen so much improvement from when we first started," she said. "It's amazing how everyone has caught up," Colangelo said.

"La Marcolfa" marks the first play for the Italian Department and what Colangelo hopes will become a tradition and perhaps even a class for credit like its French counterpart.

"It's exciting to be a part of something so ground-breaking," Colangelo said. "Everyone in the department has been so encouraging, behind us every step of the way."

Support from FTT has also given the designers access to costumes and sets. Colangelo said her double major to thank for this.

"Having a foot in both doors has been really helpful," Colangelo said.

Three performances this weekend will showcase the efforts of the small but dedicated cast and crew. As director, Colangelo is eagerly awaiting to see the audience's reaction.

"The show is so hilarious," Colangelo said. "The stage managers and I are always amazed at how we laugh more and more each time we see it. And after seeing the French play, I realized how much you really can understand, even if you don't know the language."

"La Marcolfa" will be presented Sunday at 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. as well as Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Washington Hall Lab Theatre. Admission is \$1. Tickets are available at the door or from the Romance Languages office in 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall. A summary of the show in English will be distributed with the program.

Contact Laura Kelly at [lkelly@nd.edu](mailto:lkelly@nd.edu).



AMANDA HUGHES/The Observer

Senior Lauren Beyer as Teresa (left) and La Marcolfa fight because Teresa thinks La Marcolfa has stolen her fiance, Giuseppe. "La Marcolfa" relies heavily on physical comedy to convey its plot beyond language boundaries.



AMANDA HUGHES/The Observer

Senior Brian Barone as Giuseppe (left) and Il Marchese di Trerate (junior Luke McLaurin) trying to explain to La Marcolfa (sophomore Amanda Holland) why they are seeking her hand in marriage.

# Bengal Bouts embody Notre Dame's values

Our Lady is standing on top of the dome, but the signature of Notre Dame can be found each year at the Bengal Bouts.

Every winter for the past 72 years, the Notre Dame Boxing Club has held a competitive tournament to end its season. The Bouts have grown in numbers and renown since Knute Rockne first began intramural boxing, and have become arguably the most highly anticipated and well attended contest of the spring semester.

Along the way, in the rigorous demands of the sport that they showcase, the faithful commitment of their organizers, participants and support-



Paul Camarata

Sports  
Columnist

ers, and the unadulterated sanctity of amateur competition that they maintain, the Bengal Bouts have become the single greatest example of a Notre Dame event. Consider the most prevalent attributes of our student body and the qualities of the activities in which its members most frequently participate.

Wearing varsity uniforms or in residence hall weight rooms, in intramural facilities and in every bit of grass, pavement and open air between Juniper Road and Indiana Route 933, Notre Dame students hone themselves mentally while strengthening themselves physically. They are competitors, if not all natural athletes, and the exercise of their bodies proves this just slightly more than the sharpening of their minds.

At a university founded by Catholics so long ago, generosity has become far more than contributing to a collection basket on Sunday. Students put off their rest and recreation to tutor children and

feed the hungry each day; they sacrifice week- and month-long portions of holidays and summer breaks to perform exotic work in mundane locales; many nurture an altruistic spirit that lingers, if not grows, for the rest of their lives.

His singular vision carried Father Edward Sorin thousands of miles from home to an inhospitable frontier a century and a half ago, and since then his tiny acorn of aspiration and faith has outgrown even the tallest oaks on the continent. Notre Dame has evolved.

Once unknown, its name has progressed to little known, then well known, and is now universal, and in the development, has been criticized for seeking prestige at the expense of its foundational principles. Perhaps our critics' vision has been obscured simply for our notoriety, as they fail to see the spirit of humility that remains prevalent in our actions and words.

A prospective faculty mem-

ber recently asked a senior with whom he was having lunch to characterize the predominant characteristic of her student body. Without hesitating, she told him it was their solidarity. "The spirit here is amazing," she said. "It's like nowhere else I've seen."

Visible in so many articles of clothing and on so many rear windshields, the overarching unity of Notre Dame students cuts across age, gender, race, geography and philosophies, and is distracted only by an even more devout allegiance to respective resident halls.

Boxing's detractors simplistically reduce it to a release of violence as naively as Hollywood tries to pawn off sex as a release of love. At its core, as far away from the name Tyson as mathematics allows, boxing remains a sport and Bengal Bouts, at its seeds, saplings and fruit, is Notre Dame.

Not many student bodies in this nation possess the athletes who could sustain a boxing club and tournament; few

have the initiative to turn it into an event that raises thousands of dollars for missions in Bangladesh; fewer could do it while maintaining the purity of amateurism and avoiding the spirit of corporate sponsorship. And perhaps no other school in the nation could do all of that and compel the non-participants to cheer so loudly and so long for their friends who sweat in the ring.

The Bengal Bouts have become all the best aspects of Notre Dame, wrapped up in four nights each February. Seventy-one student bodies before this one have supported the Bouts, and in doing so have darkened the lines and curves in the signature of our University's spirit. On Friday night comes the latest chance for all of us to contribute to the same.

Contact Paul Camarata at [pcamarata@nd.edu](mailto:pcamarata@nd.edu). The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

## WOMEN'S LACROSSE

# 17th-ranked Irish open season Sunday

By CHRIS COLEMAN  
Sports Writer

The Irish women's lacrosse team, ranked 17th in the preseason polls, takes on Ohio University Sunday.

This season marks first time in team history that the Irish have been ranked preseason. Barely missing the NCAA tournament last year, they ended the season ranked 18th in the country.

"It's good to know our school is getting recognition," said captain Tina Fedarcyk, who along with midfielder Daniel Shearer made the preseason All-Big East team. "It's a sign of how hard we worked last season. We really built a name for ourselves."

The team has high expectations for this season after los-

ing only one starter to graduation in the last two years.

"The current juniors and seniors have had a lot of experience," said head coach Tracy Coyne. "When the seniors came in as freshmen there were only 17 people on the team."

The young team grew up fast and played well together, struggling to 5-10 in 2000, but bouncing back to a 10-5 record last year.

Defensive captain Kathryn Lam said she's excited about the talent and unity of this year's team.

"Everybody is a year older, a year more mature, probably the strongest team this program has put together," Lam said.

They play the strongest schedule in team history as well. The Irish play six teams

that are in the preseason top 20, including No. 2 Duke and

No. 4 Georgetown. The good news for Coyne's squad is that they will face Duke, Syracuse, Cornell, Yale and Delaware at home.

The team lost its leading scorer from last season in Leah O'Shaughnessy, but the attacking trio of captain Alissa Moser, senior Natalie Loftus and junior Daniel Shearer should be able to take up the slack, complemented by Meredith Simon, a sophomore.

"The first game is always a tough game," said Elizabeth

Knight.

The Irish are not expecting an easy game and know how important it is.

*"The current juniors and seniors have a lot of experience. When the seniors came in as freshmen there were only 17 people on the team."*

Tracy Coyne  
head coach

"They are where we were a couple of years ago," Coyne said of the opponent, "which means they have probably improved a lot over the last year."

"We only have 16 games, and our goal is the tournament. It all starts on Sunday," added Lam.

Along with Ohio State and Northwestern, Ohio University

is one of the few women's programs in the region as the sport has stayed focused on the east coast. The Irish look to assert the dominance of the region again this year as well as compete with the cream of the crop.

Notre Dame finds itself in a new position as a ranked team, whereas a team like Ohio is searching for an upset to build up their own tournament hopes. But the laxers are ready for the challenge.

"Rankings only mean so much, all that really matters is what you do on field," said Lam.

