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Queer Film Festival is examined

University committee, FTT department discuss possible changes to controversial event



During the 2005 Queer Film Festival, audience members watched a film at Browning Cinema in Notre Dame's DPAC.

By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

After hosting the Queer Film Festival for the past two years — prompting campus debate over academic freedom and the Catholic Church's stance on homosexuality — Notre Dame is now holding discussions with the Film, Television and Theatre Department about potential changes to the event's third installment, officials said.

The February festival, which features films by gay and lesbian artists intended to stimulate dialogue, has in recent weeks been the subject of talks between members of the FTT Department and a committee on academic freedom created by University President Father

John Jenkins. University spokesman Matt Storin said Monday.

While Storin said discussions are occurring with the presumption the event will go on — "It's not my impression there is any discussion of canceling," he said — one issue he said administrators have addressed directly is the event's title.

"I think [the committee believes] the title in use, particularly in part 'festival,' may lead [to confusion over] the difference between academic examination of gay and lesbian films as opposed to taking a position on what is a controversial [topic] on campus ... or within the Catholic Church," Storin said. "I think there's a feeling

see FESTIVAL/page 4

CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL

Revised resolution approved

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

The Campus Life Council passed two key resolutions Monday — one targeting non-Catholic student initiatives and the other addressing the role of diversity in Notre Dame's classrooms.

Chair of the Student Senate minority affairs committee Rhea Boyd presented a resolution calling for the creation of a committee under the Office of the Provost that would investigate how best to incorporate "cultural competencies" into the Notre Dame curricula. She clarified the scope and purpose of the resolution before members weighed in on its importance.

The committee's members will be drawn from various groups on campus and will include students, faculty and administrative representatives.

"We want to form a committee to investigate how to incorporate cultural competencies into the classroom," Boyd said. "One issue that has come up is the need for a diversity requirement, but this does not suggest a diversity requirement as the best way to do this, it just asks, what is best way to incorporate [diversity]? It could take a number of different forms."

The same resolution passed in the Student Senate Wednesday, Nov. 30. Senate members had asked for clarification on the

see CLC/page 4

ND students allotted 2,500 bowl tickets

100 tickets available for SMC seniors

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
News Writer

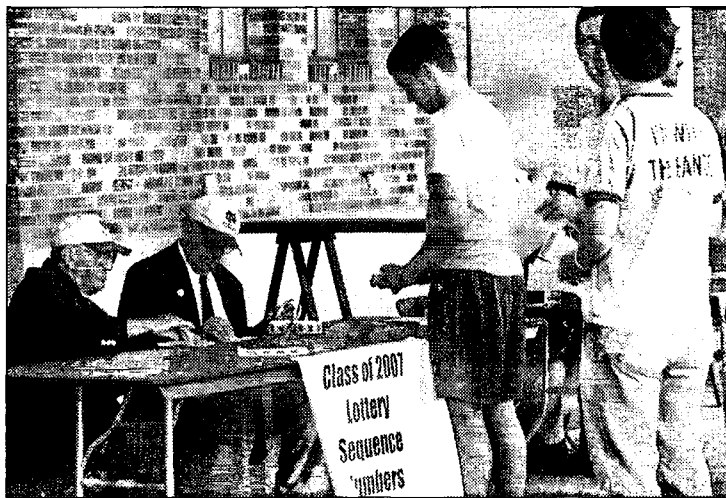
Of the 15,000 Fiesta Bowl tickets allotted to Notre Dame, 2,500 of those will be made available to Notre Dame students and 100 to Saint Mary's seniors, the ticket office announced Monday.

According to Director of Ticket Operations Josh Berlo and an e-mail to all students, the ticket office is holding a lottery to give students the opportunity to buy tickets for the Jan. 2 BCS bowl

game against Ohio State, Notre Dame's first BCS game in five years. Students are allowed to bring one ID to Gate 10 of the Joyce Center on Wednesday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. to get a raffle ticket. If their number is in the range of numbers chosen, they have the opportunity to buy two tickets on Thursday.

Saint Mary's seniors will have the opportunity to purchase tickets from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Student Activities Office. Seniors may bring one other senior ID with her to buy the tickets. Any leftover tickets will be available to the rest of the Saint Mary's student body on Dec. 12,

see LOTTERY/page 6



Students lined up in August to receive numbers for the 2005 football season lottery, which determined ticket location.

Observer File Photo

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Budget reallocations questioned



Student Body President Dave Baron presides over a discussion of the allocation procedures used by the Financial Management Board.

By KAREN LANGLEY
News Writer

Controversy marked the Council of Representatives (COR) meeting Monday night, as representatives voiced their dissatisfaction with the procedures taken by the Financial Management Board (FMB) to arrive at its new budget allocation, which affected the Judicial Council, Class of 2006, Senior Week, Hall Presidents Council, Class of 2008 and the Student Union Board (SUB).

Representatives of Hall Presidents Council (HPC) said that FMB did not follow proper procedures in its reallocation meetings.

"The process that went on during the reallocation meetings was

see COR/page 6

SMC security bumps up 24-hour parking

By KATIE KOHLER
News Writer

In order to alleviate overcrowded parking lots at the College, Saint Mary's security has decided to increase 24-hour parking for students on a trial basis by providing additional spots in the Regina Lot, adjacent to the Regina Residence Hall.

"This is only being done on a trial basis," said director of Security Dave Chapman. "It gives students 55 more parking spaces and was done to try and ease congested parking in other lots because we observed that the Regina Lot was not

always full during the week."

Students are now allowed to park in the last three rows of the Regina lot 24-hours per day and do not need to move their vehicles during the typically restricted hours in other lots on campus.

"In the rest of the [Reginal] lot, students must move their vehicles out between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday," Chapman said.

But there were some stipulations with the new policy. There are times during special events on campus in

see SPOTS/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

Finals week:
Christmas
has arrived

The definition of the "holiday season" seems to get progressively hazier with each year that passes. I realized this when I saw my first Christmas-themed commercial this year before Halloween. Since that fateful commercial, I have done two things. Firstly, I have suffered from what I call "Christmas rage" because of the winter holidays being forcefully pushed on me pre-Halloween. And secondly, partially in response to this passive aggressive Christmas anger, I have thought long and hard about when the holidays should actually start and when they officially start for me.

It seems that retailers would essentially like people to think of the holiday season as, well, basically the whole year. They restrain themselves and usually wait until after Halloween to put out the Christmas decorations. Television stations start pushing holiday commercials before Halloween and holiday movies before Thanksgiving.

Basically, I only have one rule for when the holiday season should ideally begin. I believe that the holiday season should not start before any other holiday, specifically Halloween and Thanksgiving. Inklings of the holidays can begin to creep in around Thanksgiving, but should be limited to the last two weeks of November. Christmas decorations should not supplant Halloween costumes or Pilgrim hats in stores. No exceptions.

With that, I also feel that even during the technical "holiday season," you can feel less than spirited. When Christmas starts creeping in around October, you start to either get tired of it or get so used to it that it seems like a normal part of your life instead of a few special weeks.

I firmly believe that each person has a few rituals that make them feel like the holidays have finally started. In high school, it didn't feel like Christmas until my family and I braved the wilds outside of Reno, NV and cut our annual Christmas tree.

Now that I'm in college, my "family" traditions have become a little bit different. The first night of bone-chilling, lung-stabbing cold makes me start thinking about the holidays. The first ugly-Christmas-sweater party makes me feel a little more festive.







But it's really finals week that puts me in the holiday mood. It makes you appreciate your friends, because they can help you procrastinate. It allows you to enjoy good food, like Huddle candy for breakfast, pizza for any meal and caffeine all day. It also helps you appreciate the real reason for the season, religion, because who doesn't pray during finals week?

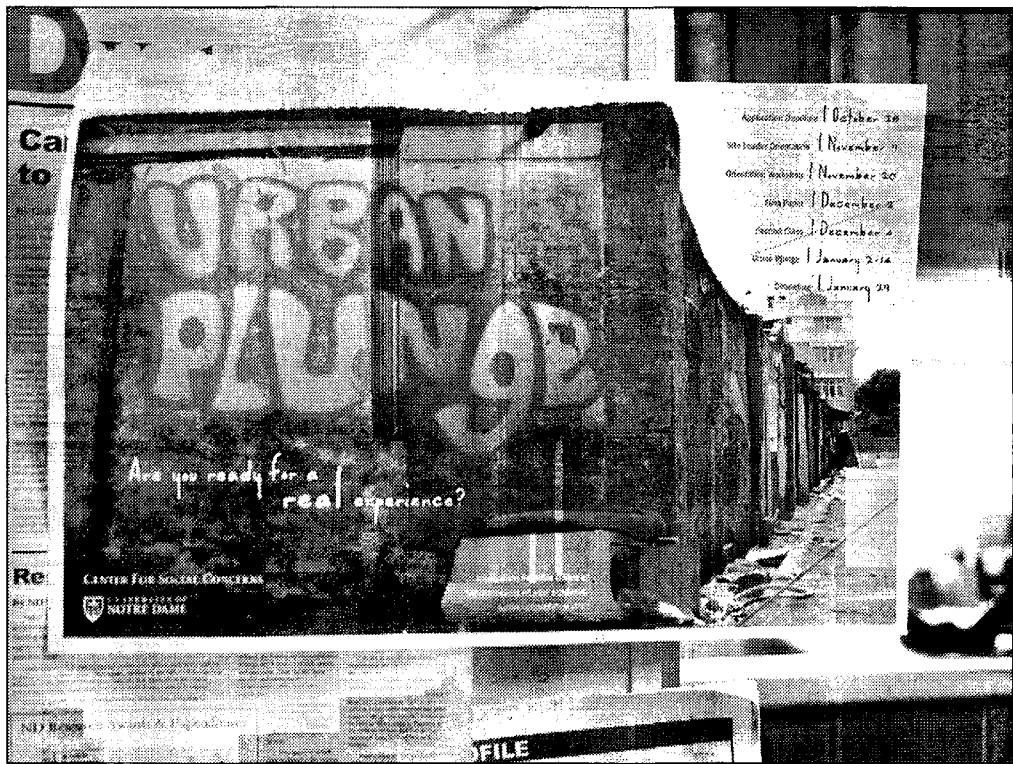
Contact Molly Griffin at mgriffin@nd.edu
The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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 THINK THE QUEER FILM FESTIVAL BELONGS AT NOTRE DAME?

					
Mary Beugelstijk	Dan McKernan	Adams Burns	Will Marra	Sarah VanMill	Tom Harkins
sophomore Cavanaugh	freshman Zahm	junior Zahm	sophomore Zahm	freshman Cavanaugh	sophomore Zahm
"Yes, because it highlights our diversity."	"Yes, I want it in Zahm."	"Yes, because we need more exposure to different things here at Notre Dame."	"As long as my 'Call on Me' campaign video is there that's fine by me."	"Yes, because it brings awareness to diversity."	"No, it belongs at OSU."



Posters advertising for CSC Christmas break seminars have been distributed throughout campus encouraging students to apply for programs in cities like Chicago, New York City, El Paso, TX, and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

OFFBEAT

Cabbie bites off finger in dispute about crowding
COPENHAGEN, Denmark — A taxi driver in Denmark bit off the tip of a 48-year-old man's finger in a brawl over how many people could fit in the cab, police said Monday.

The dispute started early Sunday morning, when a group of five men hailed a taxi in downtown Odense, a city in central Denmark.

Police said things got out of hand when the 37-year-old driver insisted he could only take four passengers. It was not clear who started the fight, but the 48-year-old man claims he grabbed the driver by the collar after the driver acted aggressively and spat at him, police said.

The driver, who was bruised but not seriously injured, said the man grabbed him by the jaw with his left hand and punched him with other hand. The driver claims he accidentally bit off the tip off the man's ring finger in the commotion, police said.

Ohioan gets serious about Christmas lights
MASON, Ohio — Some people at Christmas time are content to deck their homes with evergreen wreaths and holly, and maybe a few strings of lights made to look

like glimmering icicles. Not Carson Williams.

He spends nearly two months hooking up 25,000 lights, then programs them to dance to Christmas music.

Hundreds of cars drive by his house north of Cincinnati every night to see the display, which also is posted on several Internet sites.

"So far, everyone's been really courteous," Williams said on NBC's "Today" show Monday. "I told the neighbors, I told the sheriff, if they get any complaints, I'll shut it down, because the neighbors are more important to me than the Christmas lights."

IN BRIEF

The ND Breastfeeding Encouragement Support Team (BEST) will meet from 12 p.m. to 1 today in the Notre Dame Room of the LaFortune Student Center. BEST supports nursing and pregnant moms at Notre Dame and babies are welcome to meetings. E-mail Tracy Weber at tweber1@nd.edu to be added to the BEST listserv and get more information.

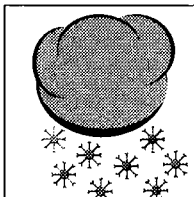
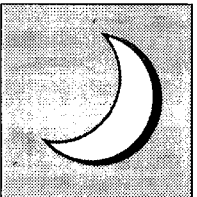
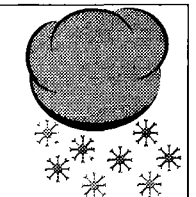
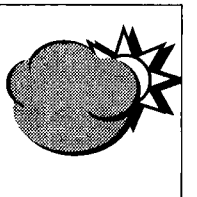
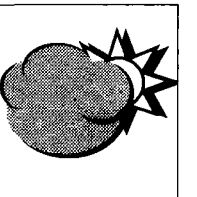
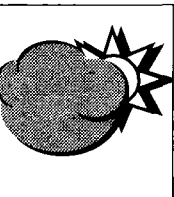
The Institute for Latino Studies is sponsoring an exhibit of vintage posters created by Latino artists in the Galeria America in McKenna Hall today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A seminar titled "Surfactant Facilitated Spreading of Aqueous Drops on Model Hydrophobic Surfaces" will be given today by Alexander Couzis, professor of chemical engineering at the City College of New York. It will begin at 3:30 p.m. in room 140 DeBartolo Hall.

A "Christmas at the CoMo" benefit concert will be held Wednesday, Dec. 7 in the Hammes Student Lounge of the Coleman Morse Center from 8 p.m. to 9. ND Celebration and instrumentalists will perform, and the public is invited to attend.

In anticipation of the film premier of "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," Fr. Charles Gordon will give a talk entitled "Anticipating Narnia" Thursday at 8 p.m. in room 102 DeBartolo Hall.

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

LOCAL WEATHER	TODAY	TONIGHT	WENESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH
	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW
	18	15	22	26	26	31
10	8	13	14	14	24	

Atlanta 50 / 31 Boston 37 / 30 Chicago 20 / 11 Denver 40 / 23 Houston 58 / 35 Los Angeles 59 / 43 Minneapolis 20 / 5 New York 38 / 29 Philadelphia 49 / 30 Phoenix 68 / 43 Seattle 49 / 35 St. Louis 36 / 22 Tampa 60 / 45 Washington 40 / 29

BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

Group approves co-sponsorship of 12-hour dance marathon

Despite some misgivings, \$2,500 allocated for fundraiser, to benefit patients at Riley's Children's Hospitals

By KELLY MEEHAN
News Writer

Saint Mary's Board of Governance met Monday night to approve a \$2,500 co-sponsorship for the initiation of a 12-hour dance marathon set to take place in April that will benefit Riley's Children's Hospitals.

The Riley Dance Marathon is a volunteer event that takes place at colleges and universities throughout Indiana. Residence Hall Association service chair Amy Dardinger and First-Year Class President Francesca Johnson hope to bring the event to the College.

"Many schools across the state participate in this event, which raises thousands of dollars for Riley's [Hospitals]," Dardinger said. "So many schools are getting on board with this service project, so why aren't we?"

Their goal for the dance marathon event is to gather at least 100 participants who would dance from 6 p.m. until 6 a.m. in the Angela Athletic

Facility to raise funds for Riley's Children's Hospital. The money gathered from the event would help the hospital maintain its mission to never turn a child away regardless of their family's financial status, Dardinger said.

Together, Dardinger and Johnson have organized a dance marathon committee of approximately 30 students who will work to raise necessary funds for the event.

Dardinger said the event is not just for the marathon dancers, but would be an overnight event of food and music for all students and faculty, along with children from the hospital.

To participate, a r a t h o n dancers must write letters to family and friends to request donations that will be sent directly to the hospital.

J o h n s o n explained to the board that the most difficult aspect of the marathon is its initial organization. The event requires catering, hiring a D.J. and security guards, along with other miscellaneous expenses. It would prove difficult for the College to regain the money they put into

the event because all incoming donations go entirely to the hospital, she said.

She also said that when Purdue began the event, they did not break even, however in the long run, it paid off.

"We would have to start small and grow as y e a r s passed," she s a i d . "Through advertising and cooperation, we would eventually be able to find a balance of giving and taking funds."

Due to their already strained budget, the Board had a mixed reaction to the idea of co-sponsoring the event.

