

THE OBSERVER

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Energy costs rise for off-campus residents

Local students pay more money to warm their homes as national natural gas prices jump

By KATIE PERRY
Assistant News Editor

The nationwide decrease in natural gas production has caused home heating prices to skyrocket this winter — a frigid reality for off-campus students who are forced to dig deep into their pocket books just to keep warm in the cold South Bend climate.

The Office of Residence Life and Housing estimates more than 80 percent of Notre Dame undergraduates live on campus,

where heating costs are factored into room and board charges. But for the remaining fifth, paying monthly heating bills has become an unexpected and frustrating struggle.

Senior Karen Daniels and her four roommates paid approximately \$300 for the heating system in their East Angela Blvd. home last month — nearly double the monthly estimates given to them by their landlord last year.

Daniels said the house has

see ENERGY/page 6



Observer File Photo

Students renting apartments, like those at the Lafayette complex shown above, are paying more for heat this winter.

NDtv to go back on the air

12-hour broadcasts will include many student programs

By MARCELA BERRIOS
News Writer

Students who cannot find anything to watch during the days that separate each O.C. episode may discover a new alternative starting Jan. 31 on Channel 70 for cable users.

NDtv, the student-run television network that premiered two years ago, will be back on the air, and this time it will have full access to the channel and will broadcast 12 hours every day — a vast improvement from the single hour it enjoyed in its beginnings.

Viewers who tune in fortuitously are likely to enjoy repetitions of "The Mike Peterson Show," Notre Dame's own late night comedy show.

Host and FTT student Mike Peterson is already an easily recognizable celebrity on the Saint Mary's campus, where cable is installed in every residence hall.

NDtv Executive Director Adam Fairholm said he is confident that once cable television becomes available in all 27 Notre Dame residence halls next fall semester, more students will also make Mike Peterson and Joe Lattal household names and become acquainted with the rest of the NDtv lineup.

Lattal, a junior, will headline

see NDTV/page 6

ND students aid Katrina clean up

Eight volunteers took a break from their winter breaks to assist hurricane relief efforts



Children return to school in New Orleans Tuesday. A group of Notre Dame students visited the area for a service project during break.

By MAUREEN MULLEN
News Writer

While many Notre Dame students spent the last week of winter break enjoying their final days of relaxation before tackling semester number two and January in South Bend, Zahm hall sophomore Baker Jones, with a group of eight other students, traveled to New Orleans and spent Jan. 10 to 13 helping those affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Jones, a New Orleans native, organized the service project. The trip was made possible with grants from the Center for Social Concerns and Campus Ministry as well as much support from the Notre Dame Alumni Club of New Orleans, he said.

"Being from the area, I wanted to do something to help out," Jones said. "I thought it would be great to get Notre Dame students involved and actually see the state of the city for themselves."

Sophomore Mike McKenna, a friend of Jones and a participant in the project, explained their group of students was gathered mainly by word of mouth.

"Initially, we thought to make it a Zahm Hall service project," McKenna said.

In the end, word spread and several Notre Dame men and women from different dorms were involved, McKenna said.

Those students stayed with Jones and his family while in

see SERVICE/page 6

Campus gyms see new year influx

Motivated exercisers flock to the Rock, Rolfs at spring semester's outset

By BRIDGET KEATING
News Writer

New Year's resolution-makers and the fitness faithful have flooded campus gyms — including Rolfs Sports Recreation Center and the Rockne Memorial Building — since their arrival on campus.

"The first six to eight weeks of the spring semester is the busiest time of the year," said Sally Derengoski, director of RecServices and fitness.

Sophomore and Rolfs regular Steve Marencik said while his workout schedule was not



MATTHEW SMEDBERG/The Observer

Two freshman students lift weights at the Rockne Memorial weight room Wednesday.

see GYM/page 4

1,300 admitted early display high standards

By MARY KATE MALONE
Assistant News Editor

Fewer than 1,300 high school seniors received early acceptance letters from Notre Dame this December, selected from a highly competitive pool of more than 2,600 applicants — a pool slightly smaller than last year's but just as decorated.

Twenty-two of the applicants had perfect SAT scores. Each accepted student, on average, was in the top 3.7 percent of his or her class. Their average SAT score was 1420, and their ACT average was 32, admission officials said.

Assistant Provost in

Admissions Daniel Saracino said it is more difficult to be accepted through early action, and this year the admissions office was particularly selective. Seven hundred and eighty applicants were denied and 590 applications were deferred to the regular admission pool.

"If there was any doubt in my mind, we deferred them," Saracino said. "We deferred students who, based on our best evaluation, we felt we couldn't decide right away ... It's not an art. It's not a science. It's making educated guesses."

Early action is typically used by recruited athletes and stu-

see EARLY/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

My fortune telling career

Working the dish line at South Dining Hall is usually a monotonous, dirty job. On Wednesday nights, I eat my dinner and then reluctantly make my way to the kitchen, where I suit up in an apron and gloves and take my place to pull plates, bowls or cups from the trays. For two hours, all I usually see is an endless procession of the remains of the dining hall's offerings.

Kaitlynn Riely

Wire Editor

But last night, my fellow dish line workers and I read dozens of fortunes discarded by those who ate the fortune cookies available at dinner. To pass the time, we started to assign fortunes to ourselves, other dining hall workers, and — as the fortunes kept coming — anyone else we could think of.

I think it was sometime after I pulled the 400th cup off a tray that I was inspired to stop wasting my time on dish line when I could be writing fortunes to be used in cookies at SDH. After reading practically every fortune placed in the cookies, I decided that South Dining Hall could do better than the ordinary predictions about future love interests or financial success.

My fortunes will not be the generic type you can pull out of any cookie in America. Rather, each prediction will be Notre Dame-related.

Now, instead of just reading The Observer at lunch, students can crack open their fortune cookie and discover that they will get an A on their next paper, or that they will win the lottery for away game tickets. Congratulations to the person who discovers that, just this one time, the nice person at the dining hall exit will let him take not one, but two bananas. It does not matter if the prediction comes true or not; for a brief moment I gave some student a glimmer of hope that luck was on his side.

But remember, not every fortune can presage good news. Some dining hall patrons will read their fortune and be warned that they will feel the wrath of their rectors or slip on the ice on the way to class. I apologize ahead of time for disrupting your plans if you read your fortune and discover I have predicted that your fake ID will not pass muster this weekend.

On the reverse side of the paper, there will still be numbers. Rather than potential lottery number picks, these will be course registration numbers. When you go to change your schedule around, I predict with almost complete certainty that you will get quite a bewildered reaction when you explain why you suddenly feel the need to add my suggested class.


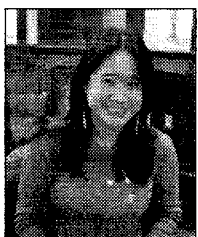




Writing fortunes would be my ideal dining hall job, but I have a feeling my fortune reads: "Fortune writing is not in your future. See you next week on the dish line."

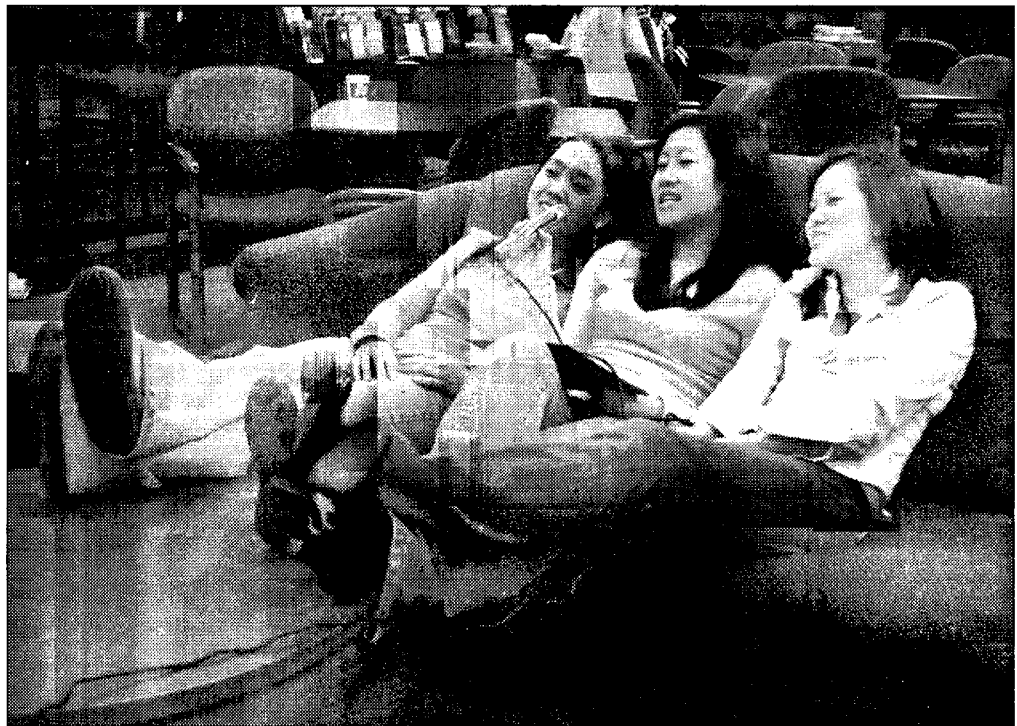
The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

In an article in the Jan. 18 edition of The Observer, the Notre Dame hockey team's "scout night" was incorrectly interpreted as a venue for pro scouts to observe talent. Instead, the event was intended for local Boy Scout troops.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

					
Thien-An Nguyen-Vu	Diana Harintho	Elias Moo	Terrail Lambert	Tony Schweiss	Zach Einterz
sophomore Morrissey	freshman McGlinn	junior Knott	sophomore Sorin	junior Morrissey	sophomore Morrissey
"To actually have a life...?"	"Not to procrastinate as much."	"To get a 4.0."	"Stop using profanity."	"I don't have one."	"Watch the Colts win the Super Bowl! But..."



FRANCESCA SETA/The Observer

Yurianna Kim, left, Jean Nguyen, middle, and Huyen Nguyen, right, sing karaoke at an Asian American Association meeting Wednesday in Coleman-Morse.

IN BRIEF

The film "The Breakfast Club" will be shown tonight at 11:55 p.m. as part of the Brew and View at Legends. Free breakfast will be served.

The Notre Dame Student Film Festival begins Friday at 7 p.m. in the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. The Festival will feature 12 short films made as class projects during the past year and will include dark comedies and documentaries.

Bill O'Connell's Chicago Skyliners, a swing band, will perform Friday at 10 p.m. at Legends.

The Saint Mary's swim team will compete against Kalamazoo College in its final home meet of the season Friday at 6:30 p.m. in Rolf's Aquatic Center.

The Saint Mary's first year board is sponsoring Battle of the Bands 2006 Saturday at 6:30 p.m. in the Saint Mary's Student Center. The event will feature Notre Dame bands "Somersaults," "Slap Bracelet Suicide," "Robbie Hazen," "Ryan Connaughton" and "Patrick the Unlikely Genius." Proceeds benefit Riley Hospital for Children.

Tim Reynolds, a collaborator with the Dave Matthews Band, will perform at Legends Saturday at 10 p.m. ND/Saint Mary's/Holy Cross ID required.

Mission IMPROVable, a Chicago-based improv comedy group, will perform Saturday at 9 p.m. in Washington Hall. Admission is free.

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

OFFBEAT

Snake and hamster are best friends

TOKYO — Gohan and Aochan make strange bed-fellows: one's a 3.5-inch dwarf hamster; the other is a four-foot rat snake. Zookeepers at Tokyo's Mutsugoro Okoku zoo presented the hamster — whose name means "meal" in Japanese — to Aochan as a tasty morsel in October, after the snake refused to eat frozen mice.

But instead of indulging, Aochan decided to make friends with the furry rodent, according to keeper Kazuya Yamamoto. The pair have shared a cage

since. "I've never seen anything like it. Gohan sometimes even climbs onto Aochan to take a nap on his back," Yamamoto said.

Man arrested for faking death to avoid paying up

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Police arrested a man accused of faking his death more than 25 years ago to avoid paying child support.

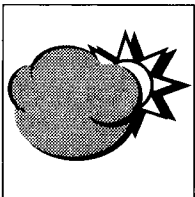
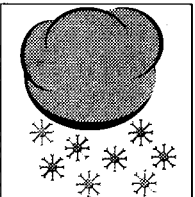
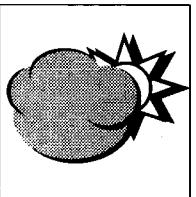
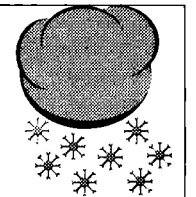
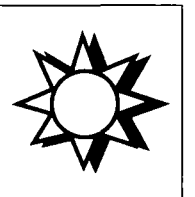
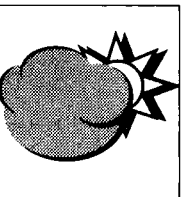
Johnny Sterling Martin, 58, had a relative call Family Court in 1979 and report that he died during a bar fight in Alabama, authorities said. That call came a few months after he

escaped from a work detail while serving a one-year jail term for failing to pay \$4,120 in support for two children.

He was captured Tuesday and jailed, and now owes more than \$30,000 in child support and faces an escape charge, authorities said.

"Johnny Martin is the ultimate deadbeat dad, faking his own death to avoid paying money to support his young children who were living in Lexington County," Sheriff James Metts said.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 43 LOW 25	HIGH 46 LOW 39	HIGH 43 LOW 40	HIGH 35 LOW 33	HIGH 35 LOW 25	HIGH 40 LOW 25

Atlanta 63 / 36 Boston 43 / 28 Chicago 45 / 27 Denver 40 / 26 Houston 74 / 54 Los Angeles 64 / 48 Minneapolis 30 / 19 New York 48 / 43 Philadelphia 47 / 30 Phoenix 63 / 44 Seattle 44 / 37 St. Louis 58 / 40 Tampa 70 / 38 Washington 51 / 29

STUDENT SENATE

Members address, consider current and future objectives



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer
Student body president Dave Baron, left, discusses Senate projects with student body vice president Lizzi Shappell Wednesday.

By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

It may be hard to imagine April 1 during the depths of a South Bend winter, but for the senators with long lists of plans at Wednesday night's Student Senate meeting, the turnover date is clearly no longer a distant hypothetical.

The current designs sketched by Senate leaders are a mix of projects continued from last semester and new proposals.

Student body president Dave Baron said one of the loftier goals he and student body vice president Lizzi Shappell will pursue to round out their terms is to establish an endow-

ment for student programming, specifically concerts and speakers.

Baron said recent discussions regarding Student Union fiscal policy and the carry-forward account made the possibility of an endowment — a much-publicized aspect of his and Shappell's platform last spring — more timely. He will meet with Vice President for Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman on Friday.

Shappell, who urged senators to remain "very active until April 1," said she and Baron met before winter break with marketing professor Timothy Gilbride and senior Brett Hummel to establish plans to research what students would

like to see in future commercial development south of campus, a project announced by the University last spring.

There will be an attempt to reach closure on the messy issue of pep rallies, said Shappell, who has set up meetings with Hall Presidents Council members, Joyce Center officials and Athletic Department representatives.

"We'll assess what happened with the past season, ensure we don't have issues like last year," she said.

Tickets will be another focus during Senate's final months. Shappell said revisions to the bowl game ticket lottery system will be discussed, and University Affairs committee chair Matt Walsh said his committee will continue to develop a better basketball ticketing system, working with the Office of Information Technology to get the TicketShare program online.

Walsh's committee will also investigate the possibility of adding stops to the free TRANSPRO service and obtaining additional services from FedEx Kinko's, as Walsh said the company previously promised.

"We've gotten to the point where they should be [offering those services]," Walsh said.

Minority Affairs committee chair Rhea Boyd said her committee will present its resolution to establish a committee to

examine cultural competency at Notre Dame once more to the Faculty Senate in February, this time with statistics from the Office of Institutional Research.

Her committee is busily planning events for Black History Month, adopting the theme "Let it Shine: Great Achievements by Great Americans."

The Academic Affairs committee will direct its efforts toward finalizing the College Readership Program in time for next fall, committee chair Chris Harris said. Other Academic Affairs projects include a forum to promote dialogue between students and faculty, the extension of library hours and "Majors Night," a campus-wide event featuring representatives from each major, to be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Feb. 2 in the Joyce Center Concourse.

Ali Wishon, Gender Affairs committee chair, said her committee would soon be presenting a report on gay, lesbian, bisexual, transsexual, queer and questioning (GLBTQ) student needs co-authored by the University Affairs committee.

In addition to planning Sexual Assault Awareness Week, Wishon's committee will help Mark Seiler's Residence Life committee facilitate Alcohol Abuse Awareness Week in March.

The Oversight committee,

chaired by Sujal Pandya, will finish revising the Student Union constitution as well as research ways to make the April student government transition smoother.

Baron said Community Relations committee chair Nick Guzman is working with the Notre Dame Law School to put together an informational event for students moving off-campus.