The Irish open up against a young Ohio University squad Sunday at 1 p.m. in Loftus.

Contact Chris Coleman at [ccolma1@nd.edu](mailto:ccolma1@nd.edu).

## CLASSIFIEDS

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

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## WOMEN'S TENNIS

# Irish hope to extend home winning streak

By COLIN BOYLAN  
Sports Writer

The 20th-ranked Notre Dame women's tennis team will try to extend its three-match winning streak when it concludes a six-

match homestand this weekend. The Irish face Wisconsin on Friday at 4 p.m. and Ohio State Saturday at 1 p.m. in the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

The Irish hope that a pair of home matches against weaker competition will be a good confi-

dence builder for the team, but they aren't taking anything for granted.

"I think we can definitely build some confidence this weekend, but we know that both Wisconsin and Ohio State are tough teams. Wisconsin is having a great year

and Ohio is playing really well too," said senior captain Becky Varnum.

Indeed, both the Badgers and the Buckeyes boast better records than the Irish, weighing in at 8-2 and 9-1, respectively.

Nonetheless, confidence is run-

ning high on the Irish side, as the team is coming off a 7-0 victory against Virginia Tech, their first shutout victory of the season.

"We struggled a little bit in doubles [last week against the Hokies], but came back strong and really dominated in singles. And we've followed that up by having some really strong practices this week," said Varnum.

The Irish have a good history against the Badgers, as the teams have played every year for the past 12 years — and the Irish have won each of the past four matchups. Moreover, the team has shut out Wisconsin in the past two seasons.

Meanwhile, the Ohio State squad is no slouch either. The Buckeyes are just coming off a solid 6-1 victory over Virginia Tech and have earned a respectable 2-1 record in the tough Big Ten conference.

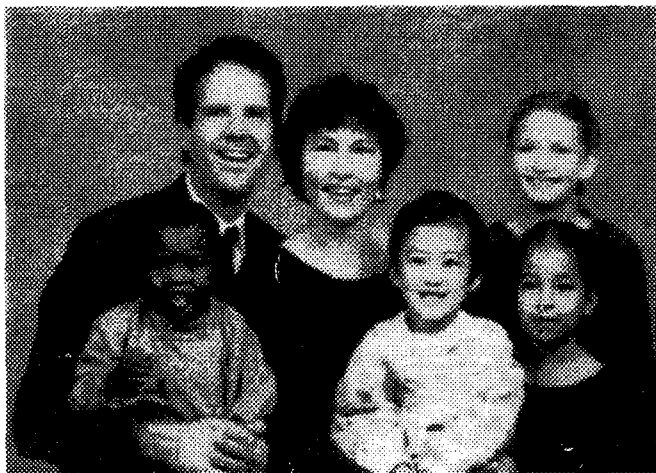
The Irish hope to use these weekend matches as a springboard towards their overall season goals. The team's schedule figures to get much tougher over the next several weeks and the team is attempting to gel at just the right time.

"One of our goals is to win all our regional matches this year and eventually make it to the Sweet 16," said Varnum. "Plus we've got some really big matches coming up, so it's a nice time for our team to come together."

Contact Colin Boylan at  
cboylan@nd.edu.

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## FENCING

# Irish, Wildcats ready for Midwest rematch

By MATT LOZAR  
Sports Writer

This year, the No. 3 Irish want their title back from the rival No. 6 Wildcats.

Last season, the women's fencing team conference championship came down to the final bout in the sabre portion of the match. Notre Dame was up 4-3, but Northwestern claimed the next two victories to win the first-to-five series 5-4, and the team title 425-420.

The Irish will get their chance this weekend at the Midwest Fencing Conference Championships.

So far this season, the women's team has split their two dual matches with Northwestern. At Air Force in February, Notre Dame lost 15-12. The next weekend at Ohio State, the Irish got some revenge by crushing the Wildcats 23-4. The rubber match is this weekend and the Irish still have a bitter taste in their mouths concerning Northwestern.

"Some people on the team are still a little mad about the remarks made by Northwestern's coach," said sophomore epeeist Kerry Walton.

Northwestern head coach Laurie Schiller made some insulting comments about Notre Dame's conditioning and practices before the Wildcats' victory over the Irish in February.

Another motivational factor for the Irish is that in the Midwest conference, rankings

are done by victory over other conference members throughout the season. Since the Irish focused their schedule on top competition, their conference rating is lower than they think it should be.

"We're not ranked as high as some of the [nationally] lower-ranked teams in our conference," said Walton. "That has gotten some people angry this week. But I think everyone is laid back and [there are] no worries."

Despite the women's team losing their title last year, the men swept the conference title and led Notre Dame to the overall conference championship. All three squads — epee, foil and sabre — finished first in their division, giving the Irish the maximum 450 points.

"I think we are feeling pretty confident as a team," said senior Andre Crompton. "We may be a little more challenged in some areas, but we should be the best in the Midwest."

Top competition for No. 1 Notre Dame should come from No. 4 Ohio State and Northwestern.

"Ohio State has a pretty strong sabre team," Crompton said. "I think, though, we are better overall as a team."

Junior foilist Ozren Debic looks to win his third conference championship in as many years this season. Last year, he defeated teammate Forest Walton 15-8 in the final.

In epee, Brian Casas upset captain Jan Viviani in the final, 15-14. Crompton defeated the top seed from Wayne State in

the semifinals before beating the second seed and teammate Andrezej Bednarski in the finals to claim the sabre title.

Being the defending champions brings some added expectations to the team. Also, with the NCAA regionals next weekend, Crompton knows this weekend

is very important.

"There is always pressure as the defending champion," said the captain. "If we don't perform well this weekend, it can foreshadow what will happen next weekend."

The Midwest Fencing Conference Championships will

be held at the Joyce Center this weekend. The team event is on Saturday, with the individual competition on Sunday. Both days' events will begin at 8 a.m.

Contact Matt Lozar at  
mlozar@nd.edu.

## SOFTBALL

## Gumph, Irish head to Aggie Invite

By AARON RONSHEIM  
Sports Writer

After nine years as the Irish head softball coach and a season in which she led Notre Dame to its highest ranking ever last year, Liz Miller retired after the end of the 2001 season.

This year the Irish are lead by promoted pitching coach Deanna Gumph.

Under her first four years of coaching, the Irish have lowered their team earned run average and raised their cumulative batting average. In 2001 the Irish had a record team E.R.A. of 0.89 (seventh in the nation) and 477 strikeouts.

Freshmen pitcher Steffany Stenglein has already felt the positive effects of working with coach Gumph.

"She is one of my favorite coaches that I ever played for. She has already helped me so much with my pitching," said Stenglein.

Gumph's staff will lead the No. 24 Irish (4-6) at the Texas A & M Aggie Invitational this weekend where they will play No. 19 Louisiana-Lafayette and unranked Illinois State twice and play host No. 23 Texas A&M once.

The Irish will be looking for revenge after last weekend's 2-1

loss to the Aggies. The Aggies' Jessica Slataper pitched a complete game with 12 strikeouts as she outdueled Stenglein who pitched six strong innings.

Notre Dame will most likely face Slataper again this weekend and hopefully be able to generate a little more offense.

"I hope to see her again. We will know what is a coming and expect the girls to jump on her," said Gumph.

Against Louisiana-Lafayette, the Notre Dame pitchers will have to shut down the Lady Cajuns tandem of Becky McCarty and Alana Addison, both of whom are hitting over .400 with five homeruns.

When the Irish play Illinois State it will be a rematch of last year's NCAA Region VII Tournament game, in which the Irish won 2-1. Illinois State (4-6), after a slow start, has won its last four games with victories against No. 9 Arizona State and No. 16 Iowa.

