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Iraq war protests lag on campus



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Members of the Notre Dame Peace Coalition, which held a candlelight vigil for Iraq victims last year, met this week in the CSC lounge.

By PETER NINNEMAN
News Writer

Despite the clamor of demonstrations and protests immediately following the declaration of the Iraq war in March 2003, a relative silence has swept over campus since about the ongoing military conflict.

Last September, the Notre Dame Peace Coalition held a candlelight vigil for the more than 1,000 U.S. soldiers — and more than 10,000 Iraqi civilians — lost in the war. The event attracted individuals from different political backgrounds, organizers told The Observer in a Sept. 10, 2004 article.

Now, although the death toll

for American soldiers breached 2,000 earlier this year, there have been no recent visible demonstrations or vigils on campus.

Political science professor David Nickerson said the political activity on campus last year was "probably the result of the [presidential] election."

"Bush's performance in Iraq was important to both campaigns, and the election was close," he said. "So activists on both sides were more likely to protest."

Others attribute the lack of demonstration to coinciding, significant news.

"I think a great deal of the silence [regarding] Iraq this semester was because of other

see APATHY/page 6

Winter graduation impends

Seniors prepare for early farewell to ND

By LAURA BAUMGARTNER
News Writer

College is supposed to be the best four years of life, a time to let loose and be crazy between homework and class, something most students are sad to leave behind — but many students each year choose to graduate early.

Jennifer Locetta, an American Studies major, is one such student.

"I decided to graduate early for a number of reasons, one of them being that I didn't really have to take a lot of classes other semesters in order to do it," she said.

Completing all class requirements early was a factor for political science major Adam Russell, as well.

"I actually had planned on graduating a year early since I've been done with my major classes since last year, but I had to drop a class and needed to stay to take my second theology as a result," he said.

Christy Dietz, a psychology major and religious studies minor at Saint Mary's, decided to graduate early before she even arrived at college her freshman year.

"Freshman year when I realized I was going to start off with 18 credits from [Advanced Placement courses] and post-secondary classes in high school, I just thought it sounded like a cool thing to do," she

see SENIORS/page 4

Cable wiring slated for winter break

University says it will activate extra television stations in all residence halls next fall

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

Notre Dame has delayed the start date for cable installation until Christmas break due to stalled contractual agreements, University officials said Thursday.

"These are pretty intricate legal documents, and both sides [Comcast Corporation and the University] want to make sure all the details are correct — they were hammering things out and trying to make sure all the commas were in place," Director of Residence Life and Housing Jeffrey Shoup said.

Now that contracts are signed and negotiations are

complete, Comcast workers will begin installing cable television and wireless internet Dec. 19 in six of the University's 27 residence halls, Shoup said.

Barring any major complications, Sorin College, Welsh Family, Keough, Badin, Lyons and Howard halls will be wireless and cable-television-ready when residents return after the Christmas holiday, Shoup said.

The cable television won't be activated until next fall, once all dorms have been upgraded.

Sorin was originally scheduled to undergo the renovations before Christmas break, however contractual difficul-

see CABLE/page 4



Observer File Photo

Sorin Hall, pictured above in November, is one of six dorms that will have cable TV and wireless networks installed over break.

Panel discusses AIDS hurdles

By BRIDGET KEATING
News Writer

The AIDS pandemic is gravest for the impoverished and carries with it a stigma almost as dangerous as the illness itself, panelists said Thursday in a discussion about the disease in the modern era.

The forum, "AIDS in the 21st Century," focused on the disease as it is discussed and reflected in social stigmas and emphasized the separate, non-medical hurdles it poses.

Debra Stanley of South Bend AIDS Ministries said the disease isn't as distant as some students might



KERRY O'CONNOR/The Observer

Notre Dame theology professor Maura Ryan emphasized the need for more awareness of AIDS' impact

see AIDS/page 4

SMC expresses intent to diversify campus

By MEGAN O'NEIL
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's President for Enrollment Management Daniel Meyer said he is committed to diversifying not only the College's student body, but also its faculty and staff, at a Student Diversity Board (SDB) forum Thursday.

"The effort to diversify at this campus is going to be ongoing, and it is going to be from here on out. ... We are going to change," he said.

Meyer was one of four speakers, including SDB president Amanda Shropshire, coordinator of Women's Studies Astrid

Henry and director of Resident Life Michelle Russell, to offer his perspective on how a more diverse atmosphere can contribute to the College's excellence.

"Frankly, you can come to Saint Mary's with very unhealthy attitudes about diversity, and in the four years here [never have those attitudes challenged]," he said.

Meyer said with increased diversity comes greater sensitivity. Further, the term "liberal arts" is Latin for "liberating the mind."

"There is no better way to do that than to expose you to dif-

see DIVERSITY/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

A football fan's holiday wish list

1. A kicker — our best kicker was hurt and wearing a knee brace, yet Charlie kept sending him out onto the field because who else was he going to put in? Here's hoping we get someone with a golden foot so we never have to worry about losing a game over a missed extra point again. And how about letting Brady punt from now on? He is leading the nation in punting with a 48-yard average.

Tom Chesnick

Assistant Ads Manager

2. A bowl victory for the Irish — with a BCS bowl win, Notre Dame will finish in the top five in the country for the first time in what seems like an eternity.

3. That USC win its bowl game and go undefeated until we hand them a humiliating loss next season en route to a National Championship.

4. That James Aldridge is the next Reggie Bush.

5. Two more inches for Ambrose Wooden because the kid is our best corner and with those few extra inches, who knows what could have happened (see USC game).

6. That Victor Abiamiri's four sacks against the Cardinal on Saturday become a regular occurrence next season.

7. An upset Heisman victory for Brady Quinn this year, because let's face it — that would be awesome.

8. A reunion between Charlie Weis and Romeo Crennel, the head coach of the Cleveland Browns and former Patriots defensive coordinator. With Romeo coaching the defense, we wouldn't lose another game for at least 20 years.

9. Another year of eligibility for Mr. Stovall. Can you imagine a wide receiver set comprised of the Shark, MoSto and Rhema? We would average somewhere around 100 points a game.

10. A better selection for the Leprechaun next year. Well, at least one who knows what he's doing and doesn't struggle to do push-ups with the cheerleaders.

11. That Brandon Hoyte and Corey Mays go on to have successful NFL careers because they deserve it.

12. Free season tickets to the guys in pink shirts who kept putting up the football recruits during the games — even if they weighed 300 pounds.

13. For next year, a wish that the police, excise or whatever you want to call them leave the tailgates before games alone and try to find something better to do. Let the fans have some fun and quit ruining an important aspect of the Notre Dame football experience — tailgates.

Contact Tom Chesnick at tchesnic@nd.edu

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

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: DO YOU SUPPORT THE WAR IN IRAQ?



Caitlin Smith
senior
Farley



Dan Hougendabler
junior
St. Ed's



Fernando Quijano
sophomore
Carroll



Landon LaSyone
junior
Dillon



Monica Real
senior
Farley



Lisa Grob
junior
Farley

"No, I've been against it since it started. Bush needs to wake up and smell the coffee."

"No, I think we are doing more harm than good there."

"Your country's problems are of no interest to me in my plans for world domination!"

"Yeah, I support the war in Iraq. Everyone else is trippin'!"

"If by supporting the war in Iraq you mean supporting cancelling exams, then yes."

"Heck no!"



KERRY O'CONNOR/The Observer

A crane props up a tree in front of Carroll Hall amidst a wintery scene on campus Thursday. The dorm will hold its annual holiday bash "Carroll Christmas" today at 6 p.m.

IN BRIEF

The Dance Company of Notre Dame will perform tonight at 7 p.m. in Washington Hall. The performance, entitled "Soul," will feature various genres of dance, including jazz, lyrical and modern. General admission tickets are available for \$3 and preferred seating is \$5. Tickets are available at the door or in advance by contacting Ashley Lucchese at danco@nd.edu.

Notre Dame Habitat for Humanity will hold a Jail n' Bail fundraiser tomorrow in the middle of South Quad from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Student volunteers will be "arrested" by Notre Dame Security/Police and taken to the jail in the middle of South Quad. The hypothetical inmates will have to stay there until they raise \$50 in bail money.

The Saint Mary's Department of Music will sponsor its 33rd annual Madrigal Dinners Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. in Regina Hall. The medieval Christmas festival includes singers, instrumentalists, juggling and a variety of other performers. For ticket information call the box office at 284-4626.

The Notre Dame Voices of Faith gospel choir will hold its Winter Concert Saturday at 7 p.m. in Washington Hall. Admission is \$3 for students with an ID. Guest performers will include Jeff "Da Natural" Stephens and Brian "B-Phrase" Frasier.

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

OFFBEAT

Scientists cook up cure for cow flatulence

LONDON — Cows belching and breaking wind cause methane pollution but British scientists say they have developed a diet to make pastures smell like roses — almost.

"In some experiments we get a 70 percent decrease [in methane emissions], which is quite staggering," biochemist John Wallace said in a telephone interview.

Wallace, leader of the microbial biochemistry group at the Rowett Research Institute in Aberdeen, said the secret

to sweeter-smelling cows is a food additive based on fumaric acid, a naturally occurring chemical essential to respiration of animal and vegetable tissues.

A 12-month commercial and scientific evaluation of the additive has just begun, but he said if it proves successful it could be a boon to cutting down on greenhouse gas emissions.

"In total around 14 percent of global methane comes from the guts of farm animals. It is worth doing something about," Wallace said.

Other big sources of

methane are landfills, coalmines, rice paddies and bogs.

Rowdy teens beware: the Mosquito is coming

LONDON — A Welsh inventor claims to have found the perfect solution to rowdy youngsters — noise.

Howard Stapleton says his device, the "Mosquito," emits an uncomfortable high-pitched ultrasonic sound that can be heard by children and teenagers but almost no one over 30.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 29 LOW 22	HIGH 18 LOW 14	HIGH 31 LOW 15	HIGH 30 LOW 23	HIGH 27 LOW 20	HIGH 27 LOW 20

Atlanta 52 / 37 Boston 43/28 Chicago 28/ 24 Denver 54 / 31 Houston 71 / 64 Los Angeles 63 / 48 Minneapolis 19 / 14 New York 44 / 31 Philadelphia 38 / 21 Phoenix 71 / 53 Seattle 40 / 35 St. Louis 40 / 31 Tampa 66 / 45 Washington 42 / 28

Carnegie Hall hosts SMC choir

45 College students perform at New York City's historic venue

By AMANDA SHROPSHIRE
News Writer

Forty-five Saint Mary's students now know the answer to the age-old New York joke, "how do you get to Carnegie Hall?"

The answer: lots of practice.

The Saint Mary's College Women's Choir traveled to the Big Apple from Nov. 19 to Nov. 22 to perform in the historic venue.

Dr. Nancy Menk, chair of the Saint Mary's music department and director of the Women's and Collegiate Choirs at the College, has directed the choir in an ensemble at the Hall several times in the past 12 years.

"We provide this opportunity at least once every four years so that each student gets the chance to do this while she is at Saint Mary's," Menk said. "Each time we've done different repertoire."

While in previous years the choir brought along alumnae to supplement the Women's Choir, this year it was unnecessary as 45 choir members made the trip. They

performed a total of eight pieces from contemporary American composer Gwyneth Walker's "Women's Voices and Orchestra" series alongside six other choirs and an orchestra.

The 220 total performance members blended voices and experience levels ranging from high school to adult community choirs.

Menk, who also conducts the South Bend Chamber Singers and the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra, said the Carnegie performance was extremely successful.

She also said appreciated the unique opportunity to perform alongside an orchestra.

"We provide this opportunity at least once every four years so that each student gets the chance to do this while she is at Saint Mary's."

Dr. Nancy Menk
Music department chair

"As a performer, this was definitely the highlight of my career."

Lauren Condon
Saint Mary's senior

To prepare for the performance while in New York, the choir spent 11 hours practicing with the other choirs — one hour of which was with the orchestra.

Choir members said the extra rehearsal time was not a damper on the trip, but made them increasingly excited to perform in the world-famous venue.

"This was my first year on the trip so I was nervous and excited," said senior Lauren Condon. "My mom and dad came out to see me, so it was nice having people I knew in the audience."

The show attracted an audience of 2,400 people on the evening of Nov. 22 — including the composer herself.

Condon said she feels accomplished and relishes the experience.

"As a performer, this was definitely the highlight of my career," Condon said. "To be able to stand on the same stage as all of the great musicians of the past was just an amazing feeling."

Contact Amanda Shropshire at
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Challenges face youth sports, researcher says

Special to The Observer

There are some glaring ethical problems in American youth sports — from cheating to taunting to disrespect — but the news isn't all bad, according to a new study co-authored by University of Notre Dame researcher F. Clark Power.

"The Sport Behavior of Youth, Parents, and Coaches: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly," the study evaluated responses to a survey by 803 athletes ranging in age from nine to 15, as well as 189 parents and 61 youth sports coaches.

Key findings among the young athletes included:

♦ Almost one in 10 acknowledged cheating

♦ 13 percent tried to injure an opponent

♦ 31 percent argued with an official

♦ 13 percent made fun of a less-skilled teammate

♦ 27 percent admitted to acting like a "bad sport"

Compounding the above findings was a lack of remorse for such actions. Fourteen percent of the youngsters said they believe cheating is acceptable behavior, and 32 percent consider arguing with officials to be part of the game.

The study also found poor behavior among parents and coaches.

For example, 13 percent of

parents acknowledged angrily criticizing their child's performance. Among coaches, eight percent encouraged their athletes to hurt an opponent, seven percent condoned cheating, 33 percent admitted to yelling at players for making mistakes and 20 percent had made fun of a team member with limited skills.

Perhaps most alarming, four percent of the young athletes reported that a coach had hit, kicked or slapped them.

But there was some good news in the study.

Most of the participants said they enjoy their sports experiences, and most parents believe their children's coaches do a good job.

The study will be published Dec. 1 in the Journal of Research in Character Education.

Power is the associate director of Notre Dame's Center for Ethical Education and a professor in the Program of Liberal Studies. He has developed the Play Like a Champion Educational Series, a research-based curriculum designed to assist Catholic parishes, schools and dioceses in nurturing character and spiritual development in young people through athletics. The author of five books, he specializes in the study of self-awareness, moral development and democratic education.

Acceptance Concert

Dec. 3

10pm

Legends

free admission





Acceptance

AIDS

continued from page 1

think. Saint Joseph County has the third highest number of individuals suffering from AIDS in Indiana, she said.

"Stigma is the big problem with this virus," she said. "Stigma of AIDS, poverty, race, ethnicity, substance abuse and more. AIDS does not discriminate — we do."

Sociology professor Jackie Smith said poverty plays a role in the AIDS epidemic because the poor are frequently unable to receive proper nutrition and care.

"It is not a physiological problem — it is a sociological one," she said. "AIDS is a disease of the poor."

The poorest countries in the world are spending more each year paying off debts to the richest countries than they are on their own healthcare, Smith said.

"In 2004, \$200 billion transferred from the poorest to the richest nations in debt repayment," she said. "We may think we are helping the poor, but that is not always the case."

Theology professor Maura Ryan said awareness is pivotal in the fight against AIDS. Recognition that the problem is not just far across the globe — but in our own backyards — is vital to overcoming it, she said.

Stanley said when the virus hits one person, it affects their family, friends, school, church and entire whole social structure.

"[Ignorance is] killing us and allowing the virus to thrive," she said. "We, the people, are the cure."

World AIDS Day is commemorated every Dec. 1. To mark the occasion on campus, the Center for Social Concerns planned a series of educational events designed to teach students about the virus.

Seniors Kate Distler and Chris DeStephano brought the day of action to campus after being inspired by international service trips last summer to disease-ravaged areas.

"We are happy to be a part of this event and build groundwork for future growth and education," said DeStephano, who spent the summer in Cambodia.

Distler said she was pleased with the "excitement of students surrounding this grass roots campaign."

"We all should feel connected to the cause and be talking about the issues in an educated manner," she said.

A 6:45 p.m. Rosary at the Grotto tomorrow concludes World AIDS Day events on campus.

Contact Bridget Keating at bkeating@nd.edu

"Stigma is the big problem with this virus."

**Derbra Stanley
South Bend AIDS
Ministries**

"We all should feel connected to the cause and be talking about the issues in an educated manner."

**Kate Distler
senior**

Cable

continued from page 1

ties prevented that from happening. Since it is one of the oldest dorms on campus, officials had hoped to target and solve any problems that arose during its renovation to speed up the process in the other dorms.

By the fall of 2006, every dorm room on campus will be wireless and have access to Comcast's expanded basic cable option, associate vice president of residence life and housing Bill Kirk said in an article appearing in The Observer on Nov. 7.

Under the revised plan, the remaining residence halls will be upgraded in sets of three throughout the spring. Morrissey Manor, McGlinn and Walsh will undergo the renovations immediately after Christmas break — and students living in those dorms must cope with no Internet or telephone service during the two-week renovation period. The ID card swiping system will also be

shut down.

Shoup called this the "dark period" and said he plans to meet with the rector, hall staff and residents of each dorm before they undergo the upgrade to explain the procedure and how it will affect dorm life.

The Office of Residence Life and Housing has scheduled an information session open to all students where Shoup will

answer questions about the upgrade process. It is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 5 p.m. in the Notre Dame Room of LaFortune.

Shoup declined to provide a timetable for the remaining residence halls, but said that the

upgrades will still be completed by early June.

"We have some tentative schedules but if we start to run behind or run ahead, that could change," Shoup said. "We're only looking ahead to the next three, given these are the first ones we've done."

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

"We have some tentative schedules, but if we start to run behind or run ahead, that could change."

**Jeffrey Shoup
director
Office of
Residence Life and Housing**

Seniors

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said. "I also realized it would save a semester's tuition if I could graduate early. At that point I started planning on it."

Saving money on tuition was also a factor in Locetta's decision to graduate early.

"Money-wise, if I didn't have to take another semester, why would I?" Locetta said. "I'd rather save the money."

The perception is that early graduation gives students an advantage in the competitive job market students face after school, but this might not always be the case. Locetta's search was not influenced by her decision to graduate early because she already had a job.

"Graduating early hasn't really affected my job search because I already have a job, and since it's in the private sector, it wasn't much of a factor," Locetta said.

Searching for a career wasn't an issue for Russell or Dietz either, as they both plan on attending graduate school. Early graduation won't affect their application process, but will provide them with some time off before starting graduate classes.

"I've been planning on going to law school so graduating early hasn't really had an affect on that except I'm going to have eight months of dead time in between," Russell said. "I am going to go back home and get some kind of job in the meantime, but it's kind of awkward because it's not long enough to get any type of respectable job."

Dietz is also looking forward to the opportunity to gain work experience.

"As the years passed I started to become more and more

scared of the idea of leaving Saint Mary's any sooner than I had to, but I knew there was no turning back so I began comforting myself with the idea that graduating early would give me seven to eight months of full-time work experience before starting graduate school in the fall," she said.

In January, Dietz said she will move into an apartment and work as a full-time counselor at a women's care center in South Bend.

"I volunteered there over the summer and when they found out I would be looking for work they offered me a full-time position," she said. "It's a job I love and I'm really excited about it."

Students said there are many benefits to early graduation, but leaving behind an endeared place and college friends can still be difficult to do.

Russell didn't expect to have any regrets about graduating a semester early, but has begun to think about his decision now that his time on-campus is dwindling.

"I have been planning on graduating early, but now that senior year is here, I think I will regret missing second semester because people are busy with interviewing and applying to graduate school first semester," he said. "Second semester is more of a time to unwind, and I am sad that I won't be able to hang out with my friends. [But] I just couldn't justify paying to take four useless electives to stay here."

Locetta won't be leaving a

lot of friends behind, but she also laments not being able to spend more time with her classmates in the second semester.

"I have a lot of friends in grades ahead of me, so that was another reason I wanted to graduate early," Locetta said. "I don't feel like I will be missing out on a lot, but I have noticed that people are much more relaxed about who they hang out with as seniors and I have met more people this year than I have any other year as a result."

Dietz faces a different situation once she leaves campus because her job will keep her in South Bend, though she too will miss her friends and being on campus everyday.

"I think I really am going to miss just being here on campus day in and day out," she said. "I love Saint Mary's and it's really sad to know that in a few short weeks they'll be kicking me out of LeMans and giving me a degree. On the other hand, I have decided to live and

work in South Bend rather than moving away second semester so I won't have to leave my friends or miss out on any events."