"I feel that their plans for this event are not concrete," Student Activities Board president Megan Cahill said. "I just don't think that they should ask for all this money from us."

Junior Class president Heidi Goeppinger agreed. She said Student Government had already planned volunteer events with Habitat for Humanity and the dance marathon committee should seek funds from other places.

Missions commissioner Jenny Robbins, however, felt that the event would benefit the College community.

"Events like this are what co-sponsorships were started for, but lately it seems we have only been sponsoring students participating in one-time event," she s a i d . "[Sponsorships] were originally for things that would have a long term benefit for the College and create a legacy." Women Issues Commissioner

Katie Kelly agreed.

"I think that it would be so cool to start this event here with our own funding," she said. "When we ask Notre Dame for money, ND is branded all over the event."

Robbins said that the money needed to start the event would be challenging for the group to find from other places.

"No one gives people money to start an original, brand new volunteer event, they give money once the event is planned," she said. "I think it is best if we give them the money and consider it part of a contingency plan."

Student Services commission-

er Kate Wallach said she felt there were tight time issues that would hinder the event from taking place five months from now.

"They need to talk to other places soon because it will be difficult to get the donations they need before April," she said.

The Board voted to give the Riley Dance Marathon committee \$2,500, with five members abstaining from voting on the issue.

"I feel that the event could be so much more successful if it took place in the fall," Senior Class president Lauren Condon said. "It could be more beneficial, and it could become a huge event with more time to plan and fundraise."

Student Body President Kellye Mitros said she would pass along Condon's suggestion to the committee.

In other BOG news:

♦ Various student government clubs will be selling coffee and snacks in Trumper during finals week as part of "Treats in Trumper" fundraiser.

♦ Lessons and Carols will take place this Sunday in Loretto at 7:30 p.m.

Contact Kelly Meehan at
kmecha01@saintmarys.edu

ACE GOES Latin

ACE GOES LATIN

Enseñar es educar vidas por siempre

Friday, December 9

9PM - 11PM

Legends

Free t-shirts to the first 50 people

D.J. Food Dancing

Festival

continued from page 1

there should be some care exercised."

FTT Department chair Peter Holland did not return several calls seeking comment for this article. Several FTT professors declined to comment or did not return calls seeking comment.

Graduate student Harry Karahalios, one of this year's Queer Film Festival organizers, said it was "too early" to predict the results of the discussion.

"All parties are in communication," Karahalios said. "It's a very delicate situation."

It's not clear what stage the discussions have reached, Storin said.

"I've heard nothing to believe there's any intentional delay" to the event on the part of administrators, Storin said.

He said he believed the University would try to resolve the discussion "sooner rather than later."

Storin said the committee's creation was not a surprise.

"As Father Jenkins has said, he named a committee ... to study the issue of having controversial topics examined at the University under the umbrella of academic freedom, without creating a needless controversy," Storin said.

Storin said he was not certain which administrators sit on the committee, but said he was "pretty sure" Dean of Arts and Letters Mark Roche is a committee member.

The Observer was unable to reach Roche for comment Monday.

Students who heard rumors of other proposed changes to the festival expressed confusion over what was actually happening.

Junior theatre major Krysta Dennis said some FTT students thought the University was trying to increase its control over FTT productions in a "goofy and disrespectful" way.

"I haven't talked to anyone who thinks it's a good idea," Dennis said, referring to the potential the University would change certain parts of the Queer Film Festival.

Dennis said while everything she knew was by word of mouth, she believed that "for

the moment" the University had not proposed changes to the event's content.

"But who knows what's going on behind closed doors," she said.

A female junior enrolled in FTT classes who spoke on the condition of anonymity said students had been kept in the dark about the discussions.

"They were not really eager to let us know what's going on ... [I'm] not sure what's true anymore," she said. "Even a lot of faculty don't know what's going on."

When the rumors of administrative intervention first hit, the junior said FTT students predicted an increase in University censorship of FTT productions.

The most recent news, she said, is that the University and the FTT Department are compromising with each other.

The Queer Film Festival began three years ago in what co-founder Liam Dacey, a Notre Dame graduate and then-senior FTT major, said was an effort to promote awareness of Gay, Lesbian, Transgender, Bisexual and Queer (GLTBQ) issues and combat stereotypes perpetuated by Notre Dame's then-No. 1 rank in the Princeton Review's "Alternative Lifestyles Not an Alternative" category.

"We want to create an awareness that the gay members of the Notre Dame community are members like anyone else," Dacey told The Observer in February 2004. "We also wanted to exhibit a lot of different films by gay artists that you wouldn't normally see."

While it was a first for the University, Storin compared the Queer Film Festival to a "[range] of classes, seminars

and conferences" and said the event was an issue of academic freedom.

"The film festival is being co-sponsored by a number of academic departments," he told The Observer in February 2004. "I think the fact that faculty and students of the University expressed interest [in this] is not exactly 'stop the presses' news. It doesn't carry any message of endorsement or disparagement ... by the University."

But one year later, the Festival attracted more press and sparked heated debate.

Fort Wayne-South Bend Bishop John D'Arcy sent a letter to the South Bend Tribune on Feb. 10 calling Notre Dame's willingness to host the event "an abuse of academic freedom."

The administration has countered this argument by explaining that the event is not University-sponsored but housed under specific academic departments. Last year, the Festival was sponsored by the FTT Department, the Gay and Lesbian Alumni/ae of the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College (GALA ND/SMC), the English Department, the Anthropology Department, the History Department, the Counseling Center and the Gender Studies Program. Films were shown in the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

"There are people who object to it and we respect those opinions," Storin told The Observer last February. "But if we attempted to stop the culture of the United States of America in the year 2005 at the gate on Notre Dame Avenue and on Juniper Road, not only would that be a fruitless exercise, but we really wouldn't be preparing our students for the world they're going to enter into."

Anna Gomberg, graduate student and co-coordinator of the

unrecognized gay/straight student group AllianceND said Monday that the issue of academic freedom at Notre Dame made her "a little nervous."

Notre Dame's definition of academic freedom "should be consistent with [that of] other universities," Gomberg said.

While AllianceND is not an official sponsor of the Queer Film Festival, Gomberg said the group has traditionally supported event.

"I think the Queer Film Festival is well within the boundaries of academic freedom and is a huge asset to the University and the community at large," Gomberg said.

History professor Gail Bederman said according to American Association of University Professors (AAUP) guidelines, performances and film showings for students are covered under academic freedom.

While Bederman said she did not know about the specifics of this year's Queer Film Festival or the discussions, she said Monday that these film showings would be no exception to the AAUP's Statement on Profession Ethics, which reads: "As citizens engaged in a profession that depends upon freedom for its health and integrity, professors have a particular obligation to promote conditions of free inquiry and to further public understanding of academic freedom."

The AAUP's guidelines are not regulations, so Notre Dame is not required to stand by this generalization.

But controversy surrounding the Queer Film Festival raises questions about Notre Dame's own guidelines, she said.

"It certainly is an issue of academic freedom," Bederman said.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna@nd.edu

Spots

continued from page 1

which all students must move their vehicles out of the Regina Lot.

Chapman said this was part of the agreement with the administration.

"If students do not comply, they will again have to move their cars out of the entire lot at the designated times," Chapman said.

This past week alone, there were several special events held on campus. Chapman said students were informed via e-mail and poster notices in the residence halls of such events and their repercussions on parking.

Police officers were instructed to ticket vehicles that did not comply with the special events policy of parking restrictions.

Chapman said only six tickets were written.

"I would like to commend and thank the students of Saint Mary's for complying with the instructions," Chapman said. "I believe that if they continue to cooperate, they will be allowed to park in the lot permanently."

The amount of ticketing, even with the new policy, is average in comparison with other years, Chapman said.

Students who have cars on campus enjoy having the option to park in Regina, especially with the harsh weather.

"I'm happy that [security] opened up the Regina Lot," said freshman Brooke Postregna. "It is closer than the main [Angela] lot and a lot more convenient now that it's getting a lot colder."

Contact Katie Kohler at kkohle@saintmarys.edu

REACH FOR THE SKY!

Offering affordable flying lessons from South Bend Regional Airport

WINGS

www.wingsflyingclub.org

STUDY TIME

DeBartolo Hall:
Open Study Hours:
 December 8 7am to 3:00am Midnight Snacks!
 December 9 7am to 3:00am Midnight Snacks!
 December 10 7am to 3:00am Midnight Snacks!
 December 11 7am to 3:00am Midnight Snacks!
 Finals Week: Dec. 12-16 Open: 7am to 3:00am
 *December 16 DeBartolo closes 30 minutes after last scheduled exam through the Registrar's Office.
 Free Midnight Snacks on study days only!

24 Non-technology rooms, first come/ first serve
See Building Support Person if you have specific needs: Room 103, 104.

Coleman-Morse: 1st Floor Lounge 7:00am-4am daily. Same dates as listed above. Always-Free Snacks!

O'Shaughnessy: Rooms available for open study except when scheduled by the Registrar's office.
 December 8 8:00am to 3:00am
 December 9 8:00am to 3:00am
 December 10 8:00am to 3:00am
 December 11 8:00am to 3:00am
 Finals Week: December 12-16 8am to 3:00am
 Sunday 1:00pm to 3:00am.
 Monday-Thursday 5:00pm-3:00am.
 Rooms: 204, 206, 207, 208, 209.

Snacks during Study Days courtesy of:
 Business Operations
 Campus Ministry
 Student Union Board
*****Good Luck with Finals*****

Student Open Skate
Friday December 9, 2005
7:00-9:00 pm
Joyce Center Ice Rink
Bring your ID for FREE
admission and skate rental
Open to Notre Dame, St. Mary's and Holy Cross students.

RecSports

WORLD & NATION

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Islamic suicide bomber kills five

NETANYA, Israel — A Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up among shoppers outside a mall Monday, killing at least five people and putting pressure on Prime Minister Ariel Sharon for a tough response ahead of a fierce election campaign.

Sharon held an emergency meeting of his security Cabinet to decide how to respond to the attack, which wounded 40 people, while Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas threatened his own strong action against those responsible.

An Israeli driver who spotted the bomber carrying a suspicious bag toward the mall alerted police. A mall security guard hustled him away from the entrance and pushed him against a wall, where the bomber detonated his explosives. The guard was among the five people killed, police said.

British law affords gay rights

LONDON — Gay couples began registering for civil partnerships at town halls across Britain on Monday as a law took effect giving them many of the same legal rights as married heterosexuals.

Although the law stops short of allowing same-sex couples to marry, many said they were still eager to claim the benefits and official recognition of their relationships — for which some have waited decades. The Times of London marked the day by publishing notices of "gay marriages" for the first time.

"We're absolutely delighted," said 80-year-old John Walton, registering in London with his partner of 40 years, Roger Raglan. "It's enormously important to us that we should be able to state to everyone that we are partners."

NATIONAL NEWS

Sept. 11 panel warns of problems

WASHINGTON — Time, money and ever-present terror threats have done little to close gaping holes in the nation's security system, the former Sept. 11 Commission said Monday in accusing the government of failing to protect the country against another attack.

The panel cited disjointed airplane passenger screening methods, pork-barrel security funding and other problems in saying the Bush administration and Congress had not moved quickly enough to enact the majority of its recommendations of July 2004.

"We're frustrated, all of us — frustrated at the lack of urgency in addressing these various problems," said Thomas Kean, a Republican and former New Jersey governor who was chairman of the commission.

FEMA admits poor Katrina reponse

WASHINGTON — FEMA realized its response to Hurricane Katrina was "broken" and braced for rioting over woefully low supplies in Mississippi in the days just after the storm, according to new documents released Monday.

The correspondence among Federal Emergency Management Agency officials, provided by a special House committee investigating the government response to the storm, follows the release last week of more than 100,000 documents by Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco. Taken together, the details from both states provide evidence that FEMA was unable to provide fast help at disaster sites — even when the needs were obvious.

LOCAL NEWS

IU offers gender studies doctorate

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Indiana University faculty members plan to involve the school's Kinsey sex research institute as they prepare to offer what they believe is the nation's first doctoral degree in gender studies.

The university's trustees endorsed the degree program last month and it is awaiting approval from the Indiana Commission for Higher Education to start next fall. Ten universities across the country offer doctorates in the related field of women's studies, but IU officials say theirs will be the first with a stand-alone doctorate in gender studies.

IRAQ

First witnesses testify at Hussein trial

Accounts offer gruesome details; defense walks out on judge's refusal

Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The first witnesses in the Saddam Hussein trial offered chilling accounts Monday of killings and torture using electric shocks and a grinder during a 1982 crackdown against Shiites, as the defiant ex-president threatened the judge and tried to intimidate a survivor.

One witness said he saw a machine that "looked like a grinder with hair and blood on it in a secret police center" in Baghdad where he and others were tortured for 70 days. He said detainees were kept in "Hall 63."

But defense lawyers questioned the reliability of witnesses who were only 15 and 10 at the time and walked out of the tumultuous session when the judge refused to allow former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark to address the court on Saddam's behalf. They returned after the judge relented.

Throughout the daylong session, Chief Judge Rizgar Mohammed Amin struggled to maintain order among boisterous defense outbursts. Saddam and his co-defendant and half brother, Barazan Ibrahim, gestured and shouted together, "Long Live Iraq!"

"Everyone must remain calm and be civil," Amin said repeatedly.

Saddam and his seven co-defendants could be hanged if convicted on charges stemming from the deaths of more than 140 Shiites in the town of Dujail after an assassination attempt in 1982.

"I am not afraid of execution," Saddam proclaimed at one point.

"Why don't you just execute us and get rid of all of



Ex-Iraqi president Saddam Hussein, above, threatened a judge and tried to intimidate a torture survivor in his trial Monday.

this," Ibrahim shouted at the judge.

The trial's first witness, Ahmed Hassan Mohammed, delivered a rambling, nearly two-hour account of the events in Dujail in retaliation for an armed attack on Saddam's convoy.

Mohammed recalled how security agents rounded up townspeople of all ages, from 14 to more than 70.

"There were mass arrests. Women and men. Even if a child was 1-day-old, they used to tell his parents, 'Bring him with you,'" Mohammed said.

He said the agents took

him and the others to the intelligence headquarters in Baghdad, where they were tortured before being transferred to Abu Ghraib prison.

Mohammed said his brother, who was at 17 at the time, was tortured while his 77-year-old father watched. Interrogators threatened to rape the prisoners' daughters and sisters if the men did not sign confessions, he said.

"Some men just said 'I will sign anything but leave my sisters alone,'" he said.

Mohammed, who was 15 at the time, said he himself was tortured. "They blind-

folded me, but I was so young, it kept falling." At the Baghdad detention center, he saw "a machine that looked like a grinder and had some blood and hair" on it, and "I saw bodies of people from Dujail."

The witness exchanged insults with Ibrahim, Saddam's half brother, telling him "you killed a 14-year-old boy."

"To hell," replied Ibrahim, who was intelligence chief at the time.

"You and your children go to hell," the witness replied.

The judge then asked them to avoid such exchanges.

Judge will not toss serious DeLay charges

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — A judge dismissed a conspiracy charge Monday against Rep. Tom DeLay but refused to throw out the far more serious allegations of money-laundering, dashing the congressman's hopes for now of reclaiming his post as House majority leader.

Texas Judge Pat Priest, who is presiding over the case against the Republican, issued the ruling after a hearing late last month in which DeLay's attorney argued that the indictment was fatally flawed.

When he was indicted in September, DeLay was required under House rules to relinquish the leadership post he had held since 2003. While Monday's ruling was a partial victory for DeLay, he cannot reclaim his post because he remains under indictment.

The ruling means the case will move toward a trial next year, though other defense objections to the indictments remain to be heard by the judge.

"The court's decision to dismiss Ronnie Earle's numerous charges against Mr. DeLay underscores just how baseless and politically motivated the charges were," DeLay spokesman Kevin Madden said, referring to the Democratic district attorney who brought the case.

"Mr. DeLay is very encouraged by the swift progress of the legal proceedings and looks forward to his eventual and absolute exoneration based on the facts and the law."

DeLay declined to speak with reporters shortly after the judge's decision as he entered a Houston hotel for a campaign fundraiser.

In a written statement, Earle's office

said prosecutors were studying the ruling and had made no decision about whether to appeal.

Earle has 15 days to appeal the decision.

DeLay, 58, and two GOP fundraisers, John Colyandro and Jim Ellis, are accused of illegally funneling \$190,000 in corporate donations to 2002 Republican candidates for the Texas Legislature. Under Texas law, corporate money cannot be directly used for political campaigns, but it can be used for administrative purposes.

In asking that the case be thrown out, DeLay lawyer Dick DeGuerin argued that one of the charges — conspiracy to violate the Texas election code — did not even take effect until September 2003, a year after the alleged offenses occurred.

Lottery

continued from page 1

according to an e-mail sent to Saint Mary's students.