In other Senate news:

♦William Pryor, federal appeals court judge on the U.S. Court of the Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, will speak at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 24 as the first installment of the "Catholic Think Tank" series, chief executive assistant Liz Kozlow said.

The location of the talk will be announced in the near future, Kozlow said, along with the location of a 7:30 p.m. talk on Feb. 23 by Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, who recently made headlines as the first U.S. Catholic bishop to announce he was sexually abused by a priest in his childhood.

♦Chuck D, lead rapper of Public Enemy, will speak on "Race, Rap and Reality" at 8:30 p.m. on Feb. 2 in DeBartolo 101, Boyd said, as the keynote speaker for Black History Month events.

Contact Maddie Hanna at
mhanna1@nd.edu

The Observer

is currently accepting applications for the

2006-07 Editor-in-Chief

Applicants must submit BOTH a resume and at least a 10-PAGE proposal explaining their interest in the position and their plans for running the newspaper.

Applications are due Sunday, January 22 by 5 p.m.

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS CAN BE SUBMITTED TO
THE OBSERVER'S OFFICE
IN THE BASEMENT OF SOUTH DINING HALL.

Contact Editor-in-Chief Claire Heining
at 1-4542
for more information

Gym

continued from page 1

impacted by a personal resolution, he has noticed an influx of students to the gym, which often changes his daily workout.

"Newcomers indirectly affect my time here because long waits for equipment lengthen workout time," Marencik said.

Assistant Director of Fitness and Fitness Facilities Jennie Phillips said wait times can reach 45 minutes or more during the busiest time of the day, 3 to 6 p.m.

"Go to the RecSports website and click on Fitness to find daily usage graphs for the RSRC fitness room. The graphs show the average number of users for each hour of the day," Phillips said. "By studying them, users may find a better time to utilize the facility and maximize their workout time."

Marencik said he has a positive outlook on the current flood of gym-goers, despite the necessary changes to his personal workout.

"It's great to see this many people out and the numbers will likely decrease as class work picks up," he said.

Students are not the only ones who have to make adjustments due to the busy winter season. University employees also face challenges.

Rockne Memorial Building maintenance crew leader Steve Roberts said facility upkeep is crucial during this period.

"It's all about multitasking because of the high usage of the building," Roberts said.

"Current happenings in addition to increased gym attendees tracking inclement weather in on their shoes include men's faculty locker room improvements, physical education classes and hosting all St. Joe High School swim meets for both the boys and girls teams."

Rolfs front desk staff member Ashley Paluf, who accommodates guests by distributing towels and other requested equipment, said she fields more questions on aspects of Rolfs services.

"Most people ask about intramural sports and Challenge U Spring Break, an exercise incentive program for Notre Dame students, faculty and staff," Phillips said. "The program is a fun way to encourage people to stay active in what is typically a cold, dreary time of year."

The free program is especially geared toward those resolution makers who might want to look good in a swimsuit by spring break. After registering, participants gain a "mile" towards their chosen "destination" for each minute of exercise. Logbooks are kept in the Rolfs fitness room and at the Rockne front desk for participants.

"[Individuals who] reach their destination will be eligible for drawings that include gifts such as beach towels, sun-

screen, CDs and other travel necessities," Phillips said. "Anthony Travel has also donated one free roundtrip airline ticket as the grand prize."

Derengoski said Challenge U Spring Break is beneficial to both regular gymgoers and those who want to get fit in the new year.

"The program is always very enthusiastically received," she said. "People use it as motivation to follow through with resolutions and keep them going."

Numerous other services are available to interested individuals seeking direction or more information about all health and fitness issues. For example, someone who is new to training or has not worked out in the recent past can take advantage of facility orientations or programs like Exercise Basics: 101, which features 45 to 60 minute workshops on a variety of topics.

Derengoski said whether or not the influx of exercisers is due to New Year's resolutions, RecSports is always happy to have more people in the facilities.

"We like being busy," she said. "Our mission is to serve the Notre Dame community and to make it an active and enjoyable place to be."

Contact Bridget Keating at bkeating@nd.edu

"Our mission is to serve the Notre Dame community and to make it an active and enjoyable place to be."

Sally Derengoski
director of RecServices and fitness

Early

continued from page 1

dents with outstanding credentials, Saracino said. Students receiving early acceptances have until May 1 to confirm. Notre Dame's non-binding early action process is somewhat unique among its peer institutions, many of which rely on binding early decisions or early action-single choice.

"It's not fair to students [accepted early] to put them in a position where they're forced to make a decision [on what college they want to go to]," Saracino said. "Early action is all we have, and it all we will ever have as long as I'm here. High school counselors tell us early action is the kindest option."

Saracino said the admissions office was particularly cautious in its selection of early applicants this year in anticipation of an unprecedented number of applicants for the class of 2010.

"Based on increases in the numbers in the past year of visitor interviews, inquiries and information sessions, we had every indicator [for an] increase in overall applications [for the class of 2010]," he said.

Saracino's prediction was dead-on. Though regular applications are still being processed — the deadline was Dec. 31 — Saracino estimates that the total

number of applicants will be at least 12,600. That's 4 percent higher than 2002 — the previous record-holding year — and 8 percent higher than last year.

"The story of Notre Dame is getting out more than ever," Saracino said. "In spite of the weather and location, Notre Dame is a special place."

Saracino added that the University attracts students who want to go to school with people like themselves, and many believe that Notre Dame is where that can happen.

"Notre Dame is the only major University with a faith tradition," he said. "We're the only religiously connected school in the top 20. This is a place filled with faith-filled students."

Of the 1,241 accepted early action applicants, Saracino said 19 percent are ethnic minorities (compared to 16 percent last year), 22 percent are children of alumni and 83 percent are Catholic. He is confident the demographics and credentials of the early accepted students will be mirrored in the regular admission pool.

"We would not consider it a success this year if we did not enroll a more impressive class than ever before," Saracino said. "The class is going to be the most talented and ethnically diverse in [the University's] history."

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

"We would not consider it a success this year if we did not enroll a more impressive class than ever before."

Daniel Saracino
assistant provost in admissions

Windows Computer Users Run the New TakeCharge!

Download and RUN the updated TakeCharge for Windows from <http://oit.nd.edu/security/>. (Did we mention "and run it?")

TakeCharge is the software utility developed by the Notre Dame OIT to help you protect your computer from viruses, worms, spyware and who knows what. These nasty critters, once on your computer, can cause you BIG problems. And often at the most inopportune times--when you're in the home stretch of a 30-page term paper, for example!

So, how's TakeCharge changed? Do you really need to run it again?

Yes! TakeCharge does the same handy dandy delightful things it did before, plus some added tricks that make life on the ND network better and surfing the Internet safer.

- ✓ **TakeCharge** fixes a new and dangerous Microsoft Windows vulnerability that arrived with the New Year.
- ✓ **TakeCharge** sets your PC to automatically receive future Windows critical updates.
- ✓ **TakeCharge** optimizes your Windows firewall settings for enhanced network performance among all campus users.
- ✓ **TakeCharge** determines if your Windows computer is running the correct version of OpenAFS, and if it isn't, shows you how to upgrade to the latest version.

2006 Resolutions

Be kind to roommates

Call home more

Study

Run TakeCharge!

Questions? Contact your departmental computer support representative or call the OIT Help Desk (574.631.8111).

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Office of Information Technologies
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WORLD & NATION

Thursday, January 19, 2006

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bombers attack convoy, two dead

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A roadside bomb hit a convoy carrying a U.S. security team near the southern city of Basra, killing two American civilians and seriously wounding a third, the U.S. Embassy said.

Iraqi authorities, meanwhile, held out hope that kidnapped American journalist Jill Carroll would be released, and the sister of Iraq's interior minister was freed by her abductors about two weeks after being seized in Baghdad, an official said.

The U.S. Embassy said that coalition forces cordoned off the scene of the Basra attack, which occurred at 2 p.m., and took the wounded to a hospital.

Cuba prepares new energy system

HAVANA — President Fidel Castro announced a long-awaited renovation of Cuba's energy system to combat blackouts that have afflicted the island nation.

Castro said Cuba would decentralize its power system, gradually replacing five massive thermoelectric plants with smaller, regional plants supplemented by solar and wind power. He outlined the plan in a speech delivered Tuesday night and published Wednesday in state newspapers.

Because the thermoelectrical plants in Cuba are so large, mechanical difficulties in any one can affect areas populated by millions. Many of last summer's blackouts were caused by problems at Antonio Guiteras, a key thermoelectrical plant serving 2 million inhabitants.

NATIONAL NEWS

FDA unveils new medication labels

WASHINGTON — A major makeover is coming for the little written inserts that accompany prescription drugs. The new versions are supposed to play up information that's useful to pharmacists and patients while paring down the small-print legal disclaimers.

Confusing medical information is behind many of the estimated 300,000 preventable cases of death or injury that occur each year in the nation's hospitals, Surgeon General Richard Carmona said Wednesday in introducing the new drug labeling rules.

The rules should make it easier to quickly learn the most critical things about a drug. The new drug labels will include: the date the drug received U.S. approval, any recent changes made to the drug, a toll-free phone number to report suspected side effects, and a final section that prompts doctors on what keys facts they should relay to patients.

Thousands still missing after Katrina

NEW ORLEANS — More than 3,200 people are officially still unaccounted, nearly five months after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast, and the state medical examiner wants the search to resume for those missing from the most devastated neighborhoods.

A total of 11,500 people were reported missing to the Find Family National Call Center, a center run by federal and state workers. The reports include people from throughout the Gulf Coast area, but most are from Louisiana.

As of Wednesday, all but about 3,200 had been located, the agency said.

LOCAL NEWS

Eight Ind. counties switch time zones

INDIANAPOLIS — The federal government ruled Wednesday that eight Indiana counties will switch from the Eastern to Central time zone but denied requests by nine others who wanted the change.

The U.S. Department of Transportation said Starke and Pulaski counties in northwestern Indiana and Daviess, Dubois, Knox, Martin, Perry and Pike counties in southwestern Indiana would switch to the Central zone on April 2, when Indiana and 47 other states begin observing daylight-saving time.

It also announced Carroll, Cass, Fulton, Lawrence, Marshall, St. Joseph, Sullivan, Vermillion and White counties would remain in the Eastern zone.

RUSSIA

Moscow endures third day of cold snap

Temperatures could drop to minus-35 degrees; at least two dozen reported dead

Associated Press

MOSCOW — For a third day Wednesday, temperatures so frigid that even winter-hardened Russians complained gripped Moscow and much of the rest of the country. At least two dozen people reportedly died of exposure nationwide and Russians used a record amount of electricity to keep warm.

Temperatures dropped to 22 degrees below zero overnight, Moscow's First Deputy Mayor Pyotr Akseyonov said in televised comments. By early Thursday, the cold was expected to reach minus-31 or even lower.

Twelve people died of exposure in the Novgorod region, northwest of Moscow, and two in the capital, the Interfax news agency said. In the Volgograd region, about 550 miles southeast of Moscow and less accustomed to such cold, 10 people died, ITAR-Tass reported.

Over the previous day, electricity consumption nationwide hit 146,000 megawatts — a record high since the Soviet collapse 15 years ago, the head of national electricity monopoly RAO Unified Energy Systems, Anatoly Chubais, said in televised comments.

In Moscow, where a construction boom is in full swing and the gray streets of the Soviet era have turned into glitzy thoroughfares festooned with bright lights, electricity



People walk along a tramway, while trams are paralyzed by frost in Yekaterinburg, about 900 miles east of Moscow, Wednesday.

consumption reached a record of more than 15,300 megawatts, RAO UES said.

Chubais said electricity supplies to some industrial consumers would be limited but neither residential buildings nor essential facilities such as hospitals would be affected. The state-run TV station Rossiya reported that power shut off for some

city billboards and construction sites.

Traffic was light in the capital's normally jammed streets because many motorists could not start their cars.

The cold snap coincided with the Russian Orthodox holiday of the Epiphany, which falls on Thursday and which tradition says ushers in a cold period

known as the Epiphany Frosts.

Some particularly hardy Russians celebrate Epiphany by plunging into rivers and ponds to cleanse themselves with water deemed holy for the day. Authorities in one northern region, Khanty-Mansiysk, advised against the ritual this year, Channel One television reported.

Couple sentenced to prison in Wendy's finger case

Associated Press

SAN JOSE — The Wendy's finger-in-the-chili story was a running joke on late-night television last year, but it was no laughing matter to the company, its employees — or the judge who handed out stiff prison sentences to the couple who pulled the scam.

Anna Ayala, 40, who said she bit into the digit, was sentenced Wednesday to nine years. Her husband, Jaime Plascencia, 44, who obtained the finger from a co-worker who lost it in a workplace accident, was sentenced to more than 12 years.

"Greed and avarice overtook this couple," said Superior Court Judge Edward Davila, adding that the pair had lost their moral compass.

The two pleaded guilty in September to conspiracy to file a false insurance claim and attempted grand theft with damages exceeding \$2.5 million.

Although authorities suspected a hoax — in part because the finger was not cooked. Word of the stomach-turning find quickly spread around the world. The Dublin, Ohio-based fast food chain claimed it lost \$2.5 million in sales because of the bad publicity, and

dozens of workers at the company's Northern California franchises were laid off.

Denny Lynch, Wendy's senior vice president, asked the judge to send a message that "consumer fraud is a serious crime that demands a severe penalty."

In a tearful plea for leniency, Ayala apologized to the courtroom gallery and said the scheme was "a moment of poor judgment."

Earlier, she watched news footage of herself describing how she sat down March 22 with her family at the Wendy's in San Jose, put crackers in her chili and started eating until she chewed on something "kind of hard, crunchy." She said she spit it out and realized it was a human finger.

"There's no words to describe what I felt. It's sick, it's disgusting," she said in a clip played before sentencing. "Just knowing there was a human remain in my mouth is tearing me apart inside."

Other interviews showed an increasingly agitated Ayala denying to reporters she put the finger in the chili. "Where would I get a damn finger?" she asked on camera.

Forensic tests later showed Ayala

never chomped down on the finger.

The sentencing followed a 90-minute hearing in which several Wendy's employees testified, including the man who made the chili and the cashier who helped Ayala on the day she made the claim.

"I felt so bad for the fear of what people would think of me," said Hector Pineda, who made the chili and initially came under suspicion. "We are the ones that have suffered."

Cashier Jose Pacheco said he bore the brunt of Ayala's tirade after complained about the chili. "She asked me who I killed to get the finger," Pacheco said.

No Wendy's employee was missing a digit at the San Jose restaurant, and no chili suppliers reported finger injuries at their plants.

The couple must pay about \$170,000 in restitution for workers' lost wages. A judge also ordered them to pay nearly \$21.8 million to Wendy's International and JEM Management, which owns the restaurant. Both corporations agreed not to collect from the couple, provided they never benefit from the ruse.

In April, Ayala was arrested at her suburban Las Vegas home.

Energy

continued from page 1

four bedrooms — two on each floor — with a living room and kitchen. Even though the house is “kind of small,” the heating bill last month was not.

“[When we bought the house], we had a conversation with the landlord and he estimated rough utilities would cost between \$100 and \$150 — maybe not even that [much],” Daniels said. “With a \$300 bill for gas, it’s ridiculous even split between five people.”

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) warned Americans who use natural gas for heat about climbing rates for home heating costs, and said they should expect to pay on average more than 40 percent more than last winter.

Depending on the region, the EIA said the rise may be as great as 70 percent, however. For areas of the country that experience colder weather in the winter months — South Bend’s average low temperature in January is 16 degrees — hundreds of extra dollars will be required from homeowners.

“It’s just crazy,” Daniels said. “I think about low income families and wonder [how they afford heating]. We’re splitting it five ways.”

Daniels said the house she shares with her roommates — built sometime in the mid-20th century — has a very “old school heating system.”

“Usually you have heaters throughout the home with a central electric heater,” she said. “Our [heating system] is electric in that it turns on with a switch, but then it warms

water which is passed through pipes. It’s a very inefficient way of heating the house.”

The system barely heats the entire house and keeping a comfortable temperature has been difficult, Daniels said.

“It drafts a lot,” she said. “[By] just maintaining 64 degrees, our heating bills have been around \$300. It has to work double overtime just to get through the night.”

In December the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) said rising demand, lowered production and two natural disasters were to blame for the spike in energy costs this season. More than half of all American homeowners rely on natural gas for temperature control — a demand production has been unable to meet since 2000.

When hurricanes Katrina and Rita made landfall on American coasts in 2005, the problematic discrepancy between supply and demand was heightened. The UCS said the hurricanes damaged or destroyed nearly 200 oil and natural gas drilling rigs needed for production. As a result, the level of natural gas production in the Gulf of Mexico is half what it was prior to the hurricanes and not expected to recover for several months.

In the long term, the UCS said Americans can make themselves less vulnerable to future shortages by “diversifying energy sources with clean, home grown, and more decentralized renewable energy supplies.”

“With a \$300 bill for gas, it’s ridiculous even split between five people.”

Karen Daniels
senior

For off-campus students struggling to pay heating bills, the UCS offered more immediate advice for assuaging the harsh prices — reduce bills by curtailing energy waste. By implementing “a few simple steps,” costs can be reduced by 10 to more than 20 percent.