Despite the few regrets she has about leaving her undergraduate years behind, Dietz said the positive outweighed the negative and recommends early graduation to anyone who might be giving it thought.

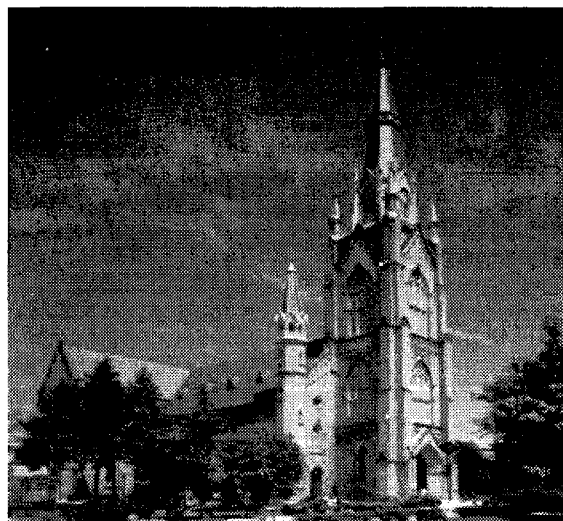
"My best advice for anyone thinking about trying to graduate early is this — go for it," she said.

Contact Laura Baumgartner at lbaumg01@saintmarys.edu

"I just couldn't justify paying to take four useless electives to stay here."

**Jennifer Locetta
senior**

A Special Tour ... Basilica of Sacred Heart



International Students, Scholars and Families

Sunday, December 4, 1:30 p.m.

Fr. Peter Rocca, CSC, Rector of the Basilica, will share with you stories of this very special place at the heart of the University. Reception follows.

Sponsored by:

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

AIDS education campaigns in Africa

FATICK — Schoolchildren in Senegal pledged to abstain from sex and village women in India cast off a veil of shame about their HIV status as World AIDS Day was marked Thursday around the globe.

"Our teacher told us that AIDS is a very dangerous disease," said 13-year-old Aissatou Niang, wearing a green Muslim headscarf. "Only abstinence can save us," she said as her schoolmates giggled nearby.

Such frank talk among African children is key, say anti-AIDS campaigners who emphasize science can help combat the disease, but ignorance or taboos surrounding its transmission means AIDS is hard to halt — and treat.

About 40 million people worldwide are infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Some 3 million of them are expected to die of AIDS this year. Africa, with only 10 percent of the world's population, suffers over half of its HIV infections.

High court approves gay marriage

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa's highest court ruled in favor of gay marriage Thursday, a landmark decision that clears the way for the country to become the first to legalize same-sex unions on a continent where homosexuality remains largely taboo.

The decision does not take immediate effect, however. The Constitutional Court, which decided it is unconstitutional to prohibit gays from marrying, gave Parliament a year to make the necessary legal changes. That disappointed gay rights activists, some of whom have been waiting years to wed.

Canada, the Netherlands, Belgium and Spain are the only nations that now allow gay marriage nationwide.

NATIONAL NEWS

50 year anniversary of Rosa Parks

MONTGOMERY — About 2,000 children marched arm-in-arm Thursday, singing "We Shall Overcome" as this once-segregated city marked the 50th anniversary of Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her bus seat to a white man.

"Because of the action of Rosa Parks we have witnessed — here in Montgomery, in the state of Alabama, all across the South — unbelievable changes," Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., said after laying a wreath at the site where Parks was arrested on Dec. 1, 1955.

The children, both black and white, marched eight blocks from the downtown site to the Capitol, singing anthems of the civil rights era and chanting "Thank you, Rosa Parks."

The march was one of many events in Montgomery and elsewhere remembering Parks' stand and the 381-day bus boycott that followed. She died Oct. 24 at age 92 in Detroit.

Gulf Coast must pay mortgage again

OCEAN SPRINGS — Like many homeowners around here, Janet Kisling owes a pile of debt on little more than a pile of debris. She has a \$1,000-a-month mortgage on a home that is uninhabitable.

For her and others along the Gulf Coast, December brings a cruel cut-off: It marks the end of an informal 90-day grace period that many lenders offered to Hurricane Katrina victims that let them put their mortgage payments on hold.

LOCAL NEWS

Mayor urges statewide central time

SOUTH BEND — The city's mayor said the state should push for all of Indiana to be moved into the Central time zone, challenging Gov. Mitch Daniels' contention that such a switch is unattainable.

"Rather, I believe that it has been left untried," Mayor Stephen Luecke said Wednesday.

Daniels on Tuesday urged the U.S. Department of Transportation to reject the request of St. Joseph County, which includes South Bend, to move to Central time.

AUSTRIA

U.S. allies withdraw from Iraq

Bulgaria and Ukraine pull out troops; six other countries consider reductions

Associated Press

VIENNA — Two of America's allies in Iraq are withdrawing forces this month and a half-dozen others are debating possible pullouts or reductions, increasing pressure on Washington as calls mount to bring home U.S. troops.

Bulgaria and Ukraine will begin withdrawing their combined 1,250 troops by mid-December. If Australia, Britain, Italy, Japan, Poland and South Korea reduce or recall their personnel, more than half of the non-American forces in Iraq could be gone by next summer.

Japan and South Korea help with reconstruction, but Britain and Australia provide substantial support forces and Italy and Poland train Iraqi troops and police. Their exodus would deal a blow to American efforts to prepare Iraqis to take over the most dangerous peacekeeping tasks and craft an eventual U.S. exit strategy.

"The vibrations of unease from within the United States clearly have an impact on public opinion elsewhere," said Terence Taylor of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in Washington. "Public opinion in many of these countries is heavily divided."

Although the nearly 160,000-member U.S. force in Iraq dwarfs the second-largest contingent — Britain's 8,000 in Iraq and 2,000 elsewhere in the Gulf region — its support has shrunk substantially.

In the months after the March 2003 invasion, the multinational force numbered about 300,000 soldiers from 38 countries. That figure is now just under 24,000 mostly non-



Bulgarian soldiers prepare to board an aircraft at Krumovo airfield, Thursday after Bulgaria and Ukraine decided to withdraw their forces this month.

combat personnel from 27 countries. The coalition has steadily unraveled as the death toll rises and angry publics clamor for troops to leave.

In the spring, the Netherlands had 1,400 troops in Iraq. Today, there are 19, including a lone Dutch soldier in Baghdad.

Ukraine's remaining 876 troops in Iraq are due home by Dec. 31, fulfilling a campaign pledge by President Viktor Yushchenko. Bulgaria is pulling out its 380 troops after Dec. 15 parliamentary elections, Defense Minister Veselin

Bliznakov said.

In his strategy for Iraq, announced Wednesday, President Bush said expanding international support was one of his goals. He also seemed to address the issue of more allies withdrawing.

"As our posture changes over time, so too will the posture of our coalition partners," the document says. "We and the Iraqis must work with them to coordinate our efforts, helping Iraq to consolidate and secure its gains on many different fronts."

Struggling to shore up the coalition, Bush

stopped in Mongolia on his recent Asia trip and praised its force of about 120 soldiers in Iraq as "fearless warriors."

At least 2,109 U.S. service personnel have died since the beginning of the Iraq war, according to an Associated Press count. At least 200 troops from other countries also have died, including 98 from Britain. Other tolls: Italy, 27; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, two each; Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, one each.

Landmark execution carried out

Associated Press

RALEIGH — A man who killed his wife and father-in-law pinned his hopes on last-minute intervention from the governor or the courts as he awaited lethal injection early Friday in the nation's 1,000th execution since capital punishment resumed in 1977.

Kenneth Lee Boyd, set to die at 2 a.m., spent the day receiving visitors, including two sons who watched him gun down their mother and grandfather in 1988.

"He would love to live and he would love to have the governor and the

courts step in, but he's also facing the possibility that won't happen," said Boyd's lawyer, Thomas Maher.

Larger-than-normal crowds of protesters were expected at the prison in Raleigh, and vigils were planned across the state. Prison officials planned to tighten security.

The U.S. Supreme Court and the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals rejected appeals by Boyd's lawyers Thursday.

The defense also sought clemency from Democratic Gov. Mike Easley, but there was little to suggest Boyd would get it. The governor granted condemned inmates clemency only twice in nearly five years in office,

during which time 22 inmates have been put to death.

Boyd, 57, did not deny that he shot and killed Julie Curry Boyd, 36, and her father, 57-year-old Thomas Dillard Curry. Family members said Boyd stalked his estranged wife after they separated following 13 stormy years of marriage and once sent a son to her house with a bullet and a threatening note.

During the slayings, Boyd's son Christopher was pinned under his mother's body as Boyd unloaded a .357-Magnum into her. The boy pushed his way under a bed to escape the barrage. Another son grabbed the pistol while Boyd tried to reload.

Apathy

continued from page 1

stories that have overwhelmed the nation, such as Hurricane Katrina [and] the Libby indictment," said Colin Taylor, co-president of the Notre Dame College Democrats.

Taylor said "crass 24-hour media outlets," which he said habitually favor murder stories over Iraq coverage, are also to blame.

Political science professor Louis Ayala said students may not even be watching news, and major media outlets tend not to gear their chosen coverage toward the student demographic.

"I wonder just how much knowledge there is among students about what's going on right now [in Iraq]," Ayala said.

Peace Studies professor David Cortright offered his thoughts on student knowledge and intent.

Cortright serves as president of Fourth Freedom Forum, a group that explores the nonviolent resolution of international conflict through research, public education and dialogue with experts and media communications.

"Many students oppose the war and want U.S. troops to come home, but like many Americans they are unsure about when and how military exit should take place," he said.

Catherine Kent, vice president of the Notre Dame College Libertarians, said there is a general political apathy at the University linked to the absence of lasting protests and demonstrations.

"People do care — although perhaps not as much as they should — but it is difficult to see how demonstrations or protests in South Bend could have a viable effect on the persuasions of policy makers in Washington and interest groups in major cities," she said.

Kent and Ayala agreed that when students weigh the costs and benefits of remaining politically informed and active, they generally don't see the benefits as coming out on top, tending to deem only the immediate results worthwhile.

"When opposition to the war did not end it within the time frame in which it was expected to, many people lost their fervor and moved on with their lives," Kent said.

Despite popular belief, Nickerson said college students are generally not activists.

"There are only a handful of campuses known for activism, [such as] Madison or Berkeley — students don't come to South

Bend to protest," he said. "I'm sure students are talking and arguing about the war [in smaller venues]. Many college students enjoy debating and arguing."

Ayala agreed and said he didn't think Notre Dame was out of the "mainstream."

"The consensus is similar to the rest of college campuses," he said. "For whatever reason, most students don't see this policy of impact as having any influence on them [and] they don't see it as being worthy of their resources."

Nickerson said in order to stage a large-scale activity, both organizers and willing participants are necessary.

"Most college campuses exhibit a dearth of both right now and Notre Dame is no exception," he said.

Ayala said although "sustained effort leads to gradual change," students tend to misunderstand the value of protest.

Laura Fox, co-president of the ND Peace Coalition, said the group has participated in numerous events off-campus, but has "neglected" to hold a lot of on-campus events.

"We're going to do our best to promote more activism [next semester] ... and maybe work with other political campus groups," she said.

Although campus groups have not organized any visible demonstrations on campus, some Notre Dame students have taken a more proactive approach to political involvement by attending rallies in Atlanta and Washington, D.C.

Members of the College Democrats also attended Cindy Sheehan's visit to South Bend earlier in the year. Sheehan, the mother of late U.S. Army Specialist Casey Sheehan, attained national media attention when she demonstrated against the Iraq War at the George W. Bush's Texas ranch earlier this fall.

Notre Dame College Republican co-president Emily Kennedy declined comment Thursday.

Contact Peter Ninneman at pninnema@nd.edu

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Diversity

continued from page 1

ferent view points," he said.

As Henry approached the podium, she asked those present to look around and examine the people in attendance.

"I think we see a lot more faces of color tonight than if we were pulling the entire school," she said.

Henry said she had hoped to see more white faces, and suggested the makeup of the group indicated something about the importance of diversity among many white students at the College.

The ethnic breakdown of the Saint Mary's student body is 91.4 percent white, 3.4 percent Latina, 0.8 percent black, 2.81 percent Asian, 0.5 percent Native American and 0.7 percent international, Henry said.

Henry offered national ethnic statistics from the most recent federal census, which reported the country's population breakdown as 69 percent white, 12.1 percent black, 12.5 percent Hispanic, 3.6 percent Asian, 0.7 percent American Indian and 1.6 percent biracial.

She predicted that by 2050, there will be no majority race in the United States and said it is already a fact in several states and major cities.

"We live in a country that is racially diverse," Henry said. "I think we do our students a disservice if we do not prepare them for living in that environment."

Meyer said Saint Mary's will face serious consequences if it does not address major demographic changes in the United States' high school population. Estimates show that by 2015, there will be a demographic swing of 3.5 million high

school graduates, with two million fewer white students and 1.5 additional minority students.

If Saint Mary's sticks to its traditional white roots, its recruiting pool will shrink, he said.

"We need to be very serious and very committed to diversity or we need to face the reality that we will have fewer students, fewer faculty and fewer administrators," Meyer said.

Meyer said his goal was to have minority enrollment at the College between 12 percent and 15 percent within the next five years. The breakdown should be representative of the states it pulls from — mainly Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Ohio, he said.

Meyer said the admissions office must begin to reach out to different high schools, including those in the South Bend area.

"I think the thing the admissions office needs to do is go fishing in a different pond," he said.

But Shropshire said some people mistake the need for diversity as a need to increase the number of minorities on campus, or to make those minorities already here feel more comfortable.

Instead, she said diversity is about learning about other people's life experiences and expanding one's own. A diverse campus would be "an asset" to the College and would add to a "well-rounded college experience."

"If that means sitting with someone outside of your circle for lunch or going to a club meeting to meet different people or becoming a member of a board that deals with diversity, or staying to ask questions on how you can help at the end of this forum, you have taken the proper steps to help further empowerment of the women of

Saint Mary's College," she said.

All speakers said a diverse student body and staff would include individuals from varying ethnic, socioeconomic, religious and sexually oriented backgrounds.

Russell said other Catholic institutions — such as DePaul — have created welcoming environments for students by establishing student centers and dorms for gay and lesbian students.

Diversity training is a good starting point for her and other members of the College community, Russell said.

"As a white person, I have to start by educating myself," Russell said. "I have to make an effort ... I have to be the person who wants to engage."

The academic life of Saint Mary's would also benefit from a more diverse student body and faculty, Henry said. As a white woman, she said she often finds herself teaching a class of all white students. But she strives to diversify her curriculum.

"We are not going to just read white writers and white women," she said. "Why? Because that is not reality."

Both Meyer and Russell said a diverse faculty and staff would increase classroom discussion — a crucial improvement for the College.

"I would put faculty and staff diversification as a far greater [need] right now than [that of] the [student body]," Meyer said.

Saint Mary's alumnae can also play a major role in diversifying the student body, Meyer said.

"I think the other thing is we need to engage our alumnae," he said. "We have a lot of alumnae, especially diversity alumnae, who are not engaged with the institution."

Contact Megan O'Neil at onei0907@saintmarys.edu

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INTEL CP (INTC)	+1.87	+0.50	27.18
SUN MICROSYS INC (CSCO)	+3.00	+0.113	3.883

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10-YEAR NOTE	+0.47	+0.21	45.21
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.56	+0.25	44.50
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IN BRIEF

Prices low for digital photo printing

SAN JOSE — Point. Shoot. Print. Getting a hard copy of your memories has never been easier.

Picture this: More than two-thirds of the estimated 17 billion prints from digital cameras made this year were created from the comfort of snap-happy American homes.

Another 27 percent came from the photofinishing services of retailers, where people either use the self-serve computer terminals at the counter or place their orders online for pickup later at the store.

The remainder, according to market researcher IDC, were delivered straight to consumers via online services that nowadays charge as low as a dime a print, not counting shipping costs.

In fact, while prices vary, market researchers say the retail route is generally cheaper than do-it-yourself inkjet printing.

Beyond these main options for getting pictures made are countless variations.

In Pennsylvania, proud parents can order pictures of their newborns from a photo kiosk before they leave the hospital. In Maine, customers can go to Cafe Click, one of the growing number of digital printing lounges that offer gourmet coffee and a kids play area.

With so many printing choices today — not to mention price cuts and promotions — shutterbugs often find choosing how to get a print in hand is the hardest part.

Toyota vehicle recalls double in 2005

WASHINGTON — Toyota Motor Corp., which is challenging General Motors Co. to become the world's largest automaker, saw its number of recalled vehicles in the United States double in 2005, according to government records.

Overall, the number of autos ordered to be returned to dealerships for repairs was down considerably in 2005 — totaling about 16.6 million through mid-November, compared with a record 30.8 million the previous year.

Vehicles have been recalled in larger quantities since the mid-1990s and have fluctuated from year to year. Automakers and analysts say that with more automobiles using shared parts or platforms, recall data does not always reflect a vehicle's quality or safety attributes.

In Toyota's case, analysts said it could be a function of the company's rapid development.

Retail discounts affect profits

Price cut-backs benefit consumers this holiday season, but retailers are hurting

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Parking lots are filled. Shoppers are fighting for merchandise. Stores are packed. And guess what? That may not mean much when it comes to retailers' profitability.

You wouldn't know that by watching how investors are scooping up retail stocks. Maybe they should be more wary about getting caught up in the buying frenzy.

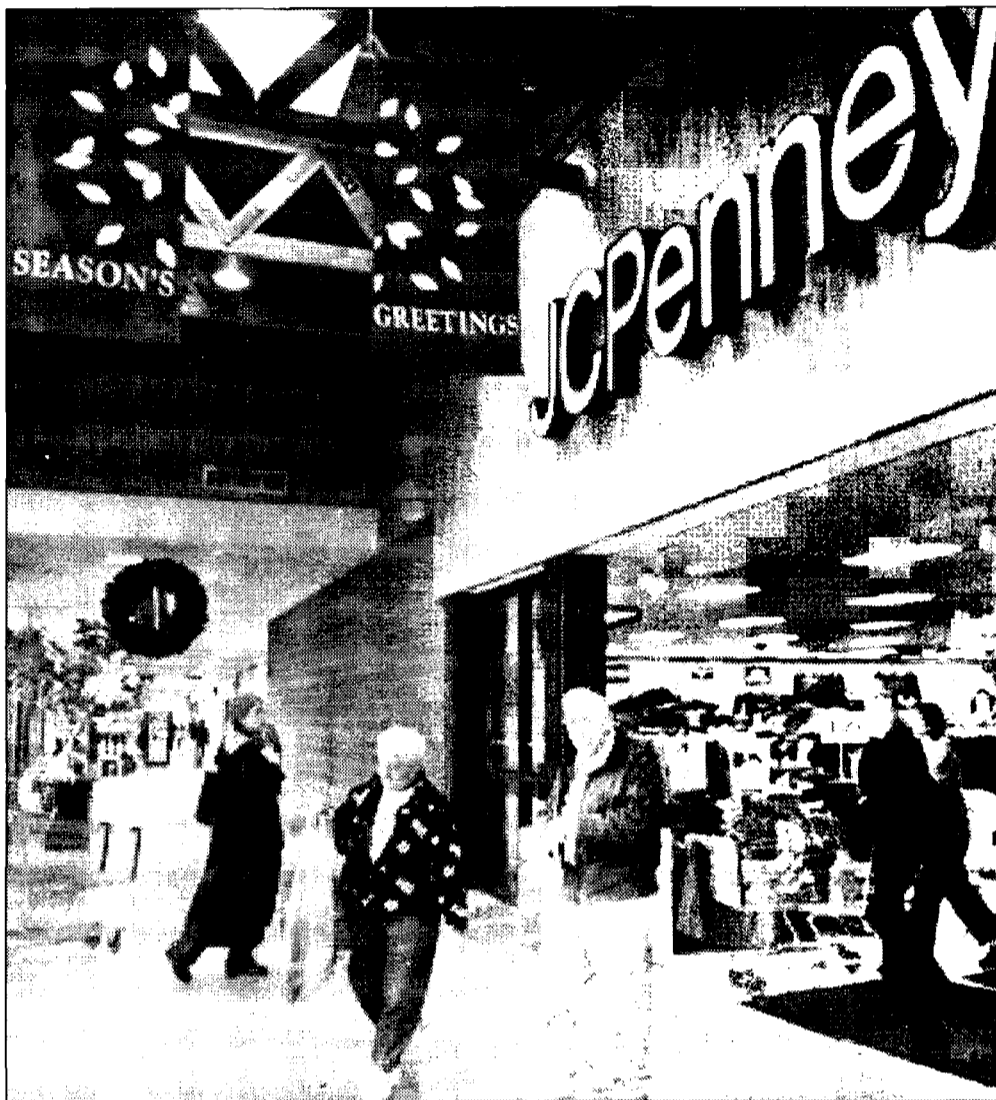
The official start to the Christmas sales blitz began last weekend, but for more than a month, investors have been stocking up on retail shares.