Berlo said this year's student ticket allotment is more than that of the Gator Bowl in 2003 and more than the Fiesta Bowl in 2000, as the ticket office is expecting higher student demand. But at the same time, Berlo said his office cannot predict what exactly the demand will be and if the 2,500 tickets available to students will be enough or too much.

"It's tough to say [what the demand is going to be]," Berlo said. "All of our indicators of demand — student and non-student — are very high at this point. With higher demand, we increase the number of tickets available to students."

Berlo said the rest of the 15,000 tickets allotted to Notre Dame, a number he said was a standard bowl allotment, goes to alumni, the athletic department, the team, University administrators, parents of students, Monogram Club members and benefactors.

He also said the University is trying to obtain more tickets for students. If this endeavor is successful, students could hear as early as Dec. 14, according to the email.

"We're attempting to procure additional tickets for the bowl

from various sources," Berlo said. "If we're able to do that, we would go ahead and e-mail out additional winning lottery numbers."

Should students win the lottery, they are able to purchase tickets on Thursday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. for \$85 each, payable in cash or check only. Students are allowed to bring four different winning IDs on Thursday of people with whom they want their tickets. Berlo said the lottery system was implemented to make things easier for students.

"In order to minimize the amount of time students are waiting in line, we elected to go with a lottery system," he said.

According to Ohio State's Web site, their ticket allotment will be distributed through a lottery, but students and faculty will not obtain their tickets until they arrive at the Fiesta Bowl. There, they present a claim voucher that states they have a ticket and their student or faculty ID, according to the release. Should they win the lottery, Ohio State students have the opportunity to purchase one ticket.

The Fiesta Bowl will be played in Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe, Ariz., capacity of 73,379, according to Arizona State. Sun Devil Stadium is the home of the NFL's Arizona Cardinals and the Arizona State football team.

Contact Heather VanHoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

CLC

continued from page 1

meaning of "cultural competencies," and CLC members expressed the same concerns — knowing that if the resolution passed, it would be sent to the Faculty Senate. Dillon Hall rector Father Paul Doyle predicted those faculty members would probably not be satisfied with such a vague term.

"I'm willing to vote for this, but people will want a tighter definition of cultural competencies somewhere along the way," Doyle said. "Professors want to define your terms, that might slow things down, but the spirit is something we can embrace."

Boyd clarified the meaning of cultural competencies — calling them "a specific range of skill, knowledge and ability."

"This was not a random choice of words," Boyd

said. "[The word] 'cultural' is meant to be a bit vague. This committee can define cultural — whether it refers to marginalized groups, the arts or [Film, Television and Theater] courses," Boyd said. "We know it needs to be something that surrounds culture in general."

Satisfied with Boyd's answer, the members passed the resolution with one abstention. It will be discussed and voted on in the Faculty Senate tonight.

Members of the social concerns task force still faced criticism when they presented a revised version of a resolution that called for more specific training for hall staff involving

non-Catholic ministries.

The resolution stems out of a perceived lack of attention paid to non-Catholic student faith options during this year's hall staff training. The resolution was met with opposition when it faced the Council on November 21. Welsh Family Hall rector Candace Carson, who is also a campus ministry commissioner, had insisted that the issue was already addressed in a variety of mediums, including pamphlets inside hall chapels. She promised to bring up the resolution at the next campus ministry committee meeting.

"We had a meeting on the Monday Nov. 28 and ... the concerns from the Council

were presented, and they said that they put the information out through campus ministry e-mail. But each hall responds differently," Carson said. "It was done as quickly as I could do it. I will continue to work through [campus ministry commissioners]. They are a source on campus that should be used."

The newly revised resolution asks that Student Affairs and Campus Ministry incorporate a presentation on resources for non-Catholic students during their spring rector gatherings — instead of a separate workshop the original resolution called for. It also called for Campus Ministry to pay greater attention to the issue during its presentation to hall staff in the fall.

The resolution still faced

doubt from several members.

"It is seemingly ironic that we're talking about having entities that have offered information in this regard, like Campus Ministry, and asking them to do more when they seem to be the entities that have done the most," Carroll Hall rector Father Jim Lewis said. "I don't see any student initiative in this regard."

Diversity council representative and social concerns task force member Joyce Randall claimed that Campus Ministry was targeted because "obviously there is a breakdown in getting the information [on non-Catholic initiatives] out there."

Members also expressed further doubt about word choice and vagueness in the resolution — resulting in a back and forth debate on how best to express its intent and meaning.

Though Badin Hall rector Ann Napoli claimed that the resolution was calling for 15 or 20 minutes to be spent on non-Catholic resources as part of Campus Ministry's hall staff presentation, some members believed that the wording implied the need for a separate and distinct presentation.

"We do want some intentional ambiguity," Pasquerilla West Hall Senator Christina Lee said. "We don't want it to be like 'do this in this format.' We want them to figure out what they deem is the best way. It's more of a suggestion."

The Council then voted to amend the resolution in order to clarify the type of presentation as one that would be incorporated into the overall campus ministry presentation during hall staff training.

The Council passed the amended resolution with two members opposed.

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COR

continued from page 1

n't judicial," HPC treasurer T.R. Eckler said. "There was a lot of mention of members' feelings about different clubs. I feel as though at the very least, there needs to be a message sent back to FMB that the process needs to be reviewed so it can be done in a fair and impartial way."

The spending review occurred the week before Thanksgiving, when representatives of the six groups involved presented their budgets to FMB, noting what they had spent thus far in the semester and what funds they projected needing to carry them through the semester, Student Union treasurer and FMB president Mike Marshall said.

"My opinion is you [had] better get it right because there are a lot of people who need this money," Hall Presidents Council co-chair Dan Zenker said. "If it's going to be \$40,000, it should be done the proper way."

Zenker suggested that, unless clubs needed their reallocated funds immediately, the budget be sent back to FMB for further consideration.

"[Sending the budget back to FMB] would hurt as far as SUB, and therefore the student body, is concerned," SUB president Jimmy Flaherty said. "I think it would be a huge error to slow this process down."

Flaherty noted that SUB's pending contracts — including some for events as early as mid-February — cannot be finalized without the budget reallocations.

Marshall agreed that a procedural revamping would benefit future reallocations but suggested that COR approve the current budget revisions.

"The process is certainly not what it should be, but to prevent the reallocation would be against

everybody's best interests at this point," he said.

While FMB may have issues with its reallocation procedures, these do not involve members' considerations of their feelings about each student group, Marshall said, adding that the Student Union's funds must be allocated in such a way that students will gain the most.

"It's not an easy process because people's feelings do need to be taken into consideration," Marshall said. "If people think students will benefit more from one event, they should vote that way."

Marshall's concerns focused around the long periods between the annual budget reallocations.

"Tomorrow at the FMB meeting, we're going to talk about possibly having a

monthly or [bi-monthly] spending review like this where money can be taken away and reallocated accordingly," Marshall said. "It doesn't seem to be the best way to meet just once in the middle of the year."

Student Body president Dave Baron emphasized that the approval of this series of reallocations does not close the door for future revisions of the reallocation process.

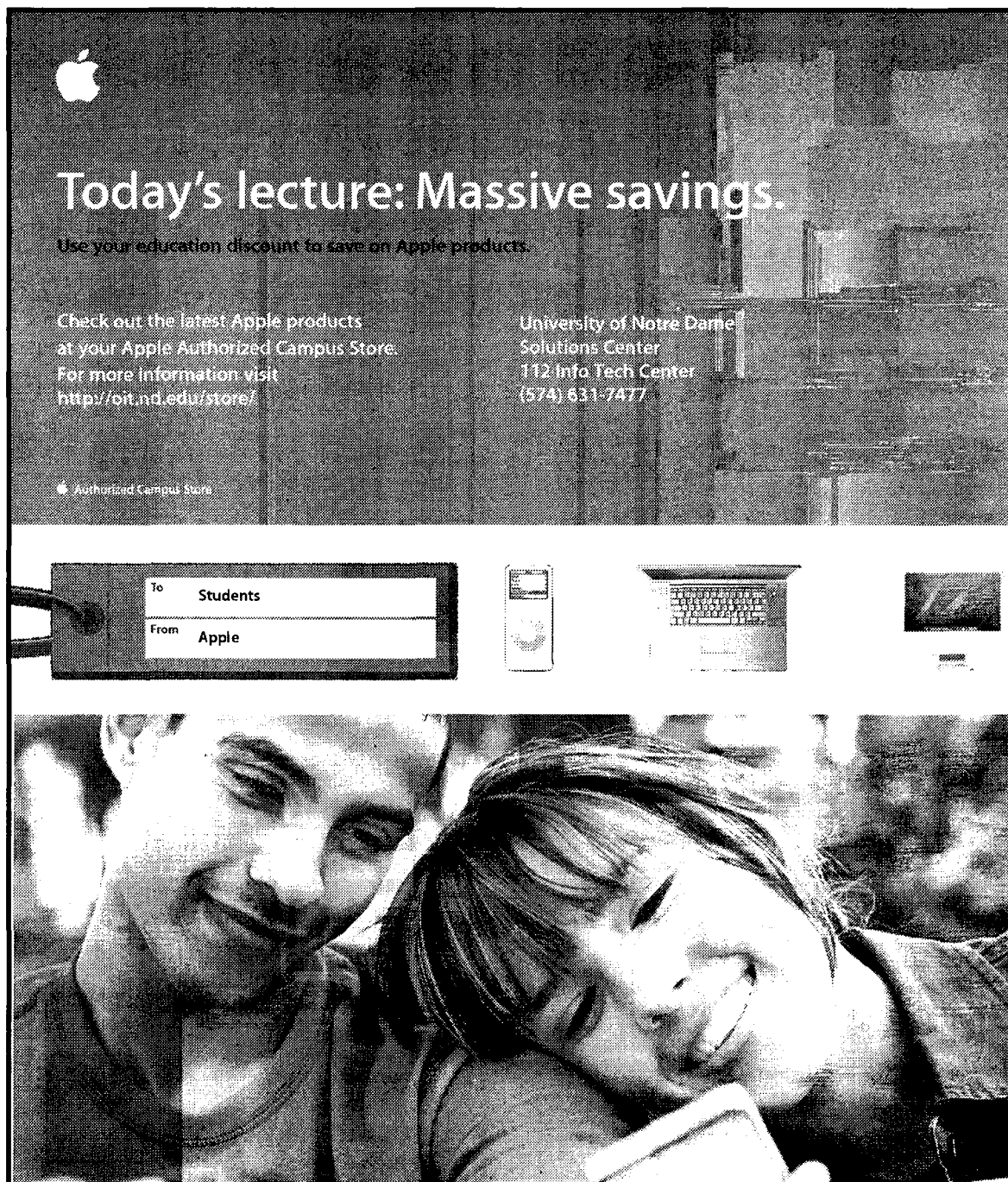
"In the constitution, it says FMB is responsible for budget reallocation, but it doesn't have to be just once a month," Baron said. "We're not solidifying the way budgets are approved."

The budget was approved with 10 votes in favor, one opposed and one abstention.

In other COR news:

♦ Beth O'Shaughnessy, Club Coordination Council (CCC) president, moved to switch the Monday meeting times of COR and CCC, which currently meet at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., respectively. The movement was approved without opposition and will take effect in January.

Contact Karen Langley at klangle1@nd.edu



Today's lecture: Massive savings.

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	10,835.01	-42.50	
Up: 1,343	Same: 151	Down: 1,947	Composite Volume: 2,284,431,850

AMEX	1,738.34	+11.89
NASDAQ	2,257.64	-15.73
NYSE	7,759.24	-1.61
S&P 500	1,262.09	-2.99
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	15,551.31	0.00
FTSE 100(London)	5,510.40	-17.70

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 110 TR (QQQQ)	-0.73	-0.31	41.80
SUN MICROSYS INC(SUNW)	+1.27	+0.05	4.00
CISCO SYS INC (CSCO)	-0.79	-0.14	17.50
INTEL CP (INTC)	-1.93	-0.53	26.90
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-0.57	-0.16	27.85

Treasury			
30-YEAR BOND	+0.98	+0.46	47.63
10-YEAR NOTE	+1.06	+0.48	45.67
5-YEAR NOTE	+1.03	+0.46	44.92
3-MONTH BILL	+0.46	+0.18	39.10

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.59	59.91	
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+5.60	512.60	
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.25	89.03	

Exchange Rates			
YEN		120.8100	
EURO		0.8482	
POUND		0.5739	
CANADIAN \$		1.1574	

IN BRIEF

Cardiologist criticizes Merck & Co.

HOUSTON — A prominent cardiologist testifying against Merck & Co. accused the drug-maker Saturday of engaging in scientific misconduct, suppressing clinical evidence and stifling medical discourse as it promoted the painkiller Vioxx.

Dr. Eric Topol, chairman of the cardiovascular medicine department of the Cleveland Clinic, called certain aspects of Merck's behavior "repulsive" and "appalling" during his three-hour videotaped deposition.

Topol said Vioxx can cause heart attacks any time after a patient begins taking it, and that its risks were apparent as early as 1999, when the drug was approved. Vioxx was removed from the market last year after a study showed it doubled patients' risk of heart attacks and strokes after 18 months of use.

"Vioxx's risk has been evident since trials were conducted in 1999 and all the way through the time of withdrawal in September 30, 2004," Topol said.

This is the first federal trial over Vioxx; Merck has already lost one state trial over the drug and won another, but it still faces about 7,000 lawsuits and analysts estimate its liability could reach \$50 billion.

Inflation again concerns Wall Street

NEW YORK — Higher oil prices and news of slowing growth in the service sector pulled stocks lower Monday despite some optimism over a \$25 billion bid for Guidant Corp.

Inflation worries again plagued Wall Street as crude futures pierced \$60 per barrel, reinforcing concerns that the Federal Reserve might continue lifting interest rates to stem inflation from increased energy costs.

Last week, the market broke a five-week rally after a string of government reports painted a rosier picture of the economy than many had been predicting. That economic strength could justify more interest rate hikes and halt Wall Street's year-end advance, said Bill Groenveld, header trader at vFinance Investments.

"Whether the market flattens out for the next couple of weeks, there's always going to be uncertainty about the future," Groenveld said. "It's going to be a real news-sensitive market over the next quarter."

Boston Scientific offers \$25 billion to Guidant

Amount tops previous Johnson & Johnson bid by more than \$3 million

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Troubled Guidant Corp. drew a \$25 billion offer Monday from medical device rival Boston Scientific Corp., topping Johnson & Johnson's watered-down bid by more than \$3 billion.

Guidant's once flagging stock rose \$6.16, or nearly 10 percent, to close at \$67.98 amid Wall Street's speculation of a bidding war.

But market analysts said that J&J, which did not return repeated phone calls for comment, may not want Guidant badly enough to spend billions more for the Indianapolis-based maker of pacemakers, defibrillators and other devices which has been plagued by a series of recalls and by related regulatory investigations.

It was just three weeks ago that Guidant accepted a revised \$21.5 billion proposal from J&J and stopped suing the health care products company to close on a year-old acquisition offer of \$25.4 billion.

Boston Scientific, whose products include the top-selling cardiac stent Taxus, offered Guidant a combination of cash and stock worth about \$72 per Guidant share — a 16 percent premium over Friday's close. The prospect of entering the lucrative \$10 billion international market for implantable pacemakers and defibrillators outweighed Guidant's recent legal and regulatory woes.

"The primary driver of our proposal is to increase Boston Scientific's diversification and grow our cardiac-rhythm management business," Boston Scientific's chief operating officer, Paul LaViolette, said in a telephone interview.



The front of Boston Scientific Corp. is seen Aug. 23, 2005, in Natick, Mass. Boston Scientific offered \$25 billion to Guidant Corp. on Monday.

Guidant's original deal with J&J bogged down amid a series of recalls and warnings affecting nearly 200,000 pacemakers and about 88,000 defibrillators since June. Dozens of shareholder and product liability lawsuits have ensued, costing Guidant more than a quarter of its value. Its stock plummeted to a low of \$55.26 last month.

"We understand there have been some recent issues, but we believe they are manageable," LaViolette said. "We are

experienced with these issues."

Guidant's strengths outweigh its problems for Boston Scientific, which has seen its profits dwindle recently, Jefferies & Co. analyst Ryan Rauch said.

"Guidant would shore up Boston Scientific's 2008 pipeline, if they're willing to take significant dilution to their shares in the short-term," Rauch said.

Rauch said he did not expect Guidant's shareholders would embrace J&J's offer over Boston Scientific's, given the pre-

mium and the frayed relations between Guidant and J&J. Rauch said J&J was not likely to sweeten its offer.

"There's no love lost between Guidant and J&J," Rauch said. "I believe J&J will not come back into the dance at a higher price."

The Boston Scientific offer consists of \$36 in cash and \$36 worth of its shares for each share of Guidant stock. J&J is offering \$33.25 in cash and 0.493 share of Johnson & Johnson common stock for each Guidant share.