The Irish will hope to rebound from last weekend and post a few victories against the nation elite.

"If we come out and play like we're capable of playing we should be fine," said All-American captain Jarrah Myers.

Contact Aaron Ronsheim at  
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# Thomas

continued from page 24

ing games and does whatever he can in practice to help Notre Dame win.

Notre Dame's only walk-on basketball player is one of the hardest working players on the team. He's one of the quickest players on the Irish. And despite his small stature — Thomas is 6-foot, 164 pounds — he's not afraid to mix it up with big players.

He just doesn't get the chance to do it during a game.

Earlier this season, freshman point guard Chris Thomas played 60 minutes in a quadruple-over-time game against Georgetown

— three minutes more than Charles Thomas has played in his entire career. Most walk-ons would moan and gripe if they only played 57 minutes in their four-year college career. Or more appropriately, they'd moan and gripe if they stayed on the team.

But Thomas isn't your typical walk-on. He's one of the most resilient players on Notre Dame's team because he refuses to quit — at anything.

"He's one of the hardest workers on the team, not just on the floor, but off," teammate and good friend Torrian Jones said. "Sometimes I go over to his room to hang out and he's there studying. If I'm not studying there, I'm sitting there silent the whole time."

Studying and basketball are Thomas' two passions. But he makes it crystal-clear which one he really loves.

"Without basketball," Thomas said, "I'd be bored out of my mind."

He came to Notre Dame with the intention of walking on to John MacLeod's team. As soon as he arrived on campus, he began scrimmaging with the team during the early fall and was invited to stay on as a walk-on. The only problem was that Thomas was one of eight walk-ons — and he was by far the smallest player.

"I was thinking there's no way I'd be able to make it. Halfway through, I stopped coming for four days, and I said, 'Forget it,'" Thomas said. "But the more I

thought about it, I said, 'I've got nothing to lose, so I might as well try to see what happens.'"

Even Thomas is surprised he's made it all four years. But he admits there were times when he wanted to cave in and give it all up. Each time a new basketball coach was hired, Thomas worried that he wouldn't want to come back, or worse, that he wouldn't even be invited back.

He only played one game under MacLeod. His second college coach, Matt Doherty, initially made Thomas wonder if he'd even be on the team and then didn't give Thomas the playing time the walk-on thought he deserved.

So when Doherty left to coach at North Carolina and Mike Brey was hired two years ago, Thomas walked into the new coach's office to set the record straight.

"If you ever need me to play, just know that you've got someone that's always going to work hard, give 100 percent all the time, and never be a head case," Thomas told Brey that summer. "If you want me to play, I'll play. If not, then I know that's not my role, and I'll do whatever I have to do to help our guys to win."

"I don't consider you a walk-on," Brey responded. "You're a team member."

There's no division between the lone walk-on and the other 12 players on the team. He's earned the nickname "Chuck," and he and Graves make fun of each other so much that Graves jokes the two will get into a boxing match when the season is over. He's not afraid to give advice to the younger players, and Jones said the walk-on is one of the fiercest competitors he's ever played against.

He also earned a scholarship for his final semester at Notre Dame, Brey's way of rewarding Thomas' hard work ethic.

"Chuck's a guy who his practices are his games," Brey said.

"He knows that. And he plays that way."

Thomas loves the perks that come with being a member of the Notre Dame basketball team. Students across campus know who he is, even though he has no clue who they may be. And for some reason, people want to play against him in pickup games at the Rock. But he just shakes his head and proceeds to "embarrass" his opponents, as he puts it.

"I take it all as a compliment," he said. "I know I'm doing something a lot of people want to do."

He knows he's a fan favorite, too. When he gets into games, he hears fans telling him to shoot the ball, and he's more than happy to oblige, he laughs.

He's made countless friends with little kids who idolize him, and still chats over Instant Messenger with a fifth-grader he met in basketball camp last summer.

"I didn't think — even when I made the team — I didn't think I'd still be playing as senior," Thomas said. "Especially with me not playing a lot, I didn't know if I could stick it out."

But the player who had trouble believing he would make it to Senior Day four years ago is suddenly finding it very difficult to realize that his college basketball days are nearly over.

He hopes to find some kind of league after he graduates so he can keep playing. He's not sure if he wants to go to graduate school to prepare for a career in the FBI or try to break into the coaching ranks.

But no matter what happens to him, Thomas will probably take it all in stride — just like he's done with his life.

"I'm not a quitter," Thomas said. "Whatever happens, happens."

Contact Andrew Soukup at [asoukup@nd.edu](mailto:asoukup@nd.edu).



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## TRACK AND FIELD

# Ready to qualify, Irish host Invite

By DAVE COOK  
Sports Writer

For the Notre Dame men and women's track and field teams, the team indoor season is over. The women and men both had great successes at the Big East Championships, taking first place and fourth place, respectively.



Piane

But now it is time for individuals to shine. This weekend's Alex Wilson Invitational hosted by Notre Dame provides a last chance for several Irish athletes to post qualifying times to advance to the NCAA championships.

"We've got 77 schools represented. And there's kids from literally all over the country coming in to get qualified. So it should be a fantastic meet," said head coach Joe Piane.

Notre Dame's Meyo Track is known for being one of the fastest tracks in the nation, mainly because it is one of the largest indoor tracks at 320 meters. This provides an excellent opportunity for athletes to qualify for the NCAA championships against one of the best competitive fields in the nation.

The Irish have several athletes who have had strong indoor seasons so far, and hope a strong performance this weekend will propel them into the NCAA championships.

Such is the case for the women's distance medley relay team. The distance medley team — comprised of Jen Handley, Megan Johnson, Lauren King and Kristen Dodd — has only raced once this year, at the Meyo Invitational, but hope they can qualify this weekend.

"We did pretty well [at the Meyo Invitational], but we didn't go all out because there was really no other teams in it to push us along," said Johnson, who runs the 800-meter portion of the medley. "We knew this would be our chance. If we all run what we're capable of running, then we'll qualify for NCAAs. If we don't qualify, it will be a disappointment to all of us."

"The women's distance medley really has a good chance at qualifying for the NCAAs. They're in a great heat," said Piane.

Also looking for qualifying times are Ryan Shay and Luke Watson, the senior distance duo that has had a spectacular indoor season. To add to their success in the 3000- and 5000-meter runs, Shay and Watson are looking for qualifying times in the mile this weekend.

Watson has the fastest mile time of any Irish runner this year, posting a 4:07.15 at the Big East championships. Shay ran a season-best 4:09.97 at a triangular meet early in the season. The NCAA provisional qualifying time is 4:05.20.

"I'm sure that [Shay and Watson] would like to try to qualify in the mile. Shay wouldn't run the 3000, the 5000 and the mile at NCAAs, but I'm sure he would still like to qualify," said Piane.

Also looking for a strong showing for the men are Tom Gilbert in the long jump and Selim Nurudeen in the 60-meter hurdles. The long jump and the 60-meter hurdles will be two of the strongest events this weekend and should provide the momentum Gilbert and Nurudeen need to qualify.

On the women's side, the nation's third-ranked mile relay team consisting of Liz Grow, Ayesha Boyd, Dodd and Kymia

Love will look to improve on their time this season.

"Our women's mile relay has already qualified, but it's a great race [this weekend]. At this point there are six really good teams in there," said Piane.

Field events of the Alex Wilson Invitational begin Friday night at 6 p.m. Also Friday night are the distance medley and the men's and women's 3000- and 5000-meter runs, which should be some of the best races of the weekend. The meet concludes Saturday, with events beginning at 10:30 a.m. with the triple jump.