The Dow Jones index of apparel retailers has gained more than 12 percent since late October, while its index that includes discount and department stores is up more than 8 percent. Both have outperformed the 7 percent gain in the Standard & Poor's 500 index over the last month.

Investors seem to be betting that the economy's healthy growth and rebounding consumer confidence will trump the drag on retail sales caused by higher gasoline, fuel oil and natural gas prices. What's more important, they've brushed off the potential harm to profit margins that could come from the major discounting at many stores.

Merchants have conditioned shoppers to expect some kind of promotional discounts before they'll open their pocketbooks, so they are giving them what they want. But the risk for investors is that the price cuts and giveaways seem to be at new extremes this year.

While that has driven big traffic into stores — it was hard to miss the media coverage of the massive crowds that flooded stores the morning after Thanksgiving — it's important to realize what discounting can do to prof-



Shoppers walk by at a J.C. Penney store in Vermont, Thursday, as discounts lure customers into stores this holiday season.

itability. Every cent that a merchant lops off the retail price means less money goes to the bottom line.

"You never want to see too much of a good thing," said Michael P. Niemira, chief economist at the International Council of Shopping Centers. "There is a price that they will have to pay to get the sales that they want ... it is a calculated risk."

Some merchants are already acknowledging that their promotions could cost them. Gap Inc. said on Thursday that discounts across the company's Gap, Old Navy and Banana Republic Brands drove its margins — the difference between price and expens-

es — "significantly below" those of last year.

There is talk among some Wall Street analysts about what all the discounting could do to Wal-Mart Stores Inc. This year, the world's largest retailer is pulling out all the stops, hoping to avoid a repeat of last year when it wasn't aggressive enough in its promotions early in the holiday season and lost sales to competitors.

Goldman Sachs tracked the prices on 29 key holiday items at Wal-Mart and its discount store rival, Target Corp. — from Cabbage Patch dolls to Delphi satellite receivers — and found that Wal-Mart charged less than

Target by 3.2 percent the first two weeks of November, then Target narrowed that gap to 1.8 percent in the third week and then Wal-Mart's steep price cuts drove down prices by 5.9 percent below Target in week four.

"Wal-Mart's much more aggressive stance got attention, but it remains to be seen how much it cost them on margin," Goldman Sachs retail analyst Adrienne Shapira said this week in a note to clients.

Wal-Mart promotions could mean other merchants — from toy stores to consumer electronics chains — feel pressure to match or undercut its prices.

Stocks rise as inflation fears ease

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street had an auspicious start to December Thursday, with stocks soaring as investors welcomed inflation-friendly economic data and hoped the November rally would continue through year-end. The Dow Jones industrials climbed 106 points.

Investors were heartened by a finding in the Commerce Department's personal income and spending report showing scant inflationary pressures. And with incomes rising 0.4 percent and spending rising 0.2 percent, the market felt consumers could be well positioned for a strong holiday shopping season,

while lower prices could bring an end to the Federal Reserve's interest rate hikes.

The news was enough to overcome some mixed retail sales reports. It also brought newfound confidence to investors, who piled into small-cap, riskier stocks as enthusiasm over a stop to interest rate increases grew.

"Investors have their rally caps on for year end, and we're doing it with speculation," said Jack Ablin, chief investment officer at Harris Private Bank. "With a good inflation report and strong growth, it seems to be the perfect elixir for Wall Street."

The Dow rose 106.70, or 0.99 percent, to 10,912.57. The move higher nearly reversed the market's previ-

ous three days of losses.

Broader stock indicators also rose sharply. The Standard & Poor's 500 index added 15.19, or 1.22 percent, to 1,264.67, and the Nasdaq composite index surged 34.35, or 1.54 percent, to 2,267.17.

Bond prices edged lower, continuing the three past sessions of selling, with the yield on the 10-year Treasury note rising to 4.52 percent from 4.49 percent late Thursday. The dollar was higher against other major currencies, while gold prices rose above \$500 per ounce to new 18-year highs.

Crude oil prices were volatile, with a barrel of light crude oil settling at \$58.47, up \$1.15, on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Lawmakers face immigrant woes

Many solutions, little consensus on illegal entrance into the country

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — From building a fence to keep them out to passing a law to help them stay, members of Congress have lots of ideas on how to respond to President Bush's challenge to take on the problem of illegal immigrants. There's a will to act but so far not much consensus.

The first stab at the problem could come in the next two weeks, when the House may vote on legislation to strengthen border security. That's the easiest of the three legs of immigration reform. The others, enforcing workplace hiring rules and setting up a guest-worker program that might incorporate illegal immigrants, are far more divisive.

In the Senate, Majority Leader Bill Frist plans to bring up a border security bill in February, and use that as a starting point for broader reform. "We must boldly address the challenges of border security first," Frist, R-Tenn., said this week as Bush toured the Texas-Mexico border to stress the need for both tougher border controls and a guest-worker program.

The House bill will likely come from Judiciary Committee Chairman James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., with the focus on tighter borders and some elements of workplace enforcement. His spokesman,

Jeff Lungren, said it could contain a proposal by Rep. Ken Calvert, R-Calif., to expand a program for verifying employee records with the Homeland Security Department and the Social Security Administration, and another by Rep. David Dreier, R-Calif., to make Social Security cards more tamperproof.

But there are lots of other proposals to choose from. The Homeland Security Committee this month approved a bill by its chairman, Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., that would add border patrol agents, make use of new monitoring technology including unmanned aerial vehicles and end the "catch and release" practice for non-Mexican illegals.

Dozens of other border security bills have been introduced, many by conservatives and border state lawmakers fed up with the government's failure to stop the flow of illegal immigrants.

Rep. Virgil Goode, R-Va., is seeking \$2 billion to build a fence along the border with Mexico. Rep. Tom Tancredo, R-Colo., who has made a crack-down on illegal immigrants the theme of a longshot presidential bid, is among several who would change existing law to

allow use of the military for border enforcement. Rep. J.D. Hayworth, R-Ariz., has an extensive bill that would let state and local police enforce immigration law.

"A wall across the border wouldn't be particularly effective."

Michael Chertoff
secretary
Homeland Security

"I expect it to grow," Lungren said of Sensenbrenner's bill.

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said Thursday that fencing didn't make sense in deserts.

"A wall across the border would be phenomenally expensive," he told reporters, and "it wouldn't be particularly effective."

Congress already has taken several steps this year to tighten border security, including making it easier to deny admission to people linked to terrorism and setting national standards for obtaining drivers licenses. A Homeland Security Department spending bill this October provided money to add 1,000 border patrol agents to the current 11,000.

In the Senate, Judiciary Committee Chairman Arlen Specter, R-Pa., has put together a more comprehensive bill that picks and chooses from various sources. It models border and interior enforcement provisions on a bill backed by Republican Sens. John Cornyn of Texas and Jon Kyl of Arizona, employment verification from a bill by Sen. Chuck Hagel, R-Neb., and a guest-worker program put forth by Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Edward Kennedy, D-Mass.

"We must boldly address the challenges of border security first."

Bill Frist
Senate Majority Leader

Letterman greets Oprah as guest

16-year feud didn't deter the media queen from 'Late Show' appearance

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Oprah Winfrey and David Letterman buried the hatchet Thursday on "The Late Show" and wondered just how their 16-year feud started in the first place.

"Could you tell me please what has transpired?" Winfrey asked Letterman during the show. "I have never for a moment had a feud with you."

It was Winfrey's first guest appearance on "The Late Show" with Letterman, although she twice appeared on his NBC show before the comic moved to CBS in 1993.

While presenting Letterman with a gift, she alluded to his much-maligned joke as an Academy Awards host in 1995 — the awkward "Oprah, Uma, Uma, Oprah" introduction.

The gift, wrapped in purple to coincide with the opening of the Winfrey-produced Broadway musical "The Color Purple," was a signed, framed photograph of herself and Uma Thurman.

"I want you to know, it's really over, whatever you thought was happening," Winfrey said.

Letterman, seeing the photo, responded: "Are you sure it's over?"

Letterman has frequently joked about Winfrey through the years, and he devoted plenty of time this week to hyping the Thursday appearance. In 2003, Winfrey told Time magazine she wouldn't go on his show



Oprah Winfrey appeared on David Letterman's "Late Night" Thursday after a rumored 16-year long feud.

because she's been "completely uncomfortable" as the target of his jokes.

"I can't thank you enough," Letterman said Thursday. "It means a great deal to me and I'm just very happy you're here."

"Does it really?" asked Winfrey. "I've been hearing for the past week you talking about it, and I didn't know if you were really serious or you were just doing your 'Dave thing.'"

But Letterman proved his

intentions were earnest, discussing in-depth Winfrey's efforts to lend support to communities in Africa and the good intentions of her syndicated program, "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

"You have meant something to the lives of people," Letterman said. "We're just a TV show."

The approach clearly caught Winfrey off guard, as she repeatedly exclaimed, "I can't believe you're being this serious!"

Network television increases diversity

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Network television reflects more of the country's racial and ethnic diversity today than it did six years ago but much more progress could be made, according to a report released Thursday.

The diversity survey, issued annually since 1999 by members of the Multi-Ethnic Media Coalition, gave mostly mediocre marks to the major broadcast networks for diversity in front of and behind the camera. The report assigns grades based on figures provided by Fox, ABC, NBC and CBS.

"There has been incremental progress," said Alex Nogales, president of the National Hispanic Media Coalition, part of the multi-ethnic coalition. "It's encouraging, but the numbers are still not where they should be."

Individual report cards were issued by the National Latino Media Council and the Asian Pacific American Media Coalition. Mark Reed, chairman of American Indians in Film and Television, gave the networks F grades across the board.

"The American Indian is invisible in prime-time television," he said.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which monitors the representation of blacks on television, is expected to issue its diversity report card in January.

Hispanics made noteworthy strides this year, Nogales said, particularly at ABC. He lauded the network for two of its prime-time programs, "The George Lopez Show" and "Freddie," which feature largely Hispanic casts and show some characters speaking Spanish.

ABC earned the highest overall marks from the Hispanic and Asian advocacy groups. It's a significant shift for the network, which "was beyond an F- six

years ago," said Karen Narasaki, chairman of the Asian Pacific American Media Coalition.

ABC shows "Lost" and "Grey's Anatomy" were celebrated for featuring Asian-American actors, writers, producers and directors. Two Asian-American actors earned Emmy nominations this year for their roles on ABC shows, Narasaki noted.

Fox, cited as a champion of TV diversity three years ago, lost favor this year with Asian and Hispanic groups. According to the report cards, the network

"There has been incremental progress."

Alex Nogales
president
Hispanic Media Coalition

comes up short in employing Hispanic actors and executives and needs to develop more programs for Asian performers.

"This is the second year in a row they've dropped," Narasaki said. "How is that that 'House' can be set in a hospital and there are no regular Asian-American roles?"

CBS lacks significant opportunities for Asian-American actors and writers, Narasaki said.

"After five years, we haven't seen much progress," she said.

The network fared better with the Hispanic graders, who note CBS employs a large number of Hispanic actors and directors.

NBC has "huge numbers" of Hispanic actors and more than 20 Hispanic directors working on its programs, Nogales said. Asian writers maintain a notable presence at the network, but acting and producing roles declined significantly over the past year, Narasaki said.

Of 370 NBC episodes evaluated, only one was produced by an Asian-American, she said.

The Multi-Ethnic Media Coalition began issuing its diversity report cards in 1999, when a nearly all-white schedule of new network series provoked an outcry from civil rights groups, leading to agreements by broadcasters to improve their performance.

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Richmond president calls students 'mush'

Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Insulting alumni and donors probably isn't the best way to show that you are trying to improve your university's national profile, as the president of the University of Richmond has found.

During a "state of the university" speech in October at the private liberal arts college, William E. Cooper discussed the school's efforts to become more academically competitive by attracting more talented students.

"The entering quality of our student body needs to be much higher if we are going to transform bright minds into great achievers instead of transforming mush into mush, and I mean it," he said.

He later apologized for his remarks and said they were misinterpreted.

Some alumni remain supportive of Cooper's vision, but he has come under fire from many others, who are calling for him to step down and are threatening to withhold contributions until he is gone. At a recent home basketball game, some Richmond fans wore buttons proclaiming, "Mushheads Unite."

"It's time to send Cooper to the 'mush' pit and get our beloved University back on a positive track," Keith Stojka, a 1996 graduate, wrote on an online petition calling for new leadership. "By the way, not a red cent from me until Cooper is sent packing."

The number of signatures approached 2,000 Thursday, a day before he was to meet with the executive committee of the university's Board of Trustees. The full board will then take up his case, university spokesman Randy Fitzgerald said.

Cooper denied a request for an interview.

University spokesman Dan Kalamanson said that no major donors have suspended their pledges over the controversy, but "clearly the situation is something the Board of

Trustees, the university does take seriously."

He said that students, faculty members and alumni should "look at the big picture, the positive things that Dr. Cooper has achieved, and weigh them against the remarks, the changes here that some people may not be supportive of."

Before coming to Richmond, Cooper was Georgetown University's executive vice president and dean of faculty at Tulane University.

He started at Richmond in 1998 with a goal of boosting the school's national profile, and to that end Richmond has undertaken a \$200 million fund-raising campaign. Also, the school started covering all of students' demonstrated financial need and extending benefits to employees' same-sex partners.

Cooper angered some students when the university raised tuition 31 percent this fall to nearly \$35,000, among the nation's highest, despite a \$1.1 billion endowment.

University officials have said the increase will bring the 3,000-student university's price in line with that of its competitors and will help pay for scholarships, hire more faculty, update technology and construct and renovate buildings on the secluded, wooded campus on the edge of Virginia's capital city.

The sharp price increase has been criticized by people who say that it puts the school out of reach of students from middle- and working-class families.

Emily Griffey, a 2001 graduate, opposed the tuition increase and disagrees with attempts to make Richmond a Southern version of Brown or Princeton.

"I don't think students accepted the vision that that was what we needed to become," Griffey said. "Our professors were great. I learned a lot while I was there. My friends all do amazing things."

First face transplant performed

Associated Press

PARIS — An ethics debate broke out over the world's first partial face transplant Thursday with one surgeon challenging the decision to operate, while others suggested a bit of jealousy might be at play.

At the same time, several doctors raised concerns about the psychological health of the French woman who received a transplanted nose, lips and chin on Sunday. She had been brutally mauled by a dog in May, and her identity remains unknown.

Dr. Laurent Lantieri, an adviser to the French medical ethics panel, said the surgeons who operated violated the panel's advice because they failed to try reconstructive surgery first. He said a transplant donor was immediately sought without trying to repair the woman's face with more conventional surgery.

Lantieri, who had seen a picture of the woman, said, "She had a complete amputation of both lips. The tip of the nose was amputated." Her new donated facial parts came from a brain-dead woman whose family gave consent.

The panel had previously objected to full face transplants but said partial ones could be considered under strict circumstances, which included first trying normal surgery.

"The ethics committee said this kind of transplant should never be considered as an emergency procedure," Lantieri said.

However, surgeon Denys Pellerin, of the National Consultative Ethics Committee advised by Lantieri said, "as long as the transplant is not total, it is not unethical."

And Dr. Jean-Pierre Chavoin, secretary general of the French society of plastic surgery, noted that Lantieri had planned to do a face transplant himself and had been beaten.

Carine Camby, director general of the agency under the French Health Ministry that coordinates organ procurement, said normal reconstructive surgery could not have been used in this case.

"It is precisely because there was no way to restore the functions of this patient by normal plastic surgery that we attempted this transplant," Camby said. "She could no longer eat normally, she had great difficulty speaking and there is no possibility with plastic surgery today to repair the muscles around the mouth which allow people to articulate when they speak and not spit out food when they eat."

Camby also said the patient "received many psychiatric examinations. The psychiatrists decided that she understood the surgery and that she accepted all of the consequences, including the risk of rejection and of failure, the risk of immune suppression treatments and the need to take them for life."

But Chavoin, who took part in preparatory meetings about the patient's case over the last several months, questioned her psychological health.

The patient "seems to have quite a depressive profile," he said.

The operation was done at a hospital in Amiens, in northern France, by ground-breaking transplant surgeon Dr. Jean-Michel Dubernard and Dr. Bernard Devauchelle. Dubernard led teams that performed a hand transplant in 1998 and the world's first double forearm transplant in January 2000.

The hand transplant recipient later had it amputated. Doctors said the man failed to take the required drugs and his body rejected the limb.

Lantieri said he was fearful that this operation could turn out like that first hand transplant if the patient is psychologically unstable.

Dubernard did not return a phone call seeking comment Thursday. A news conference is set for Friday.

The face transplant patient,

now in Dubernard's ward in a Lyon hospital in southern France, was also to have a second experimental treatment — an infusion of the donor's bone marrow — to try to prevent rejection of the new tissue.

"Maybe Jean-Michel Dubernard is revolutionizing the concept of transplantation," Lantieri said, but added that the patient now was being subjected to two untested treatments.

Lantieri, who developed his own plans to attempt a partial face transplant, said members of Dubernard's team contacted him last spring, seeking details of his protocol.

He said that a surgeon in Lille where the transplant donor lived, had reviewed the woman's record and told him he was concerned

about the circumstances of her injury. It involved one or two dogs, Lantieri said.

In the United States, surgeons and psychologists at two medical centers that hope to offer face transplants — the Cleveland Clinic and the University of Louisville — declined to comment Thursday on the French case.

In an interview at the Cleveland Clinic in July, surgeon Dr. Maria Siemionow stressed the several years she had spent developing procedures and how carefully her team now is working to select potential candidates for the operation.

"I hope nobody will be frivolous or do things just for fame. We are almost over-cautious," she said at the time.

Another surgeon familiar with the French case sounded more optimistic despite the woman's horrific injuries, which he said were caused by her own dog.

"She still has her own eyes, which are a lot of a person's expression ... we'd expect she'd turn out to be a pleasant-looking girl," Dr. Earl Owen told the Sydney Morning Herald in Australia.

"It is precisely because there was no way to restore the functions of this patient by normal plastic surgery that we attempted this transplant."

Carine Camby
agency director general

Narcotic qat captivates Yeminis

Associated Press

SAN'A, Yemen — The writer winked conspiratorially, shifted the golf ball-sized bulge in his left cheek and tapped his temple gently.

"Qat is good for the mind. I can't stop writing once I start. But the next morning I read what I wrote and tear it up straight away," chuckled 35-year-old Hatem Bamohriz, nibbling yet another leaf of the mild narcotic.

To many government and aid officials, qat has ceased to be funny: Yemen's government is making another push to cut the use of the rubbery green leaf with amphetamine-like qualities that is blamed for many of this country's ills, from widespread poverty to growing health problems.

But there is little progress. Up to 90 percent of Yemeni men are now believed to chew qat daily, and growing numbers of women and children are also chewing, the World Bank says.

"Qat is a disease, and I hope

for the day that they'll take it away," said Samra Shaibani, spokeswoman for the World Bank, a leading anti-qat campaigner. "But if they do, there would be a revolution because the people have little else and rely on it so much."

Qat is a centuries-old social custom that stimulates mental activity, long conversations and tall tales in this tribal-dominated nation at the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula. Qat chewing is ubiquitous — as common in Yemen as wearing a curved dagger on the belt.

Historical records show qat in regular use in the 15th century when Sufi Muslims — a deeply mystical sect — chewed the qat leaves during prayer and meditation. As time passed, ordinary Yemenis increasingly took up the practice at special celebrations.

But now, many experts have come to believe it's at the root of Yemen's 40 percent unemployment rate, its status as the poorest country in the Middle East and its growing national health

problems.

Critics blame qat for everything from the country's low economic productivity to excessive water use to irrigate the qat crop. Some blame it for eating disorders and high cholesterol rates.

"Qat is the No. 1 socioeconomic problem of the country," said Khaled al-Shaq, a communication officer for the United Nations Development Project in Yemen. "It manifests all the frustrations of Yemen."