Turmoil in actor union could lead to split

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The largest union representing actors has promised a new, tougher stance in contract talks with powerful media conglomerates.

But the Screen Actors Guild may self-destruct before it ever gets the chance.

The labor union's long-running infighting has escalated into what could become a mutiny after the election in September of SAG President Alan Rosenberg.

Rosenberg and his allies gained a majority on the national board by pledging to squeeze more money from the studios from the sale of DVDs and new technologies, including downloading of films and TV shows. He also pledged to unite SAG's feuding factions.

Instead, Rosenberg, 55, divided the union even more by almost immediately firing popular SAG national executive director Greg Hessinger. He had been hired by the previous leadership, which Rosenberg accused of surrendering too easily on key economic issues in contract talks last year.

Many union members see the firing as an arrogant display of power by Rosenberg that could finally split the union into two groups — one that represents film and TV actors, primarily based in Hollywood, and another mostly comprised of members in New York, Chicago and elsewhere who do commercials and voiceovers.

Paul Christie, president of SAG's New York branch, said talk of a split has heated up since the election of Rosenberg, who was a regular on the TV series "LA Law" and "The Guardian," and is married to "CSI" star Marg Helgenberger.

"I think he's capable of better things," Christie said. With 120,000 members, SAG has always been a fragmented labor

union, representing both multimillionaire superstars and rank-and-file membership with an unemployment rate of more than 80 percent.

Membership in the union is all but required to work in films, television and commercials. Many SAG members also belong to the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, which has jurisdiction over the prime-time schedule of major networks, among other areas.

Rosenberg's agenda mirrors that of the newly elected president of the Writers Guild of America, west. Patric Verrone also ran on a promise to get tougher with studios and also fired his executive director soon after taking office.

Both men justified the firings by saying they needed staff who would push their agendas of increasing membership, fighting the rise of reality TV shows and gaining more economic concessions from studios.

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When society owns your body

It is often typical of the Left to extol the virtues of a great society: a great society takes care of the elderly and the poor; it educates its children and pays for medical treatment.

These sentiments are well and good until one attempts to ascertain from a left-winger how exactly society accomplishes such eleemosynary goals; because (as I am often quick to point out), left-wingers hardly mean "society" when they speak the word.

When the Left speaks of society "taking care" of the people, it does not imply society itself; it refers instead to the welfare state and its many tendrils: Social Security, public schooling, universal healthcare — social programs that are funded via compulsory taxation by the government.

Government is not society. In fact, Thomas Paine agreed with me when he said: "Society in every state is a blessing, but government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil." Society is the voluntary cooperation and coexistence of individuals; government is the involuntary subjugation of some individuals to the will of others. Now, I am not necessarily claiming that every government is inherently oppressive, but merely that any government without a gun is just another interest group.

This distinction is important because every social end enumerated by the Left must be accomplished by governmental coercion. Indeed, both the Left and Right embrace a certain paternalism when it comes to the actions of "society": whether it be gratis medical treatment, smoking bans, the War on Drugs or the persecution of "obscene" materials, the nanny-state is a necessary component.



Scott Wagner

Live and Let Live or Die

Let us therefore address the former: government-subsidized health care. I will not even attempt to delve deeply into the details of this complicated issue, but will instead focus my energies on the elementary paternalism that is inherent in it.

In the United States, we have (as of yet) avoided the catastrophe that is "socialized health care." What we have instead are Medicare and Medicaid — complex bureaucratic institutions that, in effect, reimburse elderly, disabled and poor people for many medical services (including treatments for, among other dubious things, erectile dysfunction).

According to the director of health policy studies at the Cato Institute, Michael F. Cannon, "Medicare spending is increasing at twice the rate of the gross domestic product" and the new Medicare prescription drug plan is slated to "cost more than \$700 billion over the next 10 years." As mismanaged as any government program can be, Medicare faces a budget shortfall of as much as \$62 trillion — that is, the government promises \$62 trillion more than it can deliver to beneficiaries. Today, the government collects slightly more than \$2 trillion in total taxes.

That is quite the shortfall.

But suppose people are abusing alcohol and tobacco, or eating so unhealthily that America continues her reign as one of the most obese nations in the world. Americans suffer from heart disease, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes and myriad other ailments that stem from our obsession with eating poorly.

At this point, the government still has some options: it can cut Medicare benefits (and sacrifice the political future of Republican politician X who would support such actions), or it can raise taxes by about, say, 1,500 percent.

But the real, philosophically central question is: if the government is already paying too much for the care of Americans, does it have the right to force its citizens to be healthier in

order to reduce its medical expenditures? Beginning in 2006, Medicare will cover preventive health screenings, lending credence to the notion that a few hundred billion dollars of prevention is worth \$62 trillion of cure.

So to avoid the impending Medicare crisis that is at hand, should acting unhealthily be made illegal?

I have heard it argued before, believe it or not. Originally I believed it to be a joke, but upon further reflection, it seems perfectly reasonable. I have a vested interest in keeping you healthy, since I am forced by my government-at some point or another — to pay for your medical bills.

Such is the paternalism implicit in the government business of health care. Socializing health effectively destroys the lines that delineate what is your personal choice and what affects me. Subsidies give society a controlling stake in what you do with your own body, where your health is no longer merely your concern.

In 1971, the U.S. Supreme Court matter-of-factly stated that subsidized programs "have almost always been accompanied by varying measures of control and surveillance." It is not beyond reasonable doubt, therefore, that government control and surveillance of health in America will soon become even more omnipresent — even more so than it is today.

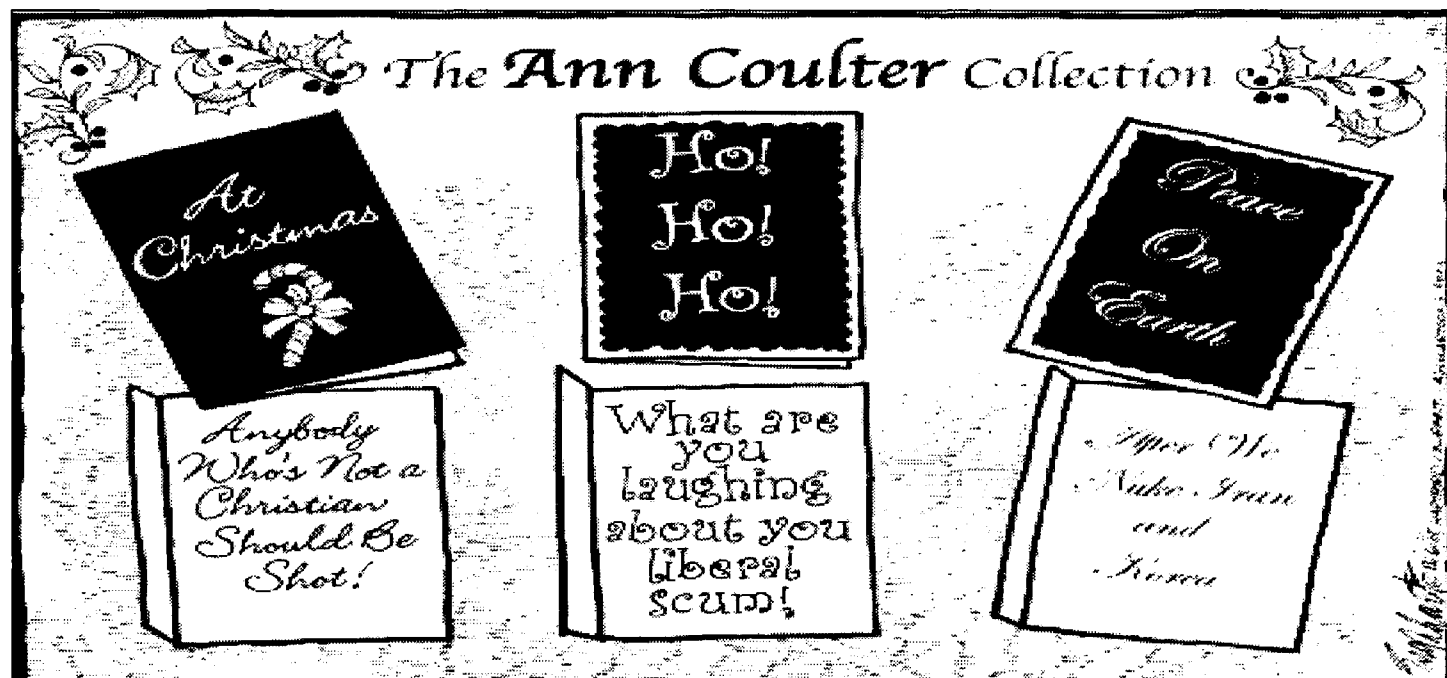
No, I do not believe McDonald's should be illegal. However, when "society" owns your body, there are few — if any — realistic options left.

Like I said: \$62 trillion is quite the shortfall.

Scott Wagner is president of the College Libertarians and writes politically incorrect satire for the Web site *The Enduring Vision*. You would probably be too offended by it, so never mind. He can be contacted at swagner1@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The way a team plays as a whole determines its success. You may have the greatest bunch of individual stars in the world, but if they don't play together, the club won't be worth a dime."

Babe Ruth
former baseball player

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Peace is not an absence of war, it is a virtue, a state of mind, a disposition for benevolence, confidence, justice."

Baruch Spinoza
philosopher

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Communion: not a time for politics

In the Dec. 5 issue of *The Observer*, Matthew Hamilton rigorously defended his choice to wear the orange "Gay? Fine by Me" shirt to Mass on Sunday. He defends himself by arguing the illegitimacy and destructive nature of the Vatican's much-publicized statement. He continues by saying that far from being inappropriate at Mass, such a showing sends a message of communion and participates in the radical nature of the Eucharist. After all, he says, calling his action a degradation or profanation of the Eucharist, "presupposes that politics is inherently vulgar and that the sacraments have nothing to do with the real world." He says that, divided from religion, political life is shorn of its mystery, and that we should "reject this ruthless division between politics and Communion."

I appreciate Hamilton's fervor in this matter. I appreciate his honesty, his desire for a more perfect Catholic Church, for true Communion and for recognition of the fallacy of the dualistic approach to ourselves as religious and political beings. However, I disagree with his primary method of making a point. This has nothing to do with the issue of homosexuality, either in general, or in light of the Vatican's statement. Any similar action featuring a shirt that loudly condoned the Church's document should also receive disapproval. What is at issue here is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, not rules and regulations.

We all recognize a certain order of propriety in life. Certain things are fitting at certain times, but not at others. What Hamilton did not recognize in his comments is that, although there should not be a divide between our

love of God and love of neighbor, or between theological teaching and social teaching, that is not to say that the Mass is on an equal footing with politics. If our various religious beliefs had no superiority to the state, there would be no problem with state religions. Churches could welcome political campaigners to deliver some election year slogans. The core beliefs of any person could be dictated by the opinion of the majority.

However, it was the intentions of the founders of the United States to guarantee that religion would always be beyond the reach of the state. And rightly so. Christ himself, while recognizing the legitimate authority of the political realm, differentiates between those things that belong to God, and those that belong to Caesar.

I encourage to Hamilton, and anyone else who feels strongly about this issue, to set up forums for discussion. I applaud Hamilton for writing a letter, that's what it's there for. But please, do not cross the line between what is appropriate and what is not. Church services are a time for communion, after all, we call the Sacrifice of the Mass "Communion," but worship services are also a time for an individual to engage in one of the most personal acts imaginable, the dialogue of one's innermost self with his or her God. Out of respect for this, there are many customary decencies that are observed.

Many churches have instituted crying rooms for infants. That is not because infants are not appreciated, nor considered outside of the community. However, since they can be distracting to others, many parishes make them available. Another courtesy is refraining from extensive affection. Again, it is a matter of decency

for couples to abstain from displays of their love. Even though sex is praised by the Church for its holiness, it could become slightly distracting during even the best homily. Clearly, if Hamilton's statement at Mass was to be effective, it must be noticed by other people and thereby become a distraction during the service.

I don't mean to be trite about this matter. Clearly such a controversial statement by the Vatican will produce division, and therefore charitable and understanding dialogue is required. Throughout the history, activists and reformers have kept the Church true to the teachings of Christ, and there is no less need in the modern world. Finally, prayer and personal holiness is necessary that we may be as effective as possible in bringing the Word of God to all people. However, in all of this, we must recognize the proper respect that is due to the worship of God, and the respect we owe others who are participating in their own acts of worship. What happened on Sunday took into account neither, and thus was a profanation and an action of disrespect to all those who were trying to worship. I recognize that Hamilton believes the Vatican to have already crossed both of those lines, but that does not legitimize this act. Let us strive to reach greater understanding and communion with one another and with God, and let us be aware of both the intended and unintended results of our actions.

Will Dowdy
graduate student
Off-campus
Dec. 5

Publicity stunts not appropriate for Mass

On Dec. 4, I attended the 10 a.m. Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, as I do almost every Sunday. Upon entering the Basilica, a group of about a dozen people caught my eye. All of them were sitting together, wearing the "Gay? Fine by Me" shirts. As I looked at them and thought about why they might be there, I was offended, not because I have anything against homosexuals, but because I feel that the church is not an appropriate place for such a demonstration. I have many friends who are gay, I support gay rights, and it wouldn't bother me if homosexuals were allowed to be ordained, even though I understand the Church's reason for not allowing this. But these were not the issues concerning my reaction to the demonstration.

I reacted the way I did for two reasons. First, this demonstration was a stunt, regardless of what is claimed by the students involved. Matthew Hamilton's letter in the Dec. 5 issue of *The Observer* claims that this "was not a media stunt or a protest." He says that the group was simply attending Mass on Sunday to "pray for the priests who will be forced into silence and shame, for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered Catholics and for the conversion and repentance of the Vatican authorities."

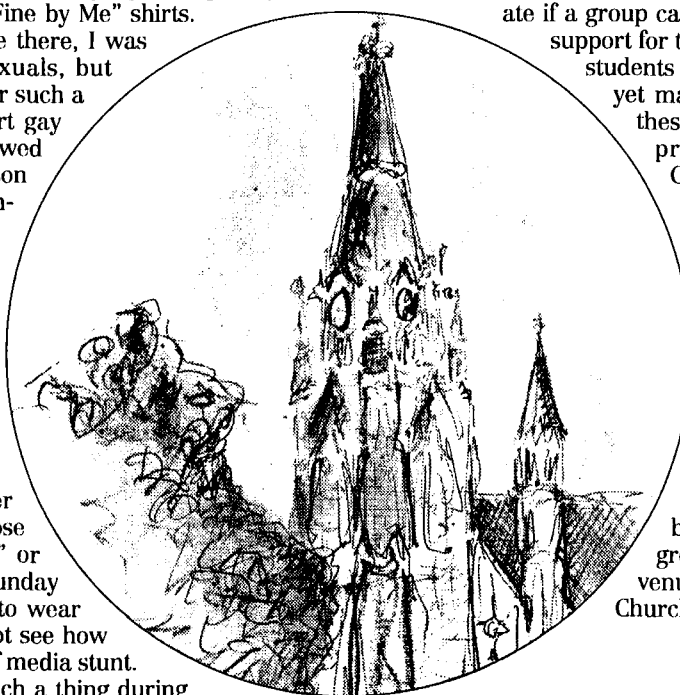
Fine by me. But isn't prayer just as effective no matter what you wear? The fact that the group was wearing those particular shirts says to me that it was in fact a "stunt" or "protest." Is it even necessary to mention that the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass is nationally televised? Why else would they bother to wear those shirts if they were going to Mass just to pray? I do not see how others are expected to believe that this was not some kind of media stunt.

Second, it is inappropriate and disrespectful to protest such a thing during the Mass. The fact that these students chose the Mass as a venue for their demonstration has really made me believe that hardly anything is sacred today. Issues concerning

homosexuals and the Catholic Church are obviously very controversial, and it is evident that one side can so easily offend the other. I believe people would think it inappropriate if a group came to Mass to show support for abortion, or to display their support for the use of birth control, if it were done in the manner of those students on Sunday. These activities are deemed sinful by the Church, yet many Catholics still take part in them. The difference is that these groups do not rally for a change during Mass. As I said previously, I have nothing against homosexuals, but the Catholic Church believes homosexuality is wrong. Gaining tolerance from the Church may be difficult, but it must be done with respect by both parties. I have never been to a Mass where readings or sermons try to denounce homosexuality. The Church most often deals with these issues outside of the Mass, so why should these students bring them into the Mass? This demonstration was disrespectful to the sanctity of the Mass, and to those parishioners who attended.

I wish to state a third time that I have nothing against homosexuals, and I am in no place to make moral judgments. That is not what I am attempting to do with this letter. I only request that those students that wore "Gay? Fine by Me" shirts to Mass on Sunday, and any other student groups for that matter, will take more care when choosing a venue for such a protest. Please have some respect for the Church, and for the sanctity of the Mass.