Contact Dave Cook at  
dcook2@nd.edu.

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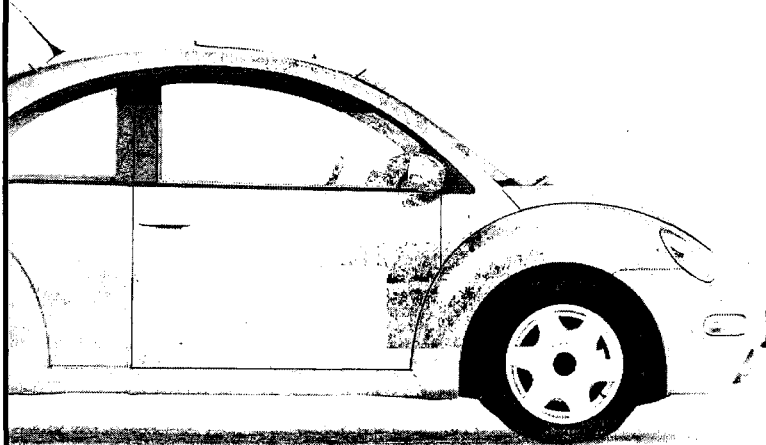
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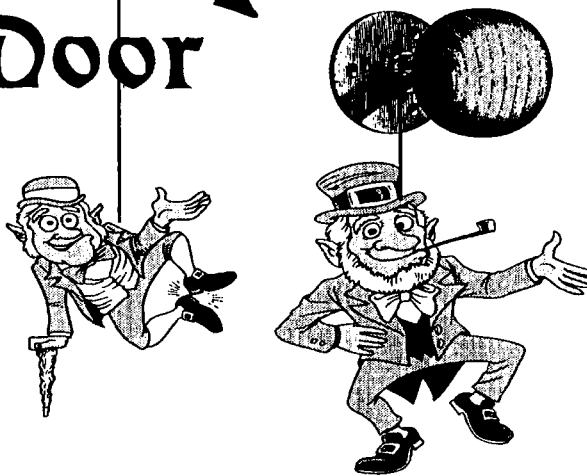
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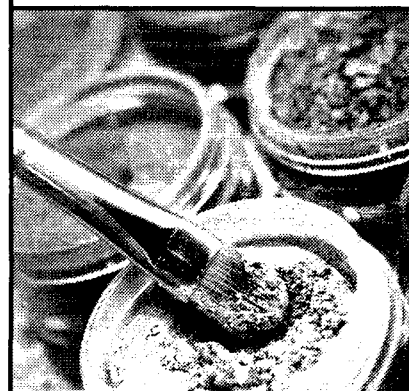
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## HOCKEY

# Irish prepare for final weekend



BRIAN PUCEVICH/The Observer

Sophomore center Aaron Gill faces off in a game against Alaska-Fairbanks earlier this season.

By CHRIS FEDERICO  
Assistant Sports Editor

Heading into the final weekend of regular season play, the Notre Dame men's hockey team hopes to keep its three-game winning streak alive and build up some momentum for the upcoming CCHA playoffs.

The Irish will play host to the conference rival Bowling Green. The Falcons currently are in 11th place in the CCHA and are most likely out of postseason tournament play, as only the top 10 teams advance.

The Irish currently hold eighth place in the conference but must be leery of Ferris State, who stands only one point behind the Irish in ninth.

"One thing that appears important right now is that we have to stay ahead of everyone who is behind us," Irish head coach Dave Poulin said.

After last week's play, it is impossible for the Irish to surpass seventh-place Ohio State, but it is important for the Irish to maintain their position in the bracket for seeding in the tournament.

More important than seedings, however, is the team's desire to go into the CCHA playoffs next weekend playing as well as they have been recently.

"It's more important to be playing well than anything," Poulin said. "The move [in standings] doesn't really mean anything because five, six and seven [places] are still uncertain. We're on a nice little roll now, and we just want to keep it rolling."

Indeed the Irish have been playing well of late. Their current three-game winning streak matches the longest of the season and the Irish defense has held its oppo-

nents to only five goals in the last three games, including one on an empty net.

"The last four games we've really tightened up defensively," Poulin said. "Giving up only four goals in the last four games is tremendous, and we've continued that focus on the defensive side of things [in practice]."

Part of this defensive surge can be seen in the play of freshman goalie Morgan Cey, who allowed only three goals against national power Michigan State three weeks ago, and then returned strong last weekend against Lake Superior State — allowing only one goal and securing his second shutout of the season.

Bowling Green comes to Notre Dame after a strong weekend against Northern Michigan last week that included a 6-0 shutout for the Falcons. The team is lead in scoring by forward Greg Day with 33 points coming on 17 goals and 16 assists.

The Bowling Green goaltender, Tyler Masters, has surrendered 3.36 goals per game this year, but recorded 45 saves against Notre Dame in a 4-2 Bowling Green victory earlier this year. Notre Dame won the other matchup earlier this season 6-3 to earn a series split on the road last December.

With a strong series this final weekend, the Irish feel they could make a move in the postseason, entering the CCHA tournament playing as well as they have all year.

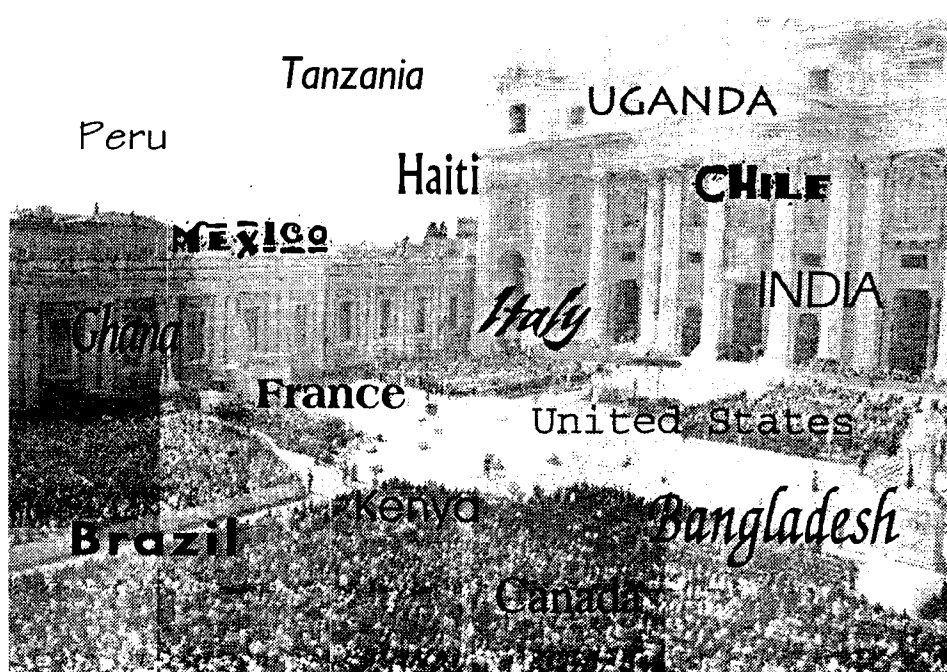
"We think we're a better hockey team now than we were a month ago, and we're going to continue that," Poulin said. "We're going to be a very difficult team to play."

The two teams will face off in the Joyce at 7:05 p.m. both

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cfederic@nd.edu.