Under intense international pressure to improve its ailing economy, Yemen's government released a Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper recently that targeted qat, particularly as a waste of precious water.

In the San'a region alone, nearly three times as much water goes to qat production as is consumed by the population.

Government leaders from President Ali Abdullah Saleh on down also have announced they have given up the habit, hoping others will follow their example.



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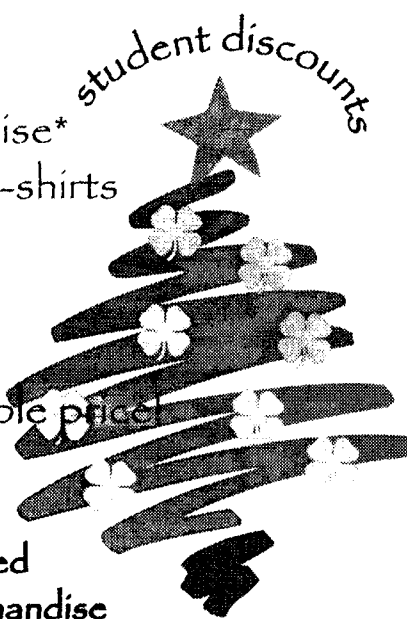
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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Senate resolution sound but small

So it's come to this.

Concerned students and student government leaders once openly challenged the Common Council of the City of South Bend, contesting the amendment to the Public Nuisance Ordinance it passed in July was untimely and unfair to students.

Student body president Dave Baron fought during the summer against the Council's decision to pass an ordinance geared specifically at students residing off-campus, especially during a time when few students remained in South Bend to represent themselves.

But those efforts proved ineffective, as the ordinance was passed then and continues to be enforced now, with six Notre Dame students undergoing eviction proceedings and several others receiving notices to abate. Recognizing that it has little control over the ordinance's existence, the Student Senate has rightly resorted to tackling the aspect of the ordinance that most negatively affects students — its encouragement that landlords initiate eviction proceedings after one offense.

The recent evictions following first offenses by off-campus students did not justly award a time period for the residents to "abate" — or cease their violations or "nuisance" — before landlords took action to save themselves. Residents deserve that second chance, and the city's desire to please landlords is not sufficient rationale to warrant overly strict enforcement regarding off-campus student residents.

But these students also have to realize they are only a minority of South Bend's population, and by moving into city housing they are proclaiming themselves accountable for upholding the laws in that jurisdiction. The Senate is standing up for students

on the condition that they prove themselves good neighbors, and students must fulfill their part of the bargain by taking first notices to abate seriously.

As for Notre Dame, the University contributes economically to the city of South Bend, employs some of its residents and has offered on-campus housing to the evicted students — but it is obvious at this point that it has no intention of stepping between its students and the city's Common Council.

And really, why would it? What would Notre Dame fight the city for — the right for its students to party off-campus?

It's an unfortunate situation, one that has amassed and compiled into a distasteful topic due to miscommunication, predetermined attitudes on both sides and, recently, the enforcement of the ordinance.

The resolution passed by the Senate Wednesday is not overly demanding or laden with complaints. It acknowledges South Bend residents' rights and state law in Indiana while respectfully opposing the aspect of the ordinance that is most damaging to long-term relations between Notre Dame students and the South Bend community. Senate has done well with the options left to it, recommending to the Common Council that it at least adhere to reasonable enforcement of its newly imposed ordinance, which is a fair and mature way of approaching the matter.

But it's a shame that while the Senate has adopted the correct attitude in its latest approach to the Common Council, that approach is all it really has left. Its narrow argument, while justified and well-executed, also sadly illustrates what little power the community has granted at this point to the Senate and the students it represents.

The Observer Editorial

Everything I need to know I learned in kindergarten

The other day, while reading my morning paper, I became saddened by what I saw. Stan Berenstain had passed away last Saturday at the age of 82. No, Mr. Berenstain was not a close family friend or relative of mine, but I would bet that his name rings a bell with many of you. Stan Berenstain and his wife, Jan, were co-authors of the popular children's series The Berenstain Bears.

Perhaps not all of you had the same experience growing up as I had, but as a child I recall that not a night went by when I did not get my bedtime story. Most of these nights I chose for my mom or dad to read a Berenstain Bears book. Though I was not a cub, nor did my family live in a split-level tree "down a sunny dirt road deep in Bear Country," I could really relate to the Berenstain's. Just like the Berenstain Bears, my family had a father, mother and older brother. Also just like Papa, Mama, Brother and Sister, we were not perfect and so sometimes we had to learn our lessons too.

Though I loved to read their tales time and time again, looking back I can see why my parents were always more than happy to oblige with my book requests. Each Berenstain Bears book was an entertaining story, but more importantly, each one had a good lesson for both young and old alike. At the end of each book you could always expect to find Papa

Bear with the moral of the story and life for the Berenstain's went on happily ever after.

While these books about a happy little family of bears do not reflect all aspects of contemporary society (the books do not contain families with only a mama bear, step-brother and step-sister bears, or families with two papa bears), they still have good messages for children. I remember reading books by the Berenstain's that emphasized the importance of sharing, doing your chores, not judging someone before you get to know them, cleaning your room, hard work, going to bed on time, and having good manners. In addition, the books eased some of my concerns about traumatic childhood events such as visits to the doctor and dentist, as well as a trip to the mall to see Santa Bear.

By now we should all be practicing ideals on our own without having to look to illustrated bears for an example. Nevertheless, we cannot undermine the fact that these books were a great way to teach us how to become the caring, compassionate, responsible and hardworking young adults we are today. As children we are easily influenced by the things we hear and see. Today many people argue that with all the violence on television and in video games, children are becoming overexposed to adult themes and growing up too fast. These people feel that society would be better off if it reverted back to some of its more traditional values. They stress that, just as Papa and Mama Berenstain were always there to teach Brother and Sister a lesson, parents should take an active role in their children's lives.

The death of a man who could instill these essential values in children is truly a great loss. Through the Berenstain Bears, Stan and Jan Berenstain were able to solve everyday family situations and teach children basic "do's" and "don'ts." These lessons transcend decades and generations, which helps explain why the Berenstain Bears remain a popular series for children throughout the world after 42 years. Today you can find the Berenstain Bears on television, on stage at your local theaters and you can even email Papa, Mama, Brother and Sister Berenstain via the official Berenstain Bears website.

Upon his death, many people have expressed their sympathies to the Berenstain family and have shared their gratitude for the books that had influenced so many of us growing up. While many thanked Berenstain for wonderful childhood memories and the joy they got from reading his books, others reflected on what they had learned from his books. One Arizona woman wrote, "The Berenstain Bears books taught manners, morals and about family. Something the world could use a little more of. Wouldn't it be great if we all thought like Stan & Jan?"

How very true that is. The world would be a much better place if we could all take the most basic lessons we learned as children to heart as adults.

Molly Acker is a senior communication studies and humanistic studies double major at Saint Mary's. She can be contacted at acke6758@saintmarys.edu

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



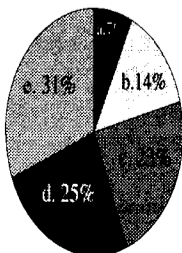
Molly
Acker

Nobody Likes a
Dumb Blonde

OBSERVER POLL

Are you going to Notre Dame's bowl game?

- a. Yes, if it's in Miami
- b. Yes, if it's a BCS game
- c. Yes, if it's in Arizona
- d. Yes
- e. No



*Poll appears courtesy of www.ndsmcobserver.com and is based on 658 responses.

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"When you get into a tight place and it seems that you can't go on, hold on — for that's just the place and the time that the tide will turn."

Harriet Beecher Stowe
abolitionist

The church vs. state question

The Founding Fathers did not invent religious tolerance — it had already formed out of the circumstances that created the original colonies — however their unique perspective gave them the presence of mind to enshrine it in the Constitution, in the form of the separation of church and state, and so to protect it from less-gentle hands that might govern in the future. They were not unreligious men, yet they understood that a certain distance is required between politics and religion, for the protection of both.

We still dwell in the nation of their legacy, and the consequences of embracing pluralism as a public virtue are widespread. There are few societies, if any, that are simultaneously as secular and as religious as the United States, or where questions of the relationship between church and state are taken up more fiercely by more people. This is a sign of the nation's health.

However, for people of faith—especially those who practice religions like Christianity and Islam, which do not embrace the equality of other beliefs — the nature of the country raises a difficult question. What does it mean to be a religious person in such a tolerant and pluralistic society and how can one embrace all of these values while compromising none?

I like to think of this as the Notre Dame question. Because of the unusual location of the University between spiritual and secular poles, this question underlies many of the fiercest debates that occur here. Examples include the treatment of gay students and staff, calls for censorship by those who find performances like "The Vagina Monologues" "inconsistent" with Catholic values and the ever growing pressure from the Vatican to control which theologians are allowed to teach and what they may say.

However, Notre Dame is a very insulated microcosm that is only beginning to reflect a wider trend sweeping Christian churches and the nation. The coupling between religion and politics has grown stronger in the past decade, to the ultimate detriment of each. This union has already produced some very strange bedfellows, like the Republican Party's unstable mixture of traditional small-government conservatives and religious theocrats who will spend any amount of money in pursuit of their social agenda.

This close relationship is dangerous, because it tempts religious leaders to use their authority to directly impact government in dubious ways, for example declaring that voting for a particular candidate is immoral, or ostracizing political leaders when their public views do not match those of the religion. It takes more than the restraint of the State to make the American system work; it also requires a degree restraint on the part of religions not to undermine it. Under this pressure the very idea of separation of church and state and the tolerance and pluralism that are built on it begin to crumble.

Here is a realistic example. There are, at present, four Catholics on the United States Supreme Court, and if Samuel Alito is confirmed (as he is likely to be) then there will be five. However, just because a justice is Catholic it does not follow that his legal views are in lockstep with his private moral views or that either of these are in lockstep with the views of the Catholic Church. Many people in government see no inconsistency in having differing public and private moral opinions, and indeed for justices of the Supreme Court, called to unbiased judgment on the merits of the law, such a separation is almost a requirement.

Recently United States bishops have threatened to withhold communion from politicians who vote in ways that are not consistent with the views of the Church (the centerpiece of this was John Kerry and abortion, though there is no reason that the same pressures could not be exerted by the bishops for any other issue). If this threat were extended to the justices on the basis of how they rule then five — including Chief Justice Roberts — would be placed under duress, where they would have to choose between their duty to the nation and the risk of outright public rejection by their churches.

If this situation were to actually occur, then the most likely outcome would be as many as five of the nine justices withdrawing themselves from the case that brought the threat, if a quorum (six justices) were lacking, then the Court itself would be forced to withdraw from the case altogether. Following such an event the Court would be, at worst, powerfully disinclined to hear cases that might place it in such a dangerous position again or at best, the Catholic justices who saw an irresolvable obstacle to their ability to do their duty would feel compelled to resign.

In short, an unjust and incautious attempt to control the Court through religious means would, in the end, bring about results desired by neither the Court nor the Church, and would ultimately cause incalculable harm to both and to the nation.

Lance Gallop is a 2005 graduate of Notre Dame. He can be contacted at comments@tidewaterblues.com

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



Lance Gallop

Tidewater Blues

The art of dying

It is sometimes said that the English care more about animals than people. The evidence suggests however that it's only furry animals we care about more than people.

Sir Paul McCartney recently announced that he would never perform in China because he had learnt about the barbaric cruelty of the Chinese fur trade, which includes trafficking in fur from cats and dogs. Now I consider myself as much of a cat-lover as a man can be without compromising his rugged machismo, but China is a communist state in which both female infanticide and child labor are widespread and in which citizens lack many of the most basic political freedoms. The fact that it took a PETA documentary about the terrible things they do to cats and dogs over there to spark McCartney's outrage suggests a rather blasé attitude to all the terrible things done to the Chinese people. The former Beatle is now in his 60s and well past the point at which idealism unconstrained by anything resembling a sense of perspective is endearing.

When John Lennon was shot in 1980 his early death ensured that his myth would be preserved intact. I am not old enough to remember Lennon's assassination, but I vividly recall Kurt Cobain's suicide in 1994, which sent shockwaves of sorrow through my contemporaries. Many of them called it a tragedy. Even at the time it struck me that there was something bogus and self-deceived about their mourning. Not that the sorrow wasn't genuine, but on some level Cobain's fans had always needed more from him than his music; they needed him to die.

When your heart is broken, it feels as if your whole self splits in two. Part of you just wants the pain to go away, but another part feels that to ever recover from it would amount to a kind of betrayal by your future self. Angst-ridden teenagers often experience a similar phenomenon, and the fear that their sense of alienation and despair may indeed be "just a phase" as their (impossibly-old) parents keep telling them, they are driven to identify with figures like Cobain for whom the same feelings seemed to remain raw and strong into adulthood. The sad truth is that if your emotional appeal rests on your status as the embodiment of teenage angst then sooner or later you have to kill yourself just to prove that you really mean it. Eventually even staying alive would be selling out.

Trent Reznor of Nine Inch Nails has been making dark, angst-ridden music for over 15 years. His debut album was released in the same year as Nirvana's Bleach and he's still producing albums full of rage and despair, set against the kind of sounds that suggest that he's playing the guitar

with a dentist's drill instead of a plectrum. But these days it feels fake; sure, Reznor may really be feeling angry and alienated, but by now those feelings are just part of his job description.

An artist whose authenticity has never been in doubt is Johnny Cash. The son of a cotton farmer, in 1955 Cash auditioned for Sun Records as part of a gospel act, but was offered a contract singing country music in which he was told he had a future. Cash took the advice and the contract, and in the fall of 1969 he outlived the Beatles.

The recent film Walk the Line deals with the early part of Cash's life, his struggle with alcohol and painkillers, and his legendary romance and marriage to June Carter, while lopping the story to fit the Procrustean conventions of the biopic genre. But personally, it's the last part of Cash's life that interests me most.

In 2002 Johnny Cash released the fourth and final volume of the American Recordings series that he began almost a decade before with the producer Rick Rubin. The album contained an extraordinary cover of Trent Reznor's "Hurt." The song was inevitably overplayed, and film and television producers quickly adopted it as the new track to use whenever they needed to create a moment of guaranteed pathos but couldn't trust their plot and actors to get there on their own (before "Hurt" came along Jeff Buckley's version of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" was the most-overused for this purpose).

The vocals for "Hurt" were recorded dry (without digital effects or augmentation), which is almost unheard of in modern music production. As a result the weaknesses of Cash's voice are starkly displayed, as he intended. What would be the point of pretending he could still sing like he did when he played San Quentin? No, the song is meant to show without disguise or artifice what an old, diabetic man sounds like. On the video, in which his ravaged, crumpling face is interspersed with footage from his life and shots, the lyrics (written by Reznor when he was barely in his twenties) are made to sound like something from Ecclesiastes.

You have probably seen the video, which won countless awards. But it's less likely that you have heard the final album, The Man Comes Around. I suggest you do, not for the recording of "Hurt," but for the very last track, Cash's rendition of "We'll Meet Again." That's not a gospel song of course, but when it's sung joyfully and even a little playfully by a dying man with a cracked voice, it becomes one.

Peter Wicks is a graduate student in the philosophy department who was dressing like Johnny Cash before he even heard of him. He would like to express his thanks to Douglas Ayling, his research assistant. Peter can be contacted at pwicks@nd.edu

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



Peter Wicks

Englishman Abroad

EDITORIAL CARTOON



DPAC SPOTLIGHT

'Capote' not just a brilliant biography

By MOLLY GRIFFIN
Assistant Scene Editor

Biographical films tend to start at the beginning of a life and end with death. "Capote" takes a somewhat different approach — it starts with events that inspired a novel and ends with the events that complete it.

"Capote" chronicles the relationships and events that go into shaping one of the author's novels rather than focusing on his life. The film follows the development of "In Cold Blood," which is both Capote's masterpiece and his final book.

The film begins with the violent and shocking murder of the Clutter family in rural Kansas. This event attracts the attention of Capote, who becomes fascinated with the murders and decides to write about them. He is initially curious and inquisitive about the murders, but the longer he works with those involved, specifically the murderers, the more complicated his feelings and motivations become.

Philip Seymour Hoffman's portrayal of the likable but complicated author is one of the highlights of the film. His high, wavering lisp initially makes the author seem almost comical, but it swiftly becomes part of the emotional impact of the film through Hoffman's powerful per-

formance. His portrayal of Capote captures the simultaneously charming and disturbing nature of the character.

While the movie chronicles the development of "In Cold Blood" and the events that inspired it, two relationships in Capote's life make up the true heart of the film.

The friendship between Capote and his childhood friend and fellow author, Harper Lee, is central to understanding the action in the film and Capote himself. She behaves as both a friend and mother figure in his life, and coddles the difficult author through the trials he faces while writing "In Cold Blood." While she is patient and supportive of the frequently childish and quixotic author, Lee also provides some of his most scathing criticism.

Catherine Keener, in a drastic turn from her last role in "The 40-Year Old Virgin," plays Lee with a mix of warmth, compassion and steely resolve. Her performance, while not as flashy or noticeable as Philip Seymour Hoffman's portrayal of Capote himself, anchors the film and gives it emotional stability.

The other major relationship in the film emerges between Capote and one of the murderers, Perry Smith (Clifton Collins, Jr.). Capote becomes deeply and emotionally involved with the perpetrator in an attempt to get as close to the motivation



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

"Capote" stars Philip Seymour Hoffman as Capote, a likeable but complicated author. The film will be showing at DPAC Friday and Saturday at 7 and 10 p.m.

behind the murder, but he grows terrified with how close he comes to evil.

The two share similar childhoods, causing Capote to feel that he isn't far removed from these actions.

"It's as if Perry and I grew up in the same house. And one day he went out the back door and I went out the front," Capote said.

One major question the film puts forth is whether Capote actually empathized with the criminals or if he was simply using them to further his literary career. "In Cold Blood" remains unfinished for much of the film because Smith and his accomplice, Richard Hickock, get several stays of executions, which drives Capote close to a nervous breakdown.

After the murderers are executed,

Capote sobs to Harper Lee that he did all he could for them, to which she replies, "The fact is, you didn't want them to live." Her cutting remark reveals that only when the criminals died could Capote actually finish his book, and his desire to be loved by the literati may have quashed any of his feelings of empathy.

Overall, "Capote" is an intriguing portrait of a flawed and fascinating author and the trials and successes that go into writing a novel. A great cast and even direction make it an interesting look into the events and people that ultimately shaped a great and important American novel and its writer.

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DVD REVIEW

'Batman Begins' DVD offers more than expected

By MARK BEMENDERFER
Assistant Scene Editor

Adam West move over, there's a new Batman in town.

In the recent DVD release "Batman Begins," Christian Bale assumes the identity of the caped crusader to spectacular effect. Set as an introduction of sorts to the Batman mythology, "Begins" is the perfect movie for the uninitiated and the avid comic fan alike.

The first thing that "Begins" does is to set itself apart from the other Batman films, mainly the ones helmed by Tim Burton. It follows a more faithful translation of the comic, depicting the murder of Bruce's parents in a way that followed the Dark Knight comics. It also follows the comic more faithfully in other ways as well, particularly in Batman's refusal to kill.

For those who don't know Batman from Man-Bat, Batman is really the fictional millionaire Bruce Wayne. He lived in Gotham City with his loving parents, and his life was perfect up until a fateful night following a stage performance. It was then that his parents were killed before his eyes in a

bumbled robbery. This in turn set Bruce on his path to becoming Batman, the bane of criminals everywhere.

The movie dedicates much of its running time to depicting Bruce's transformation into Batman. The Batman costume isn't even seen until around an hour into it.

Instead, the time is spent on developing first how Bruce gained his hatred for criminals, and then how he became trained to combat them.

Many characters went into influencing Bruce's transformation, including his father Thomas Wayne (Linus Roache), his butler Alfred (Michael Caine), among others. However, the majority of his transformation occurs due to two characters. The first is Rachel Dawes (Katie Holmes). Holmes feels unconvincing in her role as Rachel, and while she does a decent job, it feels a little lacking.

The second influence on Bruce's life was Henri Ducard, played fantastically by Liam Neeson. The role of mentor is one Neeson is familiar with, having taken a similar role in "Star Wars: Episode 1." Neeson does a great job of portraying a person with a background similar to Bruce's, one whose loved ones were taken away by violence.