Alison Frihart
sophomore
Pasquerilla West
Dec. 5



U-WIRE

I'm not leaving

Stop right now seniors. Don't do it. Put your pencils down, throw your books in the trash and spend finals week building a snow cave and little snowmen to live with.

Whatever you do, don't take your finals and graduate. Why would you do that? Do you know what's out there? Lions and tigers and corporations that will deny your applications because you "don't have enough experience."

This is why I have decided to never leave. I am going to stay in college until I reach the age of dead. You want to retire my Chemistry 101 book? You will have to pry it from my cold, lifeless fingers.

You see, college truly is the best of both worlds. You take your parents love (and money, if you're lucky) from the high school world and you combine it with the freedom and independence of the working-still world. There is no better combination.

Brett
Okamoto

Rocky
Mountain
Collegian
Colorado State
University

Tell me one opportunity you're going to have after graduation to party it up 'til 3 a.m., be in class by 11 a.m., lie on the couch watching a "Southpark" rerun by 3 p.m., and at various points in all of that, you get to see thousands of single members of the opposite sex. Not to mention all the Ramen Noodles you can eat.

I'm going to be honest here and admit that I'm scared of this real world they speak of. I get a little taste of it every first of the month when my rent payment comes, and I don't like what I've seen so far. I've heard they make you get married, become a parent, pay bills and forbid playing beer pong. Quite frankly, I don't want to be a part of something that doesn't force you to play beer pong once a week.

That's not the only thing that scares me though. Wasn't I just a kid on the swings in the playground yesterday? My little brother is 13 years old; you remember that age? The age where you switched boyfriends/girlfriends every hour instead of every year. The age where all you had to worry about was detention or the lunch lady eating you. When I

graduate from college, that's it — I'm not a kid at all anymore. That scares the Legos out of me.

I know you seniors are excited to embark on a new journey. The potential of a career that will make you more money in a year than you've had in the last four and a house with a white picket fence — I can see why you're anxious to get out. But I think we all have a tendency to sometimes focus on what makes college stressful instead of what makes it fun.

Are you really ready to leave the football games, the house parties, the roommates, the mornings you wake up and don't know where you are for a nine to five?

I didn't think so. I'll meet you at the ice cave.

This column originally appeared in the Dec. 5 issue of the Rocky Mountain Collegian, the daily publication at Colorado State University.

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



Midnight madness

I'm that guy. You know the one. The guy who can tell you off the top of his head which company created which game. He's the one who plans his weekends for the next year by video game and movie release dates.

I was there on Sept. 9, 1999 when the Sega Dreamcast was released at midnight. I waited in a line for my chance at obtaining the first of the third-generation of consoles, knowing I would have to be up in less than six hours to get ready for school. "Soul Calibur" made sure that having to get up never occurred.

I was there on March 24, 2005 when the Sony PSP was also released at midnight. I had pre-ordered it months beforehand, fully paying off the system and several games well before they were released and reviewed. Six a.m. came very quickly, as I played that tiny machine until the wee hours of the morning. Getting sick due to lack of sleep was only a minor detail, as it gave me the opportunity to play "Twisted Metal" a little more.

And I was there Nov. 22 for the midnight release of the Microsoft X-Box 360. Excitement was high in the tiny shop as the seconds ticked closer to the time the system could be sold. The first of the next generation, the fabled fourth tier of video-gaming, had my brother and me wide-eyed with anticipation.

But then our enthusiasm began to dampen. A number of things led into this, I suppose. Perhaps the first sign was the bill, which totaled well over \$500. It is one thing to be aware of what something will cost, but quite another when the time comes to hand the money over.

The second was the rarity of the complimentary hardware. Ever since the arcade games of yore has the

value of playing with a friend been realized, and then compounded by games like "Goldeneye" and "Halo." But as the cashier was ringing up the purchase, there was a conspicuous absence of a specific accessory. So I went home that night with a solitary controller.

But then that is where the real disappointment set in. My brother and I quickly hooked up the X-Box 360 to my television, fervently waiting for what the next generation of gaming was going to bring.

As we started to play through "Perfect Dark Zero," a feeling of déjà vu began to set in, and not in a positive way. The next generation of gaming felt disturbingly similar to the last one, and for that matter, the one before that. The graphics were prettier, but beyond that, it wasn't the leap that "Halo" was from "Goldeneye," or even from "Wolfenstein 3D" to "Doom."

Maybe I'm just jaded, or perhaps the sad fact is that games are ceasing to impress. The same games are being made that have been made before, but with a dash of new paint.

This then begs the question — why did we do it? Why go out at midnight to spend over half-a-thousand dollars on a product that so far is pure hype with no solid review base?

The same could be said for movies, books and all the other products that get a midnight release. There is a reason people go to extreme lengths to fulfill non-essential pleasures.

There is a thrill on being at the ground floor of an event. Attending the midnight premier of a movie, or going to an event on its opening day, add a special flavor to the action. To say, I was there first, I did that, carries a certain satisfaction.

But in light of my X-Box 360 adventures, perhaps one should be a little more conservative in what we choose to indulge.

Contact Mark Bemenderfer at mbemende@nd.edu

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



Mark Bemenderfer

Assistant Scene Editor



Excited gamers wait outside a Best Buy in New York City for the midnight release of the X-Box 360. Anticipation was high for the latest generation console.

Photos courtesy of news.yahoo.com

SMC SPOTLIGHT

Madrigal Dinners recreate

By NICOLE ZOOK
Scene Critic

Saint Mary's kicked off the holiday season last weekend with three days of "merrymaking" during its 33rd annual Madrigal Dinners.

The four madrigal performances that occur each year carry on an age-old tradition in which Saint Mary's and South Bend community members are invited to partake in a medieval-style holiday feast dinner that revolves around the music of the time.

Students and faculty worked for weeks to transform Regina North Lounge into the Great Hall of an ancient castle, where the "local rabble, peasants, serfs, field-hands and their families" could feel transported back in time — as master of ceremonies Michael Kramer described the event.

Kramer, a communication and performance studies professor, acted as Master of the House.

On Sunday afternoon during the third performance, the kitchen wench (senior Ashleigh Stochel) and court jester (junior Tori Abram-Copenhaver) engaged in lively play. Two others juggled, and period musicians performed along with a group of 24 madrigal singers.

With so many different types of entertainment packed into two short hours, dinner guests were kept highly entertained throughout.

Notre Dame jugglers Jason Quinn and Sean Rose highlighted the night, tossing fiery pins high in the air and at one point even knocking a pencil out of the mouth of a young volunteer as they passed clubs to one another. A juggling competition during the meal drew excited "oohs," applause and even laughs from dinner

guests.

Stochel and Abram-Copenhaver also received big laughs throughout the show with good-natured hijinks such as donning antlers and darting through choir members as they sang about "the running of the deer" and acted out the lyrics of "Vive la Cookery Maid," a lighthearted piece about a girl who makes pies as heavy as lead.

But the main focus of the event was the Madrigal Singers, an all-female group who put dinner guests in a festive, holiday mood by singing Christmas classics such as "Here We Come A-Wassailing" and "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" as various parts of the meal were served to diners. Several guests even hummed along to the more familiar tunes as they feasted.

Some of the group's best work was heard in period pieces and modern madrigal-style tunes such as the sweet, lilting melodies of "Patapan" and "Le Sommeil de l'Enfant Jesus" and the Polish carol "To a Baby."

While several songs were accompanied by the Andrews University Early Music Ensemble, one of the standout performances of the night was the a capella "In Dulci Jubilo." The room fell silent as the well-blended vocal ensemble weaved their melody, with not even the clink of a glass breaking the spell.

Interestingly, the madrigal was an entirely interactive concert. The singers paraded through the hall singing directly to the audience while the actors visited tables during dinner, joking with guests. Diners even interacted with each other, gaining a sense of community as they introduced themselves and chatted with neighbors, passing bowls of food down the long tables. Guests and performers alike also united in singing "Silent Night"

DPAC SPOTLIGHT

Pittsburgh Symphon

By ANALISE LIPARI
Scene Critic

The sound of strings, woodwinds and brass warming up to a familiar B flat tickled the atmosphere of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra's performance last Thursday night at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The general mood of anticipation was only heightened by noting the selection of pieces that the prestigious ensemble was to present that evening. And with Rachmaninoff, Strauss and Sibelius played to near perfection, it was an evening of masterful artistry.

With guest conductor Hans Graf at the helm, the PSO was truly remarkable. Their level of professionalism, talent and style was of the highest caliber, and witnessing their concert was undoubtedly one of the most exceptional joys of the semester.

The first piece performed, Richard Strauss' tone poem, "Don Juan," was a bright and energetic opening for the concert. The piece, first performed in 1889, uses a featured selection of instruments to tell the familiar tale of Don Juan through music. Flute, bassoon, harp and timpani are among the instruments chosen, and the piece's varying pace and melodies heighten those choices.

From its vibrant opening to the more measured middle sections, the tone poem's gorgeous melodies carried the audience to the Seville of centuries past. The interesting contrast between smooth, lilting string harmonies and bright, bombastic brass and timpani led the audience to feel both the power and elegance of the music. Its final crescendo was the height of musical force and energy.

The second piece, Sibelius' violin concerto

in D minor, featured celebrated violinist Sarah Chang. Chang, a known prodigy whose credits include performing with the New York Philharmonic at eight years old, was, in a word, a wonder. Her level of skill was astronomical for the average concertgoer to witness, and her handling of the intricacies of Sibelius' orchestrations was outstanding.

The concert itself was unique in its accenting of the violin's solo moments with a subtle depth of complementary orchestration. The accompanying instruments provided a strong background and partnership for Chang's violin, and throughout the concert's three major themes, that balance is heard with distinction.

The final piece performed was Rachmaninoff's "Symphony No. 2 in E minor." The suggested performance time of 50 minutes may have seemed daunting before it began, but at the closing of the fourth and final movement, it felt as though the complex, graceful and unique melodies could have continued easily until morning.

The first movement, with its strings-heavy opening, used the mournful tones of the oboe to create an ebb and flow of melody. The mood rose and fell, culminating with a surge of thunderous brass and violin.

The subsequent movements each had a distinct personality, so to speak. The second, with a more dramatic feel, also created a balance between a feel of threatening urgency and a sensation of rising joy in its choice of notes. The third is sweeping and romantic, and the fourth, an Italian "tarentella," closes the symphony on a triumphant note of stunning beauty.

"The several elements ... produce the rich and sonorous tapestry appropriate for the

...e a fun medieval festival



Kelly Higgins/OBSERVER

Medieval servers bring out the food for the Saint Mary's sponsored Madrigal Dinners. The Madrigal Singers serenaded the attendees as they ate.

o end the evening, and many guests' eyes glistened with tears as they sang long.

"There were so many beautiful voices in the choir," diner Sharon Duram said.

Duram attended the Madrigal Dinner as "fun" Christmas group event with 11 other members of the local Red Hat society.

"We thought it would be interesting and something different to do," fellow member Caryll Vicsik said. "It's only once a year and we thought we'd take advantage of it."

Vicsik said she "couldn't pick a favorite" part of the performance but commented on the beautiful medieval costumes designed by Melissa Bialko and the intricate attention to detail that was placed on the hall, which was decked in wreaths and picture-perfect table settings. While

the hall itself was a bit too small - especially for the food servers, who had to edge their way between the 12 tables — the music filled the space. The music combined with the décor added to the holiday atmosphere, a fact not lost on guests or even the performers, who seemed to enjoy the dinner as much as the ticketholders.

Senior singer Kate Keating said the event — especially with the snow covering the ground as everyone joined in "Silent Night" — was a special holiday experience.

"I love the way we end it," Keating said. "Especially at night - you come out and it's just gorgeous. It really feels like Christmas Eve."

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zook8928@saintmarys.edu

...y an artistic success



Photo courtesy of henrydoksorski.com

The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra performed at the Debartolo Center for the performing Arts last Thursday night. Hans Graf was the guest conductor for the evening.

re-affirming conclusion of this grand and inspiring Symphony," the program stated. The joy of having such talented and celebrated performers, who are able to come to

the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's communities, is a rare and lovely one.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu

DPAC REVIEW

'Innocent Voices' an emotional experience



Photo courtesy of innocentvoicesmovie.com

'Innocent Voices' is a film based upon the life of screenwriter Oscar Torres and his experiences with child recruitment into armed forces in El Salvador.

By GRACE MYERS
Scene Writer

An 11-year-old boy, Chava, must fight for his home, family and childhood in war-torn El Salvador.

"Innocent Voices," a movie based on the true story of screenwriter Oscar Torres, compellingly addresses the El Salvadoran Civil War and child recruitment during the 1980s. The film shows the vast and prolonged suffering caused by daily violence. The film's screening at the Browning Theater was put together by a Notre Dame student who, after spending time in El Salvador and experiencing the effects of the war first-hand, wanted to raise awareness of the civil war and the issue of child recruitment. She also brought Torres, to speak and answer questions after the screenings. Seeing Torres, the now 33-year-old creator of this film based on his embattled childhood, made viewing the film an incredibly powerful experience.

The film is highly acclaimed all over the world, receiving awards from many film festivals, including Best Feature Film Award at the San Diego International Film Festival and Best Picture at the Berlin International Film Festival. "Innocent Voices" has earned high praise in the United States, despite its initial difficulty in finding an American distribution company.

"Innocent Voices" shows history's evils, raising awareness of the devastation war inflicts on children, but also showing the strength of the human spirit in the midst of these evils.

The boy, Chava, struggles to maintain a degree of normalcy within his home. In the midst of frequent shootings in his village, he constantly fears turning 12 — the age when the government can recruit him to fight against his nation's peasant rebels. Meanwhile, he cares for his younger brother and sister, trying to preserve their innocence and sheltering them from the chaos that surrounds them. During the frequent shootings, Chava

draws on his face and does magic tricks to create a "circus" underneath the bed frame where the children hide.

Chava gets his first job to help his single mom pay the bills, survives a shooting within in his school and sees his friends be recruited to the army and changed forever. His life becomes a bitter struggle for survival, as he is forced to choose between being recruited and joining the rebels, while experiencing the dispiriting effects of constant fear.

The brilliance of this movie lies in the balance of the devastation and

specific cruelties of this civil war with the funny and charming displays of Chava's childhood and family. The young Chava's point of view sets this film apart from other

Innocent Voices



Director: Luis Mandoki
Writer: Oscar Torres
Starring: Carlos Padilla, Leonor Varela, Xuna Primus

Latin American war films: he has no political opinions, does not understand the purpose of the violence and seeks to return to his normal life. Unlike the adults around him, he does not choose his future. His fear of being recruited by the army dictates his decision to finally join the peasant rebels.

"Ask any 12 year-old if he wants to join a war, and he will say no," Torres said in a recent interview with National Geographic. "The problem is that many children do not have a choice."

Torres was also quick to point out, in both the film and in the post-screening discussion, that child recruitment is found in other places besides El Salvador. In fact, more than 300,000 children presently serve in armies in over 40 countries throughout the world, most frequently in Africa. Various organizations, such as Amnesty International and UNICEF, work diligently to solve the problem. A major difficulty, however, is the unawareness in the majority of the world. With his powerful "Innocent Voices," Torres directly educates and inspires the world of this ongoing crisis.

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NFL

Tuiasosopo might play Sunday

Associated Press

ALAMEDA, Calif. — Marques Tuiasosopo probably will get his shot as Oakland's starting quarterback this week.

Coach Norv Turner is leaning toward demoting the struggling Kerry Collins and plans to make his final decision before the Raiders take the practice field Wednesday to prepare for the lowly New York Jets — though it sure seems Turner has all but made up his mind.

The coach already spoke to Collins about the potential change for Sunday's road game.

"I wouldn't have brought it up if it wasn't something we're considering strongly," Turner said Monday on the heels of the Raiders' second straight defeat and fourth loss in five games, 34-10 at San Diego.

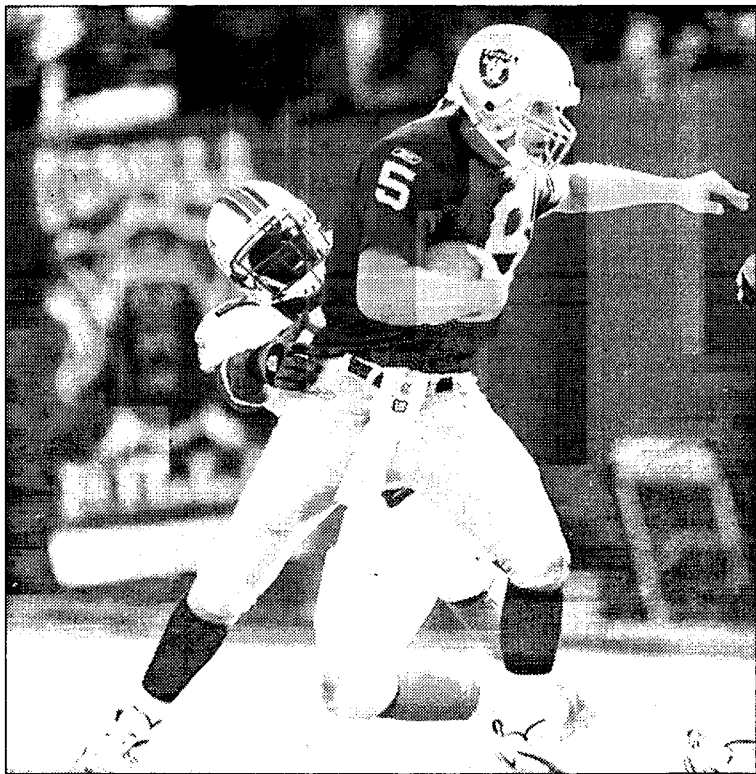
"We're going to look at the quarterback situation and say, 'Hey, is it time to look at Tui?' With his mobility, would that help us?"