Using insulation around windows and doors to prevent heat loss and making sure radiators are clean and unblocked can help maximize warmth in the home, the UCS said. In addition, programmable thermostats that automatically decrease the temperature at set times — priced at about \$100 — might also help lower heating costs.

Daniels said she and her roommates are going to take it in stride and “suck it up.”

“We can’t leave it any colder than 60 degrees or else the pipes will freeze,” she said. “The \$300 bill was for the month we were gone [during winter break] and it was set at 50 or 55 degrees. If we [turn it higher] I’m sure the bill would be between \$400 and \$500.”

Daniels said her landlord is also helping assuage the rising heating costs for the off-campus house.

“We talked to our landlord [about the bill] and he said gas prices have gone up tremendously. I didn’t realize that because I lived in a dorm last year,” she said. “I talked [the landlord] into buying space heaters for our home. That was nice of him.”

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NDtv

continued from page 1

a new show this spring following the departure of NDtv’s flagship face, Peterson, who will be studying abroad until May.

In his absence, “The Mike Peterson Show” will be renamed “Late Night ND,” and will be hosted by Lattal.

The producers of “Late Night ND” have announced there will be four special tapings of the show in Legends throughout the semester.

The network also expects to reach more viewers with the introduction of video podcasts of the NDtv programming, available from iTunes. Available programming will include episodes of “The Mike Peterson Show,” “NDtv News” and “NDtv Sports.”

For three seasons, “NDtv News” has covered issues of concern to the Notre Dame student body, ranging from investigative reports on the development of the 2006 “The Shirt Project,” to the Copy Shop controversy to the Supreme Court nominations.

“NDtv Sports” offers coverage and commentary regarding Notre Dame’s varsity sports.

The station hopes to further diversify its lineup this semester with the premiere of “Office Hours,” an in-depth interview show with sophomore Bob Costa. Some of the guests scheduled to appear in the first season include Father Jenkins, Olympic Gold medalist Mariel Zagunis and Father Richard McBrien, a consultant and advisor for the upcoming film “The Da Vinci Code.”

Starting this semester, NDtv also intends to air tapings of “The Best of Acousticafe.”

In its third year, NDtv has seen its membership increase from 14 one year ago to almost 70 today. Reasons for NDtv’s dramatic membership increase over the last two semesters may include its growing popularity among students and the creative opportunities it offers to those involved.

Though there are no paid positions, students spend considerable amounts of time producing and editing the shows in the station’s studio in Washington Hall.

Sophomore and NDtv marketing director Jacqui Acuna said students put in a lot of work at the station and are experienced workers.

“Many of the students involved in NDtv have interned at local stations during the summer after they provided samples of their work at NDtv,” Acuna said.

Acuna said the opportunities the station provides are extensive.

“There are political science, marketing, journalism, sociology and even electrical engineering students working at NDtv, because the network deals with so many research, creative and technical processes,” she said.

Acuna also said the fact that the station is run by students has appeal to student viewers.

“Student-run” has a popular draw,” she said. “NDtv’s shows are written, filmed and produced entirely by students, and that attracts more than just FTT majors.”

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Service

continued from page 1

New Orleans, and several other Notre Dame students living in the surrounding area joined them in their efforts, McKenna said. The students spent their three and half days of work helping Gerry Heigel, a resident of Lakeview, which, according to Jones, was the area of the city most decimated by the 17th Street canal breach.

“Our job was a bit different than you might think,” Baker said. “We were connected through the ND New Orleans Alumni Club with Catholic

Charities’ Helping Hands program, and we were assigned to actually deconstruct Mrs. Heigel’s house. The walls of the house and the foundation were so damaged by the floodwater that the house needed to be substantially gutted. We removed the damaged and molded pieces of the structure.”

Cavanaugh sophomore Caity Schneeman expressed her shock upon seeing the reality of a destroyed New Orleans.

“There is no way of really understanding the extent of the damage and the effects of the hurricane by just watching the pictures on TV,” Schneeman said.

Sophomore McGlinn resident

Kathleen Coverick also was a part of the group. She, like Schneeman, was shocked to see such extensive ruin five months after the hurricane.

“We went to the 9th Ward of the city — a place even more devastated than Lakeview,” Coverick said. “The images there made me realize that there is so much more work still to be done.”

Schneeman said when she

asked a Catholic Charities worker how many more months New Orleans would need aid, she was informed it was not a question of months, but rather a question of years.

“There is no way of really understanding the extent of the damage and the effects of the hurricane by just watching the pictures on TV.”

Caity Schneeman
sophomore

This response caused Schneeman and the other members of the group to think of more ways Notre Dame can continue to bring aid to

New Orleans. They are hoping to organize other service proj-

ects and fundraisers in the future.

Jones, McKenna, Schneeman and Coverick all agreed the service experience was incredibly rewarding.

“It was emotional for Mrs. Heigel and for us,” Jones said.

Schneeman said Heigel called them “her angels” and gave them all angel pins to express her thanks.

“Mrs. Heigel is planning on rebuilding the rest of her house on her own with help from her son, but I told her that we wouldn’t forget her,” Jones said. “We would like to go back again in the spring if we can.”

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	10,854.86	-41.46	
Ups:	2,290	Same: 144	Down: 1,067
Composite Volume:	1,606,850,184		

AMEX	1,797.04	-16.28
NASDAQ	2,279.64	-23.05
NYSE	7,953.01	-39.59
S&P 500	1,277.93	-5.00
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	15,617.13	+275.95
FTSE 100(London)	5,663.70	-35.30

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
INTEL CP (INTC)	-11.45	-2.92	22.59
NASDAQ 100 TR SER I (QQQQ)	-1.15	-0.49	42.21
YAHOO INC (YHOO)	-12.29	-4.93	35.18
CISCO SYS INC (CSCO)	+0.27	+0.05	18.73
IVANHOE ENERGY (IVAN)	+21.00	+0.50	2.88

Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	+0.18	+0.08	45.19
10-YEAR NOTE	+0.18	+0.08	43.40
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.12	+0.05	42.74
3-MONTH BILL	+0.35	+0.15	42.47

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.69		66.25
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-9.80		544.50
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.93		81.73

Exchange Rates			
YEN			115.4000
EURO			0.8256
POUND			0.5670
CANADIAN \$			1.1728

IN BRIEF

Workers' 2005 earnings decreased

WASHINGTON — The average American worker got squeezed in 2005 between the biggest jump in energy prices in 15 years and wages that failed to keep up with inflation.

As a result, hourly earnings after adjusting for inflation fell by 0.5 percent in December compared to what workers were earning in December 2004, the Labor Department reported Wednesday.

Workers did see their wages rise last year. It was just that prices rose at a faster pace — 3.4 percent for the 12 months ending in December, the department said.

The 0.5 percent drop in inflation-adjusted hourly earnings last year followed a 0.7 percent fall in 2004 for the 80 percent of the U.S. workforce that is employed by the private sector in non-supervisory jobs.

The main culprit in last year's jump in inflation was a 17.1 percent surge in energy prices, the biggest advance since 1990, as gasoline prices topped \$3 per gallon for a time. The rise in energy accounted for 40 percent of the overall rise in prices last year.

Schurz to acquire 12th newspaper

PETOSKEY, Mich. — Schurz Communications Inc. of South Bend, has agreed to buy the Petoskey News-Review and its parent company, Northern Michigan Review Inc.

Schurz Communications is a family owned company with a presence in nine states. The News-Review would be its 12th daily newspaper. It now publishes 11 dailies, including five in Indiana. Its largest newspaper is the South Bend Tribune with a circulation of 73,000 daily and 100,000 Sunday.

Elsa Schaller-DeWitt, president of Northern Michigan Review, announced the sale at a staff meeting Wednesday. The sale is expected to be completed by early March. Terms were not disclosed.

Northern Michigan Review also owns several other publications, including the Charlevoix Courier, the Gaylord Herald Times and PhoneGuide, a regional telephone directory. The Petoskey News-Review publishes Monday through Friday and has a circulation of a little more than 11,000 daily.

Google Video Store still developing

Online store falls short of expectations with limited selection, poor resolution

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — When a high-tech company slaps the word "beta" on a product, it's usually a sign the product isn't quite ready for prime time yet is far enough to get a good sense of what it will become.

Google Inc. regularly releases fairly advanced services that it dubs beta. So when it opened its highly anticipated Google Video Store last week, expectations were high.

But this time, Google really means beta.

In the first days of its release, the online store is unusually rough around the edges. So far, it doesn't have much premium content, the quality is hit or miss and the interface could be better.

That said, there are some promising elements, including an architecture that has the potential to allow anyone with a video camera to post a creation and choose whether to make it available for free, a one-time charge or a one-day rental fee. Rates are determined by the content owner, not Google.

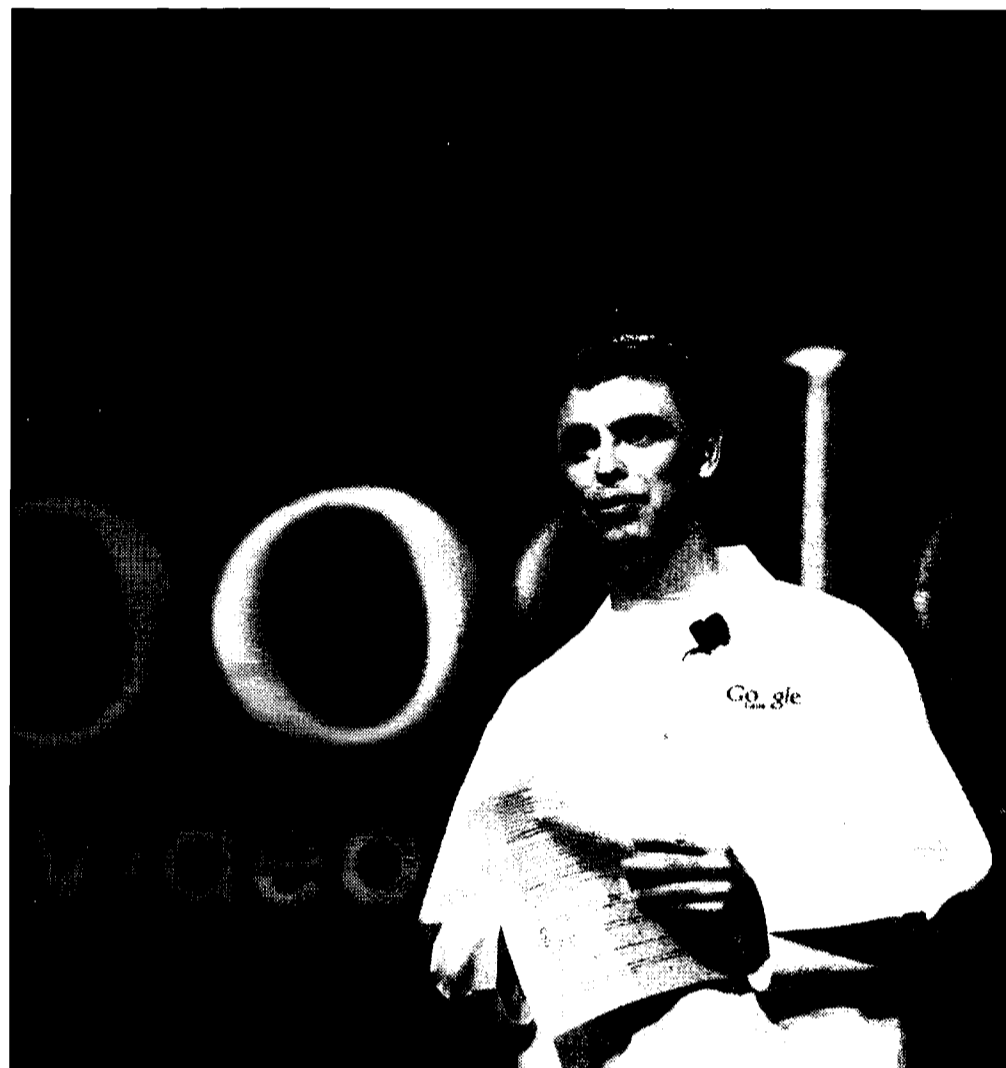
Though only a select few can do this right now, the implications could be huge once more people have access to the feature, which Google expects to be available in a few weeks.

Think of a vast online bazaar for video where an aspiring videographer or filmmaker could easily get a feel for what the market thinks of his or her talent. Google charges nothing for storage or bandwidth, though it takes 30 percent of any sales.

That, however, is for the future.

As it stands, the service at video.google.com has a way to go before it will come close to its potential.

The problem is particularly striking when compared to Apple Computer Inc.'s well designed iTunes store, which last year kicked off Silicon Valley's



Google CEO Larry Page announces Google Video Store Friday, Jan. 6, 2006 at the International Consumer Electronics Show, CES, in Las Vegas, Nev.

latest sport of signing up networks, studios and other content providers for paid, Internet-based entertainment services.

Apple also suffers from a dearth of content, though it's added a smattering of NBC shows to its previous handful of ABC programming that can be viewed on a video-capable iPod, a Macintosh or PC. It's also got thousands of music videos and an endless supply of free video podcasts.

Google lets users browse through videos within their Web browsers, displaying brief previews that are often, annoyingly, no more than a show's opening tune.

Purchased video that's

locked down by the provider can be viewed only on an Internet-connected Windows PC using Google software, not a portable player or a Mac.

(If the provider opts not to protect the video or gives it away for free, it can be moved — easily, as a matter of fact — to a portable and played on a Mac.)

Another drawback at this early stage is the content itself.

During the unveiling of the store earlier this month, Google co-founder Larry Page highlighted deals the company struck for premium content with CBS, the National Basketball Association and others.

CBS' prime time offerings on Google currently include one episode of "CSI," one episode of "NCIS" and 15 episodes of "Survivor: Guatemala." Each show is \$1.99.

Classic episodes of seven CBS-controlled series also are available. "I Love Lucy" has 16 shows, "Star Trek: Voyager" has five and "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" has twice that many. "The Brady Bunch" has 16 — all from before Greg Brady's hair got curly.

Unlike Google's other sites, the search box isn't terribly useful. That's likely because whoever uploaded the video didn't provide the right text for the search engine to index.

New toothpaste plant to employ 220 workers

Associated Press

MORRISTOWN, Tenn. — Colgate-Palmolive Co. plans to build a new toothpaste manufacturing plant in Morristown that will employ more than 220 people, state and city officials announced.

The 150,000-square-foot plant is set to be built in the Morristown Airport Industrial District, according to Gov. Phil Bredesen and Morristown officials, who made the announcement Wednesday.

The new plant will take over about 40 percent of the production work from a Clarksville, Ind., plant which Colgate announced in October it would lose by January 2008, said Larry Edwards, president of the

United Food and Commercial Workers local at the Clarksville plant.

The remainder of the Clarksville plant's production will be moved to China, Edwards said.

Hiring for jobs is expected to begin in early 2007 while construction of the new facility will start in May 2006, said Dawn Rutledge Jones, spokeswoman for the Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development.

"The jobs created by Colgate-Palmolive in this community will be a major contribution to an already diverse local economy," Bredesen said. "This announcement is a strong endorsement of one of Tennessee's most progressive and productive

communities by one of the world's most respected companies."

Officials with New York-based Colgate-Palmolive, the world's biggest seller of toothpaste, did not immediately return calls seeking more details about the planned facility.

Morristown Mayor Gary R. Johnson and other city officials welcomed the news of the company's decision.

"Colgate is truly known around the world as the leader in oral care and this announcement is a vote of confidence in Morristown and in the ability of our workforce," he said.

Edwards said he expected the first layoffs at the 475-employee Clarksville plant, which Colgate bought in 1923, to happen in April.

Brown accepts blame for Katrina aftermath

Associated Press

MAMMOTH LAKES, Calif. — Former FEMA Director Michael Brown on Wednesday accepted a greater share of the blame for the government's failures after Hurricane Katrina, saying he fell short in conveying the magnitude of the disaster and calling for help.

"I should have asked for the military sooner. I should have demanded the military sooner," Brown told a gathering of meteorologists at a ski resort in the Sierra Nevada.

"It was beyond the capacity of the state and local governments, and it was beyond the capacity of FEMA," said Brown, former head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Brown's remarks Wednesday stood in contrast to his testimony at a congressional hearing in September, when he blamed most of the government's failures on Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco and New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin — both Democrats.

He specifically targeted them for failing to evacuate New Orleans, restore order and improve communication.

"These are not FEMA roles," Brown told the congressional committee. "FEMA doesn't evacuate communities. FEMA does not do law enforcement. FEMA does not do communications."

In an interview after his speech Wednesday, Brown told The Associated Press: "I think it's important to realize that all of us made mistakes. ... After a while you get a different perspective."

He added: "I still do believe that things weren't working too well down there."

He also told the gathering of broadcast and National Weather Service meteorologists that he failed to delegate responsibility, saying he tried to attend to the details himself.

"It was the largest natural disaster ever to strike the United States — 92,000 square miles. Logistics were falling apart," he said.