The secondary characters were all solid, and played by respectable actors. Gary Oldman played Jim Gordon, a staple of the Batman comic. Since this is "Batman Begins," Gordon is not the highly ranked police official he is in the standard comic. Instead, the movie depicts Gordon as a lowly grunt, the single



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Batman, played by Christian Bale, is seen here swooping down on a criminal. "Batman Begins" is a must-have DVD for any fan of the Batman series.

good cop in a town of corrupt or inefficient police.

Cillian Murphy plays the criminally under-used Dr. Jonathan Crane. Delegated to a supporting role within the movie, this Batman villain steals the scene every time he makes an appearance, and hopefully makes a return in the sequel.

There are two DVDs on the market — a sparse standard edition and the special edition. For the money, the special edition is the superior choice. It comes with a second disk that contains many special features, commentaries, and behind-the-scenes technical showcases. It also comes with a special comic book that has snip-

pets of the influential Batman comics. However, there were some legal issues with the comic, forcing the special edition to be discontinued.

There are still some special editions left to be found though, making it a decent holiday purchase.

"Batman Begins" is a great movie for everyone. It's a super-hero movie done correctly, with a compelling lead and storyline. But if you decide to pick it up, pick up the standard edition at your own risk. There may not be enough "Batman" to fill your craving.

Contact Mark Bemenderfer at
mbemende@nd.edu

Batman Begins

DVD

Warner Brothers



MATT HUDSON/Observer Graphic

TV SHOW REVIEW

By MOLLY GRIFFIN
Assistant Scene Editor

Ancient history may not seem like a topic meant for a television series, particularly on a network like HBO. Fortunately for viewers, "Rome" emerges as a great show that deftly balances entertainment with history to create a dynamic drama series.

"Rome" takes place in the heated political climate of the year 52 B.C., when the old values and institutions that the culture was founded on are beginning to crumble. Julius Caesar (Ciarán Hinds), following a victory in Gaul, returns to the city with a new political agenda, and his old friend, Pompey Magnus (Kenneth Cranham), must determine where the balance of power now lies.

Intertwined in the larger political rumblings are two Roman soldiers, Lucius Vorenus (Kevin McKidd) and Titus Pullo (Ray Stevenson). Historically, they are the only two regu-

lar soldiers mentioned by name in Caesar's "De Bello Gallico." They become central to the major events that shape the ultimate political outcome in the war between Caesar and Pompey, and their involvement provides insight into a side of Roman history that is often not seen in most television presentations — the lives of everyday people.

By showing the soldiers' families, friends and companions, viewers get to see the real grittiness of daily life in ancient Rome, which is far different from the lives and machinations of the upper classes that are usually portrayed alone. This doesn't mean that "Rome" shies away from showing the violence, sex and betrayal that shaped Roman politics. Instead, it shows that these traits weren't limited

to the upper class and were practiced by many Roman citizens, plebian and patrician.

The first season depicts Caesar's rise to dictatorship following the end of the Gallic wars and continues until his assassination. In the background of these events, viewers also see the young Octavian (Max Pirkis), the future emperor Augustus Caesar, being raised by his scheming mother, Atia of the Julii (Polly Walker). Other important characters, both to history and to the series, include Mark Antony (James Purefoy), Cicero (David Bamber), Cato (Karl Johnson) and Brutus (Tobias Menzies).

The series is a joint venture between HBO and the BBC, and it is one of the largest partnerships with an American company that the BBC has ever entered into. The budget for the first season of

"Rome" was around \$100 million dollars, and filming involved building replicas of sections of the city in the Italian countryside. There was a crew of around 350 international workers and 50 Italian interns.

"Rome" debuted on Aug. 28 to high ratings and critical praise. The second season will not be out until 2007, due to high production costs and a lengthy filming process. The new season is rumored to focus on the power struggle that emerges between Octavian and Mark Antony.

Overall, "Rome" shows both the glamour and grit of life in Ancient Rome by balancing its portrayal of notable historical figures with the lives of everyday citizens. It is at times extremely violent and it skips around in history for the sake of entertainment, but it is a wholly addictive show that will have you scrambling for history books while you're waiting for the next episode.

Contact Molly Griffin at mgriffin@nd.edu

SWORDS AND SANDALS, REDUX

By MOLLY GRIFFIN
Assistant Scene Editor

Films based on ancient Greek and Roman culture, often referred to as swords-and-sandals films, have fluctuated in popularity throughout cinematic history. The genre is currently experiencing a resurgence thanks to the new HBO series, "Rome."

Fascination with these ancient cultures has endured for centuries, and it has been a subject for film since the beginning of the movie industry itself. There were offerings from famous early directors like Cecil B. DeMille and D.W. Griffith, and these early films defined the genre with their lavish sets, enormous casts and intense action scenes.

The threat of television caused a resurgence in the production of these opulent dramas in the 1950s. Films like "Quo Vadis," "The Robe," "Spartacus" and "Ben-Hur" combined action and adventure with stars like Kirk Douglas and Charlton Heston to lure audiences away from the television and into the movie theatre.

These films were often so expensive and lavish that producing them was a huge gamble for studios that could either result in huge returns or complete financial ruin. The 1959 version of "Ben-Hur" was a huge hit, won 11 Oscars and saved MGM from the brink of bankruptcy. Twentieth Century Fox wasn't so lucky with their version of "Cleopatra" starring Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton. The film cost \$44 million dollars, equivalent to \$273 million today, and nearly destroyed the studio because it was a huge flop.

In more recent cinematic memory, "Gladiator" almost single-handedly revived the swords-and-sandals genre with its success. The film, starring Russell Crowe, cost well over \$100 million dollars, but achieved the lavish effects of its predecessors using CGI effects instead of having a cast of thousands and building huge sets. In 2001, the film won five Oscars, including Best Actor and Best Picture, which naturally led to a revived interest in ancient history and a wave of movies that would try to imitate its success.

One of the first major films to follow

"Gladiator" was 2004's "Troy." The movie featured Brad Pitt as Achilles, Orlando Bloom as Paris and Eric Bana as Hector. It was not well-received by critics, who panned the actors and the script's attempt to adapt "The Iliad." Nor was it embraced by audiences. The film only spent six weeks in the top 10 and grossed far less domestically than it cost to produce.

The next film that attempted to replicate the success of "Gladiator" was Oliver Stone's "Alexander." The film had an all-star cast that included Colin Ferrell as Alexander, Angelina Jolie as his mother Olympias, Anthony Hopkins as Ptolemy and Val Kilmer as Philip of Macedonia. The film, like "Troy" failed to find critical praise or the massive box office success it needed to recoup its budget. It spent only three weeks as one of the top 10 movies at the box office, and it failed to soar higher than number six. "Alexander," like "Cleopatra" before it, was thought to have once again crushed the willingness of studios to take risks on films in the swords-and-sandals genre.

The latest incarnation of films that

play on our culture's fascination with ancient history is HBO's series, "Rome." Its nearly \$100 million dollar budget, large cast and detailed sets reveal that it shares similarities with many of the films that came before it. The looser production standards that HBO retains have allowed the series to be much more graphic than many films that came before it. The fact that it is a series allows it to go into greater detail than movies normally can in with their time constraints.

Only time will tell if television will usurp cinema as the place to debut swords-and-sandals epics, but if the long legacy of the genre reveals anything, it's that the more things change, the more they stay the same.

Regardless of the medium the appear in, these epics will feature large casts, plenty of action, opulent sets and a great deal of action. Ancient Greek and Roman culture died out thousands of years ago, but our fascination with these cultures hasn't diminished much over the centuries.

Contact Molly Griffin at mgriffin@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of canmag.com

"Rome" is a joint production between HBO and BBC but airs exclusively on HBO. The show, debuted in August and has since become an instant hit.

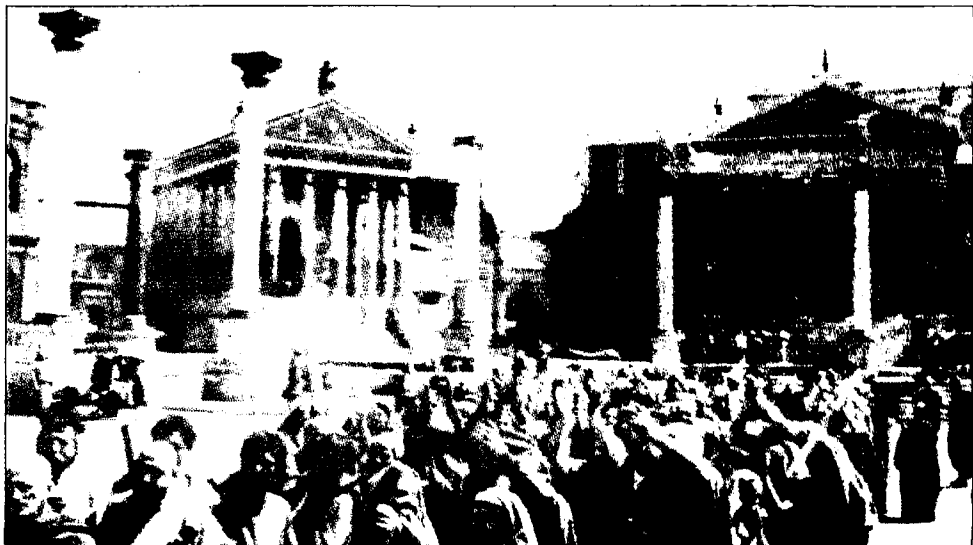


Photo courtesy of ancientworlds.net

Part of the the immense success of the hit-show "Rome" can be attributed to its elaborate and incredibly detailed sets such as the one shown above.

NHL

Rangers down Pens for sixth straight victory

Newly acquired Sturm helps Bruins topple first place Senators; Tucker's two goals push Leafs past Thrashers

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Marek Malik's sudden offensive prowess has made him the brunt of Jaromir Jagr's jokes.

Malik has quickly become a fan favorite at Madison Square Garden, and not just when he and the Rangers are on the ice. The defenseman scored his first goal in regulation and fellow defenseman Maxim Kondratiev netted his first in the NHL to lead New York to its sixth straight victory, 2-1 over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Thursday night.

Last Saturday night, Malik ended the longest shootout in NHL history in the 15th round against Washington with a sparkling between the legs move. That winning shot was replayed on the center ice screen early in the game Thursday, one night after it was shown during the New York Knicks' NBA game while Malik sat courtside.

"I'm scared to turn on the TV now. You can't hide from him," said Czech countryman Jagr, who has 21 goals and assisted on Kondratiev's score. "I can't go to the bar without people showing it. I can't even go to the Giants game because I think he is going to be there again. It's just unbelievable."

New York is on its longest winning streak since a six-game run from Nov. 3-14, 2001. The Rangers are 11-3 in their last

14 games while the slumping Penguins (7-13-6) dropped their fourth straight, including three road contests.

Malik's latest goal, the 28th in 11 seasons which gave the Rangers a 2-1 lead at 6:31 of the second period, was much more conventional than his shootout theatrics.

"It's about time," Malik said. "I'm really happy I scored, especially the game-winning goal."

After a faceoff win by Michael Nylander, defenseman Michal Rozsival slid the puck from right to left inside the blue line. Malik wound up for a shot from above the left circle and beat Marc-Andre Fleury high with his first regulation goal in 40 games, dating to March 3, 2004.

"He's on fire right now," said winning goalie Henrik Lundqvist, a fan favorite himself as he improved to 7-1-1 at home. "I think he was the best player on the ice."

Fleury didn't have much chance to stop the drive from Malik, who had time to set up his shot.

"He could do whatever he wanted," Fleury said. "I don't think he can do that too many times in a row."

Kondratiev made it 1-0 at 7:52 of the first period with New York's first power-play goal in four games — their longest drought of this surprisingly good season that has the

Rangers atop the Atlantic Division (17-7-3). They had failed on 18 straight man advantages before Kondratiev got a shot through traffic from the left point with one second remaining on Dick Tarnstrom's 4-minute penalty for high-sticking.

Lundqvist, filling in for injured regular Kevin Weekes, made 35 saves to earn his 10th victory (10-3-2).

"He made the difference," 18-year-old Penguins forward Sidney Crosby said. "We have to find ways to score but give him credit."

Boston 3, Ottawa 0

The Boston Bruins followed up the trade of captain Joe Thornton with another stunning development — this one on the ice.

A day after shipping out their star, the last-place Bruins beat first-place Ottawa on Thursday night, handing the Senators their first shutout of the season and their first loss of any kind in seven games. The victory was delivered in part from Marco Sturm, who scored on his first shift after being acquired for the former Bruins captain.

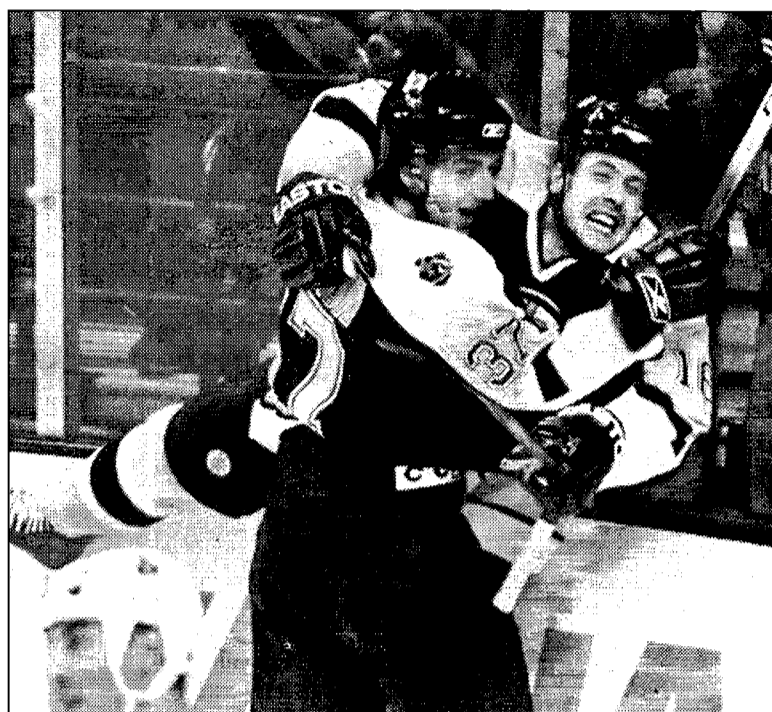
"We said it before the game: We wanted a fresh start," said Sturm, who came over from the equally desperate San Jose Sharks along with Wayne Primeau and Brad Stuart. "After the goal, I kind of felt free. I haven't felt that way for a long time."

Sturm had a goal and an assist, and Hannu Toivonen stopped 26 shots to earn his first career shutout while giving Boston just its second victory in 11 games. The slump forced the Bruins to shake up the roster by shipping the 1997 top overall draft pick to the Sharks.

"I feel like I have let him down as a teammate and a friend," defenseman Nick Boynton said. "It hurts to know that a move like this is what it took to play like this."

The victory took some of the sting out of losing the popular but potential-laden star. The crowd stood and applauded for the last 90 seconds, turning out a deafening roar when Toivonen preserved the shutout on a shot from point-blank range in the final seconds.

"One of our problems in San Jose was getting goals and get-



PHOTOGRAPHER/The Observer

Patrice Bergeron (37) congratulates fellow Bruin Marco Sturm after Sturm's first period goal Thursday in Boston's 3-0 win.

ting leads, period," Stuart said. "I don't remember playing that long with a two- or three-goal lead at all."

Dominik Hasek made 21 saves for the Senators, who had won six in a row and hadn't lost to a Northeast Division rival in 12 games this season. Dany Heatley was held without a point for the first time all season; acquired from Atlanta before the season, he would have tied Wayne Gretzky's record for the longest point streak with a new team.

Toronto 4, Thrashers 0

In a matchup of two of the top four power plays in the NHL, Atlanta was short-handed more often than Toronto — and the Thrashers paid for it Thursday night.

Mikael Tellqvist stopped 28 shots for his first career shutout, Darcy Tucker scored twice and the Maple Leafs stretched their winning streak over Atlanta to six games by beating the Thrashers.

The Maple Leafs scored on three of their 11 power-play opportunities. The Thrashers were denied 26 times in the first two periods by Tellqvist and were 0-for-8 on power plays.

"He was sharp early in the game," Toronto coach Pat

Quinn said. "Our penalty killers were good, too. The best part about penalty killing is usually the goaltender, and he certainly answered tonight."

Tellqvist, giving regular starter Ed Belfour a night off as the Maple Leafs were playing back-to-back games, earned Toronto's first shutout of the season.

"I've been waiting a long time for that," Tellqvist said. "It was huge. All the credit goes to my D-men."

Alexei Ponikarovsky had a short-handed goal and Alex Steen also scored for the Maple Leafs.

Toronto has the league's best road power-play percentage (26.9) and is second overall at 22.7 percent.

The Thrashers are fourth with a 21.6 percent success rate on the power play.

Though the Thrashers managed only two shots in the final period, they fired 16 second-period shots at Tellqvist.

"He made some key saves on us tonight, but that's no excuse for us," Atlanta center Marc Savard said. "We've got to find some ways to score."

Toronto took a 2-0 lead in the opening period and added two goals in the final 5 minutes. The Thrashers were shut out for the fourth time this season.



New York Rangers' Jason Ward, left, congratulates goalie Henrik Lundqvist after the Rangers beat the Penguins 2-1 Thursday.

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Go Knicks
What would she do?
What would she do?

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 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

AROUND THE NATION

Friday, December 2, 2005

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NHL

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

team	record	OT	points
NY Rangers	16-7	3	35
Philadelphia	15-6	3	33
New Jersey	12-10	2	26
NY Islanders	12-12	1	25
Pittsburgh	7-12	6	20

Eastern Conference, Northeast Division

team	record	OT	points
Ottawa	19-3	0	38
Montreal	14-7	4	32
Buffalo	15-9	1	31
Toronto	14-9	3	31
Boston	8-13	5	21

Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

team	record	OT	points
Carolina	16-7	1	33
Tampa Bay	14-10	3	31
Atlanta	10-12	3	23
Washington	8-14	2	18
Florida	7-14	4	18

Western Conference, Central Division

team	record	OT	points
Detroit	18-6	2	38
Nashville	15-4	3	33
Chicago	10-14	0	20
Columbus	7-18	0	14
St. Louis	4-15	3	11

Western Conference, Northwest Division

team	record	OT	points
Vancouver	16-8	2	34
Colorado	14-9	3	31
Calgary	14-9	3	31
Edmonton	14-11	1	29
Minnesota	10-10	3	23

Western Conference, Pacific Division

team	record	OT	points
Dallas	16-7	1	33
Los Angeles	16-9	1	33
Phoenix	13-12	2	28
Anaheim	11-11	4	26
San Jose	8-12	4	20

CCHA Conference Standings

	team	conf.	pts.	overall
1	Miami (OH)	8-1-1	17	9-2-1
2	Ohio State	6-4-1	13	7-5-1
3	Michigan	5-1-1	11	9-3-1
4	Ferris State	3-1-4	10	7-3-4
5	Alaska Fairbanks	4-3-1	9	6-4-2
6	Lake Superior	3-5-2	8	6-5-3
7	Northern Michigan	4-6-0	8	7-7-0
8	Bowling Green	3-7-1	7	3-9-1
9	Michigan State	2-4-3	7	5-6-4
10	Western Michigan	3-4-1	7	3-7-2
11	Nebraska-Omaha	3-5-0	6	7-6-0
12	NOTRE DAME	2-5-1	5	3-8-1