The 26-year-old Tuiasosopo has been a backup since the Raiders drafted him out of Washington in 2001. He started one game in 2003 in place of injured 2002 MVP Rich Gannon, but hurt his knee during Oakland's third offensive series on a hard hit by Boss Bailey in a 23-13 loss at Detroit and hasn't played in a regular-season game since.

Tuiasosopo planned to relax by playing the guitar Monday night to take his mind off Turner's decision.

"I definitely feel like I have a better chance," Tuiasosopo said. "That's always exciting. I'll lay low for a couple more days and obviously on Wednesday we'll all know and I'll go on from there. ... I wouldn't approach it any different. There are no added expectations, no added pressure. When I was playing in college, I'd go out and play. Pressure is a lot of things that have nothing to do with football. I love to play football and I love to go out to compete to win."

This preseason, Tuiasosopo



Oakland Raiders quarterback Kerry Collins is sacked by Miami Dolphins defensive end Vonnie Holliday Nov. 27. Collins has been sacked 32 times this season for 194 lost yards.

threw for 343 yards and completed 29 of his 44 passes with four interceptions and no touchdowns. He has been taking snaps with the first-team offense at times and is more athletic than Collins, allowing him to move more in the pocket.

The fans have been calling for him to get an opportunity for weeks now, chanting "Tui! Tui!" when the offense takes the field.

"I have nothing to say about it," receiver Jerry Porter said about the situation. "No matter who's the quarterback, I'll be OK. I've been with Marques all five years he's been here."

After a promising start to the season, the 32-year-old Collins has lately found himself facing constant questions — just like his mistake-prone year last season — about the Raiders' ineffective offense.

"That's a tough one," left tackle Barry Sims said of the possible QB move. "I don't think Kerry's played in a way that suggests that he should be replaced, but at the same time,

Tui's been here a long time, and hardly played at all. It would be interesting to see how he handles himself, but I don't think that Kerry should be replaced by any means. I think he's the quarterback, and it's his job. I think you can't pin the whole loss on him."

Collins has completed 245 of his 446 passes for 3,118 yards and 16 touchdowns, but he has thrown 10 interceptions and been sacked 32 times for 194 lost yards.

His recent struggles have been surprising after his strong start in his first full season as starter. Collins didn't throw an interception until his 141st pass in Week 5 against San Diego, then didn't give up another pick for 95 more attempts. Seven of his 10 interceptions have come in the past four games, including three in a 31-17 home loss to Denver on Nov. 13.

"Kerry wants to play," Turner said. "He's a competitor. He's a strong guy. He gives everything he's got."

NCAA FOOTBALL

Bowl teams failing to meet new standards

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — This year's bowl-bound college football teams are struggling to meet the NCAA's new academic standards, with 41 percent falling below minimum requirements and almost half lacking a 50 percent graduation rate, according to a survey released Monday.

The 56 Division 1-A football teams headed to bowl games have a lingering problem of too many student-athletes failing to complete their studies, said Richard Lapchick, the University of Central Florida professor who authored the annual report.

"The key is admitting students who are qualified to be in that school," said Lapchick, who heads the DeVos Sport Business Management Program at UCF.

This is the first year Lapchick has used the NCAA's Academic Progress Rate, known as APR, to measure the bowl-bound schools' academic progress. In past years, the study has relied solely on graduation rates.

Developed last year, the NCAA's new academic standard awards APR points based on how many scholarship student-athletes meet academic eligibility standards. A cutoff score of 925 means an estimated 50 percent of those student-athletes are on track graduate.

Starting this year, NCAA schools that regularly fall below the 925 score can lose scholarships, face recruiting restrictions and miss postseason play.

In a dry run of the system last year, more than 90 percent of Division I teams across all sports had passing scores. According to Lapchick's report, only 33 of the 56 bowl-bound teams — 59 percent — got

above the 925 cutoff.

"Obviously we would like to see those statistics higher," said NCAA spokesman Bob Williams. "But this is a process that the NCAA member institutions are going through to change behavior and essentially ensure the student athletes, coaches and everyone involved in collegiate athletics understands that academic achievement and academic performance is just as important as athletic performance."

While the APR figures give schools an up-to-date assessment of how they're doing, the graduation rates are still useful in showing the disparity in the graduation rates between black and white student-athletes, Lapchick said.

Two-thirds of the bowl-bound schools graduated less than half of their African-American football student-athletes. By comparison, 49 percent of the bowl-bound schools failed to have a 50 percent graduation rate overall for those players, according to Lapchick's report.

Lapchick praised Northwestern University and Boston College for doing the best job of graduating football players. Both teams graduated at least 78 percent of all football student-athletes and at least 74 percent of African-American football student-athletes.

Two conferences, the Atlantic Coast Conference and the Big East, had every one of their bowl-bound schools receive an APR score higher than 925, and all the teams in both conferences were in the top 25 of APR rankings for bowl-bound schools.

The Pacific 10's five schools chosen for bowl games scored less than 925.

"The key is admitting students who are qualified to be in that school."

Richard Lapchick
University of Central
Florida professor

CLASSIFIEDS

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AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 13

Men's Basketball Coaches Poll

	team	record	votes
1	Duke (25)	7-0	767
2	Texas (4)	7-0	739
3	Connecticut	6-0	718
4	Villanova	4-0	689
5	Louisville	3-0	618
6	Boston College	6-0	605
7	Memphis	6-1	554
8	Florida	7-0	519
9	Oklahoma	4-1	516
10	Illinois	7-0	467
11	Gonzaga	4-2	460
12	Washington	7-0	393
13	Iowa	7-1	375
14	Michigan State	5-2	329
15	Kentucky	5-2	298
16	Indiana	4-1	255
17	Maryland	5-1	229
18	UCLA	6-1	228
19	Alabama	4-1	205
20	George Washington	4-0	161
21	Wake Forest	7-1	157
22	Nevada	5-0	145
23	NC State	5-1	124
24	North Carolina	4-1	92
25	Arizona	2-3	81

Men's Swimming Coaches Poll

	team	points
1	Auburn	200
2	California	192
3	Stanford	183
4	Michigan	177
5	Arizona	169
6	Texas	159
7	Florida	153
8	Minnesota	142
9	USC	137
10	Tennessee	129
11	Indiana	120
12	Georgia	108
13	Virginia	100
14	Florida State	98
15	Purdue	84
16	Penn State	83
17	Northwestern	72
18	Kentucky	68
19	NOTRE DAME	50
20	Brigham Young	40
21	Ohio State	39
22	Alabama	34
23	North Carolina	31
24	NC State	13
25	Missouri	10

Women's Big East Basketball

	team	total W-L	pct.
1	DePaul	7-0	1.000
2	St. John's	7-0	1.000
3	Connecticut	6-0	1.000
4	NOTRE DAME	6-0	1.000
5	Rutgers	5-0	1.000
6	Marquette	5-1	0.833
7	USF	5-1	0.833
8	Villanova	5-1	0.833
9	Cincinnati	4-1	0.800
10	Louisville	4-1	0.800
11	Pittsburgh	5-2	0.714
12	Georgetown	4-2	0.667
13	Syracuse	4-2	0.667
14	West Virginia	3-2	0.600
15	Seton Hall	2-4	0.333
16	Providence	1-6	0.143

around the dial

MEN'S NCAA BASKETBALL

Kansas at St. Joseph's

7:00 p.m., ESPN

Michigan State at Boston College

9:00 p.m., ESPN

NHL

New York Islanders at St. Louis

8:00 p.m., OLN

Atlanta at Anaheim

10:30 p.m., OLN

NFL



Seattle Seahawks linebacker Lofa Tatupu celebrates after intercepting a Mike McMahon pass for a touchdown. The Seahawks had six turnovers and three defensive touchdowns in the 42-0 rout of the Eagles.

Seahawks dominate depleted Eagles

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — A cross-country trip to Philadelphia for a Monday night game in the snow hasn't exactly been a formula for success. Then again, these are not the same old Seattle Seahawks.

Using big plays on defense, including interception returns for touchdowns by Andre Dyson and rookie Lofa Tatupu, and smaller ones from their top-ranked offense, the Seahawks routed the Eagles 42-0.

Neither are these the same Eagles who made the last four NFC championship games. Philadelphia

(5-7) has been torn apart by injuries and the Terrell Owens affair and played its worst game since becoming an NFC force in 2001.

Certainly a better fight was expected. Yet the Seahawks (10-2) dominated from the outset, winning their eighth straight game, tying a team record set in 1984. They gained only 194 yards overall — the Seahawks were averaging 386 — but didn't need to do much after taking a 35-0 halftime lead.

Seattle, which got two short touchdowns runs from NFL rushing leader Shaun Alexander, sort of sneaked its way to the top of the conference and barely survived the New

York Giants last week. In the Monday night spotlight, though, the NFC West champions filled the scoreboard.

The only negative came when Dyson, after he returned Ryan Moats' fumble 25 yards for another touchdown on the first play of the second half, sprained his left ankle. Dyson was carried off the field by several teammates.

It was Philadelphia's worst loss since a 38-0 flop against Seattle to open the 1998 season. Indeed, as Dyson scored on his fumble return, the Linc pretty much emptied out. The majority of fans stayed that long only because the

Eagles retired Reggie White's No. 92 at halftime.

The Eagles, who had six turnovers, were shut out for the first time since 2003 when Tampa Bay beat them 17-0 in the first game in the new stadium. It was the Eagles' worst home loss since they were beaten 49-0 by Green Bay in 1962.

And, they lost running back Brian Westbrook with a sprained foot.

It didn't take long for Seattle's powerful offense to begin the scoring. Well, it actually took more than eight minutes on the opening drive, a relentless march featuring four third-down conversions and 16 plays.

IN BRIEF

Clemens unsure if he will continue to play next year

DALLAS — Roger Clemens hasn't decided if he will pitch next season, again leaving the Houston Astros in a bind as they plan for 2006.

"Today, he would retire if he had to make the decision," Clemens' agent, Randy Hendricks, said Monday at baseball's winter meetings.

Hendricks added that the seven-time Cy Young Award winner, who hobbled off the mound after only two innings in Game 2 of the World Series against the Chicago White Sox because of a strained left hamstring, probably won't make a decision until late January or early February.

The Astros have until Wednesday night to sign Clemens or offer him salary arbitration. Otherwise, he would not be able to re-sign with them before May 1.

"It's the same situation we were in last year where we were uncertain as to when we would get an answer," Houston general manager Tim

Purpura said. "It puts us at somewhat of a disadvantage to build our club."

La Salle basketball player avoids sexual assault charges

PHILADELPHIA — Sexual assault charges against former La Salle basketball player Dzafo Larkai were dismissed Monday because his accuser, a former member of the women's team, decided not to proceed with the case on the day the trial was to begin.

Larkai, 23, was accused of raping the 19-year-old woman in April 2003. She told authorities she didn't make a report right away because coaches discouraged her from coming forward.

Assistant District Attorney James Carpenter declined to say why the woman decided against taking the matter to trial.

Larkai, a forward who attended school in England before enrolling at La Salle, declined to comment as he left the courthouse after the brief hearing. He had been charged with rape, sexual assault and other related offenses.

29 players earn PGA tour card for 2006 season

WINTER GARDEN, Fla. — John Holmes played the best golf, while Bill Haas and Danny Ellis delivered the drama Monday to join 29 others who survived the most grueling week on the PGA Tour to earn their cards for next year.

Holmes became the first player in 22 years to leave college and win the PGA Tour qualifying tournament, closing with a 3-under 69 to win by three shots over Alex Cejka of Germany. It was a magnificent week at Orange County National for Holmes, the former Kentucky star who helped the United States win the Walker Cup this summer. He was the only player to shoot in the 60s all six rounds.

"I'm just glad it's over," said Holmes, who finished at 24-under 408. "I made it pretty easy on myself this week. I just went out there and tried to play 18 holes every day and act like I was playing with my buddies."

Road

continued from page 20

Jeff Jackson appears to have settled on Brown.

The junior has played in each of the last seven contests, starting six of them. He recorded his fifth career

shutout Sat-urday against the Broncos.

"That's what we need from Brown," O'Neill said. "He's a great goalie."

The Irish fell behind Western 4-1 midway through the second period of Friday's 4-3 loss in Kalamazoo, Mich. Conversely, when Notre Dame was able to get and hold a lead in

the second period of Saturday's contest, the Irish went on to win.

"We're not a team that needs to be trying to come back night after night," Jackson said.

After going four games without a point, O'Neill burst back on to the scene against Western Michigan with a goal and an assist. Jackson said he

hopes the talented junior can continue his improvement against Minnesota State.

The Mavericks, whose school was formerly known as Mankato State, started this season with six straight losses but have since recovered to go 3-3-3 in their last nine contests.

They went to overtime in two

games against Minnesota-Deluth this past weekend, losing 4-3 on Friday and earning a 2-2 tie Saturday.

The Irish and Mavericks will also square off Saturday at the Joyce Center. That game begins at 7:05 p.m.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

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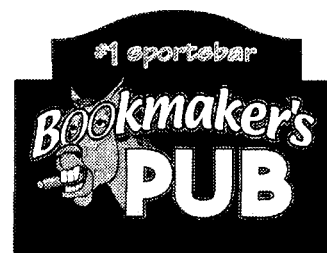
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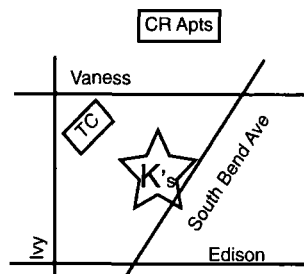
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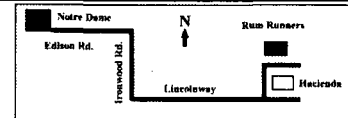
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NCAA FOOTBALL

Paterno and Bowden face off in Orange Bowl

Coaches meet for the first time since 1990 Blockbuster Bowl

Associated Press

MIAMI — When their teams last met, Bobby Bowden asked Joe Paterno how much longer he planned to stay in coaching.

Sixteen years later, the legends may have that conversation again.

Florida State (8-4) and Penn State (10-1) will meet in the FedEx Orange Bowl at Miami on Jan. 3, a game that'll mark a showdown between major college football's two winningest coaches. It's the sixth Bowl Championship Series appearance in eight years for the Seminoles, the first-ever for Paterno's third-ranked Nittany Lions.

And neither septuagenarian - Paterno turns 79 later this month, Bowden is 76 - wishes to play a starring role in the pregame hype.

"I think we just ought to forget about the Bobby Bowden-Joe Paterno relationship," Paterno said. "I think we ought

to be looking at two good football teams that are going to go down there and have a chance to knock each other's brains out."

Penn State shared the Big 10 championship with Ohio State, but earned the league's automatic BCS spot by beating the Buckeyes earlier this season. The Seminoles are the lowest-ranked team in the BCS, finishing 22nd in the final standings and getting into the mix only by upsetting Virginia Tech on Saturday for the Atlantic Coast Conference title.

Still, game officials said they're thrilled to have a Bowden-Paterno matchup.

"We are extremely proud to have two of the best here. ... Two marquee coaches in the game, one and two respectively," Orange Bowl CEO Keith Tribble said.

Bowden has 359 wins, six more than Paterno — and both steered their teams to surprising comeback stories in 2005.