Before joining FEMA in 2001, Brown was an attorney, held local government posts and headed the International Arabian Horse Association. President Bush appointed him to head the agency in April 2003.

FEMA came under fire immediately after Katrina struck the Louisiana and Mississippi coastlines Aug. 29, killing more than 1,300 in five states and leaving some 3,200 unaccounted for.

He was relieved of his command in the stricken region and recalled Sept. 9 to Washington. Brown resigned three days later, saying he feared he had become a distraction.

Asked on Wednesday if he felt he had been railroaded out of his post, Brown replied: "I'm moving on."

He said his biggest concern was the current emphasis on reorganizing FEMA, particularly in light of past budget cuts that had left hundreds of vacancies in an agency with 2,500 employees.

"It's time to stop organizing and get FEMA back to what it was before — get its budget back up to where it was."

PAKISTAN

Reported bombmaker killed

Agents hunt for bodies of al-Qaida figures who were killed in U.S. strike

Associated Press

PESHAWAR — Pakistani intelligence agents hunted Wednesday for the graves of four al-Qaida militants believed killed in an airstrike near the Afghan border — including at least one suspected high-ranking al-Qaida figure.

ABC News and The New York Times reported that Pakistani officials believe a master bomb maker and chemical weapons expert for al-Qaida was killed in the attack on the village of Damadola last week. He was identified as Midhat Mursi, also known as Abu Khabab al-Masri, who ran an al-Qaida training camp and has a \$5 million reward on his head.

Also killed, Pakistani officials believe, was Khalid Habib, the al-Qaida operations chief for Pakistan and Afghanistan, ABC said. The Times, however, said officials were uncertain about whether he was killed.

The Times also reported that Pakistani officials believe Moroccan Abd al-Rahman al-Maghrebi, the son-in-law of al-Qaida No. 2 Ayman al-Zawahiri, and the man who ran the group's propaganda in the region, was killed in the strike. ABC described al-Maghrebi as a senior operations commander.

The newspaper said an Egyptian chief of insurgent

operations in a region near the airstrikes also was believed killed and an Egyptian associate of al-Zawahiri's was possibly slain.

Pentagon officials said they had no information on the reported identities of the dead and CIA spokesman Tom Crispell said the agency could not comment. A Pakistani intelligence official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he's not authorized to speak to journalists, said authorities still did not know the names of the dead foreign militants but suspect one was a ranking al-Qaida figure.

"We have no names. We know one of them had value in al-Qaida." "We have no names. We know one of them had value in al-Qaida. He had intelligence value in the network, but we are still checking his name," said the official.

Pakistani Interior Minister Aftab Sherpao told The Associated Press the government does not know the identities of the foreigners believed killed in the missile strike Friday, which officials have said targeted Osama bin Laden's top aide, Ayman al-Zawahiri.

"We are still investigating. There's a possibility that some foreigners were there, but we still do not know," said Sherpao, who was in New York with visiting Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz.

Sherpao said the govern-

ment had not retrieved the bodies of any of the four foreign militants reported killed in the raid. He said the bodies may have been taken by a local pro-Taliban cleric, Maulana Faqir Mohammed, who also is being hunted by authorities.

The U.S. government refuses to discuss the airstrike, which has been condemned by Pakistan.

Provincial authorities say the attack killed 18 residents of the Pashtun village, and they also say they believe

"We have no names. We know one of them had value in al-Qaida."

Pakistani intelligence official

sympathizers took the bodies of four or five foreign militants to bury them in the mountains, thereby preventing their identification.

"Efforts are under way to investigate further," said Shah Zaman Khan, director-general of media relations for Pakistan's tribal areas bordering Afghanistan.

He said authorities were also looking for two prominent pro-Taliban clerics accused of harboring militants, Maulana Faqir Mohammed and Liaqat Ali, who were allegedly in Damadola and survived the assault.

Intelligence officials say the dead foreigners could be aides of al-Zawahiri, who is thought to have sent them in his place to an Islamic holiday dinner to which he'd been invited in Damadola on the night of the attack.

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REMINDER

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NASA delays launch of Pluto probe again

Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL — For the second day in a row Wednesday, NASA scrubbed the launch of an unmanned spacecraft on a nine-year voyage to Pluto — this time, because a storm in Maryland knocked out the power at a laboratory that will operate the probe.

NASA officials planned to make a third attempt to launch the New Horizons probe Thursday after electricity was restored to the lab.

High winds at the launch pad kept the spacecraft from lifting off Tuesday, the first day the launch window opened.

Scientists have been working 17 years on the mission, and they were unfazed by the back-to-back postponements.

"Two or three days doesn't mean a hill of beans," said Alan Stern, principal investigator for the mission.

A storm in Laurel, Md.,

knocked out power early Wednesday at the John Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory.

"The air conditioning was off. The flight controllers were sitting there wiping sweat," Stern said. "If they were dealing with any spacecraft issues, which first day out of the box a lot of spacecraft have, you can't concentrate like that."

The space agency has until mid-February to send the spacecraft on its way, but a launch in January would allow the spacecraft to use Jupiter's gravity to shave five years off the 3-billion-mile trip, allowing it to arrive as early as July 2015.

The spacecraft is about the size and shape of a concert piano. It will study Pluto as well as the frozen, sunless reaches of the solar system known as the Kuiper Belt. Scientists believe that studying the region's icy, rocky objects can shed light on how the planets formed.

Mine survivor awakening

Associated Press

MORGANTOWN — Sago Mine survivor Randal McCloy Jr. appears to be awakening from his coma, and his improving condition may allow him to be transferred to a rehabilitation center within a few weeks, doctors said Wednesday.

McCloy, 26, has been breathing on his own for days and is opening his eyes, said Dr. Julian Bailes of West Virginia University's Ruby Memorial Hospital, adding that he "has purposeful movement" and "is responding to his family in slight ways."

Bailes said doctors now consider McCloy to be in a "light coma."

McCloy is believed to have suffered brain damage from lack of oxygen, but the extent of the damage is not yet known.

Because of the amount of time he spent in the mine

before being rescued, "we are in many ways in uncharted territory with predicting his recovery," said Bailes, a neurosurgeon. "Many people with severe carbon monoxide poisoning end up with severe cognitive, personality, memory, visual and motor responses. We just don't know."

McCloy has been unconscious since he was pulled from the mine more than 41 hours after the Jan. 2 explosion that led to the deaths of 12 other miners. Officials have said one miner was apparently killed by the blast itself, and the others were asphyxiated.

McCloy was moved out of intensive care Tuesday but remains on dialysis because of kidney damage.

The cause of the mine explosion has still not been determined. One theory is that lightning hit an old well pipe, conveying electricity into the tunnels.

However, "it's very premature to speculate on any contribution that that may have had," Richard Gates, lead investigator for the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration, said Wednesday.

Water and poisonous gases are still being purged from the mine, about 100 miles north of Charleston, and Gates said federal investigators expect to gain access in a few days.

Federal and state regulators investigating the accident began interviewing witnesses Tuesday. Mine company officials also attended the interviews, along with representatives of a coal miners union.

Also Wednesday, the mine's owner, International Coal Group Inc., issued a statement objecting to the union's involvement. The Sago Mine is nonunion, but several miners asked the United Mine Workers of America to represent them during the investigation.

Dozens of new species discovered

Associated Press

SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK, Calif. — Twenty-seven previously unknown species of spiders, centipedes, scorpion-like creatures and other animals have been discovered in the dark, damp caves beneath two national parks in the Sierra Nevada, biologists say.

"Not only are these animals new to science, but they're adapted to very specific environments — some of them, to a single room in one cave," said Joel Despain, a cave specialist who helped explore 30 of the 238 known caves in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

The discoveries included a relative of the pill bug so translucent that its internal organs are visible, particularly

its long, bright yellow liver. There was also a daddy long legs with jaws bigger than its body, and a tiny fluorescent orange spider.

"Many people will be looking at these trying to find where they fit in the tree of life," said Darrell Ubick, a cave biologist with the San Francisco-based California Academy of Sciences.

While it is extremely rare to find new mammal or bird species on the surface, caves still hold an abundance of secrets. Like the deep sea, they are often difficult to reach and seldom explored.

Discovering so many species was thrilling, said Jean Krejca, a consulting biologist with Austin, Texas-based Zora Environmental who helped lead the three-year explo-

ration. The findings were released Tuesday.

"You get the feeling you're Lewis and Clark, charting undiscovered territory," she said. "Caves are one of the last frontiers."

Park officials plan to adopt measures to protect the caves, Despain said. Most of them are not accessible to the public, and can be visited only by researchers or experienced explorers with permits.

The species have yet to be named, described scientifically and placed in the continuum of known living organisms.

"We don't know how long they live, what kind of habitat they prefer, how many offspring they have, or how sensitive they are to human disturbance," Krejca said. "There's still so much to learn."

3

EVENTS

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Lex talionis

The first written laws of ancient Athens were produced by Draco, a man of exacting standards who assigned the death penalty to almost every crime, including such minor infractions as "idleness" and stealing a cabbage. When the justice of this arrangement was questioned, Draco replied that small crimes deserve death and he knew of no punishment worse than death which could be given for greater ones. The thought that the problem with his laws might not be an excessive lenience towards murderers but rather an undue severity in the treatment of cabbage-stealers seems never to have occurred to him.

These days the story of Draco is not widely known and "draconian" has consequently become a dead metaphor, but, like other dead metaphors, the word has not disappeared from use but continues to lead a shadowy post-mortem existence as a vague and pretentious adjective. Frequently it is used as if it were an exotic synonym of "tyrannical," but Draco was no tyrant — the laws he made may have been absurdly harsh, but they applied to all Athenians, himself included.

The crucial difference is this: in Athens in the 7th Century B.C. you could be executed for even the most minor infraction, but you still had to break the law; whereas in Mesopotamia during the same period you could be put to death simply because the man in charge decided that he would prefer for you to no longer be alive.

(Actually that was true in Mesopotamia as recently as 2003, although the region is now known by

the name it was given in the 20th Century: Iraq.)

It is impossible to imagine a just society not based upon the rule of law, but the rule of law by itself does not guarantee justice. Draco's one-size-fits-all approach to criminals meant that his punishments did not fit their crimes. Solon, his successor, recognized this and quickly changed the laws so that only murder was punishable by death.

I have difficulty deciding what to think about the use of the death penalty in the modern world, but I am convinced that any compelling case against its use must reckon with the fact that there are some criminals who deserve to be killed. We do not need to turn to such extreme and monstrous examples as Eichmann (executed by the Israeli government in 1962) or notorious serial killers like Ted Bundy to make the point. Stanley Williams, who was executed last month by the State of California, killed four people. If there is a reason why he should not have received the death penalty it surely cannot be that his crimes did not deserve it.

Some argue that when the state executes murderers, it is coming down to their level, but the state no more murders those it executes than it steals from those it taxes. Nor does the use of the death penalty show a disregard for the value of human life — you might as well argue that the imprisonment of criminals shows that society does not value liberty.

Especially in the United States, a large proportion of those who advocate the abolition of the death penalty do so on religious grounds. At anti-capital punishment protests you will often see the Fifth (in the Catholic scheme of counting) Commandment written on placards. But for all its apparent clarity, the command "Thou Shall Not Kill" cannot mean that the death penalty is not permissible. You don't need to know

Hebrew to see this, you just have to keep reading — Exodus and Deuteronomy, the books in which the Ten Commandments are given, both contain divine laws that explicitly prescribe the death penalty for a variety of offenses.

Those who support the death penalty but oppose abortion are often accused of contradicting themselves. Strangely, the argument is rarely made in the other direction, with opponents of the death penalty being charged with inconsistency if they do not also oppose abortion.

Since I am not persuaded that the death penalty is in principle an illegitimate form of punishment for the crime of murder, I was surprised to find that the executions of Stanley Williams and Clarence Ray Allen (who was put to death by lethal injection on Tuesday at San Quentin State Prison) have left me deeply uneasy. This is not because the punishment seems to me excessive, but because in both cases the men were executed more than two decades after they were sentenced for their crimes. It seems to me that if a person is found beyond reasonable doubt to be guilty by a jury of their peers, then the sentence should be carried out within months or at most years of sentencing. Death should mean death, not life imprisonment followed by execution. A legal system that allows decades for appeals and retrials is tacitly admitting that "beyond reasonable doubt" does not mean beyond reasonable doubt. If it really is necessary to wait decades before executing those sentenced to death, then the death sentence should not be used.

Peter Wicks is a graduate student in the Philosophy department. He can be contacted at pwicks@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Do not worry about your difficulties in Mathematics. I can assure you mine are still greater."

Albert Einstein
physicist

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"In all affairs it's a healthy thing now and then to hang a question mark on the things you have long taken for granted."

Bertrand Russel
British philosopher

U-WIRE

Facebook: omnipresent and exclusive

If you're like me, you spend most of your Friday and Saturday nights instant-messaging your friends from back home to tell them you're about to go out and get wasted and then spending the rest of the night looking at pictures on facebook.com, totally burning kids in Internet anime chat rooms and crying.

On one such night recently, I came upon a phenomenon that has apparently become a popular topic of conversation among many Duke students.

I am of course referring to the "Duke's Top 25 Hottest Girls" group on facebook. The group, which was formed by one "John Doe" (no, not that John Doe, ladies), describes itself as "Duke's most exclusive facebook group," and claims to rank the 25 most attractive girls at Duke in descending order based solely on the young lady's facebook picture.

The rankings are updated weekly by the anonymous creator(s) of this group; mysteriously, however, it seems as though you never actually see any new

names on the list.

After discovering this list and discussing it with some of my lady friends (aka, eavesdropping in Alpine), I decided this would be a great topic for my first column. I mean, not only is the whole list morally reprehensible and chauvinistic, but it's also a known fact that nobody really likes pretty girls.

So I figured the column would practically write itself (not to mention that it would be a great opportunity to get back at all the pretty girls for the years of rejection and restraining orders).

However, writing about this group proved to be much more difficult than I expected. I mean, I'm really not in any position to critique the actual rankings since A: I obviously don't actually know any of the girls on the list personally, and B: I've seen some of the girls in real life, and they have been stumbling around with smeared lipstick and one shoe (God only knows what they're like outside of class). In other words, they weren't looking their best.

I can't really criticize the creator of the group because, like just about every male college student in the world, I too have been guilty of lusting over drunken

bimbos in my time, and the last thing I wanted to come off as in my first column was a bimbo-hating hypocrite.

So I decided to just put my commentary on the backburner for a while and do some research on the group in order to possibly help some of the aspiring hot girls out there reach this true pinnacle of hotness.

After all, you know what they always say: Opinions are like facebook profiles — everybody has one.

I decided to take a week off of classes to do some serious research, checking out the girls' profiles and the endless webshots accompanying them (apparently most of them have hired photographers to follow them around).

And I think I've figured out just what it takes to break into that top 25, because, as we all know here at Duke, it's not how good you look — it's how much recognition you get for it that really counts.

The first thing you need to do if you want to be in Duke's most elite facebook group is to join a sorority if you're not in one already. The vast majority of the top 25 girls are in sororities.

To be the hottest, it seems that you

political views should be conservative — but whatever you do, don't let your clothing choice reflect that. In fact, it may help if you took every article of clothing you own and cut about four inches of material off the bottom. I suspect that when you're as hot as these girls, wearing too much clothing can seriously inhibit the cooling process and could end up being fatal.

The last piece of advice I'll give you is simple, but can't be underestimated — drink. Drink and drink and drink until your voice turns raspy, your eyes become glazed over and you actually believe that being drunk is sexy.

In closing, I must give one general warning. Although racial profiling may have been abolished at airports, it's still alive and well on the facebook.

Minorities rarely seem to be welcome among the hottest of the hot.

Isn't facebook great?

This editorial originally appeared in the Jan. 18 issue of The Chronicle, the daily publication at Duke University.

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

No case for NSA wiretap

In this country, wiretapping requires a court order and the way I know that is because the president told me so a couple years ago.

"A wiretap requires a court order," President Bush declared in a statement in April of 2004.

He added, "When we're talking about chasing down terrorists, we're talking about getting a court order when we do so. It's important for our fellow citizens to understand [that] constitutional guarantees are in place ... because we value the Constitution."

We now know that even as President Bush was speaking those words, he was allowing the National Security Agency to secretly wiretap American citizens without a warrant or judicial review of any kind.

This NSA data-fishing program is not only another program in a series of decisions made by the president that puts his credibility seriously in question, it is a flagrant violation of the law.

Apparently we value the Constitution only to an extent.

The administration claims that the authorization granted by Congress after the Sept. 11 attacks to use military force that allowed the president to invade Afghanistan, legitimizes this program.

I am not a lawyer, nor do I claim to be one, but it is my understanding that Congress does not repeal entire pieces of legislation with a wink and a nudge, which is the only way one can argue that military force authorization allows for unchecked wiretapping by the executive.

The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act specifically requires a special court to authorize wiretapping, and the authorization of force did not repeal or amend this act.

The administration might as well argue that President Bush is authorized to personally knock off a liquor store.