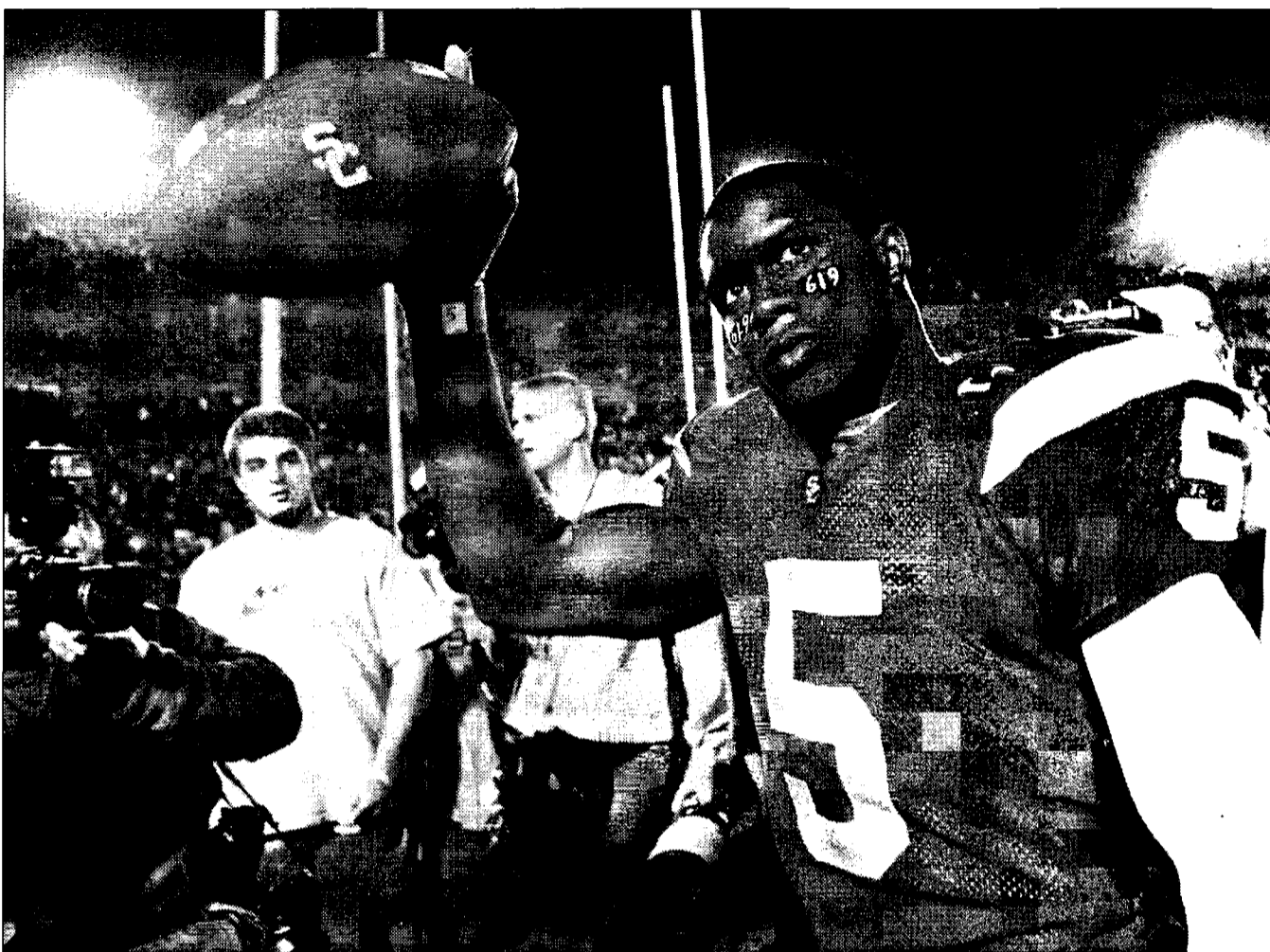
around the dial

NCAA FOOTBALL
LA Tech at Fresno State
9:00 p.m., ESPN2

Notre Dame at Stanford 2005
Instant Classic
9:00 p.m., ESPN Classic

NBA
New York at Detroit
7:00 p.m., ESPN
Cleveland at Seattle
10:30 p.m., ESPN
Toronto at Atlanta
7:00 p.m., TSN

NCAA FOOTBALL



USC running back Reggie Bush holds the game ball from the Trojans' 50-42 win over Fresno State. USC will play the 115th rushing defense in the nation on Saturday against UCLA.

USC to face weak UCLA run defense

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — UCLA has made a string of opposing runners look like Heisman Trophy material — and none was exactly Reggie Bush.

The No. 11 Bruins' generous defense is allowing 219.5 yards rushing a game to rank 115th in the country. UCLA knows it will have to plug many holes to have a chance against No. 1 Southern California at the Coliseum on Saturday.

Bush, who was extraordinary in a 29-24 victory over UCLA a year ago, has

played even better as a junior this season and is a leading candidate for the Heisman.

He and power-running teammate LenDale White will be slashing at a defense that allowed Justin Forsett to rush for 153 yards and Marshawn Lynch 135 for California; Jerome Harrison to pick up 260 for Washington State; and Mike Bell to run for 153 and Gilbert Harris another 113 for Arizona.

The Bruins (9-1, 6-1 Pac-10) still beat Cal and Washington State with late comebacks, with their only loss at Arizona. But none

of those teams would be mistaken for two-time defending national champion USC.

UCLA has had three weeks to try to figure out how to bottle up the Trojans' running game while keeping 2004 Heisman winner Matt Leinart from dissecting their secondary with his passes.

"It's a little tougher preparing for USC because of Reggie Bush," UCLA cornerback Marcus Cassel said. "They've got a great passing attack, a great quarterback and they have a running back who can

make things happen."

Linebacker Spencer Havner, who leads the Bruins with 84 tackles, thinks the defense is ready for Bush & Co.

"I'm looking forward to facing Reggie Bush. Maybe it's stupid to think that, but that's how I look at it," Havner said. "Reggie has a certain style and it's usually to head outside."

"We have to have people coming to the ball. You can cut off his lanes. He's not Superman, although he may look like it at times. You can stop anybody if your defense is pursuing the ball properly."

IN BRIEF

Bucknell becoming regular upset winner

LEWISBURG, Pa. — Perhaps it shouldn't be considered an upset any more when Bucknell beats a big-name opponent.

This small private school has developed a reputation for knocking off some of college basketball's big guns over the last couple of seasons. Last year, it scored a regular-season road victory over Pittsburgh and shocked Kansas in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

The latest ranked opponent to fall to the Bison is Syracuse, which was No. 19 when Bucknell scored a 74-69 win on Nov. 22 at the Carrier Dome.

"Whether or not it's a surprise to some people or a lot of people, none of these games are going to be a surprise to us," said Bucknell point guard Abe Badmus, beads of sweat dripping from his face after taking a breather during a recent practice at Bucknell's home court.

Colts' coach tries to fix special teams, penalties

INDIANAPOLIS — So many elements of the Indianapolis Colts are working perfectly that coach Tony Dungy is having a tougher time than usual finding things to fix.

But there are problems that need solved, he said.

There's a lot to like about the undefeated Colts.

They rank third in the league in total offense and fourth in total defense. Kicker Mike Vanderjagt has missed just one field goal all season, and Peyton Manning and Edgerrin James are playing like MVP candidates.

But the Colts (11-0) are struggling with elements of the kicking game. They rank last in the league in yards per kickoff return and 23rd out of 32 teams in punt return average. They rank 28th in yards allowed per punt return and 15th in yards allowed per kickoff return.

Dungy also was unhappy with the

team's 12 penalties for 106 yards in Monday night's 26-7 win over Pittsburgh. He said those are problems he'd like to see solved before the playoffs, starting with Sunday's home game against Tennessee (3-8).

Browns rookie quarterback has winning qualities

CLEVELAND — Charlie Frye stumbled in his NFL debut, and fell flat on his face in the next game.

However, Cleveland's rookie quarterback also displayed a knack for getting the most out of his ability and for making plays when the odds appear overwhelming. It's one of the qualities that made the Browns draft him.

"The kid," said Browns QB Trent Dilfer, "has moxie."

Frye has heard that word — moxie — used to describe him many times before. Now, if he only knew what it meant.

"I really don't know what the definition is," Frye said.

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Calendar of Events 2005

Friday, December 2

Las Posadas

7:30pm – Coleman-Morse Lounge

~ Traditional Posadas Procession to commemorate the journey to Bethlehem

~ Accompanied by *El Coro Primavera de Nuestra Señora*

~ Hot Chocolate, Churros, and Pan Dulce will be served!



Sunday, December 4

Spanish Mass and Guadalupe Presentation with Professor Tim Matovina

Associate Professor of Theology & The William and Anna Jean Cushwa Director of the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism

1:30pm Coleman-Morse Lounge

~ Mass (In Spanish) accompanied by *Coro Primavera, Mariachi ND, and Ballet Folklórico*

3:00pm Coleman-Morse Lounge

~ Presentation (in English) of Prof. Matovina's new book: *Guadalupe and Her Faithful: Latino Catholics in San Antonio, from Colonial Origins to the Present*

~ Join us for tamales and pan dulce!

Friday, December 9

Feast of San Juan Diego

& commemoration of the

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

5:15pm – Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Presider: Fr. Bob Pelton, CSC

With the sacred music and dance of: *El Coro Primavera de Nuestra Señora, The Notre Dame Folk Choir, Mariachi ND, and Ballet Folklórico*



Campus Ministry

The collection at this Mass will benefit hurricane victims in the Yucatán Peninsula and will be administered through
Catholic Relief Services

INSTITUTE for



Latino Studies
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

NFL

Eagles, Seahawks find team positions reversed



Eagles safety Michael Lewis intercepts Green Bay Packers quarterback Brett Favre in Philadelphia's 19-14 win on Sunday.

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — One team is trying to secure a division title and move closer to earning the top seed in the conference. The other is fighting to stay in the playoff race.

The Philadelphia Eagles have been in this position often the last few years. Only this time, the roles are reversed and the Eagles are the desperate ones.

The conference-leading Seattle Seahawks (9-2) can clinch their second consecutive NFC West title with a victory over Philadelphia (5-6) on Monday night.

Meanwhile, the reigning NFC champions just want to keep alive their slim playoff hopes. Eight other teams have better records than the Eagles, and two more are equal.

Does being a desperate team make Philadelphia a more dangerous opponent?

"If you're desperate with playmakers, yeah. If you're desperate for making plays, yeah," Eagles safety Brian Dawkins said. "If you're desperate and you're going to go out on the field with no emotion and play just another game, no."

"It depends on how you prepare during the week. If you're being diligent in studying the film to make sure you know your opponent completely inside and out and going out and expecting to win the game, not just going out and being desperate, hoping you win the game."

Which team is Philadelphia? "We expect to win. We expect to win every game we step into," Dawkins said.

The Eagles snapped a four-game losing streak with a 19-14 victory over lowly Green Bay last week. Without injured quarterback Donovan McNabb and banished wide receiver Terrell Owens, the offense had trouble moving the ball. But running back Brian Westbrook had a career-high 120 yards rushing and the defense stopped Brett Favre in crucial spots.

Seattle was helped by three missed field goals in its 24-21 overtime victory against the New York Giants. The Seahawks, off to their best start since opening 12-2 in

1984, have won seven straight, one short of tying a team record for consecutive wins in a season.

"They are a formidable opponent," Seahawks coach Mike Holmgren said of the Eagles. "They have a lot of good players. There are a couple guys that they were counting on that are hurt, but they still have a lot of good players. They have a lot of pride. It's a difficult place to play."

While the Eagles are used to playing in the national spotlight, the Seahawks are making their first appearance under the Monday night lights this season. Philadelphia is playing its third Monday night game of the year and second at home in four weeks.

"It's the greatest stage for a regular-season game," Seahawks running back Shaun Alexander said. "It's one of those things where this is a game that everybody grew up watching and everybody's family and friends will be watching. We're excited to show what we can do."

Alexander has shown plenty this season. A two-time Pro Bowl selection, Alexander is having a career year going into free agency. Alexander leads the NFL with 1,339 yards rushing and 20 touchdowns. He's seeking his ninth 100-yard game, which would break the team record he shares with Chris Warren.

The Eagles' once-dominant defense has had varied success against the run this season. Atlanta (200), Kansas City (144), Dallas (167) and Denver (255) each had their way on the ground against Philly. But the Eagles shut down Oakland's LaMont Jordan (19 yards on 16 carries) in Week 3 and held San Diego's LaDainian Tomlinson to a career-worst 7 yards rushing on 17 carries on Oct. 23.

"He's like L.T., but in a bigger package," Eagles defensive end N.D. Kalu said of Alexander. "That's what makes him scarier."

Led by Alexander and quarterback Matt Hasselbeck, the Seahawks have the league's top offense, averaging 386.1 yards per game. The Eagles had the best passing offense before Mike McMahon threw for just 91 yards in his second start since replacing McNabb.

"We expect to win. We expect to win every game we step into."

Brian Dawkins
Eagles safety

"It's the greatest stage for a regular-season game. ... We're excited to show what we can do."

Shaun Alexander
Seahawks running back

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HOCKEY

Irish look to right the ship

Team carries four-game winless streak into home-and-home

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

After enduring three losses and a tie in its last four games, the Notre Dame hockey team is looking to get back in the win column at least once in this weekend's home-and-home with Western Michigan.

"I'm just hoping we can get back on track — last weekend was probably the worst hockey we've played all season," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said of last week's 4-1 and 5-2 losses to Ohio State at the Joyce Center, which left Notre Dame 3-8-1 on the season.

The Irish lost to and tied Miami of Ohio the week before. Jackson said he is avoiding comparisons to last year's disastrous, season ending 22-game winless streak, which left the Irish psychologically fragile heading into this season.

"If the players are letting it effect them, that's their mistake," he said. "But I'm going to do everything in my power to make sure we play well tomorrow night [and Saturday]."

After averaging 3.7 goals per game through their first nine contests, the Irish have scored just 5 in their last four outings. They have scored none without at least a man advantage.

"We haven't scored a five on five goal in four games," Jackson said. "We just have to do the small things that allow for goals to be scored, like going to the net hard, fighting for ice in front of the net, making sure we're shooting when we get into the scoring areas rather than make a nice play or a pass, face offs, and power plays."

After splitting time with freshman Jordan Pearce for most of the season, junior goalie Dave Brown has started the last four games. Pearce played in backup duty Saturday against Ohio State, but Jackson said Brown will start against the Broncos.

"I want [Jordan] to stay fresh because I think we're going to need him this season," Jackson said. "David's played well this season and I'd like to see him continue to play well, but I don't want to have Jordan get too far away from playing."

Western Michigan comes into the contest with a record of 3-4-1. The Broncos took No. 11 Colgate to overtime twice last weekend, tying 2-2 in one game and losing 4-3 in the other. They are led by forward Brent Walton. Despite standing only 5'9" tall, Walton was sixth in the NCAA in scoring last season and has four goals and



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Senior center Matt Amado skates against Princeton on Oct. 29. The struggling Irish face Western Michigan twice this weekend in a home-and-home series.

four assists in the last five games.

The Irish will be looking for their first road win when they travel to Lawson Arena in Kalamazoo for Western's half of the home and home Friday. Jackson said the feat will be made easier by the fact Kalamazoo is only a short bus ride from South Bend.

"When we're only an hour and a half away, that's a positive," he said. "It should be, just because of the location, something of a rivalry."

Due to impending final exams and some accumulated fatigue, Jackson shortened this week's practices to only an hour and a half each.

"I don't want to think fatigue is a factor, but school is getting real heavy this time of year with finals and all that," the coach said. "I want them to get rested and mentally prepared and get their schoolwork in line."

The Irish and Broncos will drop the puck at 7:35 Friday in Kalamazoo and 7:05 Saturday in South Bend.

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FOOTBALL RECRUITING

Committed recruits arrive for Banquet

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

The 84th University of Notre Dame football banquet will take place at 7 p.m. tonight at the Joyce Center, but with less significance than usual — not that it's a bad thing.

The football banquet normally marks one of the biggest recruiting weekends of the year, with several highly-rated, undecided prospects taking their official visits to Notre Dame.

But since head coach Charlie Weis has already secured 22 known verbal commitments for his first full recruiting class, there will not be a single uncommitted recruit in attendance at the banquet.

"In the past it's been the big weekend for Notre Dame to kind of shore up and land some top guys," Mike Frank of Irisheyes.com said of the banquet. "But [Weis] has kind of fast forwarded that process and he already has his top guys in the fold."

With the maximum number of players allowed in one recruiting class set at 25 by the NCAA, Notre Dame has very few spots remaining. But Frank said running back James Aldridge and offensive lineman Chris Stewart, and possibly wide receiver/kick returner George West, will become the first-ever Irish recruits in the modern era to enroll early and begin school in January.

Early entrants can be counted towards the previous year's

recruiting class, giving Weis room for five or six more commitments. Recruits cannot officially sign letters of intent until February.

Notre Dame will be hosting several committed players this weekend. Frank believes Aldridge, offensive lineman Eric Olsen, kicker Ryan Burkhart, quarterback Demetrius Jones, tight end Paddy Mullen, running back Munir Prince, defensive ends John Ryan and Kallen Wade, wide receivers Rob Parris and Barry Gallup and fullback Luke Schmidt will attend today's banquet.

Former Notre Dame head coach and current ESPN analyst Lou Holtz will be the lead speaker. Frank said the banquet, while not as vital to recruiting as in years past, will still be important and meaningful to the team.

"I think it's just more going to be a celebration of a season that has turned out pretty well," he said.

Notes

◆ Gatorade announced the winners of its annual state high school football player of the year awards this week. Seven current Irish verbal commitments were recognized as the top player in their respective states — linebacker Morrice Richardson [Georgia], quarterback Demetrius Jones [Illinois], fullback Luke Schmidt [Indiana], wide receiver Barry Gallup [Massachusetts], running back Munir Prince [Missouri], safety Jashaad Gaines [Nevada] and offensive lineman Eric Olsen [New York].

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ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Irish women lead after Invitational's first day

Notre Dame enters the meet's second day in first, scoring 555

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

The women's swimming and diving team entered this weekend's Notre Dame Invitational brimming with confidence, and Thursday's results justified that approach.

Through the first day of the three-day event at Roll's Aquatic Center, the Irish are in first place with 555 points out of 11 teams. Notre Dame will have to hold off Utah for the next two days. The Utes are only 29 points behind the Irish.

Notre Dame has shown remarkable improvement as this season has progressed. The team's times and overall performance has improved from week to week. Thursday was clear evidence of that improvement as the

Irish achieved two career best times, one season best time and an NCAA 'B' cut time.

The Irish dominated throughout the day, registering nine top-three finishes and not finishing worse than second place in any of Thursday's six events.

Notre Dame the top three spots in the 500-freestyle on the first day. Freshman Casey Wagner took first place with a career-best time of 4:54.89. Classmate Claire Hutchinson (4:57.82) finished

in second, followed by junior Ellen Johnson (4:57.97).

The 500-freestyle was followed by the 200 individual medley, where Jessica Stephens took first place with an NCAA 'B' cut time of 2:04.22. Junior Ann Barton finished in second place with a season-best time of 2:05.83.

The night concluded with an impressive performance by sophomore diver Tara Hyer, who compiled a career-best 313.45 points. The score put her in a close second to

Utah's Kelsey Patterson.

Irish coach Carrie Nixon said Notre Dame's first day of an invitational typically has been its weakest, so the Irish performance on the second day will be telling.

In the Minnesota Invitational, which took place from Nov. 18-20, the Irish performed stronger on the second and third days of the meet. The Irish posted a win after that meet.

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MEN'S SWIMMING

Team dominates field, taking first place in three events

By JACK THORNTON
Sports Writer

It was a night for redemption and recognition at the first day of the 11th annual Irish Invitational, as the men's swimming team displayed its depth while dominating the field.

Notre Dame qualified 35 of its 39 preliminary entries for the evening finals, grabbing more than 40 percent of the point-earning spots and taking first place in three of the



Coyle

day's six events. Overall, the Irish ended the day with 878.5 points — well ahead of Utah's 474 and North Dakota's 317.

"What you saw this morning, for one thing, was just another almost overwhelming example of how deep this team is," head coach Tim Welsh said.

Strong individual performances were a recurring theme during the day. Jay Vandenberg continued his winning streak in the 500-yard freestyle, posting a season-best time of 4:29.72.

The Irish also had several swimmers post qualifying times for the Big East Championship.

Bryan Guarnier, Graham Parker and Dean Fernandez made "cut times" in the 200 individual medley (IM), while Patrick O'Berry and Brian

Freeman qualified in the 500-freestyle.

"We've had wonderful results in the middle of the pack," Welsh said. "Look at Brian Freeman swimming 4:34:95 in the 500-freestyle. And I don't think he's swam that before at Notre Dame, yet if you place that in context of our times this season, it's pretty good."

The Irish (4-1) opened the night with a solid win in the 200-freestyle relay, as Louis Cavadini, Tim Randolph, Nick Fanslau and Tim Kegelman shaved nearly four seconds off

their season-best time.

Later in the night, the 400-medley relay team of Doug Bauman, Cavadini, Randolph and Kegelman also took first and shed nearly two seconds off its previous season-best time.

"It feels really good, especially just with Utah and North Dakota in this year's field," Randolph said. "Relays have been a weak spot for us. Usually,

we're very solid there, but in the first half of the year we've struggled in dual meets."