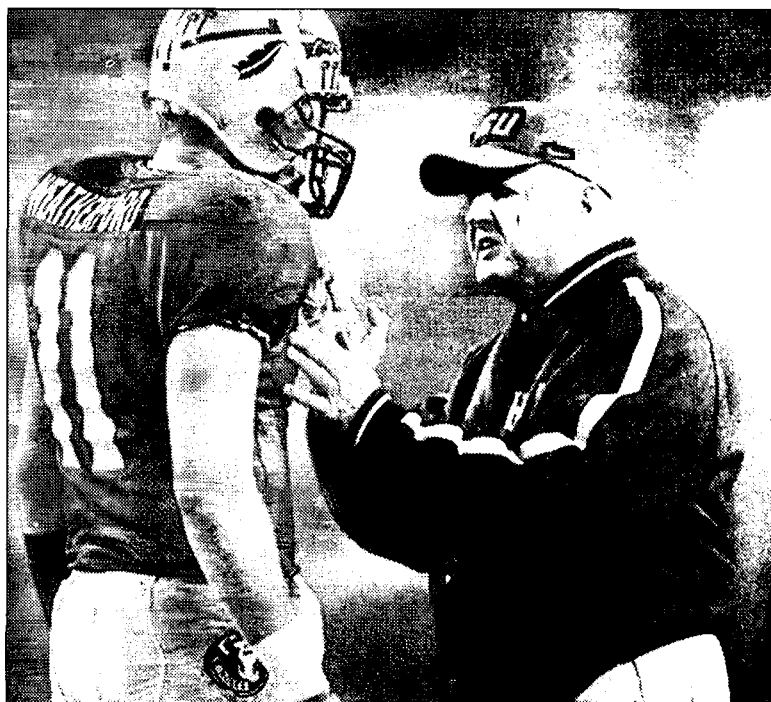
Bowden's Florida State team snapped a three-game losing streak on Saturday when it beat then No. 5-Virginia Tech for the ACC crown — the Seminoles' 12th in 14 seasons. Florida

State's reward turned out to be a matchup with another highly touted opponent, a Penn State team that nearly went unbeaten.

"I feel very fortunate for us," said Bowden, whose team fell from the national rankings after losing three straight. "I feel very happy for our boys and our assistant coaches that we were able to do it. Naturally I feel very lucky about it and sometimes I can't hardly believe it."

Amid whispers that their longtime coach is too old to compete, Paterno's Nittany Lions had lost 17 of their last 24 games entering this season and haven't won a bowl game since the 1999 season. But only a last-second touchdown by Michigan kept Penn State from finishing this regular season with a perfect record.

"We've caught a lot of heck this year. I've caught a lot of heck," Bowden said. "I can look at Joe's program and say, 'Look there. Just be patient. Look what'll happen.' ... It just substantiates my feeling that nobody's going to win forever. You can have a bad year. You can have a bad series of years. You can have a bad cycle, but



Florida State coach Bobby Bowden, right, talks to quarterback Drew Weatherford Saturday. The Seminoles will play Joe Paterno's Penn State Nittany Lions Jan. 3 in the Orange Bowl.

that's not the end because you can come back."

Bowden is 1-6 all-time against Paterno; he lost all six meetings as West Virginia's coach in the

early 1970s, and guided Florida State to a 24-17 victory over Penn State in the 1990 Blockbuster Bowl, also at Miami.

Cotton Bowl officials propose costly stadium renovation

Associated Press

DALLAS — The Cotton Bowl would add more than 16,000 seats and undergo extensive remodeling under a plan unveiled Monday, but the city's mayor warned that the home of the Texas-Oklahoma game

must receive new commitments before renovations are approved.

The nearly \$50 million proposal would upgrade seats, concession stands, scoreboards and restrooms to the decaying 75-year-old stadium. Seating capacity would

increase to 92,100 under the 34-proposal that was to be submitted to the City Council.

Frustrated with the deteriorating facility, athletic directors from Texas and Oklahoma have threatened to exercise an opt-out after 2007 and switch the Red River Rivalry to a

home-and-home series.

Dallas Mayor Laura Miller said she wants extended commitments from schools before making improvements. Miller said in Monday's online edition of The Dallas Morning News that if the city doesn't receive long-term pledges, "then we won't upgrade the Cotton Bowl."

Prairie View-Grambling and the AT&T Cotton Bowl Classic are the only other football games the stadium hosts. The city has been trying to lure Texas A&M and Texas Tech to play its annual game at Fair Park.

Before this year's game, Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds said he wanted to keep the Texas-Oklahoma game in

Dallas but was not optimistic. He said he would find it difficult for the city to commit so much money to a stadium that hosts only a handful of games each year.

But Miller told the newspaper that negotiations were "going very well" between Texas and Oklahoma and that she expected an announcement in January.

"We won't lose it. We're not going to lose it," Miller said.

Since 1929, the rivalry has been played in Dallas, halfway between the campuses in Norman, Okla., and Austin. The stadium is equally divided between burnt orange-clad Texas fans and crimson Sooners and anchors the surrounding State Fair of Texas.

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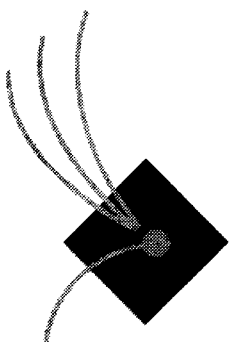
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Meet

continued from page 20

left the meet feeling pretty happy about where we are this year."

The meet was a success because several members of both the men's and women's teams qualified for the Big East Championship meet. In addition, freshman pole vaulter Mary Saxer took full advantage of her first collegiate competition and qualified for the NCAA Regional meet at the University of Tennessee in late May.

"I'm pretty happy with how it went," Saxer said. "It wasn't my best jump, but being my first college meet, and looking at

where I am at this point in the season, I'm pleased."

Members of the Notre Dame men's and women's teams finished first in nearly every event. Several athletes — senior Meghan Horn in the shot put and weight throw; freshman Alyssa Hasan in the 60-meter hurdles and long jump; senior Ryan Postel in the 400-meter dash and 200-meter dash — finished first in multiple events.

But despite the successful finishes and early qualifiers, coaches and players were quick to put this early success in perspective.

"I was pretty happy with how things went and I'm glad to qualify," junior pole vaulter Dave Viken said. "We've been working pretty hard all fall, and this meet gives us a chance to see where

we're at establish a starting point for the rest of the year."

Millar said the team now knows what it has to work on.

"We certainly have a ways to go considering all that we have ahead of us, but we have an idea where we are now and where we're going to end up," Millar said. "We have a better idea of what they need to do over the holidays to improve."

With three weeks away from school and official practices, the team can now use the results from this meet to assess what their abilities are and work to improve for the next event in January.

The Purdue Open is set for Jan. 14, the first weekend the Irish will be back from winter break.

Though the athletes were able finally test their abilities in a competitive environment, they now will have to take the extra initiative and prepare on their own for the next several weeks.

"Everyone was feeling good, our coach said we did really well, but we'll have to train hard over winter break because we're coming right back into the season that first week," Saxer said. "All in all, everyone has a good attitude going into the season."

Notes:

Senior distance runner Stephanie Madia was selected as one of four finalists for the Honda Sports Award in cross country, which honors the nation's top cross country runner.

Madia, who is a part of both the cross country team and track and field team, finished sixth or higher in all five races in which she participated. She capped off the cross country season by coming in third at the NCAA championships.

"I'm really honored, and I know that there are a lot of athletes considered for this award," Madia said. "I really just consider myself fortunate to be among the best in the country. I've really matured in this program and I consider myself as so blessed to have made the right decision athletically and academically. It's nice to see the hard work I've put in pay off."

Contact Jason Galvan at jgalvan2@nd.edu

Reuland

continued from page 20

at landing Reuland.

"I would be very, very surprised if he went anywhere but Notre Dame," Frank said Monday night.

Reuland took an official visit to Notre Dame for the Navy game on Nov. 12. The tight end came away impressed with the game day atmosphere and the passion of the Notre Dame students and fans.

Reuland is consistently rated as one of the country's top players. Rivals.com gives him five

stars and ranks him as the top tight end and the No. 42 player overall in the nation. The tight end also receives five stars from Scout.com, who rates Reuland as the No.2 tight end nationally.

Weis has secured 22 known verbal commitments. Reuland would be an excellent addition to an already highly thought of

Irish class and the second tight end to commit to Notre Dame.

"Anytime you can pick up a five-star player, you are doing well," Frank said. "Notre Dame targeted two tight ends this year — [Reuland] and [current Irish commit] Paddy Mullen. If they land [Reuland], then they landed the two top guys that they wanted."

Notre Dame's competition does have one obvious advantage in the recruitment of Reuland, though — location.

Southern California and UCLA are both a short drive from the tight end's home in Mission Viejo. But Reuland insists he is not afraid to leave the warm weather of Southern California.

"I definitely think I can handle the cold," Reuland said. "I lived in Germany in eighth grade, so I'm used to it. Ideally, I'd rather have it like Southern California — great weather all the time. But it's not going to sway my decision either way."

Reuland is attracted to different aspects of each of his final three schools. The tight end said he knows

he would enjoy playing under head coach Pete Carroll at Southern California.

"It seems like they really have fun over there — everybody on the team," Reuland said. "[Carroll] would just be a great guy to play for."

UCLA coach Karl Dorrell and his coaching staff have caught Reuland's attention with the use of their tight ends, particularly senior Mercedes Lewis. Lewis — along with Notre Dame tight end Anthony Fasano — is one of three finalists for the John Mackey Award, which is given to the top tight end in the nation each season.

"They definitely have it going from a tight end standpoint," Reuland said of the Bruins.

One specific aspect of Notre

Dame's program has stood out for Reuland — the head coach himself. The tight end cited Weis as the main draw to South Bend.

"They've shown me a lot of commitment," Reuland said of the Notre Dame staff. "[Weis] has done a really good job recruiting me."

Like most recruits, Reuland dreams of playing in the NFL after college. Reuland said he is confident Weis would do an excellent job preparing him for the next level.

"That's something I want to do is play in the NFL. And Coach Weis is a great link to the NFL," Reuland said. "He knows so many people. I really feel he could do a real good job of putting me up in the NFL."

Fasano hosted Reuland on the second night of his official visit to Notre Dame. Reuland said Fasano is exactly the type of

tight end he would like to be in college — one who excels in both the passing and running game.

"I'd definitely like to be a balanced tight end like him," Reuland said.

"That would be ideal for me. I just want to be a balanced tight end instead of more of a receiving tight end."

Frank believes Reuland has already achieved that balance, adding tremendous blocking to his already great receiving skills this season. Frank said Reuland will remind Irish fans of a combination of Fasano and backup tight end John Carlson.

"He's got the height and the athletic ability of Carlson, who might be a little bit more fluid than Fasano," Frank said. "But he also has Fasano's toughness and his blocking ability, so he's kind of really a combination of both those guys."

"He's a tremendous player."

Contact Kevin Brennan at kbrenna4@nd.edu



At the Club Fever Fri 12/9
In the Club 8 pm \$10.00
"Good Ol' Boys to Men"
Dangerous Jim Post DJ Grind
Must be 21 to enter

Underground Party
In the Banquet Room \$10.00
Food, Music, Video, Meet Don
Must be 17 to enter
No Alcoholic beverages in Banquet
7-pm - Midnight

"I would be very, very surprised if [Reuland] went anywhere but Notre Dame."

Mike Frank
Irisheyes.com

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Signings

continued from page 20

center spotlight as a freshman in 2007 if heavily scouted junior catcher Sean Gaston signs with a Major League team after the current season.

"If [Gaston] signs professionally, then we're talking about having a situation where Ryan Smith will be coming in as a freshman and competing [for the starting job] with Eddy Mendiola, who we recruited as an infielder and we're converting to the catching position this fall," Mainieri said.

Mainieri said the situation at catcher is emblematic of why this fall's recruiting class was so important.

"We're going to be a young team next year," he said. "In 2007, we could have as many as 20 of 30 players on our roster as freshmen or sophomores. It will be a unique year for our program."

Mainieri said there are serious down sides in having a young team but noted past Irish success in situations like Notre Dame will have in 2007.

"In '99, we started four or five freshmen every day, and that team ended up hosting an NCAA Regional for the first time ever in Notre Dame history," Mainieri said. "In '03, the year after we went to the [College] World Series, we had a lot of turnover again, and we had a lot of young players again that contributed. And we had a tremendous year and went to the Regional at Fullerton."

"We are going to be awfully young, but I still feel confident that we'll be able to maintain playing at a high level."

Mainieri said he expects the 2007 Irish team to utilize heavily the three right-handed pitchers in this year's recruiting class to stay at a nationally competitive level.

Billy Boockford, Steven Mazur and Andrew Scheid all join the Irish as highly touted prospects.

Scheid, a 6-foot-7, 200-lb. starting pitcher for Regis Jesuit High School outside of Denver, Colo., enters Notre Dame as one of the nation's top pitching recruits after averaging almost 12 strikeouts per nine innings in his junior campaign at Regis Jesuit.

"Andrew really could have gone to just about any school he wanted to in the country," Mainieri said. "For us to land him was a real major coup."

Mainieri compared Scheid to former Irish star Brad Lidge, another tall right-hander from Denver.

He saved a more recent com-

parison for Boockford, a Glen Ellyn, Ill., native.

"Billy really reminds me a lot of Jeff Samardzija on the mound," Mainieri said. "He's just a real confident, competitive kid that is fearless. I just think he's going to contribute a big way to our program and be a real natural leader to our team."

Mainieri said while Boockford and Scheid bring confidence, Mazur brings fire to the Irish.

"Mazur throws a little bit harder than Scheid," Mainieri said. "Steven is, I think the best way to describe him is he's a bulldog on the mound. When I watched him pitch, I just saw a guy who attacked the hitters."

Notre Dame added quality pitchers to its roster, but Mainieri said that the Irish recruits at the daily positions are just as good as the pitchers.

"It was really critical for us to replace position players because on our team in 2006 we could have as many as six seniors in our everyday starting lineup," he said. "So it was really important for us to bring in some quality position players, particularly in the outfield."

The Irish signed four outfielders in the class, including two speedy lefties.

David Mills, a versatile 5-foot-10 player from Battle Creek, Mich., and 5-foot-7 Michael Wright of Lockhart, Texas give Notre Dame a dimension of basepath speed it has been lacking in previous years.

"We brought in two little speed guys, which I felt that we were in badly need of some speed into our program," Mainieri said. "Both [Mills and Wright] are the prototypical left-handed spray hitter that can really run."

The power hitter of the outfielders is Austin Pearce of Lake Oswego, Ore. The 6-foot-2, 210-lb. switch hitter has the most explosive bat of the 10 Irish signees, Mainieri said.

"He's another kid that's just full of a lot of enthusiasm, and he can really hit," Mainieri said.

Other Irish signees were heavy-hitting outfielder Brayden Ashdown of Tuscon, Ariz., and sure-handed infielders Ryne Intlekofer (Moorpark, Calif.) and A.J. Pollock (Hebron, Conn.).

"This class may rank as high as any in the overall enthusiasm in the players," Mainieri said. "All of the kids are very outgoing personalities that are tremendously thrilled about being at Notre Dame. ... We couldn't be more pleased with the group that we finally signed and will see next August."

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

CLUB *Fever*

Student Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 7th

Special Appearance from

"Santa and His Helpers"

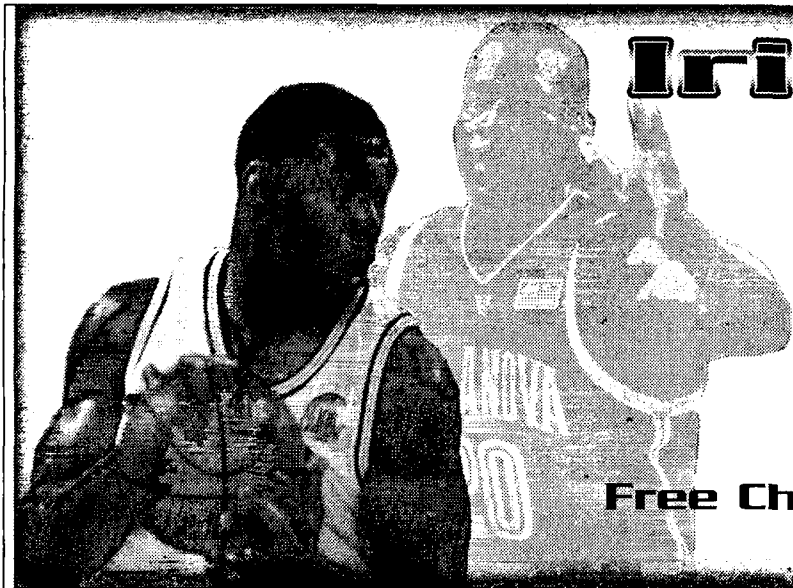
Doors at 10 ~ Drink Specials

CLUBFEVER.BIZ

Winter snow shimmers and so should your hair!

Let us take care of your color before the holidays. We're open through Dec. 22nd.