Everybody wants the government to do everything within its power to protect us, and if somebody in this country is receiving phone calls from members of Al-Qaeda, it is eminently reasonable to eavesdrop on that person's calls. But that is hardly the issue at hand.

The issue is, why not just get a warrant?

Speed is not the issue. FISA allows for wiretapping without a court order in an emergency so long as the FISA court is notified within 72 hours, a provision the government has used repeatedly in the past.

At least two of the court's judges are required by law to live in the Washington, D.C. area to specifically allow for rapid action when necessary.

In any case, if the president did not feel that those provisions were adequate, he had an opportunity and a responsibility to change them through the customary democratic process, not in secret and not in violation of existing law.

Ask yourself if there is any question whether Congress, after the Sept. 11 attacks, would have enacted changes to FISA in order for the president to be sure he could protect the American people.

President Bush, instead, chose to put himself above the law. Instead of an investigation into who leaked this program to the press, a better course of action would be an independent investigation into his executive misconduct.

This editorial originally appeared in the Jan. 18 issue of the Daily Illini, the daily publication at the University of Illinois.

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

Blogging shouldn't yield punishment

A child's private thoughts of hatred towards one of his teachers are found scrawled messily in the notebook he keeps in his nightstand drawer. His parents find out, the school finds out, and the kid is expelled.

Sound familiar? Perhaps, except in the high-speed high-tech world of the information age where private journals and secret diaries have evolved into facebook accounts and Xanga blogs.

Regardless of the medium in which students document their thoughts and feelings, the same age-old question still creates tumult between kids, their parents and their teachers: Where do schools' disciplinary jurisdictions end?

For private institutions, the issue unfortunately doesn't leave much room for negotiation — since the schools are privately owned, they can expel their students for doing anything that they deem violates school policy — and that's a pretty broad definition.

For example, a Catholic school in New Jersey completely banned students' use of websites such as Myspace, Xanga, and facebook even at home. They may as well have told the kids that they don't have the right to their own voices, or that they aren't allowed to pick up a pen if they intend to write anything with it.

But, like it or not, that's United States. The people in charge of private institutions have the right to set up whatever kind of school policies they want whether they're freedom-squelching bigots or not.

However, public schools are another matter entirely. What would get a student expelled in a private institution (posting excessive complaints about a teacher in a blog, voicing displeasure about some of their fellow students, post-

ing a photo on facebook of themselves naked, smoking pot and simultaneously doing a kegstand, etc.), the public schools can do nothing about.

And this is exactly how it should be. Public schools, in a way, are an extension of the government — and as such, they should not be allowed to take disciplinary action against students who are merely exercising their right to free speech (assuming the kids aren't disrupting class, verbally abusing others, or otherwise explicitly violating school policy).

But, fellow students, don't gloat yet — while you may have the right to say whatever you want on or off public school property (and this includes anything you may want to post about yourself online), your right to free speech doesn't make you immune to the other consequences your actions might have — consequences that are perfectly legal.

Like ridicule, for instance. Or criticism. Or being frowned upon because people recognize you from your online pictures and disagree with your choice to display yourself in your Looney Tunes g-string.

Or, worst of all, being denied employment because the company you're trying so hard to get a job with checked your facebook profile and deemed that you didn't fit their idea of a good employee. Yes, it happens. Keep in mind that anything you post online becomes public as soon as you click the "Submit" button. And, while it may be your right to post whatever you want to say, consider that your words may have unintended consequences.

This editorial originally appeared in the Jan. 18 issue of the Collegiate Times, the daily publication at Virginia Tech University.

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

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CD REVIEWS

Blige raises credibility with powerful release

By BRODERICK HENRY
Scene Critic

Mary J. Blige is music royalty. After 15 years and 10 albums, the multi-Grammy award-winning artist has established herself as the undisputed Queen of hip-hop soul and the preeminent soul singer of her generation. Blige's trademark honesty and often pained vocal delivery has not only won her critical acclaim but also credibility.

Throughout her career, Mary J.'s soulful voice has transcended both lyric and genre to produce music that is an expression of her personal struggles. 2001's "No More Drama," the singer's most successful album to date, was a manifestation of Blige's decision to quit drinking and rid her life of a costly entourage.

Similarly, "The Breakthrough," the R&B diva's latest release, is a testimony to her newly discovered self-confidence. With Blige serving as both narrator and central figure, the 16 songs that com-

prise the album tell a triumphant love story. Each song is crafted to reveal a tiny fragment of the singer's journey from an insecure girl, who used drugs to ease the pain of sexual molestation and parental abandonment, to a self-assured woman, who learns to love and accept herself despite a troubled past.

Sonically, although rooted in rough and rugged hip-hop beats, "The Breakthrough" is slick and sophisticated. Tracks produced by music legends Jam and Lewis, '90s hit maker Rodney Jerkins, and newcomer Dave Young place instrumentation in the background so that Blige's stirring voice can shine. Such a tactic would be a disastrous misstep for many of Blige's pop-art contemporaries, but for the diva it is a sound choice, for she possesses the ability to bring memories and old feelings to life by wrapping her voice around beats so that together they scream of love's lost, coo of newfound romance and exhale the joy of finally learning to love one's self.

The album opens with a fiery tribute to Blige's husband, "No One Will Do."

Accompanied by a sample of the O'Jays' hit "I Swear I Love No One But You," Blige sings "Seen many men in my time/but none of them compares to mine/I ain't gotta knock on wood/To tell ya I got it so good/He's everything that I



Photo courtesy of bbc.co.uk

Mary J. Blige continues her reign as the queen of hip hop soul with her new album, "The Breakthrough," taking listeners through her struggles and triumphs.

need/And everything a man should be." As she riffs, "nobody, nobody, nobody" it is clear Blige has found the man she wants to spend the rest of her life with.

Other standout tracks include the Will.I.Am produced "About You" on which Mary J. duets with the deceased Nina Simone. While pushing the acoustic beat along, Blige manages to not only remain on key but also complements Simone's voice in a way that makes her seem as alive today as twenty years ago when her vocals were recorded. "I Found My Everything" puts to rest any questions surrounding Blige's vocal range. With power reminiscent of early Aretha Franklin, the soul queen shakes the rafters proclaiming her personal discovery. "Father in You" finds Blige describing how the lack of a father figure in her life forced her to expect those qualities in her husband. It is a vulnera-

ble and touching moment that underscores the singer's ability to transform her painful story into beautiful therapy for listeners.

Still, "The Breakthrough" does contain some missteps including "MJB da MVP," a syrupy retracing of Blige's career that seems out of place with its tame lyrics and awkward production. On "Can't Hide From Love," Blige pushes her voice to its limits so that it sounds less inspiring and more weary.

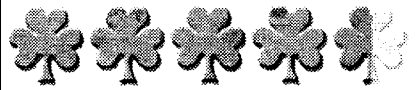
Ultimately, "The Breakthrough" is a sincere work that allows listener's to examine their lives through beautiful and meaningful music that contains the right amount of pain, joy and even drama. It is clear with this album that the Queen sits proudly upon her throne.

Contact Broderick Henry at
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The Breakthrough

Mary J. Blige

Geffen Records



Recommended tracks: 'No One Will Do,' 'I Swear I Love No One But You' and 'What Can I Do?'

'Homegrown' a successful mix of musical genres

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Critic

"Homegrown! The Beginner's Guide to Understanding the Roots, Vol. 1," is the first half of a two-disc best-of anthology of the Roots music. "Homegrown!" illustrates how the Roots fulfill their titular promise twice over — not only are they underground hip-hop, but the Roots' roots also extend deep down into the subterranean layers of various musical styles.

Hailing from their native Philadelphia (or "Illadelph," as they refer to it in Philly slang vernacular) the group is comprised of MC Black Thought, keyboardist Kamal Gray, bassist Leonard "Hub" Hubbard and Amir "Questlove" (pronounced "Questlove") Thompson, who, despite his use of interrogative punctuation in his nickname, is certainly no question mark on the drums.

With strong organic influences from different genres, most noticeably jazz, rock and soul, the Roots are the consummate amalgamation of past and present in hip-hop, joining together musical scents from past and present to create a potent audio potpourri. This old-school/new-school dynamic is what lies at the essence of the appeal of the Roots — they are a group that is innovative but respects its elders, producing a sound that is at the same time both brand-new and time-honed, familiar yet fresh.

Typical commercial hip-hop glorifies the drug culture that permeates urban America and glamorizes violence and the objectification of women. The Roots dare to eschew the drugs, guns and hos motifs of their contemporary rap contemporaries in lieu of soulful tracks that carry a deeper meaning. Almost in spite of this, the Roots somehow manage to remain "street" without having to resort to misogynistic references and violent

lyrics. In fact, on the track "Star," the Roots lament the close entwinement of the youth hip-hop movement with drug culture and gang violence.

Other tracks to look out for include the song "Do You Want More?!!?!!!!" It is a prime example of the eclectic nature of the



Photo courtesy of hiphopmbsoul.com

The Roots' combination of an eclectic mix of musical styles make the band's latest release a promising start to their two-disc best-of collection.

Roots' music. The Roots represent with a chest-beating shout-out to their home city of Philadelphia on a track which pairs a fairly standard hip-hop beat with Scottish bagpipes blaring triumphantly in the background. This song is sure to be a hit amongst the Irish faithful on campus.

"You Got Me," a duet originally featuring R&B queen Erykah Badu, won a Grammy in 2000. However, tuber aficionados will be quick to notice that the version on this album features a different female vocalist, Jill Scott. The track deals with issues of fidelity and loyalty, and has a deep melancholy vibe despite repeated insistences by Scott that, "baby, you got me."

Mos Def puts in an appearance on

"Double Trouble," a who's-the-man song (or is it who's the men?) featuring great back-and-forth chemistry between Def and Black Thought, who may be perhaps the best rapper out there you've never heard of.

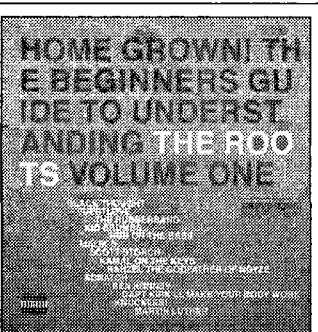
Unlike textbooks that may have been recently purchased at the bookstore (which enumerates the cost of a college education at an arm, a leg and a first-born child), a copy of "Homegrown! A Beginner's Guide to the Roots, Vol. 1" will only set a listener back \$9.99 on iTunes Music Store. School's in session, and "Homegrown!" is on the required listening list for Hip-Hop 101.

Contact Tae Andrews at
tandrew1@nd.edu

Homegrown! The Beginner's Guide to Understanding the Roots, Vol. 1

The Roots

Geffen Records



Recommended tracks: 'You Got Me,' 'Star,' 'Do You Want More?!!?!?!,' 'Double Trouble' and 'What You Want'

The Top 10 Albums of 2005

WVFI's selection of the top music makers of the past year

Graphics by MATT HUDSON



By JOE LATTAL and KEVIN O'SULLIVAN
Scene Critics

2005 brought new artists and old favorites to the airwaves. With an ear for innovative and unique sounds, Notre Dame's WVFI created a list of their top picks for the year.

10. Beck — Guero

"Gameboy Variations" and multiple remix EPs for several tracks on "Guero" indicated that Beck was an artist's artist. A master of everything from blues to dance music, he combined elements of his mellower tendencies from his earlier masterpiece "Seachange," while echoing the fun and catchiness of his most successful release to date "Odelay." The opening track, "E-Pro" was one of the best singles of the year with its instrumental, guitar-driven chorus.

9. Broken Social Scene — Broken Social Scene

Every indie rocker's favorite Toronto dectet released the long-awaited full-length follow up to 2002's "You Forgot It In People." The first single "7/4 (Shoreline)" tore up college radio charts and GAP store sound systems beginning last fall. Just like "You Forgot It In People," the album featured conventional as well as out-of-bounds songwriting, emphasizing messages through heavy repetition and a wide range of tempos.

8. The Go! Team — Thunder, Lightning, Strike

Although other parts of the world discovered this album in 2004, "Thunder, Lightning, Strike!" didn't find a U.S. release until 2005. A whirlwind of energy, horns, handclaps and self-centeredness earned the British group attention worldwide. The album featured a combination of instrumental tracks and more poppy dance tunes that would be just as appropriate on a mainstream pop album as a college rock release.

7. Wolf Parade — Apologies to the Queen Mary

Part of the contemporary Indie explosion to come out of Montreal, Quebec, Wolf Parade bumps elbows with the likes of The Arcade Fire, with whom they have toured throughout the United States. Having been "discovered" stateside by Modest Mouse's Issac Brock the quartet recorded their first full length Apologies to Queen Mary, full of quirky pop melodies that have the power to make you stamp your feet, pump your fists, squint your eyes and delightfully shriek along.

6. Bright Eyes — I'm Wide Awake It's Morning

Conor Oberst and the men from Omaha returned early in 2005 with the release of two albums — "I'm Wide Awake It's Morning" and "Digital Ash in a Digital Urn." Oberst's delicate voice drifted above gentle and moody acoustic tunes. Often melancholy with southern influences, "I'm Wide Awake" was the better structured album with more interesting stories, notably "Old Soul Song" and "We Are Nowhere and It's Now." Bright Eyes is an acquired taste, but in comparison to previous releases, "I'm Wide Awake" might be their strongest to date.

5. Kanye West — Late Registration

"Late Registration" was the clear standout last year in major label hip-hop. Just like on Kanye's debut, "College Dropout," he wore his political beliefs on his sleeve (as he did in his notable TV appearances) on tracks such as "Black Music" and "Diamonds From Sierra Leone." He showed off his pop appeal on tracks such as "Gold Digger" and "Touch the Sky." We also saw Kanye's sentimental side for the first time on "Roses," but he still wants a "prenup."

4. The Decemberists — Picaresque

The term "Picaresque" can be loosely defined as pertaining to rogues and scoundrels, particularly in a literary context. As of late a lot of ink has been spilt about this term in reference to the third LP by The Decemberists. Frontman and primary songwriter Colin Meloy, who holds an MFA in creative writing, spins fantastical tales of the underworlds of society in an oddly timeless and unforgettable manner. These tales are then complemented by an often mellow, often poppy soundtrack of accordions, guitars, mandolins, keys and the like.

3. Clap Your Hands Say Yeah — Clap Your Hands Say Yeah

Clap Your Hands Say Yeah went from no-name to big time in 2005 with the release of their self-titled debut. With the help of hype from Pitchfork Media as well as exposure in the New York Times, the band eventually landed a record deal at the end of the year and played New York's Irving Plaza for a New Years Eve show (after making a stop at Notre Dame). Alec Ounsworth's warm voice and breathtaking songwriting led the band to surprising success.

2. Death Cab for Cutie — Plans

Great expectations were met by the Pacific Northwest outfit's major label debut this fall. After a handful of albums and EPs, Death Cab finally earned long deserved attention when the hit single "Soul Meets Body" hit radio. The band gained exposure to wider audiences, even attracting older demographics for the first time. They appeared on soundtracks for "The O.C." and "Six Feet Under" and performed their single live on Saturday Night Live. Any concerns that the band would compromise its sound for commercial success were silenced with the emotional "I Will Follow You Into the Dark" and the lengthy "What Sarah Said."

1. Sufjan Stevens — Illinoise

"Illinoise" was the clear champ of 2005. Copyrighted art troubles aside, Sufjan Stevens' second state album was a spectacular arrangement that spanned folk, rock, and even alt-country genres. From the accessible "Chicago" to the more rustic-sounding "Casimir Pulaski Day" to all the bizarre instrumental tracks in between with titles that were longer than the tunes themselves, to say "Illinoise" was impressive from top to bottom is an understatement. A definitive musical opus ought to be at the top of the chart, and no album stands out more than "Illinoise."

Contact Joe Lattal and Kevin O'Sullivan at
jlattal@nd.edu and kosulli1@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of badbon.ch

Broken Social Scene has grown from Canada to become popular on college radio stations all over the United States. They released their album Oct. 4, 2005.



Photo courtesy of killrockstars.com

Colin Meloy and the Decemberists tell tales of the underworlds of society in "Picaresque." This is the third full release by the band which formed in Portland.

NBA

Carter's 31 lead New Jersey over Philadelphia

Richard Jefferson adds 20, Iverson scores 36 in the Sixers' seventh loss in 10 games

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Vince Carter scored 31 points and had 10 assists to lead the New Jersey Nets to a 101-90 win over the Philadelphia 76ers on Wednesday night.

The Atlantic Division standings show the Nets with a four-game lead over the second-place Sixers. The gap, though, seems considerably wider considering New Jersey has won 12 of 15 while Philadelphia has lost seven of 10.

Allen Iverson led the Sixers with 36 points and Chris Webber had 15.

Iverson came up limping late in the fourth quarter when he appeared to knock knees with Jason Collins on a driving layup. Iverson hobbled around the court, rubbed his right leg, but remained in the game. He did take off for the locker room as soon as the game ended.

Much like how the Sixers collapsed in their embarrassing 104-76 loss to Washington on Monday, they again put up little fight in the fourth quarter.