Entering the meet, Notre Dame only had two relay wins in five dual meets.

"This season we've had a hard time winning relays," said Cavadini, who also posted a season-best 21.04 seconds in the 50-freestyle.

"But with the help of guys who were tapering and shaving, it knocked us up a level, and since we were winning it kept us out of our mellow state."

The diving squad put up arguably its best performance of the year, with Sam Stoner taking second place with 328.75 points, Michael Bullin earning fifth place with 305.65 points and Scott Coyle placing eighth with 276.46.

"We've had wonderful results in the middle of the pack."

Tim Welsh
Irish coach

"Scott Coyle placing the top eight is great, and it's good to see him doing that again," said Welsh, who also compared the depth of the diving team to that of the swimming team.

Though the Irish Invitational is traditionally a venue for swimmers to qualify for the Big East Championship, this year it takes on new meaning for a team that has now qualified all but one of its swimmers for the February event.

"Last year the Big East put a squad limit on the team, so now you can only bring 25," Cavadini said. "So for the guys that don't go to the Big East [Championship], this is their big meet."

"Scott Coyle placing in the top eight is great, and it's good to see him doing that again."

Tim Welsh
Irish coach

The action opens up again today at 10 a.m. with the 200-yard medley relay, followed by the 400 IM, 100-butterfly, 200-freestyle, 100-breaststroke, 100-backstroke, three-meter diving and the 800-freestyle relay.

Welsh said there is still much work to do.

"The test is to go strong for six sessions," he said. "As exciting as tonight is, getting back up in the morning [today] and doing it again Saturday is very tiring. And the experience we want to get each year from this is to go six sessions is a row right."

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SMC BASKETBALL

Belles aim to improve on 1-4 start to season



Bridget Lipke plays defense against an Alma player last season in a game on Feb. 13.

Belles prepared to play against North Park

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

After a 1-4 start for the Belles, coach Steve Bender hopes to use his team's constant intensity to turn the season around, starting with North Park University.

Saint Mary's has had little proof of the hard work they have put into training for basketball, but despite their record has not lost their concentration.

"The one main high point of this team is their intensity," said Bender. "I can never fault them for that."

But unfortunately for the Belles, hard work alone does not win basketball games. The Belles have struggled this year on offense. Their leading scorer, Allison Kessler, averages 12.8 points a game, but also shoots a mere 42 percent from the floor. In fact, the team as a whole has a 34 percent field goal percentage, far too low for any team with a chance of winning big games.

"We've had to get back to the fundamentals at practice," Bender said. "We need to work on the little things before we can improve."

After playing Hope on Wednesday, Bender has been concerned with the lack of a strong presence in the paint. The Belles will alternate between a three guard lineup and the traditional two guards, two forwards, and a center formation, which already eliminates an inside presence for Saint Mary's. Also, center/forward Nicole Beier averages only three rebounds a game, while point guard Bridget Lipke leads the team with thirty rebounds in the five games this year.

"We have been working at practice to build up our confidence when we have the ball," Bender said when asked about his team's struggling offense. "We need to be

stronger offensively to take the ball to the basket."

The Belles also need to improve their turnover margin. In their first five games, the Belles forced 76 opponent turnovers while committing a whopping 97 of their own. This ratio needs to improve if the Belles want to win against a beatable North Park team.

On a positive note, Coach Bender has been impressed with Lipke, who has emerged as a team leader. Lipke, the starting point guard, has played with a passion for the game that has led her to be the highest rebounder and second highest scorer on the team.

"Bridget has definitely been the leader so far this year," said Bender. "I hope that her love of the game is contagious."

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TRACK AND FIELD

Irish host year's first meet

DePaul, Butler come to Blue and Gold meet

By JASON GALVAN
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame track and field teams look to begin their season on the right foot at this weekend's Blue and Gold Invitational. The event, which will feature the Notre Dame team and other athletes from DePaul and Butler, will take place at 5 p.m. this Friday at Loftus Sports Center.

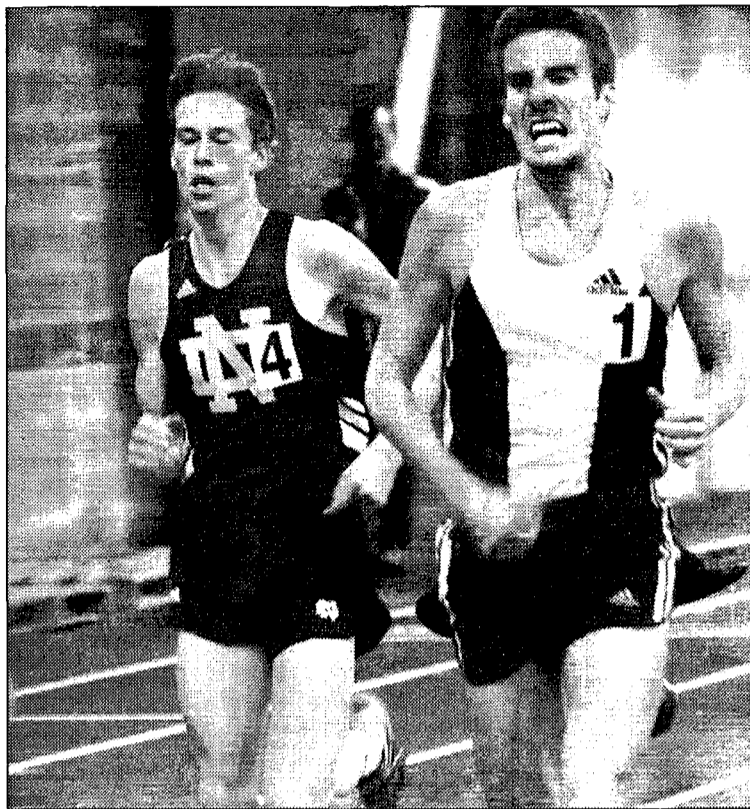
Though this meet has a relatively small number of participants from other schools, each of the teams will look to use this event as a starting point from which to gauge their progress during their off-season training.

"We started this meet years ago as an inter-squad meet, but the last couple of years we've invited a couple other schools," Assistant coach John Millar said. "It gives the athletes who have been training a chance to see where they're at and even as a motivator."

With a long season ahead and the next meet over a month away, the team will get the opportunity to put their training to use in a more competitive atmosphere. Many of the distance runners have been able to compete with the cross-country team this fall. For athletes in other events such as sprinting, hurdles and high jump, this event will be the first opportunity to sufficiently put their abilities to the test.

"The sprinters, jumpers and throwers work diligently from the first of September on and they can use this event as a benchmark for their conditioning," coach Joe Piane said. "It'll be a good start and a great opportunity for them since they haven't had the opportunity to do much over the summer."

In addition to finally putting their skills to the test after these months of off-season training, each of the athletes will also have the opportunity of to qualify for the Big East meet.



Kurt Benninger attempts to pull ahead in the one-mile race last season in the Mayo Invitational on Feb. 5.

"For the sprinters, throwers, runners and all those not in cross country, it's a great opportunity to see where they are fitness-wise and get the qualifying out of the way," senior distance runner Stephanie Madia said. "Everyone's excited and we have a lot of people that are ready to run at Big East Standards."

The Irish track team has a returning core of talented athletes who qualified for the NCAA championships last year and several others who are expected to make a strong showing this year and who may qualify for the Big East meet this Friday.

"For the men, Ryan Postel, Austin Wechter, Charlie Hilding and Zack Labrecque are people I would expect that should not only make it, but do good for the rest of the season," Millar said. "I also expect athletes on the women's team such as Maryann Erigha, Okechi Ogbukiri, Crysta Swayzer and Brienne Davis to qualify and

perform at a pretty high level."

However, veterans and proven stars should not be the only ones contributing this season.

"I'm also always looking for a few surprises and other people to step up," she said. "Zach Labrecque, moving from the 200 to the 400, is someone who could really do well."

The Invitational is something that the team can look forward to with some excitement coming out of the off-season. Each of the athletes have been preparing to perform at a high level this season and the first meet will, along with an evaluation of performance, prove to be a fun and exhilarating experience.

"Meets are something they gear towards," Millar said. The chance to compete is something to look forward to and I think they're excited about finally getting the opportunity."

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Baraka

continued from page 24

"Loads of progress, especially in these last few weeks. The girls have gotten together, gotten their attendance up and really worked hard."

Kwiat, a senior who has been a part of the boxing club since her freshman year, said her interest in the sport spawned from watching her brother Michael participate in Bengal Bouts when she was in high school.

"I saw there were ND women's boxers out there [during Bengal Bouts] helping," she said. "I was interested in it at activities night and thought that would be a great way to have fun, meet people and be able to work for a good cause."

Kwiat said the club has rededicated its focus this year to raising money for the missions.

"We're having 17 exhibition fights, and all proceeds are going to be donated to Holy Cross mission schools," Kwiat said.

The weekend will begin with a first-hand account of the importance of the cause, Cleary said.

"We have one of the priests from [a Holy Cross mission in Africa] coming in to speak to us [Friday], so hopefully that will reinforce what we're here for and why we're fighting on Sunday."

In her four years, Kwiat said she has seen boxers improve and develop their own style, even as the cause has remained the same.

"It's just great seeing people grow and change as boxers over the years," she said. "Especially novices, watching them as they first come into boxing and don't know anything about it. Then they step into the ring, and they know how to throw punches, and they know how to defend themselves and they know technique. It's just great watching the girls year-by-year."

The fights have a maximum of three 1:30 rounds.

Cleary said the club's practices are crucial because of the demanding nature of the bouts.

"We're definitely here to get the girls motivated - get them to come back every single day," she said. "It's not easy to step in that ring."

Of the 17 bouts on Sunday's card, Kwiat said she is particularly excited for the final fight, between junior Kelsey Miller and senior Jessica Fickey.

"Jess Fickey is one of the most skilled boxers in the club," Kwiat said. "I'm looking forward to her fight. ... It will be one of the many featured fights."

The bouts will take place in Auxiliary Gymnasium 2 of the JACC, and tickets are \$5.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

Advance

continued from page 24

familiar 2-0 lead, but a young Dayton team kept fighting and tied the match at 2-2, reminiscent of Notre Dame losses to Pittsburgh and Tennessee.

"It was obviously a battle," Brown said. "And we've got to give Dayton a lot of credit. I think they played very well. This time of year sometimes it's tough."

The Flyers just wouldn't go away.

When the match headed to the fifth game, the tested Irish knew this match had to end differently from last week's five-game loss to Tennessee.

"We were just ready to go," said Henican, who broke the Notre Dame single-match digs record with 43. "We looked at each other in the eyes, and we said, in the huddle, 'We take it here, and that's the only option. There's no other way.'"

The senior admitted, at times, the Irish hadn't played their game. There were times

when they had to "fight." But their senior leadership, including Henican and Brewster, helped the team win the battle.

"Our strength is that we are a team and that when we have to, we play together," Henican said.

Brewster, despite often being double-teamed at the net, finished with 16 kills. When

asked about Dayton's approach to defending the senior All-American, Brown said doubling her at the net was the correct strategy.

"I would do the same if I were going against Brewster," she said. "[It] opened up things for Mallorie [Croal] and Adrianna."

Croal, a freshman who shares time with fellow outside hitter/sophomore Ellen Heintzman, sparked the Irish. She pounded 18 kills and had five blocks.

Stasiuk played a well-rounded match. She added 16 kills,

seven set assists, two service aces, 19 digs and four blocks.

The Flyers have one senior on their 24-11 squad, setter and leader Nicole Schott. Though young, Dayton showed plenty of character, Flyer coach Tim Ilorsman said.

"We enjoyed playing tonight," he said. "They're a great team obviously. Notre Dame had a super year."

When asked about how proud he was of his team's comeback and of being a bounce or two away from upsetting the No. 6 Irish, Ilorsman half-joked.

"We'd like to have that bounce back," he said.

Schott, who finished with 60 set assists in her final match, said she knew her team could compete with the experienced Irish.

"[The comeback] showed our character," she said, choked up. "We knew we could do it."

"The season was on the line. No matter what your rank, you want to go on."

Adrianna Stasiuk
Irish middle blocker

Michigan

continued from page 24

26, but began to settle for perimeter shooting as the game progressed. Francis managed just eight field goals in the game despite starting off strong.

"[We] should use Torin [Francis] a little more," Brey said. "[We are] happy with his demeanor and [he is] keeping it simple. He's in that kind of mood, scoring around the basket. [We have to] remember to get him touches."

Francis is 12-of-21 from the field this season, averaging 10.7 points and 10.7 rebounds per game.

Michigan will give Notre Dame a challenge with its ability to spread their players out on the floor. Wolverines head coach Tommy Amaker has a strong perimeter led by Daniel Horton, Dion Harris and Lester Abram to go along with Courtney Sims in the post.

Horton leads the Wolverines with 16.3 points per game. Sims is averaging 14.5 points to go along with 6.8 rebounds per game.

Brey said Thursday that he is impressed with Horton's offensive game, specifically his ability to create for himself and make an impact on the floor.

"[Horton] took over last year," Brey said. "[It is] kind of what he's done this year. He's made very big shots when there's been game pressure on that team. He's strong enough where back smaller guard down and overpower him."

Brey made it no secret that he

and Amaker are friendly off the court. He even went as far as saying that getting ready for Saturday's game was unusual because of his relationship with Michigan's coach.

"I'm probably more uncomfortable with this preparation because Tommy is a good friend," Brey said. "We've been in this business a long time."

Brey and Amaker were once assistant coaches together at Duke under Blue Devils head coach Mike Krzyzewski.

"Certainly Notre Dame-Michigan is more important than Amaker-Brey. It's a match up that fan bases get excited about both in Ann Arbor and South Bend."

The Irish lost a 61-60 heart-breaker last year to the Wolverines in Ann Arbor. In that game, No. 20 Notre Dame led 60-58 when Horton completed a 3-point play with 20.7 seconds left to give Michigan the win.

Former point guard Chris Thomas had two opportunities to win the game on the ensuing possession, but missed two consecutive field goals as time expired.

"Any time Michigan and Notre Dame have been matched up, there always seems to be a little more of a buzz," Brey said. "If it's soccer, if it's volleyball, women's basketball, hockey. I just feel a little more juice around that."

"There's some excitement from both fan bases when both these great institutions play."

Notre Dame and Michigan will tip off at 2 p.m. on Saturday at the Joyce Center.

Contact Bobby Griffin at rgriffin3@nd.edu

Badgers

continued from page 24

two straight road games against the Midwest conference. Notre Dame faces Purdue on Wednesday, as well.

The Irish come off a 74-55 win against Iona at the Joyce Center on Tuesday, a game they won without head coach Muffet McGraw. McGraw stayed home with an illness, and associate head coach Coquese Washington led the team in her place. Washington is a 1992 graduate of Notre Dame, where she played basketball as well, and has been an assistant coach since 1999.

Washington said Thursday afternoon that she was unsure if McGraw would be healthy enough to coach the Irish for Sunday's game, and that it would be a "day-to-day" situation.

But Washington acknowledged the Badgers would be a tough opponent, playing in the Big Ten.

"The Big Ten and the Big East are both quality conferences," Washington said. "Anytime you play a Big Ten team, you know you're going to have a competitive game."

In 2003, the last time these two teams met, the Irish came out on top at the Joyce Center 82-64, behind 25 points from Megan Duffy and 22 points from Courtney LaVere.

The two players are now the co-captains of this year's Irish squad, both as seniors.

Meanwhile, the Badgers are led by sophomore guard

We knew we could compete with them tonight. I'm disappointed with the result, of course. We did everything we could, and it didn't go our way."

In the fifth-game, the Irish looked looser than they had all match when they jumped to an early 6-1 lead.

The relentless Flyers came back, making the Irish work hard for nearly every point. But Notre Dame was able to handle the pressure.

"The season was on the line," Stasiuk said. "No matter what your rank, you want to go on. I don't know if it was really tense. They [Dayton] played really well. We just kept fighting."

With the second round match looming just less than 21 hours after last night's victory, the Irish have no time to be tired. Fatigue should not be a factor tonight, Henican said.

"It's all adrenaline now," she said. "It doesn't matter how tired you are."

Contact Tom Dorwart at tdorwart@nd.edu

Jolene Anderson, who won gold this summer, like Duffy, playing for a United States team. Anderson played for the U-19 World Championship Team, while Duffy won gold with the World University Games Team.

Last weekend, Anderson, who is averaging 16.4 points, 5.4 rebounds, 4 assists and 2.2 steals per game, and fellow guard Janese Banks were named all-tournament at the Rainbow Wahini Classic in Honolulu, Hawaii, where the Badgers reached the championship final. There they lost to Big East member No. 17 DePaul, 76-57.


And the Badgers have a quick turnaround before the Irish come to town. Tonight they face another Big East team, Marquette, at the Kohl Center before facing Notre Dame on Sunday.

Washington said she expects to face a tough Wisconsin team at a place that draws well for women's basketball. And as a result, she wants Notre Dame to have a better first half than it did against Iona, when the Irish led just 36-28 against the Gaels.

"We want to open up a little stronger than we did against Iona," Washington said. "Playing on the road is tough. They've got a great arena and pretty good fan support. But I'm hoping we can come out with a lot of energy and get on the boards."

Tipoff is set for 1:30 p.m. on Sunday in Madison, Wisc.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu



NCAA Volleyball Championships

Round 1 - Thursday, December 1

Match 1 - 5:00pm - Texas A&M vs. Northwestern

Match 2 - 7:00pm - Dayton vs. #6 Notre Dame

Round 2 - Friday, December 2

Match 3 - 7:00pm - Game 1 Winner vs. Game 2 Winner

First 100 fans on both days will receive a free 20oz Coke Zero and a slice of Papa John's pizza compliments of Coca-Cola

Free Admission for first 100 ND, SMC, and HCC Students

BCS

continued from page 24

into the Jan. 2 Tostitos Fiesta Bowl in Tempe, Ariz.

The Bowl Championship Series (BCS) selection committee — comprised of all 11 Division I-A conference commissioners and Notre Dame commissioner/athletic director Kevin White — will announce its pairings for the Rose, Fiesta, Orange and Sugar bowls in a conference call on Sunday at 6 p.m.

But the BCS matchups cannot be finalized until teams complete their schedules on Saturday.

When the selection committee slots teams for the BCS bowls on Sunday, the committee first will assign conference champions to the bowls with an affiliation to their respective conferences — these are referred to as “host teams” for the bowl games.

So, under the current BCS arrangement, the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) champion — the winner of the Virginia Tech-Florida State game (8 p.m., ABC) — will automatically host the FedEx Orange Bowl in Miami, Fla.

The Southeastern Conference champion — the winner of the LSU-Georgia game (6 p.m., CBS) — will receive an automatic bid to the Nokia Sugar Bowl in Atlanta, Ga.

And normally, the Big 12 champion would host the Fiesta Bowl. But if Texas wins Saturday, the Longhorns go to the national championship game and leave the Fiesta without a host team.

“We then go into the process of replacing the host teams that

have moved on to play in the championship game,” said BCS coordinator and Big 12 commissioner Kevin Weiberg in a teleconference Wednesday.

This means that with four BCS bowl slots remaining — two taken by the Rose Bowl and three by conference champions — the Fiesta Bowl would receive first pick among the remaining bowls, even though the pre-arranged pecking order is Orange, Fiesta then Sugar.

Three Fiesta Bowl representatives were present at the Notre Dame-Stanford game on Saturday, and the Fiesta has made no secret that the Irish are a prime candidate for an early BCS selection.

But Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis said he will not be rooting for any team Saturday despite the Fiesta hype.

“I only cheer for us,” Weis said in a teleconference Thursday, “because I don’t think it’s really good to be cheering against anyone or for somebody. I feel pretty good about our chances of getting a bid to the BCS, and we’ll just let it play out. Whatever it is, it is.”

Decisions, decisions

Texas beat Colorado soundly, 42-17, on Oct. 15, but a Longhorn victory on Saturday is not guaranteed. If Texas loses, the Orange Bowl gets the first pick as prearranged.

But whichever bowl picks first will have the option of taking Notre Dame, Penn State, Ohio State, Oregon, Auburn or West Virginia with its first selection — or, as Weiberg said, “any available team that is eligible.”

The category of “eligible” teams includes conference champions not automatically

slotted into a bowl game (this year, the Big 10 and Big East) and any at-large team that has met the BCS’ criteria of nine wins and a top 12 final BCS rank (also includes Miami and UCLA, at present). Only two at-large teams will be selected for BCS bowls since Penn State (Big 10 champion) and West Virginia (Big East champion) are guaranteed berths.