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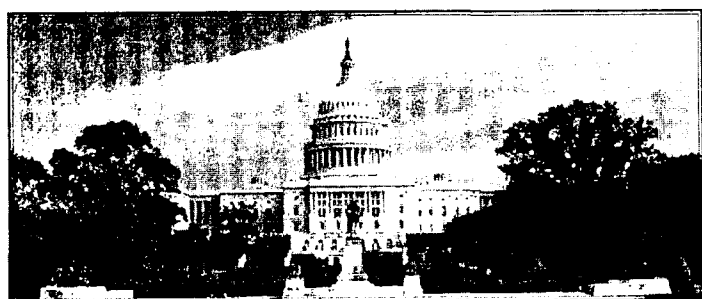


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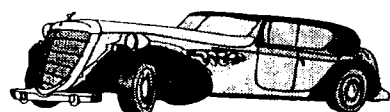
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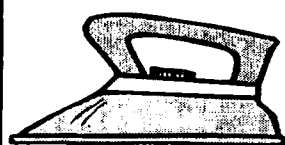


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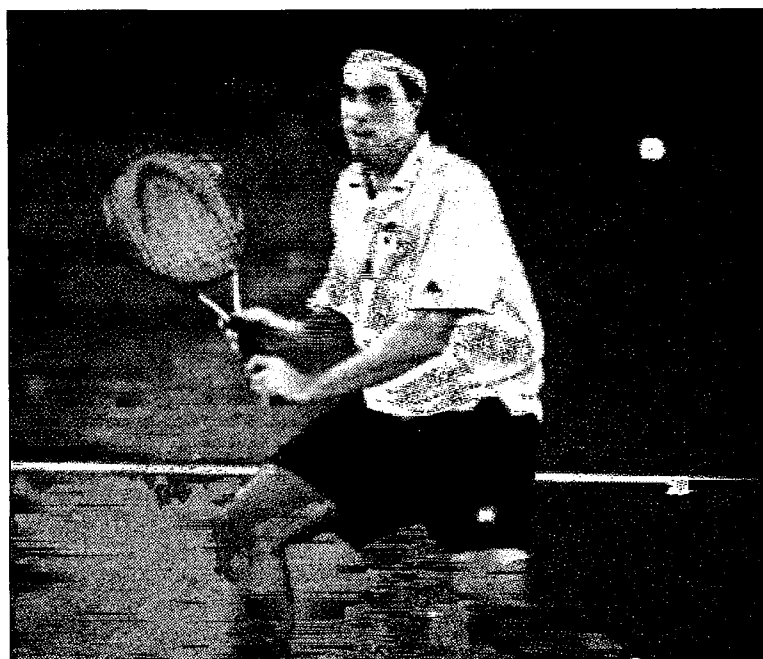


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## MEN'S TENNIS

# No. 7 Irish travel to LaJolla



RICO CASARES/The Observer

Senior Javier Taborga competes in a match earlier this season. Taborga is currently ranked 23rd nationally in singles at 10-1.

By JOE LINDSLEY  
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame men's tennis team is leaving behind South Bend this weekend as they travel to sunny LaJolla, Ca. for the Pacific Coast Doubles tournament.

This annual event does not actually count towards Notre Dame's record as it is not a collegiate tournament. Those invited to participate in the tournament include many of the top-ranked tennis programs in the nation, as well as ranked professional players.

The outcome of this weekend's play will not affect Notre Dame's current standing as the seventh ranked team in the nation. According to senior Javier Taborga, this tournament is an opportunity to play some of the best players in the country — collegiate and professional.

Many teams do not send their top players, though. Taborga, along with senior Casey Smith, will not be participating this year because head tennis coach Bob Bayliss wants to ensure that they are ready for next week's critical dual match at Illinois. Taborga and Smith are seventh in the national doubles rankings.

"A lot of tennis professionals go [to the Pacific Coast Doubles] and just enjoy playing with their old partners. It's always really high level," said Taborga, who has participated in previous years. "I think it's a great experience because it's one of the nicest clubs that I've been to in my life. It's just off the beach, and the courts are on the beach. There are a lot of people that come to watch you play."

"It's one of the best experiences I've had at Notre Dame," he added.

The tournament organizers even pay all the travel expenses of those invited, and there is prize money available for the professionals who participate.

"That's why very good players go and play, because they have all the expenses covered," Taborga said. "They just enjoy a weekend in LaJolla, and I don't think anyone would want to turn that down."

Some of the teams sending

players to LaJolla include top-ranked programs such as Stanford, UCLA and USC.

The Irish are more concerned though about their indoor dual match verse Illinois next Thursday, as well as their first outdoor tournament of the spring, the Blue-Gray National Tennis Classic, which starts March 14.

"Beating Illinois would be a huge step towards our goal of winning the national championship," said Taborga, who is currently rated the 23rd best singles player in the country.

A win over Illinois could help to secure home court advantage for Notre Dame in the NCAA tournament, and that in turn could help propel the Irish towards the national championship.

"Freshman and sophomore years, we all talked about [winning the championship], but it wasn't really feasible. Last year we had our chances, but we still were a really young team. We didn't realize how close we were," Taborga said.

This year is different though, he feels.

"[Now] we've played against the best teams, we've been able to compete against them ... so we know that we are at that level. Right now I think that we all really believe in the possibility of winning a national championship," he said.

Additionally, Taborga believes Notre Dame, 11-3 after an indoor win over Miami on Feb. 24, will be an even more formidable force once it starts playing outside.

"This year we all have been working hard over the summer and got better outdoors. I think it's going to be a big surprise when many coaches see us play outdoors, because they are expecting us to be a little weaker than when we are indoors. From top to bottom, I think we will be a lot better outdoors," he said.

Notre Dame will be able to see how it fares outdoors this weekend before the real test begins at the Blue-Gray Classic — a tournament which will count towards Notre Dame's standing.

Contact Joe Lindsley at  
[jlindsle@nd.edu](mailto:jlindsle@nd.edu).

## MEN'S LACROSSE

## Irish ready for Ivy League Penn

By JOE LICANDRO  
Sports Writer

As if last Saturday's overtime loss against Penn State was not enough, the Notre Dame men's lacrosse team received some more bad news yesterday when starting midfielder Matt Howell suffered a knee injury in practice.

The sophomore, who scored his first career hat trick in the Irish's 10-9 loss to the Nittany Lions last Sunday, is expected to miss at least six weeks and could be out for the remainder of the season, depending on how long it takes him to recover from knee surgery.

"We will miss Matt Howell tremendously on offense," said senior attackman Owen Asplundh. "Matt is a great player with a lot of talent. Everyone on offense is simply going to have to pick up their play."

The Irish will find out if they can recover from the loss of Howell when they travel to Philadelphia to take on the Penn Quakers Saturday at 1 p.m. Notre Dame is hoping to rebound from last Sunday's loss against Penn State and even their record at 1-1 against the Quakers by returning to the basic fundamentals of lacrosse.

The Irish committed many careless turnovers last weekend on the defensive end that led directly to easy Penn State goals.

"We gave Penn State four goals by turning the ball over," said Irish head coach Kevin Corrigan. "We looked lost on the defensive end. We looked like we had never had practice before."

With Howell out of the lineup, Corrigan will be forced to juggle his starting lineup and play more young players on offense. Freshmen Brian Giordano and Matt Malakoff had impressive debuts last Sunday and will be counted on to spark the Irish offense on Saturday.

Giordano's speed and quickness were instrumental in generating Irish scoring opportunities, while Malakoff added his first career goal in an Irish uniform. Giordano

will start in place of Howell on the first-team midfield line alongside senior captains John Flandina and Devin Ryan and sophomore Steve Claggett. Freshman Chris Richez will also see considerable action as he replaces Giordano's spot on the second-team midfield.