The Nets got a pair of jumpers from Clifford Robinson and a 3 from Richard Jefferson during a 10-0 spurt that opened the fourth and gave them an 86-69 lead.

The home crowd started booing and heading for the exits. After making only two baskets in the first three quarters, Webber hit a 3-pointer and a 16-footer on consecutive possessions that helped pull the Sixers within eight.

Carter pushed back the Sixers with a couple of jumpers and the Nets cruised from there. Jefferson had 20 points and 16 rebounds, Robinson added 15 points and Nenad Krstic had 16.

Celtics 103, Timberwolves 96

BOSTON — Paul Pierce scored 14 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter to lead the Boston Celtics to a win over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday night.

Pierce scored 11 consecutive points for the Celtics to spark a 13-2 run spanning the third and fourth quarters and help the Celtics turn a seven-point deficit into a four-point lead. Boston outscored Minnesota 34-23 in the fourth quarter.

The Celtics trailed by as many as 14 early in the second quarter and 55-46 at halftime but chipped away at the lead.

Delonte West scored Boston's

first eight points of the second half to keep the game close. Then Pierce took over.

Pierce gave the Celtics their first lead since early in the first quarter when he completed a 3-point play 51 seconds into the fourth quarter. Pierce drove to the right side of the hoop, made a tough layup in traffic while being fouled by Trenton Hassell. The ensuing free throw made it 74-73.

The next time down the floor, Pierce nailed a 3-pointer to extend the Celtics' lead to 77-73.

Magic 106, Wizards 98

ORLANDO — Steve Francis was back and well-behaved.

Francis had 12 points, seven rebounds and seven assists in his first game back from a two-game suspension to lead the Orlando Magic over the Washington Wizards on Wednesday night.

The guard was suspended by the team for refusing to re-enter a blowout game late in the fourth quarter. He came off the bench against the Wizards for the third time in his six-year NBA career.

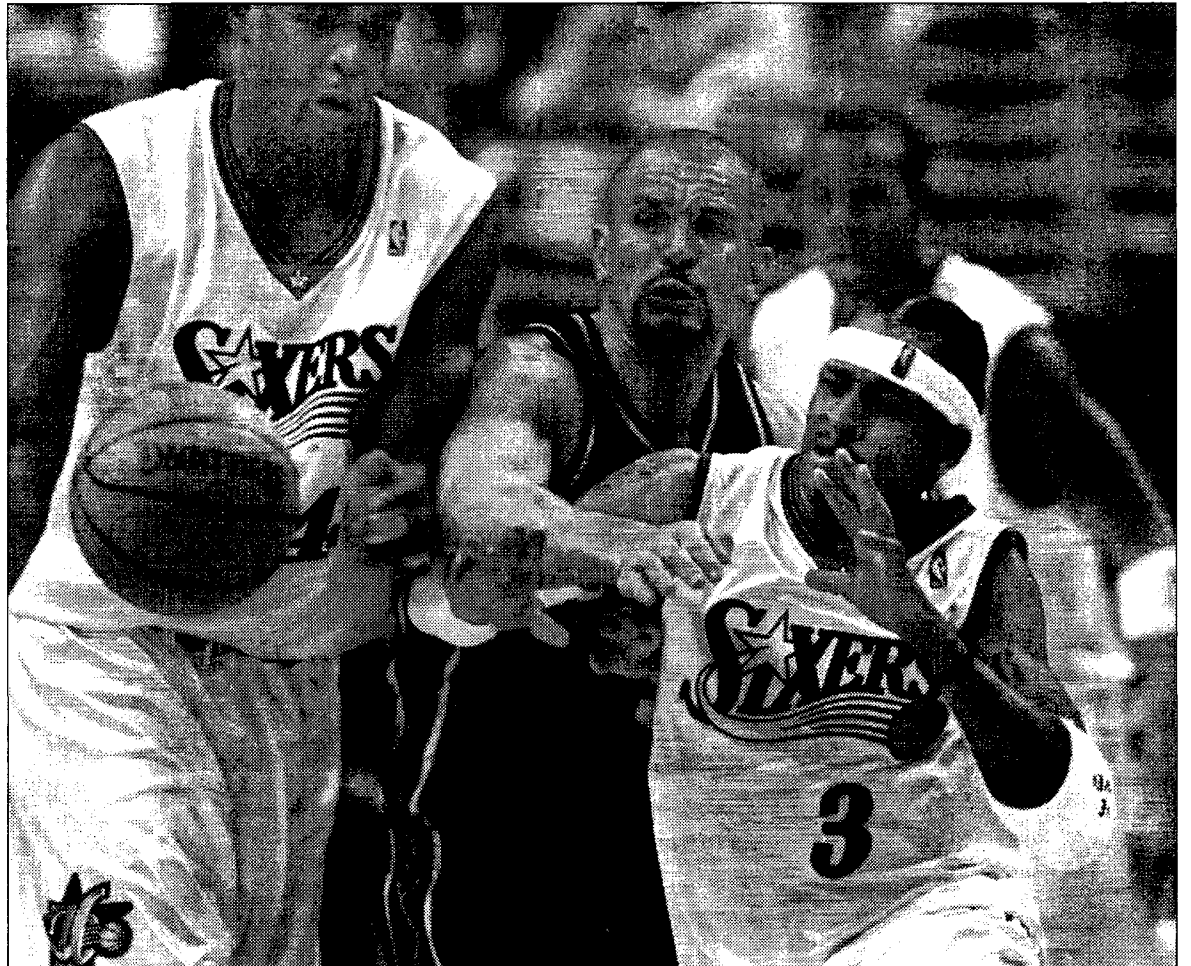
"That's something that's way out of my control," Francis said of his reserve role. "So I just have to do what I can do when I come in."

He entered with 4:01 left in the first quarter to a mixed reaction from the crowd. Two minutes later, his no-look, behind-the-back pass on a fast break for a Hedo Turkoglu dunk put the crowd back on his side.

"After a week of not playing, just shooting by myself, it was good to get out on the court with my teammates and play well," Francis said.

Francis was scoring a team-high 18 points a game at the end of 2005, but hit a wall in January. In his last six games, he was averaging 11.5 points on 37.5 percent shooting, with 25 assists and 30 turnovers.

In the meantime, point guard Jameer Nelson has emerged as a budding star. He has led Orlando in scoring four of the last five games, including 22 points, five assists and five



Nets guard Jason Kidd, middle, fights with Sixers guard Allen Iverson and forward Chris Webber for a loose ball in New Jersey's 101-90 win Wednesday. The Nets have won 12 of their last 15 games.

rebounds on Wednesday night.

"Give me 24 hours at least to savor this one," Magic coach Brian Hill said. "We just had a bad road trip. I want to relax a little bit and have a cocktail and then we'll talk about the starting lineup some other day."

Pacers 98, Bobcats 92

INDIANAPOLIS

— Anthony Johnson did it all against the Charlotte Bobcats.

He scored 16 of his career-high 27 points in the second half to help the Indiana Pacers win on Wednesday

night. He grabbed 10 rebounds, shot 9-for-14 from the field and had four assists.

He even had a transition dunk in the fourth quarter, a rare occurrence for the 31-year-old point guard. The two-handed jam gave the Pacers a 90-83 lead with three minutes

left.

"It's nice," he said. "Now that I'm a little older in age — I'm one of the older guys — they (younger teammates) always give me a hard time about dunking. They say if I can't show them something, then I need to just lay it in."

The 6-foot-3, 200-pound Johnson was too strong for the 5-10, 170-pound Brevin Knight.

"I had a good matchup as far as size advantage against their point guard," Johnson said. "I was just trying to take advantage of that. I was able to get some shots to go down and got to the foul line, and my teammates were looking for me. It was nice to have a big night."

Pistons 117, Hawks 89

ATLANTA — The NBA's best and worst teams followed the script perfectly.

Chauncey Billups scored 23 points, Richard Hamilton added 21 and the Detroit Pistons extended their winning streak to five in a row, routing the hapless Atlanta Hawks Wednesday night.

Ben Wallace handled the

dirty work with 18 rebounds and six blocks. Led by Maurice Evans, Detroit got a boost from its bench in the decisive second quarter.

"The good teams in this league are the ones that can bring it every night," Wallace said. "We've done a good job of doing that this season."

No kidding. The Pistons boosted the NBA's best record to 31-5, and all five victories in their latest winning streak have been by double figures.

At the opposite end of the spectrum: Atlanta fell to 10-27, already 21 1/2 games behind the Pistons in the Eastern Conference.

Detroit got off to a rocky start, missing 11 of its first 16 shots. The Hawks were even worse, starting out 1-of-11, but still managed to claim a 19-18 lead at the end of the ugly quarter.

"I know we tightened up the screws a little bit, and got more serious about the game, after the first quarter," Billups said.

"When we did that, we kind of imposed our will on the game."

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When a crime breaks out, all the
cute girls shout, "it's the good look-
ing guy." When there's crime out
there, he's gonna comb his hair
because he's the good looking guy.

I picked a bad day to drink milk.

Dumb move, man. Dumb move. But
it's like them old reflexes coming
back.

Kelly Meehan loves Rum Runners

High stakes, I got more at stake
than Philly.

I got no dime but I got some time to
hear his story...

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

AROUND THE NATION

Thursday, January 19, 2006

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NHL

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

team	record	OT	points
Philadelphia	28-10	8	64
NY Rangers	25-14	7	57
New Jersey	23-18	5	51
NY Islanders	20-23	2	42
Pittsburgh	11-26	9	31

Eastern Conference, Northeast Division

team	record	OT	points
Ottawa	31-10	3	65
Buffalo	29-13	3	61
Toronto	24-18	3	51
Montreal	21-16	6	48
Boston	17-21	7	41

Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

team	record	OT	points
Carolina	31-10	4	31
Atlanta	22-18	6	29
Tampa Bay	23-20	3	22
Florida	18-22	7	18
Washington	15-24	5	18

Western Conference, Central Division

team	record	OT	points
Detroit	30-12	3	63
Nashville	28-12	5	61
Chicago	15-25	6	36
Columbus	16-28	2	34
St. Louis	10-29	5	25

Western Conference, Northwest Division

team	record	OT	points
Colorado	27-17	3	57
Calgary	26-14	5	57
Vancouver	26-15	5	57
Edmonton	24-17	5	53
Minnesota	20-21	4	44

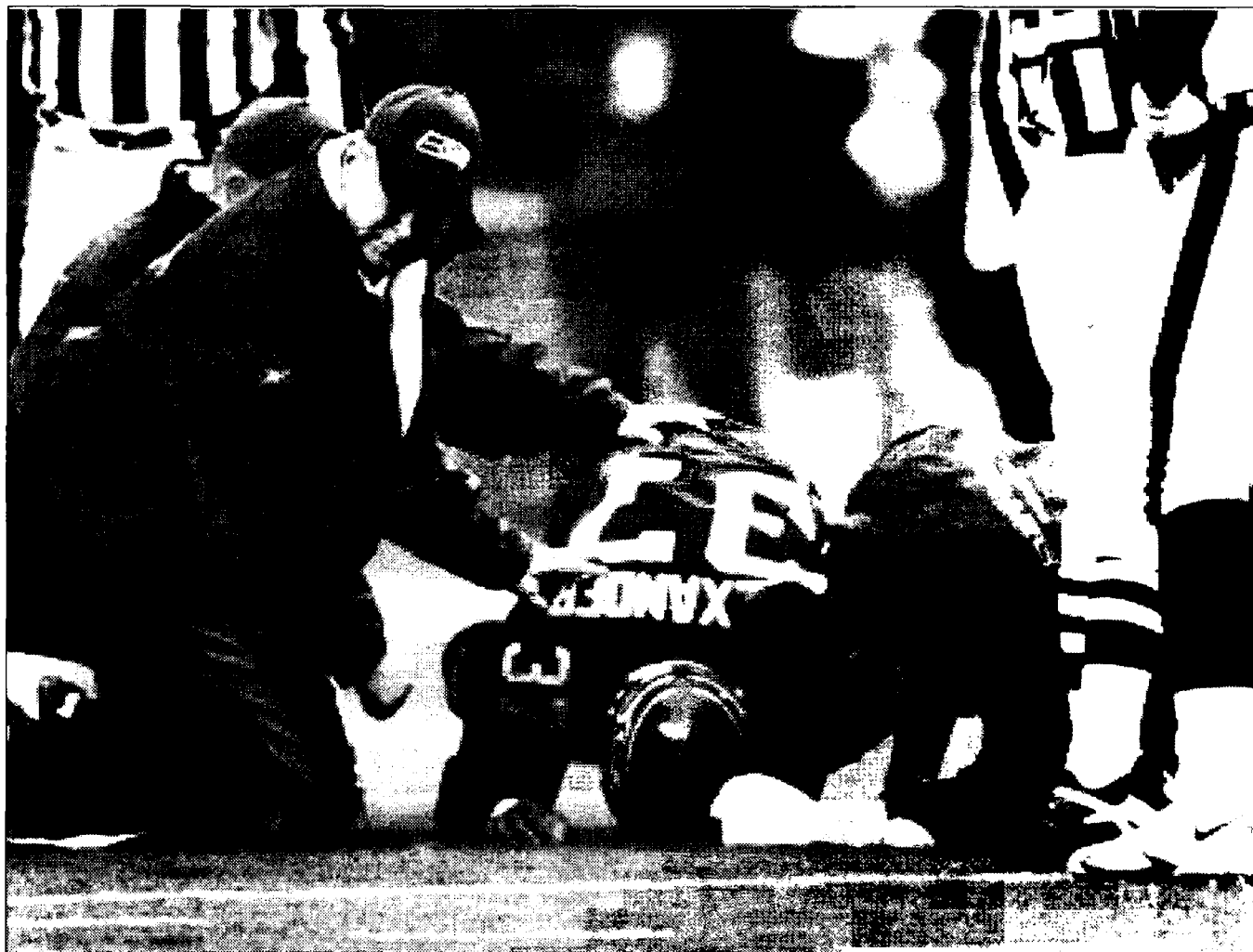
Western Conference, Pacific Division

team	record	OT	points
Dallas	30-13	2	62
Los Angeles	28-18	2	58
San Jose	21-17	5	47
Anaheim	19-16	9	47
Phoenix	22-22	2	46

Mens College Basketball Big East Conference

team	conf.	overall	streak	RPI
West Virginia	5-0	13-3	Won 11	46
Pittsburgh	3-0	14-0	Won 14	7
Connecticut	3-1	15-1	Won 4	13
Villanova	3-1	12-2	Won 1	6
Syracuse	3-1	15-3	Lost 1	22
Rutgers	2-1	12-4	Won 1	55
Georgetown	3-2	11-4	Won 1	64
Marquette	3-2	13-5	Won 1	34
Cincinnati	2-2	13-4	Lost 2	19
St. John's	2-2	9-6	Won 2	112
Louisville	1-3	13-4	Lost 2	80
NOTRE DAME	1-3	10-5	Won 1	90
Seton Hall	1-3	9-6	Lost 3	88
DePaul	1-4	8-8	Lost 3	44
Providence	0-4	7-8	Lost 4	85
South Florida	0-4	6-11	Lost 6	230

NFL



Seattle Seahawks running back Shaun Alexander is attended to after suffering a concussion in the second quarter against the Washington Redskins during Seattle's 20-10 win in the NFC divisional playoffs last Saturday.

Seahawks' Alexander will start Sunday

Associated Press

KIRKLAND, Wash. — Seahawks coach Mike Holmgren removed all doubt Wednesday: NFL MVP Shaun Alexander will play in Sunday's conference championship game against Carolina.

The league rushing champion sustained a concussion last Saturday in the first quarter of Seattle's win over Washington. Alexander later said he was unconscious initially and then "out" of it for about 20 minutes.

But Holmgren said

Wednesday the All-Pro back will be ready for the Panthers.

"Shaun's full go," the coach said. "He passed some tests we gave him yesterday. He participated in our walkthrough this morning. He's going to be fine."

Alexander, who rushed for a team-record 1,880 yards in the regular season, joked he learned something about himself over a four-day battery of doctors' tests.

"Oh yeah. I took all the tests and realized the guy knocked some sense into me," Alexander said of

Redskins linebacker LaVar Arrington, who appeared to hit the back of Alexander's helmet during a 1-yard loss Saturday. "I am actually smarter than I was before."

He also apparently has his sense of perspective back.

The potential free agent said on a conference call to Carolina media Wednesday he has an appreciation for the situation former Seahawks teammate Ken Lucas went through this past year.

When asked if he was sad to see Lucas leave

Seattle, Alexander said: "I definitely was. But then, at the same time, who knows if I am going to be here or not?"

"I told him you never know, I might be out there with you. Whenever you lose a teammate it's rough. When you lose a friend it's worse," Alexander added.

Alexander has repeatedly expressed his desire this season to "win three or four Super Bowls for Seattle." But he said last month talks with the Seahawks on a contract extension were put off until after the postseason.

IN BRIEF

Federer advances to third round of Australian Open

MELBOURNE, Australia — Top-ranked Roger Federer advanced to the third round of the Australian Open with an emphatic 6-1, 6-4, 6-0 win over Florian Mayer on Thursday.