University Hair Stylist
Located in the LaFortune Center



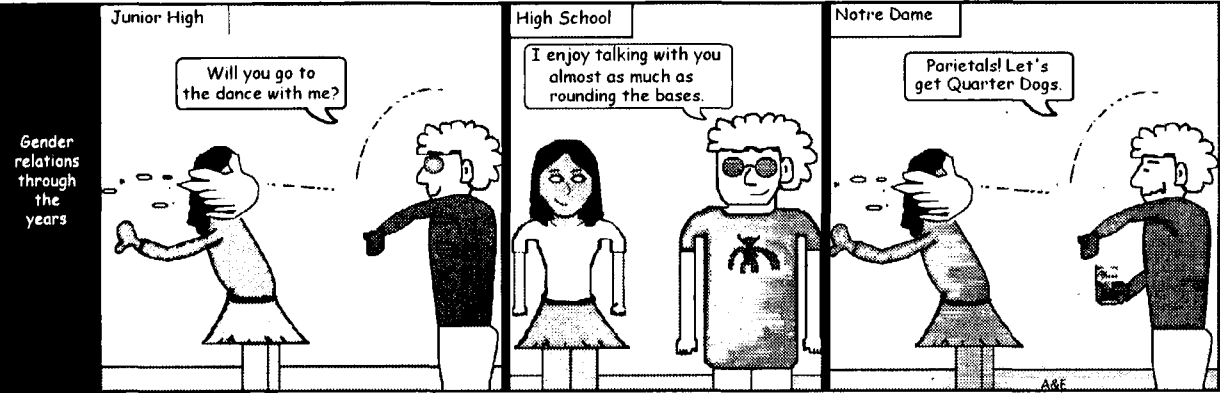
Irish Basketball

vs. Florida International
December, 10 - 7:05pm

Free Chick-Fil-A for Students (while supplies last).
Troop ND to perform at halftime.

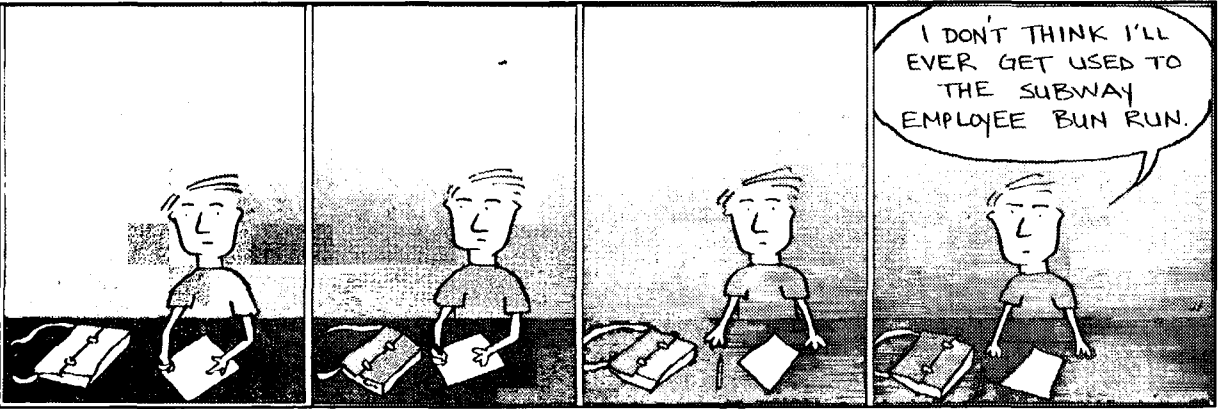
JOCKULAR

ALEC WHITE AND ERIK POWERS



CROISSANTWORLD

ADAM FAIRHOLM

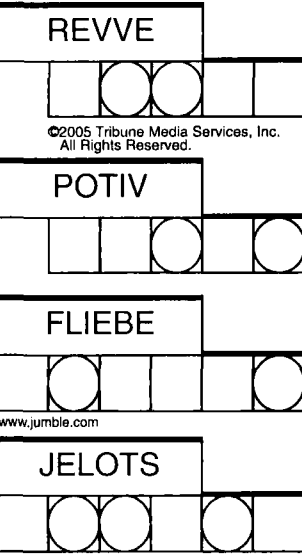


JUMBLE

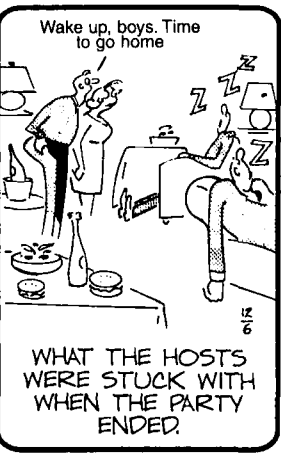
HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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



THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



WHAT THE HOSTS
WERE STUCK WITH
WHEN THE PARTY
ENDED.

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

Answer: "CROISSANTWORLD"

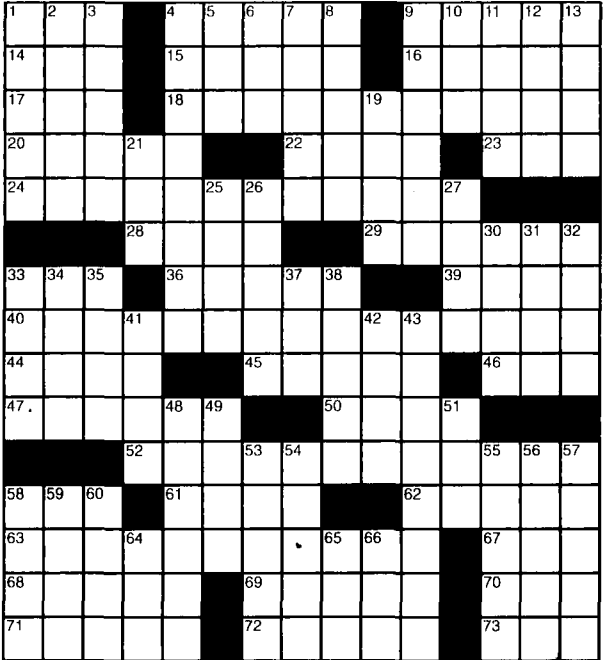
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: POKER FELON MARTYR PARADE
Answer: The prison class learned that this comes at the end of a sentence — FREEDOM

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Held a session
 - 4 Crustaceans eaten by whales
 - 9 Arcade flubs
 - 14 Each
 - 15 Kind of ink
 - 16 Former TWA honcho Carl
 - 17 Ill temper
 - 18 2003 Tom Cruise movie, with "The"
 - 20 Children's song refrain
 - 22 Mint or chive
 - 23 Mound dweller
 - 24 In memoriam phrase
 - 28 "Quién ___?" ("Who knows?"): Sp.
 - 29 Creamsicle color
 - 33 When doubled, a dance
- DOWN**
- 36 Blue eyes or curly hair, say
 - 39 Like many college dorms, now
 - 40 Lean right, at sea
 - 44 Diva's delivery
 - 45 Copier need
 - 46 "You, there!"
 - 47 Hanker for
 - 50 Greek consonants
 - 52 What Bo-Peep did
 - 58 RR stop
 - 61 Workers' welfare overseer: Abbr.
 - 62 Looie's underling
 - 63 Van Gogh biography
 - 67 Refinable rock
 - 68 Put down
 - 69 Atelier prop



Puzzle by Kurt Mengel and Jan-Michele Ghanette

- 37 "Am ___ believe ...?"
- 38 Uncle's wife
- 41 Follow closely
- 42 Paddler's target
- 43 NATO headquarters site
- 48 Housetop laborer
- 49 Gas brand in Canada
- 51 ___ Na Na
- 53 Birdie score, often
- 54 N.F.L. coach called "Papa Bear"
- 55 Wear down
- 56 "Snowy" bird
- 57 Suffers from sunburn
- 58 Retaliation for a pinch
- 59 Hefty horn
- 60 Quickly, in memos
- 64 China's Lao-
- 65 Adherent's suffix

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.
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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Frankie Muniz, 20; John Rzeznik, 40; Margaret Cho, 37; Little Richard, 73

Happy Birthday: The better equipped you are to adapt and think on your feet, the more you will enjoy your upcoming year. You can make great strides if you aren't rigid and are willing to put in the hours to finish what you start. Separate your personal and professional lives, and you will do well in both areas. Your numbers are 8, 13, 15, 22, 35, 39

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can do anything you set your mind to. Make a point of letting the people in your life know how you feel and what your intentions are. A financial opportunity looks promising. ****
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't be too sure the people around you are on your side. You will find out you stand alone if you try to push your views. It may not be the best time to engage in something you know little about. **
GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You won't have time to think today, but if you act on your instincts, you are likely to make positive things happen. You will be able to come up with unique ideas that will grab the attention of someone you've been trying to interest in your plans. ****
CANCER (June 21-July 22): Something very unusual will surround financial or legal matters. Take a closer look and do whatever you can to sort out anything that doesn't look quite right. Avoid getting involved in a joint venture. ***
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may be a little confused in emotional matters or affairs of the heart. Don't let that stop your generous Leo personality from helping others. Don't overspend or take on more than you can handle. ***
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A colleague or peer may make you feel insecure. Persevere until you get past any of the obstacles placed in your way. Sudden changes regarding your personal life will put you in the driver's seat. ***
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Everyone will look to you for advice. Your wide variety of answers will put you in a category by yourself. Money can be made if you put a new spin on something you have been doing for some time. ****
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Be direct if you want to get things done right. You can expect someone to give you a hard time. Don't let any little mishap turn into a fiasco. Control whatever situation you face as best you can. **
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may impress some of the people you encounter, but someone who can make a difference to your future may not be such a pushover. Make sure you have your facts straight. Preparation will lead to success. ****
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Someone you thought might help you get ahead is not likely to come through for you today. Don't count on anyone and you will succeed. A secret you are told must be kept. ***
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will have plenty on your mind, but if you neglect the people you are closest to, you will face even greater difficulties. An older relative will need your help and your advice. Do your best, but don't let him or her take advantage of you. ***
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Dealing with institutions will be difficult and best left until a later date if possible. You won't get the satisfaction you are looking for through work or business communications. Focus on the lifestyle that best suits you. ***

Birthday Baby: You are outgoing, entrepreneurial and always current. You have charm and finesse. You are emotional and always look out for others.

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

THE OBSERVER

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FOOTBALL RECRUITING

Notre Dame hot on tight end Reuland's recruiting trail

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame head coach Charlie Weis has made national waves while leading Notre Dame to a BCS bowl bid. And Mission Viejo, Calif. tight end Konrad Reuland, one of the nation's top recruits, has taken

notice.

"[Weis] has turned a program around in a year from an average team to a powerhouse team," Reuland said in a phone interview with The Observer Monday night. "With just the way he carries himself, his self confidence, it just seems like you know and he knows that he's going to get it done."

"They are going to be a dominant team over the next couple of years."

Reuland said he has developed a close relationship with Weis and special teams coach Brian Polian, the Notre Dame assistant in charge of recruiting Reuland. The two Irish coaches visited Reuland at his home on Nov. 27.

"It went well. We had a really good time," Reuland said of the visit. "[Weis] stayed over for a while and had dinner. It was really a good time. I enjoyed it, and I think he did, too."

Reuland has narrowed his list of college choices to Notre Dame, Southern California and UCLA. The Mission Viejo High product plans on announcing his

verbal commitment in the near future — possibly as early as this weekend, he said, but definitely by the U.S. Army All-American Bowl on Jan. 7.

Recruits cannot sign letters of intent until February, but Mike Frank of Irisheyes.com thinks the Irish have an excellent shot

see REULAND/page 14

HOCKEY

Changing the pace

Irish travel to Minnesota State tonight for pivotal road contest after streak-snapping win over Western Michigan

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's routine is to practice all week and play Friday and Saturday games. But the Irish will be jolted from their routine by today's trip to Mankato, Minn., for a game against Minnesota State.

The Irish last played Saturday in a 3-0 win over Western Michigan at the Joyce Center. The three-day turnaround between contests is the fastest of the season.

Notre Dame heads into its game against the Mavericks riding a 17-game road winless streak that dates back to last season.

Irish defenseman Wes O'Neill said he is actually excited to play a mid-week game as a change of pace.

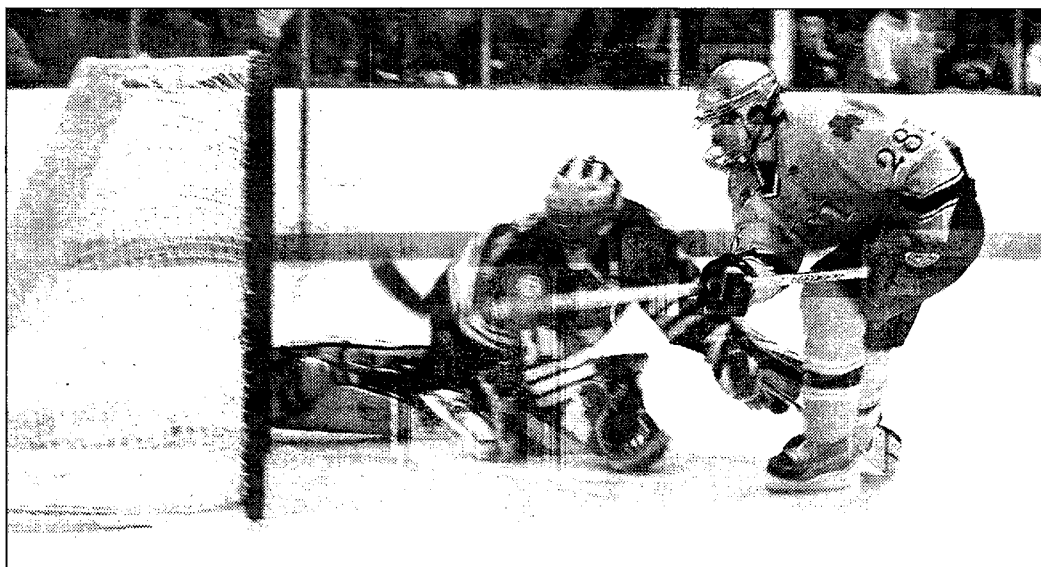
"It's back to the junior [level] days where you played every other day,"

he said. "It's a little tough during exams, but we prepare all year for weeks like this."

Every player on the Irish roster played junior-level hockey before coming to South Bend. Most competed in the United States Hockey League, while three players — right wing Michael Bartlett, left wing Josh Sciba and left wing Tim Wallace — played for the U.S. Under-18 National Team.

Minnesota State, which plays in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA), will be the first non-conference game for the Irish since Princeton on Oct. 29. Notre Dame is 4-9-1 this season and 3-6-1 in the CCHA.

After rotating goalies junior Dave Brown and freshman Jordan Pearce early in the season, Irish head coach



JENNIFER KANG/The Observer

Notre Dame right winger Tim Wallace scores a goal against Michigan on Nov. 4. The Irish face Minnesota State tonight after beating Western Michigan Saturday.

see ROAD/page 14

ND TRACK AND FIELD

Irish declare first meet a success

Team qualifies several members for Big East Championship in May



HY PHAM/The Observer

Irish distance runner Stephanie Madia, right, strides alongside competitors during the Meyo Invitational on Feb. 4, 2005.

By JASON GALVAN
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame men's and women's track and field teams got their first taste of competition this season at the Blue/Gold Invitational Friday in the Loftus Sports Center. And despite a limited amount of athletes on competing opposition, the Irish were finally able to put their off-season training to a much desired test.

"I would say our expectations were met," assistant coach John Millar said. "Everybody was pleased with how our athletes responded to their first competition, and we

see BADGERS/page 18

BASEBALL RECRUITING

Irish ink ten recruits during signing period

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

Paul Mainieri knew he needed a top-flight recruiting class.

With eight seniors on the 2005-06 squad and the possibility of multiple juniors being drafted after this season, the 11th-year Irish head coach had to reload Notre Dame's position and pitching weapons with a strong incoming class.

"It's a tremendous challenge for us this year because we have such an inordinately large senior class," Mainieri said. "We feel that there's a chance that we could lose two to three of our junior class also, so that's a big group to replace in one year."

His coaching staff delivered, nabbing top prospects from California to Connecticut and Michigan to Maryland.

"We feel like we have a great recruiting class," Mainieri said. "Our coaching staff, [especially] Terry Rooney, the recruiting coordinator, and Cliff Godwin, our new assistant coach, ... the effort that they put in is where the credit is due for the success of this recruiting class."

The Irish signed ten players to scholarships during the signing period, and Mainieri said Notre Dame's most important pickup was likely Ryan Smith. Smith, a 6-foot-2 catcher from Waldorf, Md., who will be thrust into the

see SIGNINGS/page 18

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

NCAA FOOTBALL

A controversial new plan proposed a \$50 million renovation of the historic Cotton Bowl in Dallas, Texas.

page 15

NFL

Seahawks 42 Eagles 0

Philadelphia turned the ball over six times and Seattle capitalized on nearly every mistake.

page 13

MLB

Roger Clemens' agent said Monday that if the right-hander had to choose immediately, he would retire.

page 13

NCAA BASKETBALL

Sexual assault charges against former La Salle basketball player Dzaflor Larkai were dismissed Monday.

page 13

NFL

The struggling Raiders likely will bench Kerry Collins this weekend in favor of the young Marques Tuiasosopo.

page 12

NCAA FOOTBALL

A study by a Central Florida professor showed that this year's bowl-eligible teams often fail to meet NCAA academic standards.

page 12