"Replacing Matt Howell will be tough, but I feel comfortable out there at the offensive midfield position," said Giordano. "Playing alongside John Flandina and Devin Ryan is a great opportunity for me. We have a lot of young guys on offense this year and coach needs us to give our best and contribute to the team right now."

The Penn Quakers are a mystery team. They have yet to play a game this season so the Irish have had no game film to study this week in practice. Furthermore, Penn will have a new look this season under new coach Matt Hogan. The Irish will have their work cut out for them as the Quakers return 22 players including six starters from last year's squad.

Notre Dame needs a win over Penn on Saturday to get their season on the right track. With Howell out with an injury, the Irish will rely even more on their defense to defeat the Quakers. Irish players know they must play a complete game to claim their first victory of the season.

Contact Joe Licandro at  
licandro.1@nd.edu.

## Men

continued from page 24

Dame's loss to Pittsburgh in the first round of the Big East Tournament hurt the team's seeding in the NCAA Tournament.

"We do not want a repeat of the end of last year where we lost three games in a row," said Brey. "We don't want to lose on Senior Day again. We need to learn from our mistakes in the loss to St. John's and come back strong on Saturday against Providence."

Although the Friars currently sit in fourth place in the Big East East Division and hold a mediocre record of 15-14 (6-9 in the Big East), the Friars will still present a formidable challenge to the Irish. The key to victory for the Irish on Saturday will be the point guard matchup between Notre Dame's Chris Thomas and senior Providence point guard John Linehan.

Although he stands only 5-foot-9, Linehan has been the most consistent point guard in the Big East Conference over the last two seasons. After struggling against the defensive pressure of St. John's excellent point guard Marcus Hatten, Thomas must find a way to protect the ball against the aggressive Linehan. In Providence's loss to Miami last Tuesday, Linehan broke former Friar Eric Murdock's NCAA record for career steals.

Another important matchup in the game will be Notre Dame forward Ryan Humphrey against Providence freshman Ryan Gomes. Gomes, the likely runner-up to Thomas for rookie of the year honors in the Big East, is second on the Friars in scoring with just under 14 points a game.

As Notre Dame's leading scorer, averaging almost 19 a game, and the leading rebounder in the Big East with 10.5 a game, Humphrey has been crucial to his team's success this season. Humphrey led

the Irish with 29 points and 11 rebounds against St. John's last Wednesday.

"Ryan Humphrey has been fabulous," said Brey. "He's a real man out there. I don't even have to tell him what to do anymore. He just goes out there and gets the job done."

## Notes:

♦ Saturday's 4 p.m. tip-off will be televised nationally on CBS. Notre Dame has failed to win a game on national television this season.

♦ Notre Dame currently sits third in the Big East West Division. The Irish have a slim chance of finishing second in the conference if Syracuse were to lose its final two games to Villanova on Thursday and Boston College on Sunday.

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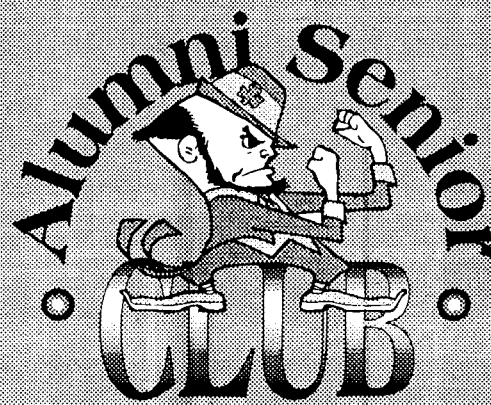
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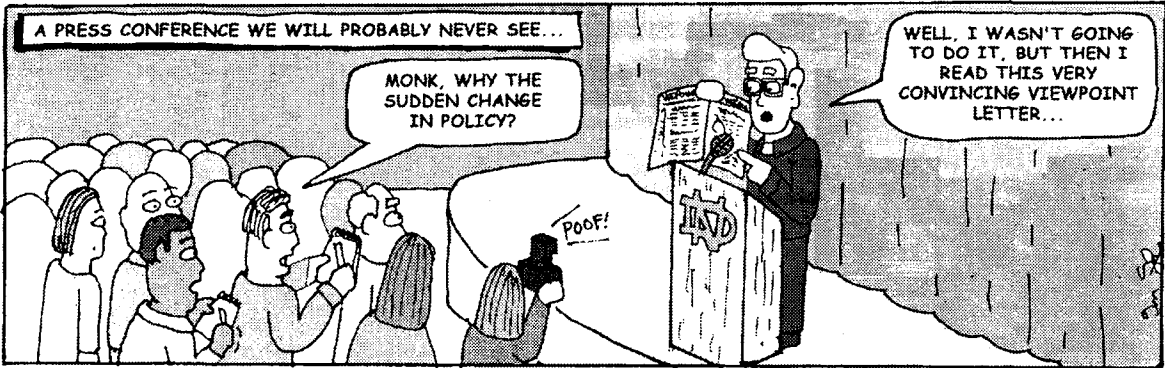
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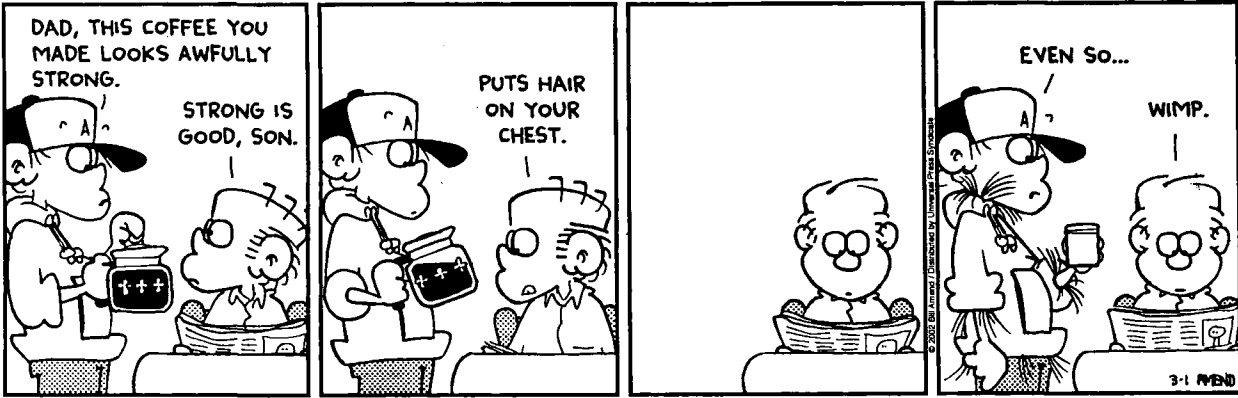
FOURTH AND INCHES

TOM KEELEY



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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**

1 Pride's place?

5 50% off?

15 Gentleman of the court

16 Words of farewell from Childe Harold

17 Ship sunk at Pearl Harbor

18 For the near future

19 Big name in sleepwear

21 Most halting

22 "Hold on!"

23 Row in a shell?

24 Philip \_\_\_\_\_, Edward Everett Hale character

25 Security's worth at the time of issue
- 29 Lanai serving

30 Make heads roll?

32 Massey of "Balalaika"

33 German seaport protected by dikes

36 Public hanging?

37 Milosevic and others

38 Brief summons

39 Confer upon

41 England/Wales boundary river

42 Walks all over

44 Bandage applier

47 Attendee

48 Meet, as expectations

49 Euchrelike card game
- DOWN**

1 Speak well of

2 Satellite tracker

3 "Who knew?!"