The 24-year-old Swiss star finished with 38 winners and closed out the 1-hour, 12-minute match with an ace.

"It's so nice to get quick matches in the heat," said Federer, whose next opponent is 30th-seeded Max Mirnyi.

"I thought I handled it well in the heat - I'm very happy with my performance, so it's good."

Federer was so dominating that Mayer never had a game point after holding serve to pull within 4-5 in the second set.

Always a perfectionist, the normally stoic Federer did seem a little annoyed at his 18 unforced errors that accounted for one-third of Florian's points.

And after smacking a lovely fore-

hand crosscourt winner for his third break of the final set, he allowed himself a little fist pump. He finished off the match with a pair of service winners and his eighth and ninth aces, then hit a ball high into the stands.

Sheffield extortioner jailed

CHICAGO — A Chicago man who tried to blackmail New York Yankees slugger Gary Sheffield and his wife by claiming to have a video showing her having sex with R&B singer R. Kelly was sentenced Wednesday to more than two years in prison.

Derrick Mosley, 39, a self-styled minister and community activist, was sentenced to 27 months, but will get more prison time later because he was on probation for bank fraud at the time of the alleged extortion.

Mosley maintained throughout the case that he had not meant to blackmail anyone and that he had been misunderstood when he offered to provide Sheffield's wife, DeLeon Richards-Sheffield, with personal

counseling.

"I'm sorry it got to this point, given my track record with the community," he told federal Judge Samuel Der-Yeghiayan.

Steelers' Porter not fined after criticism of officials

PITTSBURGH — Pittsburgh linebacker Joey Porter won't be fined by the NFL for criticizing officials after the Steelers beat Indianapolis.

NFL coaches are subject to fines for criticizing officials, but players usually aren't fined.

Porter, a Pro Bowl selection and one of the Steelers' co-captains, criticized referee Pete Morelli's crew repeatedly during a series of postgame interviews following a 21-18 win in the AFC divisional round. Among other comments, Porter said, "The whole world wanted Indy to win so bad, they were going to do whatever they had to do."

NFL spokesman Steve Alic said there would be no fine for the remarks. Alic didn't elaborate.

around the dial

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

North Carolina at Virginia 7 p.m., ESPN
Cincinnati at Xavier 8 p.m., ESPN
Utah at Air Force 9 p.m., ESPN2
Stanford at Arizona 10:30 p.m., FOX Sports Net

NBA

Pistons at Knicks 8 p.m., TNT
Lakers at Kings 10:30 p.m., TNT

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Redick and Williams lead Duke over N.C. State

Blue Devils trailed by one at half but outscored Wolfpack 48-34 in the second half

Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — Sean Dockery saved Duke again. This time, he didn't wait until the final buzzer.

With the top-ranked Blue Devils' unbeaten record on the line, Dockery made a go-ahead 3-pointer and set up another instant later by Lee Melchionni to help them beat No. 14 North Carolina State 81-68 Wednesday night.

J.J. Redick had 28 points and Sheldon Williams added 21, but it was Dockery's plays down the stretch that helped Duke reach 17-0 (5-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) for only the second time. The other was during a run to the NCAA title in 1992.

The Wolfpack (14-3, 3-2) was never too far away in a game that featured 16 lead changes and nine ties, the last at 65 following a free throw from N.C. State's Gavin Grant. On the other end, Dockery swished a 3 as Tony Bethel slammed into him.

When his free throw clanged off the rim, Dockery chased down the rebound and found Melchionni alone at the top of the key. His jumper also found the mark, and suddenly, the Blue Devils had a six-point lead. They never were challenged again.

They trailed at halftime for only the second time this season — the other came against Virginia Tech on Dec. 4. That's when Dockery made a 40-foot heave at the buzzer to give Duke the improbable victory. He made sure this one had little drama in the final seconds.

Duke closed this game with a 16-3 run. Earlier this month, the Wolfpack saw North Carolina score the final 13 points to win.

Cedric Simmons had an incredible game for N.C. State, finishing with a career-high 28 points, nine rebounds, seven blocks and three steals.

Grant had 13 points for N.C. State, his first game in double figures in more than a month. But he and Simmons couldn't overcome uncharacteristically poor games from Engin Atsur and Ilian Evtimov. They each scored only two points, about nine below their averages.

Florida 113, Savannah State 62

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Joakim Noah had 21 points on 10-for-10 shooting, reserve Walter Hodge added 18 points and No. 2 Florida remained unbeaten with a victory over lowly Savannah State on Wednesday night.

The Gators extended the best start and longest winning streak in school history, and finished undefeated in non-conference play for the first time in coach Billy Donovan's 10 seasons.

Florida (17-0) returns to the Southeastern Conference on Saturday at Tennessee, which should provide a much tougher test than Savannah State (1-18).

Javon Randolph had 22 points and eight rebounds for the Tigers, who last season became the second winless NCAA Division I team in the last half-century. They have lost 18 straight since a season-opening victory over Wilberforce University.

They were overmatched from

the start Wednesday.

The Gators went up 13-0, extended the lead to 45-10 with a 21-0 run and led by as many as 39 in the first half.

Up 57-23 at the break, Florida opened the second half with a 14-3 spurt, and Donovan pulled his starters with 13:48 remaining.

Memphis 88, Tennessee 79

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Shawne Williams had 21 points and 14 rebounds, while Rodney Carney added 22 points Wednesday night as No. 4 Memphis held off Tennessee.

Carney was 8-of-17 from the field, while Williams was 8-of-16 as Memphis did not take a double-digit lead until the final 4:04.

Darius Washington added 17 points and five assists, while Chris Douglas-Roberts finished with 11 points for Tigers (16-2), who won their fifth straight. Williams had four blocks.

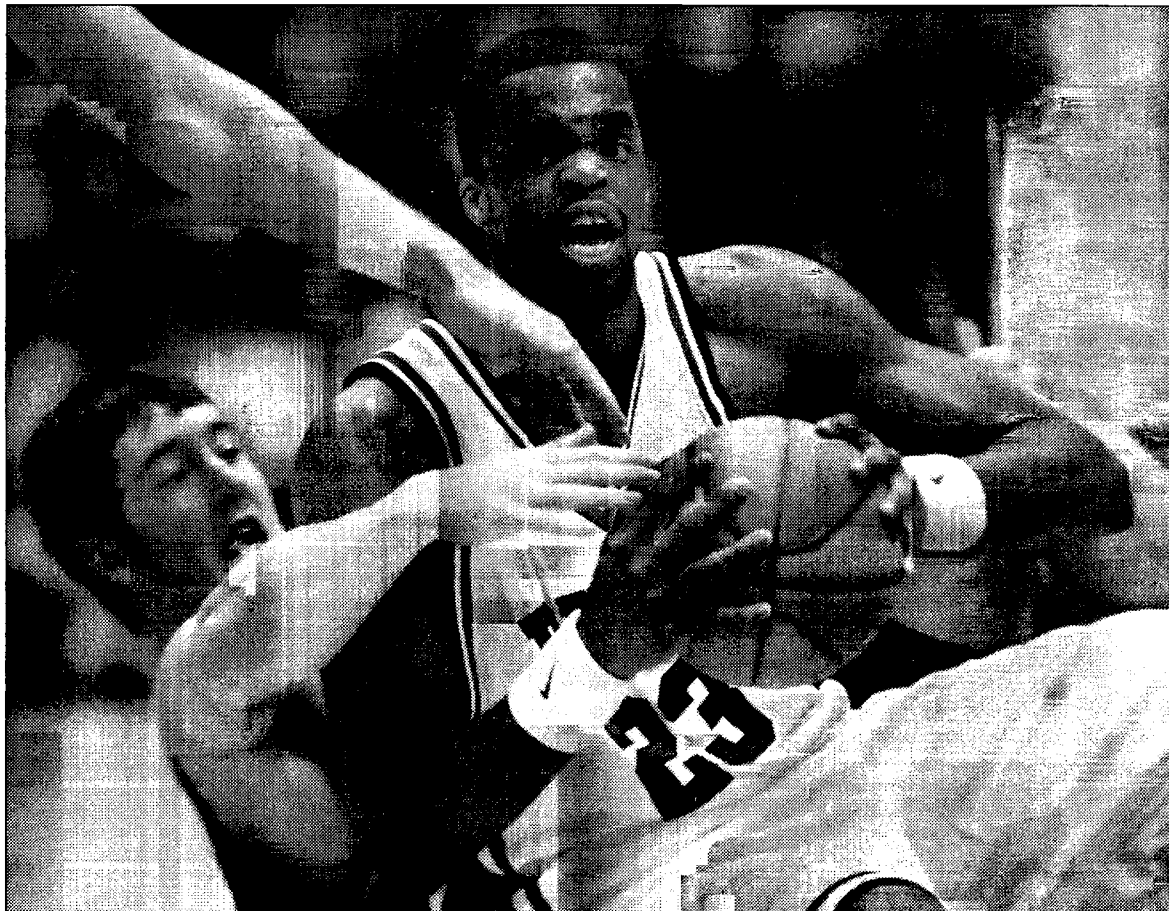
Dane Bradshaw led the Volunteers (11-3) with 21 points, 10 rebounds and five steals and was 9-of-13 from the field. Chris Lofton finished with 16 points for the Vols, while C.J. Watson scored 14 on 2-of-10 shooting. Major Wingate and Stanley Asumnu each scored 11.

The cross-state rivalry was filled with intensity from the opening tap. There was trash-talking, stiff defense, flying elbows and a frenzied back-and-forth pace. Both coaches — John Calipari of Memphis and Bruce Pearl of Tennessee — were pleading their case to officials throughout, adding to the atmosphere. The crowd, mostly in Memphis blue with a sprinkle of UT orange, was on its feet most of the game.

Through it all, Tennessee stayed within striking distance, somewhat because Memphis failed to finish inside several times.

With 6:45 left, it was tied at 69, but Memphis went on a 10-0 run over the next 2:30.

Williams had seven points in the stretch that gave the Tigers their biggest lead of the game,



Duke forward Sheldon Williams, right, fights for possession during Wednesday's 81-68 win over North Carolina State. Williams finished with 21 points on 8-of-12 shooting.

79-69, when he scored inside and converted the ensuing foul shot.

The Vols cut it to 80-74 on four straight points by Bradshaw, but could get no closer, losing their second straight.

Tennessee scored the final six points of the half to take a 45-41 lead.

There were five ties and 12 lead changes in the game.

Ohio State 77, Wisconsin 67

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Jamar Butler and Je'Kel Foster took turns making critical shots down the stretch to lead No. 19 Ohio State to a victory over No. 15 Wisconsin on Wednesday night.

The loss ended Wisconsin's seven-game Big Ten winning streak and dealt a defeat to the last unbeaten Big Ten team.

The Buckeyes (13-2, 3-2) had

a balanced attack, with Terence Dials scoring 15 points and Ron Lewis, Butler and Matt Sylvester each added 14.

Kammron Taylor and Alando Tucker each scored 21 points for the Badgers (14-3, 4-1), with Tucker shooting 9-of-22 from the field.

With the Buckeyes on top 44-43 and 14 minutes remaining, the Buckeyes ran off eight straight points. Butler hit two free throws, seldom-used sub Ivan Harris hit a 3 from the left corner and Butler made a 3 early in the possession to push the lead to 52-43.

Ohio State, which beat a ranked team for the first time in three tries this season, never trailed again.

The Badgers pulled to 65-61 with just under 6 minutes left on Brian Butch's 15-foot jumper,

but then Foster came out of his slump. He hit the second of two free throws. After a miss by Tucker, he came out of an inbounds play to hit a 3-pointer from the right side. After two more Wisconsin misses, Ohio State went inside to Dials and he hit a baseline turnaround over Jason Chappell for a 71-61 lead with 3:33 left.

Neither team shot the ball well the rest of the way, trading missed free throws and errant 3-pointers.

Four free throws by Taylor cut the lead to 72-65 heading into the final minute with Lewis hitting three foul shots and Foster and Butler each adding one to keep the Buckeyes in control.

Butch added 11 points for Wisconsin, which had beaten Ohio State in its last three trips to Value City Arena.

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NFL

Marinelli reportedly will take Lions' reigns

Coach spent 10 years working with Tampa Bay's defensive backs

Associated Press

ALLEN PARK, Mich. — Rod Marinelli was nearing an agreement with the Detroit Lions on Wednesday night to become their new head coach, a team source told The Associated Press.

The source, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the team had not made an announcement, said Marinelli was to leave the team's practice facility on Wednesday night, but stayed to negotiate his contract.

Marinelli spent the past 10 seasons in Tampa Bay as defensive line coach. His unit helped establish an NFL record with 69 straight games with at least one sack from 1999-03. He had the title of assistant head coach added in 2002.

He has not been a head coach at any level, but attracted interest from at least one other team with an opening this offseason.

The Oakland Raiders interviewed Marinelli on Monday, then he traveled to suburban Detroit for a second interview with Lions president Matt Millen.

Former New Orleans Saints coach Jim Haslett said he was scheduled to travel from his home in Louisiana to Michigan on Wednesday night for a second interview. But on Wednesday evening, he told the AP he had not heard from the Lions about his travel arrangements or his prospects for the job.

Unlike Millen's first two coaching searches, he took his time and interviewed several candidates. Millen hired Marty Mornhinweg quickly in 2001, hoping Cleveland wouldn't hire him. Two years later, Millen hired Steve Mariucci with such haste that he was fined \$200,000 by the NFL because he didn't follow the league's minority interview policy.

With Millen's players and coaches, the Lions are an NFL-worst 21-59 over the past five seasons — since the former

linebacker and TV analyst became an NFL executive for the first time.

Dick Jauron, who took over when Mariucci was fired in November, was one of many candidates Millen interviewed during a two-week process. Among the coaches Millen also interviewed were: Pittsburgh offensive line coach Russ Grimm; Denver offensive coordinator Gary Kubiak; Cleveland offensive coordinator Maurice Carthon; New York Giants defensive coordinator Tim Lewis and San Francisco assistant head coach Mike Singletary.

Marinelli's coaching career began in 1973 as an assistant at Rosemead (Calif.) High School. He was an assistant at Utah State from 1973-82, before moving on to California for nine seasons, Arizona State for three seasons and Southern California for one season.

He went to Tampa Bay in 1996 and was the defensive line coach for six seasons. The past four seasons, he also had the title of assistant head coach.



Detroit fans protest during a Dec. 18 game against Cincinnati. Rod Marinelli inherits the task of turning around the franchise.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Williams easily defeats Pin in second round match

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Serena Williams had seen enough: She nearly was bounced out of the first round of the Australian Open, and her sister headed home after all of one match.

So the defending champion didn't exactly overlook Camille Pin, a Frenchwoman ranked 130th. Williams pounded the ball, grunting with plenty of oomph in a 6-3, 6-1 victory Wednesday to reach the third round.

"Everyone's a threat,"

Williams said. "But I'm real serious. I'm here to be a threat as well."

Williams dropped serve to trail 2-1 in the opening set but quickly regained control by breaking serve six times. She seemed annoyed with Pin's lack of pace and floating shots,

replying with unusual ferocity and finishing with 30 winners.

Williams gave up only three points in the last three games in running her winning streak in Melbourne to 16 matches. She won the title in 2003 and 2005, skipping the 2004 major because of injuries.

"The last two times I played here, I did really well," she said. "I'm just hoping to keep it up."

Next up is 17th-seeded Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia, who has never taken a set off Williams.

Williams played only 21 matches after winning this title last year and finishing 21-7 in a season marked by injuries.

Williams needed to recover during the third set of her opening match against 52nd-ranked Li Na. She left little margin for error in her match against Pin, with the memory still fresh of Venus' first-round loss on the same court Monday to Bulgaria's Tszvetana Pironkova.

"It's never as easy as it looks," Williams said. "I definitely had some things I wanted to work on. I like the fact that I was playing a little closer to the lines."

Pironkova's brief run ended Wednesday with a loss to American Laura Granville.

Top-ranked Lindsay Davenport had to scramble in defeating Croatia's Karolina Sprem 7-6 (4), 6-3. The 2000 Australian champion didn't take command until Sprem double-faulted at 3-1 in the tiebreaker. She won six of the next seven points.

"To come back and construct a few really good points, it was very key to get out of that," said Davenport, who next plays 25th-seeded Maria Kirilenko.

Maria Sharapova overcame 31 unforced errors and fended off three set points against American qualifier Ashley

Harkleroad in the second set to advance 6-1, 7-5.

Sharapova was treated for foot blisters but did not appear bothered by the shoulder injury that kept her off the circuit for two months. The 2004 Wimbledon champion knows little of her next opponent, Zuzana Ondraszkova.

"I can't worry about my opponent," Sharapova said. "I've got to focus on my game — that's what makes me a great player."

French Open champion Justine Henin-Hardenne, seeded eighth, took the last five games after Hana Sromova turned her ankle badly and won 7-6 (2), 6-1.

With two of the top 10 women out and others struggling against low-ranked players, Henin-Hardenne senses a change.