To select, each BCS bowl gives the committee a list of preferences that must include any conference champion with automatic qualification that hasn’t been slotted. If there are no conflicts, the teams are slotted to their respective bowls accordingly.

If there are conflicts, the pre-arranged order of Orange, Fiesta, Sugar goes into effect. But a Texas win also would give the Fiesta first pick, as well, rearranging the order to Fiesta, Orange, Fiesta, Sugar.

Notre Dame did its part Saturday in a 38-31 win at Stanford. The Irish (9-2) earned their ninth win and finished at No. 8, pending Saturday’s games, in the BCS standings.

“There’s no other team that I think should represent their own school and college football in general than this team right here,” Notre Dame wide receiver Jeff Samardzija said after the win at Stanford.

Critics have been debating that point for weeks.

Why Notre Dame?

Penn State (10-1; No. 3 BCS) and Ohio State (9-2; No. 6 BCS), considered at-large teams in years when the Rose Bowl hosts the national championship game, have similar or better records than the Irish. The

Nittany Lions defeated Ohio State, and their only loss came on a last-second touchdown on the road to Michigan (No. 19).

Ohio State’s only losses were to Penn State and Texas, two top-three BCS opponents, and the Buckeyes are ranked higher than No. 8 Notre Dame in the BCS standings. So is Oregon (10-1), ranked No. 7 in the BCS.

But Weiberg said teams with better records sometimes fall beneath others simply in accordance with the BCS system and selection process.

“I understand that there’s still intense competition for those positions and that teams with very good records don’t always get selected,” he said. “I’ve had them from my own conference [the Big 12] over the years, but I think it’s really part and parcel of the bowl process. And I think the BCS has been of assistance in bringing some order to that selection process.”

Bowls evaluate a team’s performance when they make their selections, but the committees also take into account a team’s marketability, specifically to its local fan base, to sell tickets.

The Fiesta Bowl is certainly not looking for a repeat of last year’s 35-7 rout of Utah against Pittsburgh. And even if the bowl selections do not turn out to suit everyone’s needs, Weiberg pointed out that there is a review process.

“At that point there is a review of the pairings to see if there is a need to make an adjustment in the pairings,” Weiberg said. “Normally that is not the case. But we do have a procedure where we allow ABC television, our current television partner, to also comment on the pairings and bring forward any

issues it might have. That very rarely happens, but there is a procedure that allows it to happen.”

Quite simply, regardless of whether or not conferences cry foul at the notion that Notre Dame could be selected above teams ranked higher in the BCS, the Irish are qualified under the current BCS arrangement, and bowls have the ultimate say concerning teams’ destinations.

What about USC?

USC is the Pac-10 champion, though it still has to play UCLA on Saturday (4:30 p.m., ABC). With a win, Southern California advances to the national championship. With a loss, the Trojans could fall out and leave room for Penn State to slide into the Rose Bowl.

Unlike the Big 10 — which lost affiliation to a specific bowl this season — the Pac-10 champion is slated to appear in the Fiesta Bowl this year, unless that team goes to the national championship game.

A USC loss, then, forces the Trojans into the Fiesta Bowl. But as long as Texas wins, Notre Dame still has a chance at playing in Tempe, because Texas is the host team. A USC Rose Bowl bid does not affect the Fiesta Bowl’s selection order. It only opens a slot for a conference champion or at-large team to slide in.

Will it be Notre Dame?

“I know who has all the picks,” Notre Dame football coach Charlie Weis said in a Thursday press conference. “I just don’t know who’s picking us.”

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

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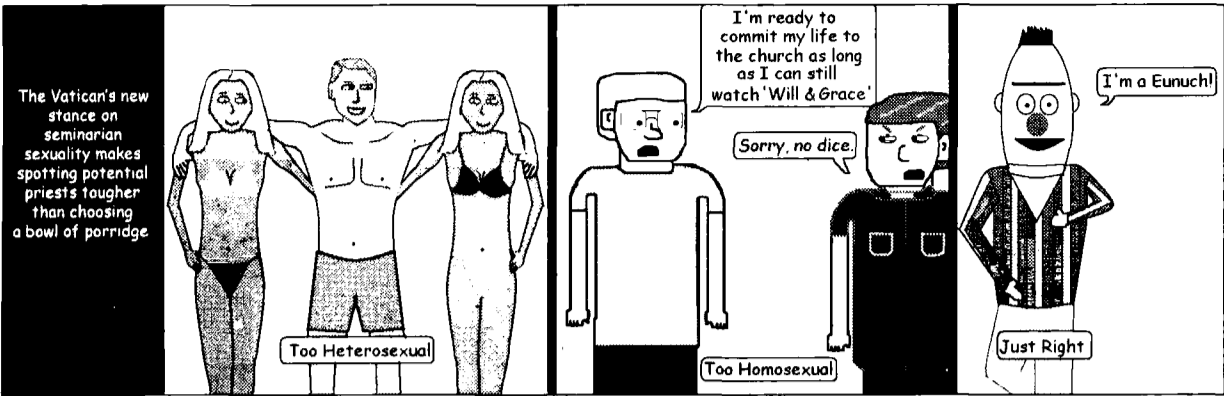
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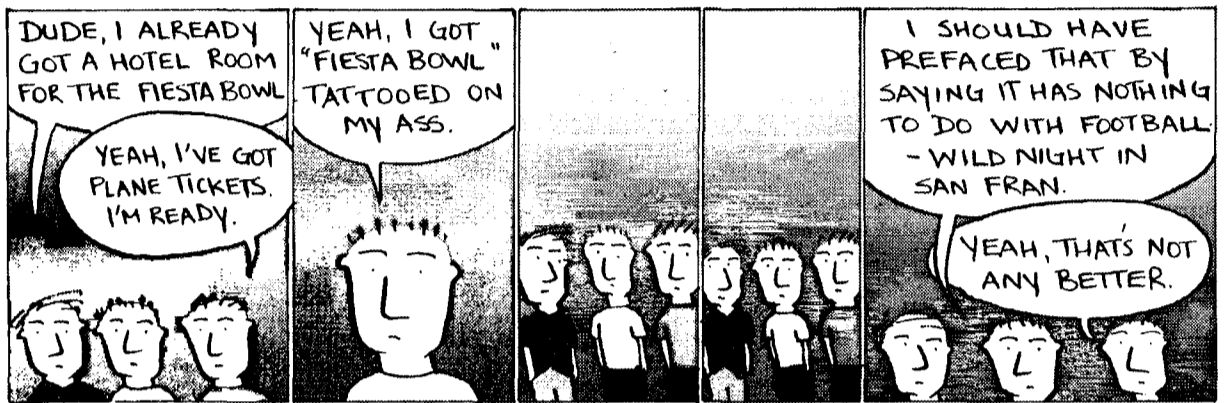
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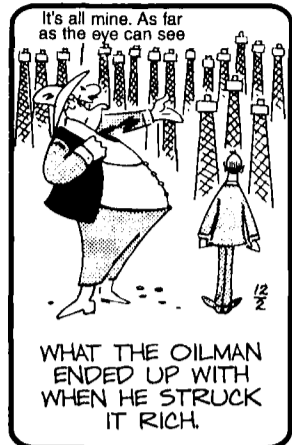
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DABIE
VALGE
SIMPOE
YARPER

www.jumble.com

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



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

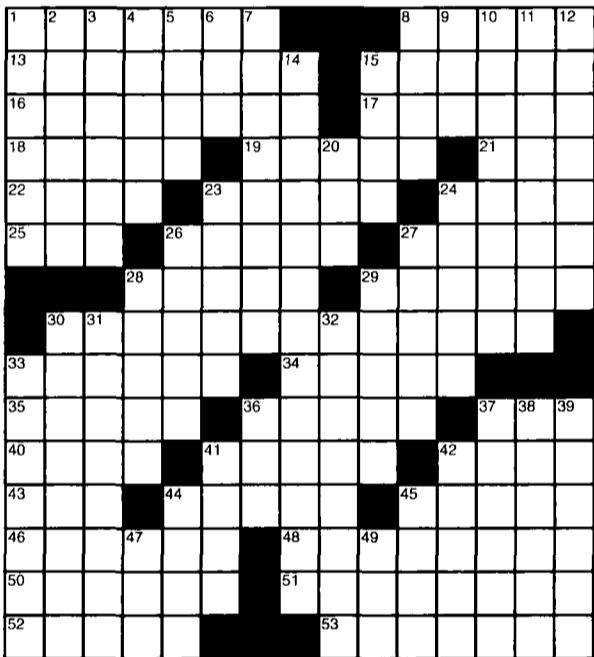
Answer: A " " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CHEEK BRIAR FETISH CRAYON
Answer: When the family went on vacation, they took — IT EASY

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Lumbox
8 He prophesied the destruction of Jerusalem
13 Draw
15 Its chief town is Scarborough
16 Come before
17 El Alamein battle commander
18 Cuts off the back
19 Ireland's ____ De Valera
21 Seat of White Pine County, Nev.
22 One beginning?
23 Illegal firing
24 Free of excess matter
25 Cone head?
- 26 Opening words of the Beatles' "We Can Work It Out"
27 Patisserie output
28 "Ditto"
29 Unlikely loser
30 Reflexologist's target
33 Ramshackle residence
34 Bombs
35 Stowe slave
36 Checked out
37 Run smoothly
40 "____ sign!"
41 Quinces, e.g.
42 It has 720 hrs.
43 You can bet on it
44 Sphere, say
45 Cry of accomplishment
46 Divider of Nebraska
- DOWN**
- 1 Book with 150 chapters
2 When two hands meet
3 Peruvian, e.g.
4 Brief bid
5 They're sometimes stacked
6 Org. that provides R.V. hookups
7 "I'll wait"
8 It has a bright side
9 Tech stock
10 Highest peak on Africa's west coast
11 A casino may have one
12 Lama, e.g.
14 Fluctuating fortunes
15 Suffix associated with accelerators
20 Stampede sound
23 Dilettantish
24 A fifth of quince
26 Cross
27 "Grab ____!"
- 48 Eh
50 Western ring
51 Pole, for one
52 Pa Clamptett player on TV
53 Tile piece



Puzzle by Louis Hildebrand

- 28 Table in old Rome
29 Uses a tap, perhaps
30 Development area
31 50 Cent and others
32 Politely got rid of
33 Apply by repeated small touches
36 Newspaper div.
37 Impish expression of delight
38 Flap
39 Workshop of Hephaestus
41 One who handles stress effectively?
42 Galleria array
44 Novelist Barstow
45 General ____ chicken
47 Bond
49 24-Down, across the Alps

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Carol Alt, 45; Brad Delson, 28; Bette Midler, 60; Richard Pryor, 65

Happy Birthday: All your efforts may be lost if you have been intent on getting others to do things for you. Consider how much further ahead you'd be if you just did things yourself. Now get to it and don't stop until you are satisfied with what you've accomplished. Your success will reflect your own abilities. Your numbers are 9, 23, 27, 29, 32, 37

ARIES (March 21-April 9): Today is the day to get out and have fun. Make plans and don't spare any expense. Meeting people will lead to interesting conversations and inspiring new ideas. Make a personal change that will improve your daily attitude. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't lend or borrow or buy into someone's sob story. Get-rich-quick schemes will not pan out the way you expect. Someone is likely to try to collect an old debt. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't count on anyone for help -- you will fret less and get more done. A challenge will remind you how capable you are. You should come out on top financially and emotionally. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You may wonder a bit today, especially if you have concerns about a loved one. Concentrate on what needs to be done. What you accomplish today will determine what the people around you feel you are capable of doing. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): This is not the time to let other people decide things that might affect your future. Entertain whoever you need on your side in order to further your position. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Partnerships are unstable and it may be necessary to stop seeing someone who has been making your life difficult. Protect yourself first. A love interest looks very interesting. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): This is a day to enforce some rules, regulations or changes at a personal level. You will have the upper hand and can win the support of anyone who counts. Social events will help enhance your public profile. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't farm out work you should be doing yourself. Break what you need to do into sections, stick to your budget and get things done properly. A little notoriety will generate interest in your work. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Not everyone will understand you today. Be explicit in your definition. Once you clarify your position, it will be easy to get things underway. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can charm your way into anyone's heart today. A short trip will enable you to finalize something that's been left dangling. Refuse to disagree with anyone who tries to upset you. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't be afraid to make a change or to go in a different direction. Take the road you know will teach you the most along the way. It's time to show everyone how proficient you can be. ****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): For every step you take forward you can expect someone to push you back. Watch out for people trying to outdo you or make you look bad. If you make a promise, be sure to follow through. **

Birthday Baby: You have plenty of pizzazz, but it's your resourcefulness and adaptability that will lead to your success. You push yourself to the limit and stop at nothing.

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

THE OBSERVER

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FOOTBALL ANALYSIS

Shaking down the BCS

Irish may be bound for warmer weather

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

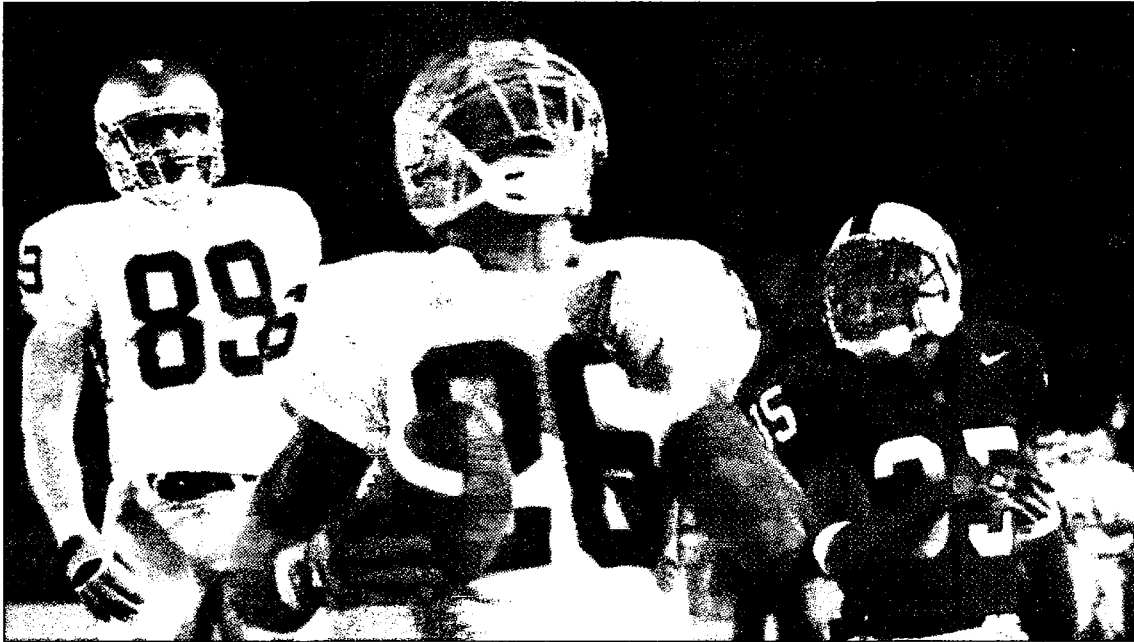
Can Notre Dame root for a Texas victory? Perhaps for one afternoon.

If Texas beats Colorado in the Big 12 championship game this Saturday (1 p.m., ABC), the Longhorns will advance to the national championship game in the Rose Bowl. That would open a slot for an at-large team, possibly Notre Dame, to slip

See Also

"Committed recruits arrive for Banquet" **page 18**

see BCS/page 22



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

Notre Dame running back Travis Thomas and tight end John Carlson, left, celebrate Thomas' fourth-quarter touchdown run against Stanford Saturday. The Irish, 9-2, are BCS bowl eligible.

BARAKA BOUTS

Women's fights will start today

Boxing tournament raises money to help East African missions

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

They won't be pulling any punches Sunday.

After nearly three months of training up to six days a week, the fighters of the Notre Dame Women's Boxing Club will don their trunks and robes in the second annual Baraka Bouts to raise money for Holy Cross education missions in East Africa.

"We began our novice training the first full week of classes," club co-president Anne Kwiatt said. "In those two weeks, all the new boxers were able to begin their training and learn the fundamentals of boxing."

Kwiatt and fellow co-president Courtney Cleary have led the club's 34 boxers all semester with daily two-hour workouts Monday through Friday and Saturday afternoon, training in preparation for Sunday's 1 p.m. bouts.

"To get in shape for the boxing, it takes a lot of cardio-aerobic work," Kwiatt said. "Pretty much since the first week of school we've been training."

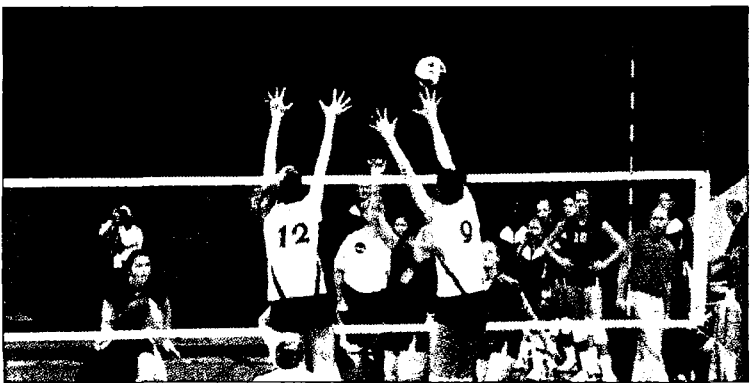
Boxers must attend at least four practices a week to remain eligible to fight, Cleary said.

"The girls are looking good; we're really proud of what they've done," Cleary said.

see BOUTS/page 21

ND VOLLEYBALL

Irish survive near first-round upset



HY PHAM/The Observer

Lauren Brewster, left, and Carolyn Cooper block a Dayton serve in the Irish win Thursday night.

By TOM DORWART
Sports Writer

Relieved and excited, Irish players Meg Henican, Adrianna Stasiuk, Lauren Brewster and coach Debbie Brown took their seats in the interview room after a dogfight of a match against the Dayton Flyers in the opening round of the NCAA tournament — a 30-21, 30-25, 26-30, 28-30, 15-13 marathon victory for the No. 7 Irish (29-3).

"We're alive," Brown said as

she smiled and pumped her fists. "How's that for an opening statement?"

With the win, the Irish advance to tonight's second round match against Northwestern. The Wildcats (20-11) eliminated Texas A&M (16-14) 30-26, 20-30, 28-30, 30-27, 15-12 in the first match of the evening.

Notre Dame's match started more than an hour late, but the Irish found a rhythm early.

They jumped to an all too

see ADVANCE/page 21

ND BASKETBALL

Teams take on Big Ten opponents in weekend matchups

Men host Wolverines at Joyce on Saturday

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame coach Mike Brey said his team needs to establish center Torin Francis in the post Saturday against Michigan in order to bounce back from its 13-point loss to North Carolina State last weekend.

The Irish looked to Francis early on against the Wolfpack on Nov.

see MICHIGAN/page 21



Point guard Chris Quinn, left, plays defense against Hofstra on Nov. 22. Point guard Tulyah Gaines, right, drives against Michigan on Nov. 18. The teams both play tough Big 10 opponents this weekend.

PHIL HUDELSON and GEOFF MATTESON/The Observer

Women tip off against Badgers in Madison

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame (5-0) hits the road Sunday to face the first of its next two Big Ten opponents, games that should help it prepare for Big East conference play which begins in January.

The No. 12 Irish face Wisconsin (4-1) in the first of

see BADGERS/page 21

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

SMC BASKETBALL

Saint Mary's at North Park

The Belles look to right the ship on their 1-4 start against the Vikings.

page 20

ND TRACK & FIELD

Blue and Gold Invitational Loftus, 5 p.m.

Butler and DePaul will compete in Notre Dame's first meet of the season.

page 20

ND SWIMMING

Irish Invitational

The Irish men and women lead their respective fields going into the second day of the three-day meet.

page 19

HOCKEY

Western Michigan at Notre Dame

The Irish play two games at home against Western Michigan this weekend.

page 18

NFL

Playoff outlook differs from 2004

The Eagles and the Seahawks have different playoff hopes than last season.

page 17

NCAA FOOTBALL

Bruins' defense prepares for Bush

UCLA is the only thing that stands between the Trojans and the Rose Bowl.

page 15