4 Fix, as shoes

5 Moves along

6 Like some working groups

7 Nickname for Louis VIII, with "the"

8 Not opposin'

9 Knife maker

10 One in a million

11 Teetotaler's order

12 Fan mag

13 Lines of thought, for short?

14 Collaborative work

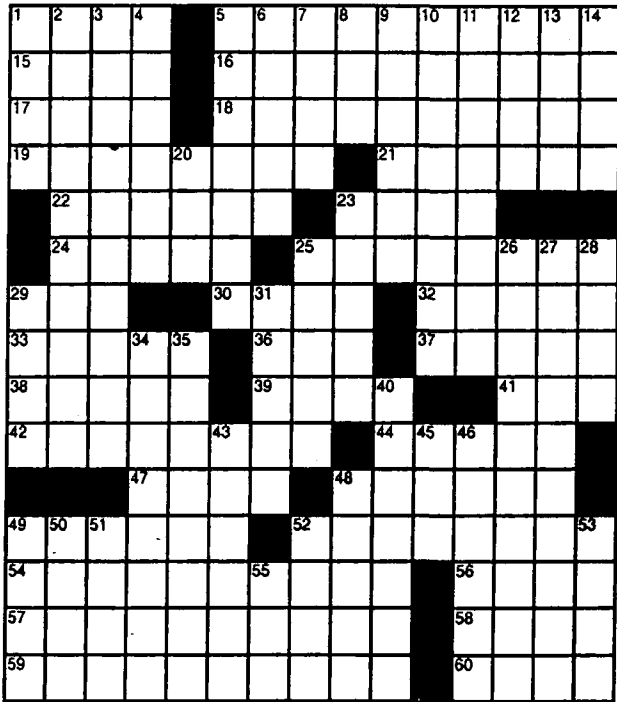
20 Hush-hush govt. group

23 Cable for money

25 Where Ilsa met Rick

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

HASH	DELVE	APSE
OTTO	ONEIL	GRAF
THEG	LOVES	AREOF
TEETER	RITA	TAU
UNLINKS	TETHERS	
BASE	NAS	STOGIE
	BONUS	ALES
	PAYBACK	TIME
RENA	ARIEL	
GUNGHO	EEL	CORM
LINEAGE	DESIRER	
INA	IRMA	VANISH
NOMORE	EMRNICE	GUY
DUET	SEMIS	MILD
ASST	STYLE	ANTE



Puzzle by Manny Nosowsky

- 26 Domineer

27 Neither right nor proper

28 Go gingerly

29 Fly, e.g.

31 Potent potable

34 Expatriate

35 Family man?

40 Award-winning

43 Dealt with

45 Birmingham-to-Montgomery dir.
- 46 Mississippi River discoverer

48 Some apples

49 Place name that's Hebrew for "pleasure"

50 Bay
- 51 Stock page heading

52 Slow roller

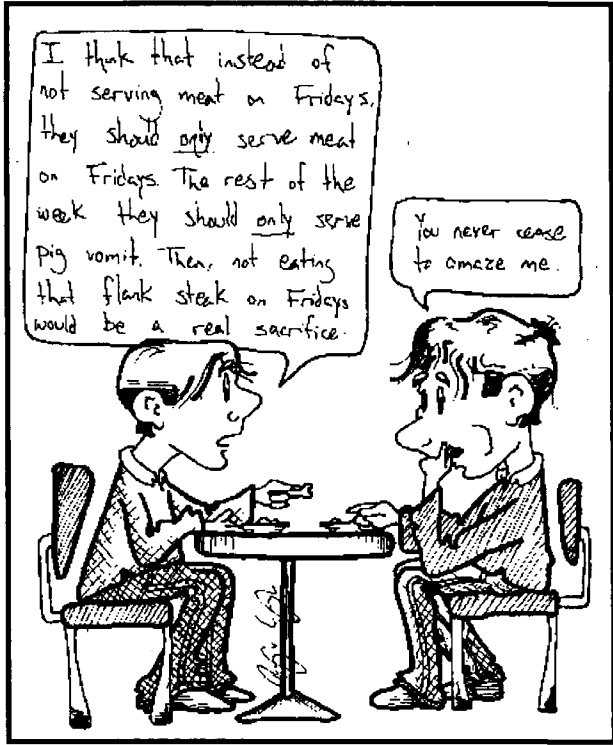
53 It may be found near a drain

55 "\_\_\_\_ Blu, Dipinto di Blu"

Answers to any clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-285-5656 (\$1.20 per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

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RYAN CUNNINGHAM



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**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Your emotions are close to the surface. Relationships are on your mind and the opportunity to do something special with someone you care about is present. Make your plans early and prepare to have a most enjoyable time.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Sometimes it's to your benefit to walk away. You may have to be pushed in order to do so but you have so much ahead of you, let go and be optimistic about your future.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Don't be afraid to believe in yourself and your talent. If you are willing to go the extra mile you will discover that the reception you receive will be phenomenal.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Someone you live with or that you are close to may disappoint you today. Try to be patient and give him or her a chance to make it up to you.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** This is a great day for romance and partnerships. Don't hesitate to take your present relationship to the next level. If you are still looking for love, be sure to attend events that will bring you in contact with interesting

people. **VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Focus on your work and let the people around you know how serious you are about getting ahead. Your ambitious nature will give you a competitive edge. Don't hold back.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Make plans to get out and do something special with someone you enjoy spending time with. You won't have to spend a lot of money in order to make this a day to remember.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** There is a deal to be made so don't waste time pondering over whether or not you should be getting involved. A partnership can be formed if you attend a financial seminar. Changes at home will be to your benefit.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** You are in a powerful position today. New partnerships can be formed if you are forthright with your plans. Don't be afraid to accept a little praise.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** What you see and what you get will be two different things today. Don't let your emotions get the better of you. Not everyone will be on your side.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Put your ideas into motion. Be gracious and accept whatever is being offered. Your hard work and dedication to something you truly believe in will be rewarded.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** The weekend may be here but that doesn't mean that you should slack off. If you put in an added push you will surpass any competition that you might meet along the way.

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- ◆ Men's Lacrosse, p. 22
- ◆ Men's Tennis, p. 21
- ◆ Hockey, p. 20
- ◆ Track and Field, p. 18

## SPORTS

Friday, March 1, 2002

- ◆ Fencing, p. 16
- ◆ ND Softball, p. 16
- ◆ ND Softball, p. 16
- ◆ ND Women's Tennis, p. 15

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Time to say goodbye

## ◆ Walk-on Thomas brings energy, humor to Irish

By ANDREW SOUKUP  
Associate Sports Editor

Saturday afternoon, Charles Thomas will run onto the basketball court for pre-game warm-ups right behind David Graves and ahead of Ryan Humphrey and Harold Swanagan. Before the game, Thomas will be introduced — along with Graves, Humphrey and Swanagan — as one of four seniors playing his final game in the Joyce Center.

There's just one difference between Thomas and the other three seniors.

Graves, Humphrey and Swanagan will play significant minutes in Notre Dame's game against Providence.

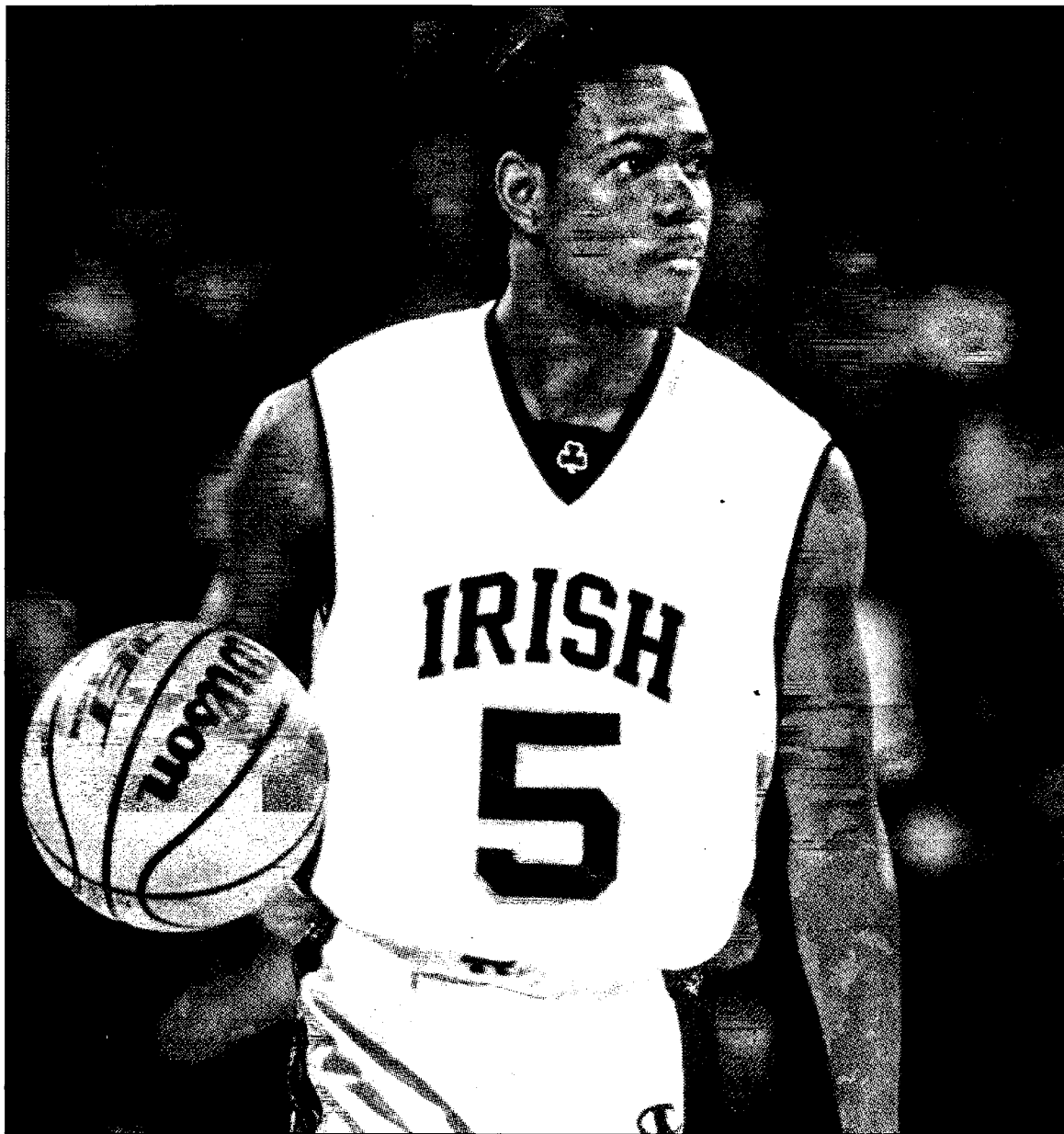
Thomas will be lucky if he plays at all.

Does he think he deserves to play? Yes. Does it bother him that he doesn't play? No.

"I think I should play, but it's not something I dwell on," Thomas said. "I just go with the flow. I could play, but it's not going to happen, so I'm not going to worry about it."

In a sport dominated by selfish egotists who often demand playing time or threaten to leave a program, Thomas' quiet confidence is both refreshing and inspiring. He knows he can compete on the court, but he also accepts his limited role dur-

see THOMAS/page 17



Irish walk-on guard Charles Thomas looks upcourt during a game last season. Thomas has last-ed through three head coaches to earn a scholarship this semester.

MATT CASHORE/Notre Dame Sports Information

## ◆ Irish close out home season with Senior Day

By JOE LICANDRO  
Sports Writer

Saturday will be an emotional day for seniors Ryan Humphrey, David Graves, Harold Swanagan and Charles Thomas as they play the final home game of their careers for Notre Dame.

This year's Senior Day will take on an added dimension for the Irish. With a victory over the visiting Providence Friars, Notre Dame will win its 20th game of the season for the second year in a row. More importantly, the Irish should solidify a bid to the NCAA Tournament with a victory.

"We want to send our seniors out with a victory. These guys have meant so much to this program," said Irish head coach Mike Brey. "They are responsible for rebuilding Irish basketball. They have a chance for two straight 20-win seasons and an opportunity for back to back trips to the NCAA tournament. I am very proud of these guys."

After already earning the Big East West Division title, last year's Notre Dame team struggled at the end of the regular season — dropping their final two games to Connecticut and Georgetown.

Last year's Senior Day loss to the Hoyas in front of a national television audience damaged the Irish's psyche as they entered the Big East Tournament. And Notre

see MEN/page 22

## BASEBALL

## Irish look beyond injuries, head south

By JOE HETTLER  
Sports Writer

With numerous players injured during last weekend's University of New Orleans Classic, the Notre Dame baseball team lost two out of three games. But instead of making excuses about their losses, head coach Paul Maineri and the Irish are looking forward to this weekend's Homestead Challenge held in Florida where the Irish will face Duquesne, Fairfield, Florida International and Savannah State.

"To be honest, in 20 years in coaching I've never seen a

ration of injuries at one time like this and that's no exaggeration," said Maineri. "Anytime you take the four quality players out of your line-up like we lost this weekend, it's certainly going to have an effect with your team. But I was really, really proud of the way that the replacements went in there and played. We competed real hard and I choose to look at the very positive aspect of this past weekend and those guys gained some great experience."

By the end of last weekend, the Irish were without freshman shortstop Matt Macri, sophomore second baseman Steve Sollman, third baseman/catcher Andrew

Bushey and closer Matt Laird. All-American catcher Paul O'Toole was forced to only play third base due to a left hand injury, forcing senior Matt Bok to take over the catching duties.

"I thought Matt Bok stepped in and just did a magnificent job catching on Sunday, despite having not been back there in quite sometime," said Maineri.

The pitching performances of freshman Chris Niesel and Grant Johnson also encouraged the Irish during this past weekend. As a starter on Sunday against Southern Illinois, Niesel went five innings, striking out 10 and allowing just one run on five hits.

The 10 strikeouts are the second-most ever by a freshman pitcher at Notre Dame and the most in an Irish pitcher's first career start. Johnson recorded his first collegiate victory by pitching six strong relief innings in the team's opening game against Missouri.

"Clearly, our freshman are going to continue to pitch because they are some of our best pitchers," said Maineri. "The performances by Grant Johnson and Chris Niesel this past weekend were really fantastic and I think they showed everybody what they're capable of doing. They're actually both going to start a game this weekend."

While Notre Dame awaits the return of their injured players, they will try and find a way to pick up some early season wins. Maineri believes they can do this by staying upbeat and positive.

"It might take a little bit of time before we have the whole squad together, but, in the mean time, we're just going to have to do it the hard way and keep battling as hard as we can and keep a positive attitude and hopefully we'll have some success until we get everybody back," said Maineri.

Contact Joe Hettler at  
jhettler@nd.edu.

**SPORTS**  
**AT A GLANCE**

- ◆ Hockey vs. Bowling Green, Friday, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Men's Basketball vs. Providence, Saturday, 2 p.m.
- ◆ ND Women's Basketball at Big East Tournament, Sunday, 6 p.m.

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