"We cannot say that the first week is easy for the top seeds," said Henin-Hardenne, the 2004 Australian Open champion. "We could see very difficult results in the first rounds, and a lot of difficulties for the top-seed players."

Also advancing were No. 6 Nadia Petrova and No. 14 Svetlana Kuznetsova, the 2004 U.S. Open winner. Among the men, No. 2 Andy Roddick and No. 4 David Nalbandian, the Masters Cup champion, took differing paths to the third round.

Roddick, backed by a boisterous cheering section — some draped and others painted in American flags — shrugged off an ankle strain in a 7-5, 6-3, 6-2 win over Wesley Moodie, the Wimbledon doubles champion.

He had 11 aces and conceded only 17 points in 15 service games, but was most pleased by his strong return of serve. Roddick, a first-round loser at the last U.S. Open, plays Julien Benneteau of France in the third round.

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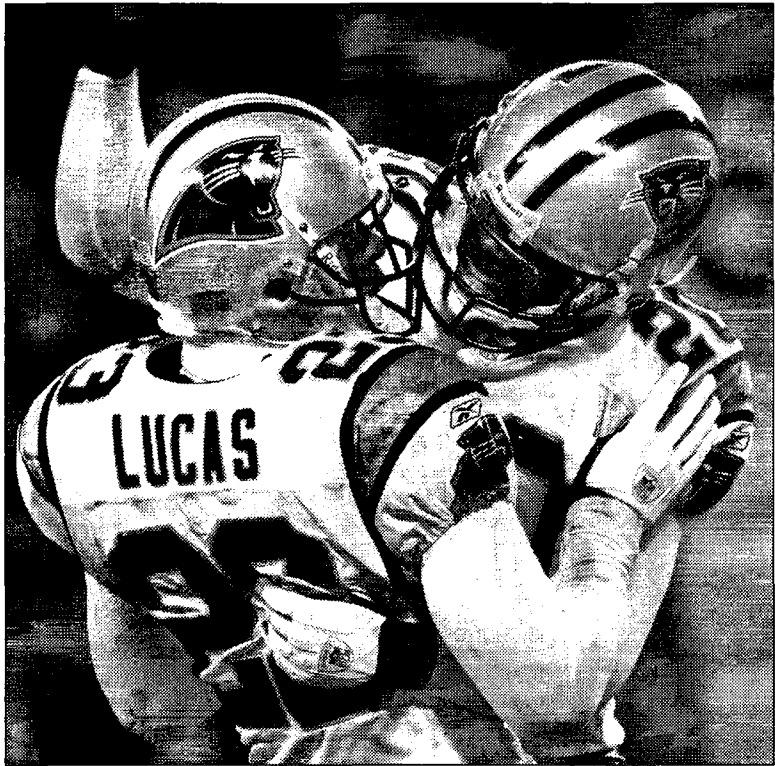
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NFL

Carolina defensive back Lucas returns to Seattle



Panthers defensive back Ken Lucas, left, celebrates after his interception during Sunday's playoff win against the Bears.

Corner left Seahawks after six-pick season

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — All the things cornerback Ken Lucas wanted for his career — respect, recognition, the chance to play on a championship defense — couldn't be found with the Seattle Seahawks.

So he took the first flight out when his contract expired, eagerly accepting a six-year, \$36.5 million deal with the Carolina Panthers. Now "Super Luc" gets the chance to show the Seahawks what they let slip away this Sunday when the Panthers play Seattle for the NFC championship.

"It's not Ken Lucas vs. the Seattle Seahawks, it's the Panthers vs. the Seahawks," Lucas insisted Wednesday. "I don't want the emphasis to be placed on me. It's about this team, because I can't go out there and win this game by myself."

Oh, but Lucas will most definitely try to make his mark in a game he claims is the biggest moment of his life since he correctly spelled "scissors" to win the fifth-grade spelling bee.

He's always been a little bitter about the way his four years with the Seahawks concluded just a few short months after he was the NFC's co-leader with six interceptions.

When the Seahawks turned their attention to re-signing players, they never really got around to Lucas. By the time they made their offer — two days before the free agency period began — Lucas felt disrespected and had already made up his mind to leave.

"That just let me know that I wasn't really a priority for them," Lucas said. "I just wanted to go somewhere where I felt like I was truly wanted and I think I made it to that place."

Seattle coach Mike Holmgren insisted Wednesday he didn't want to lose Lucas.

"I wanted him to stay, but he was given a fabulous contract by Carolina," Holmgren said. "I thought Kenny was our best defensive back last year. If you remember at the end of last sea-

son, we had 16 free agents and the front office was in a little bit of turmoil here.

"In the time that we got things kind of fixed a little bit, Kenny got out of here."

There was more to it than that.

Lucas is the kind of player who wants — maybe even needs — attention. He wants to go to Pro Bowls and to be recognized as one of the best cornerbacks in the league. He believed that was never going to happen for him in Seattle.

"Because of the market being way out there, people never noticed me," said Lucas, who has the Superman logo tattooed on his arm and personalized "Super Luc" plates on his Bentley.

"I like to think I can do some extraordinary things on the field and I want people to recognize the things that I do. I didn't want to play in this league and be just another guy who had an opportunity to play. I want to be one of the Hall of Famers when my career is over. I want to be great."

The Panthers believed he had that potential, uncharacteristically splurging on a \$13 million signing bonus to lock him up almost as soon as free agency opened. Carolina has traditionally been conservative when it comes to spending under coach John Fox, pursuing only players he believes will make an immediate and powerful impact.

Lucas has more than delivered.

"He came in and gave us stability on one side of the field, where we can say we've got a shutdown corner," defensive tackle Brentson Buckner said. "We've got a physical guy that can play the pass and play the run."

Lucas had six interceptions during the regular season, then added another two in playoff wins over the New York Giants and Chicago. But his best work is done defending the opponents' top receiver, a situation he showed he thrives in during an early season win over Arizona.

After Cardinals receiver Larry Fitzgerald torched the Panthers on six catches for 106 yards and a touchdown in the first half of their Oct. 9 game, Lucas asked Carolina's coaching staff to switch assignments so he could cover Fitzgerald.

Payton named Saints head coach

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The latest Bill Parcells protege to get an NFL head coaching job is Sean Payton. The New Orleans Saints are hoping he can be as good a turnaround specialist as his mentor.

Payton, a Dallas Cowboys assistant the past three seasons, was introduced Wednesday as the Saints' new head coach, inheriting a team that won three times last season and played all its games on the road because of Hurricane Katrina.

Payton, 42, is taking on his first head coaching job. In Dallas, he worked with quarterbacks and also held the title of assistant head coach. Before that, he was a New York Giants assistant, a stint that included that team's NFC championship in 2000.

Payton succeeds Jim Haslett, whose tenure lasted six years. The Saints went 3-13 in 2005, but were a .500 team during Haslett's first five seasons combined. The victories include the team's only playoff win.

Payton, the Saints' 14th head coach, acknowledged the problems caused by Katrina — for the team and the New Orleans area.

"Obviously 2005 was a traumatic year for this area, it was a tough time for this team. I hope that in some small way the effort of this team in 2006 and beyond will represent this city and this region well," Payton said.

"Some people would say: 'Stay in Dallas. The situation there is good.' We're three-quarters of the way through



Sean Payton, right, is congratulated by Saints owner Tom Benson after being introduced as New Orleans head coach.

building a brand new house in Dallas," Payton said. "Hopefully I'm not viewed as a young, naive coach coming into a situation here. I'm excited about this opportunity. I know it's a challenge and we're going to roll our sleeves up."

Payton said being a part of the region's recovery from Katrina was more of a drawback, making the opportunity with the Saints "unique."

"We can impact people's lives in a positive way as they go through this transition,"

Payton said. "I think this area, this community, this region is tough, and our team better reflect that, too."

In addition to coaching quarterbacks, Payton had a very brief pro playing career at that position in the CFL and as a Chicago Bears replacement player during the 1987 strike.

Aaron Brooks, the Saints' starter for most of the past six seasons, had his worst season in 2005 and was benched for the final three games. If the Saints keep Brooks they would owe him about \$6.5 million in salary next season.

"I'm excited about this opportunity. I know it's a challenge and we're going to roll our sleeves up."

**Sean Payton
Saints head coach**

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NFL

Panthers and Steelers should not be a surprise

Both No. 6 seeds will play third consecutive playoff road contest

Associated Press

Only the 1985 New England Patriots have won three games on the road to get to the Super Bowl.

Don't put Pittsburgh and Carolina — both trying to accomplish the same feat — in a class with that bunch, which lost 46-10 to Chicago and became a footnote to history. They are legitimate contenders who ended up at the bottom of the seedings because of injuries and fluky plays, not because they lack ability.

Remember that the Steelers, the No. 6 seed in the AFC, are in their sixth conference title game in 12 years. The Panthers, No. 5 in the NFC, were in the Super Bowl two years ago and finished 11-5 this season, as good a record as anyone in the NFC but the Seahawks.

In fact, a Super Bowl between two wild-card teams wouldn't be a huge surprise — it would hardly be a shock if the Steelers win Sunday in Denver and the Panthers win in Seattle.

A lot of it has to do with the coaches.

John Fox of the Panthers was the Giants' defensive coordinator when they got to the Super Bowl in 2001 and is 4-1 in the postseason with Carolina. His offensive coordinator is Dan Henning, a head coach with Atlanta (1983-86) and San Diego (1989-91), but also a former assistant under Joe Gibbs with Super Bowl winners in Washington.

What they've done in two games might even be called astounding: shutting out a top offense and moving at ease through a top defense.

Even New York's Tiki Barber, who normally is careful with his comments, noted (correctly) how badly Carolina outcoached the Giants in the Meadowlands, blanking an offense that had scored 421 points in the regular season, third most in the league.

Then the Panthers went to Chicago, scored 29 points and put up 434 yards on what all season had been the NFL's best defense. That was against Coach of the Year Lovie Smith, as Henning and Jake Delhomme exploited defensive weaknesses that no one else seemed able to find.

Pittsburgh?

Cowher takes a lot of heat for four title-game losses at home. But maybe his critics should note that it takes a good coach to get that far six times in 12 seasons.

The defensive schemes cooked up by Cowher and coordinator Dick LeBeau, another former head coach, had Peyton Manning rattled and out of sync for three quarters of last week's game. He couldn't decipher the blitzes and was throwing off his back foot much of the time — just like his brother Eli did with the Giants against Carolina.

Also give the Steelers credit for offensive innovation. A team committed to the run more than any team in the league, they came out throwing early against a defense stacked to stop the ground game. They jumped to a 21-3 lead and won a game that wouldn't have been close at the end if not for an egregious officiating error.

Beyond that, these are teams that at the beginning of the season were expected to be there — but seeded higher.

Pittsburgh probably would have won the AFC North had Ben Roethlisberger not been banged-up during a three-game losing streak that put their playoff chances in peril. The Panthers



Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger makes a game-saving tackle on Colts defensive back Nick Harper Jan. 15.

would have won the NFC South if not for a fluky running-into-the-kicker penalty that cost them a game against Dallas.

Also remember that both are better on the road than at home (8-2 to 5-3).

"We didn't want to go through this by choice," Pittsburgh's Hines

Ward said Wednesday. "That is how it went. Last year, we were a No. 1 seed. This year, we had to win our final four games just to get here. So we've been on a playoff mentality the last four weeks of the regular season. It's win or go home, so we've gotten used to playing with pressure."

HORSE RACING

Legendary horse rider Bailey retires after 31-year career

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jerry Bailey was thinking retirement for several years and finally, a few weeks into this season, he knew

it was time for his illustrious Hall of Fame career to come to an end.

"I still enjoy competing in the biggest races on the best horses on the biggest days," the two-

time Kentucky Derby winning rider said. "But to get to those days, there are a lot of routine days and I just didn't feel the passion I should have felt."

With that, Bailey said

Wednesday he'll retire after riding at Gulfstream Park on Jan. 28. The 48-year-old Bailey will then begin his next career as a racing analyst for ESPN and ABC Sports, where he will be part of about 20 telecasts, including the Belmont Stakes and the Breeders' Cup.

Bailey cited other reasons for his decision, "but the one that matters the most is I just really feel it's time — time to spend more time with my wife, Suzee, and my son, Justin."

And after a 31-year career, "I also want to walk away in one piece."

Bailey was scheduled to ride three or four horses on the Sunshine Millions card at Gulfstream in Hallandale Beach, Fla. A large group of family or friends will be in attendance for Bailey's farewell ride, which is expected to be aboard Silver Tree, trained by Bill Mott, who put Bailey aboard Cigar for the final 15 wins in a glorious record-tying, 16-race winning streak in 1995-96.

Bailey has been racing's top rider for nearly 15 years, usually ending up on many of the best horses in training. Among his greatest accomplishment was the campaign aboard Cigar, a two-time Horse of the Year who gave him perhaps his greatest win — the 1996 Dubai World Cup.

Winning the Kentucky Derby "is probably the pinnacle of any jockey's aspirations, but if I had to pinpoint a race for me it would be the Dubai World Cup with Cigar," he said. "Not only was it a victory for me, but I was representing the United States. It was as close to being an Olympian as I could probably ever be."

Bailey often said he didn't really love horses until he climbed aboard Cigar, and his voice seemed to quiver when he spoke of it.

"He was the most genuine, charismatic horse I think I've ever been on in my life," he said.

Bailey will become the latest Hall of Fame jockey to hang up his tack. Pat Day retired in August and Gary Stevens retired a second time in November.

Known as a fierce competitor and for being well prepared for every race, Bailey will depart as a seven-time Eclipse Award winner and the nation's second-leading money earner behind Day. Bailey, with 5,890 wins through Tuesday, has earned close to \$296 million; Day retired with nearly \$298 million.

"What's great about Bailey is he rode like he was still 25," trainer Bobby Frankel said. "He wasn't scared. I was impressed the way he'd go through holes with no fear. And he came into the paddock before the race well prepared. He knew exactly what was going on — he'd handicap the horses and the jockeys."

Some of Frankel's biggest wins came with Bailey in the saddle — the 2003 Belmont Stakes with Empire Maker, the 2002 Travers with Medaglia d'Oro, and the 2001 Breeders' Cup Sprint with Squirrel Squirrel.

Bailey, who rode primarily in New York, won the Derby with Sea Hero in 1993 and Grindstone in 1996. He also won the Preakness twice and the Belmont Stakes twice — his win aboard Empire Maker spoiled Funny Cide's bid for the Triple Crown.

He won his record 15th Breeders' Cup race on Oct. 29 at Belmont Park, taking the Breeders' Cup Classic aboard Saint Liam, who is expected to be named Horse of the Year at Monday's Eclipse Awards dinner. Bailey has won the Classic a record five times.



University Resources for Gay, Lesbian, & Bisexual Students

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University Counseling Center

(Individual counseling)

Contact: Dr. Maureen Lafferty at Lafferty.3@nd.edu

For more information, check out our web site: <http://www.nd.edu/~scglsn/>

Hockey

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"If you're going to have success on the road it boils down to goaltending, special teams and being better defensively," the coach said.

According to Jackson, the Irish also play well on the road because they are naturally a conservative team, which helps in hostile environments.

"We're more of a defensive team," he said. "We pretty much play road hockey at home."

But there's more to a road game than on-ice strategy. The bus trip to Marquette, Mich. for the contest against the Wildcats will take nine hours. The Irish let early this morning, will play Friday and Saturday nights, and then drive through the early morning hours Sunday to arrive back in South Bend about 9 a.m. Notre Dame then has to turn around and do it again on the trip to Columbus next week.

Still, Jackson said things could be worse.

"It'll definitely impact us, but Ohio State's playing in Fairbanks (Alaska) this weekend," he said.

Alaska-Fairbanks has been a member of the CCHA, which includes mostly Midwestern schools, since 1995-96. Notre Dame will face the Nanooks in South Bend Feb. 24-25, but the Irish do not have to travel to Fairbanks this year.

Aside from long trips and hostile fans, an opponent's ice can even be a different size. The NCAA does not regulate ice size, so it varies between the NHL standard of 180 by 90 feet and the Olympic standard of 200 by 100 feet. The Joyce Center's ice is NHL sized, as are most CCHA rinks, but the Nanooks and Wildcats both play on Olympic ice and the OSU Ice Rink in Columbus



JENNIFER KANG/The Observer
Junior defenseman Wes O'Neill, right, and sophomore right winger Mark Van Guilder celebrate against Bowling Green Nov. 11.

features a long and thin 200 by 85 ice sheet.

"We're more of a defensive team. We pretty much play road hockey at home."

Jeff Jackson
Notre Dame coach

"[Olympic ice] makes a profound impact on the game," Jackson said. "If you're not accustomed to playing on it, it makes it difficult. That was kind of what we went through at Colorado College [in

October] and Mankato was an Olympic sheet too."

Jackson said larger ice can effect both offensive and defensive hockey.

"It spreads out the ice offensively so sometimes you don't

get as good of scoring chances because you're too wide," he said. "So it has an impact on things like protecting the puck offensively, but it also stretches you out defensively."

The coach said he's told his team the best way to deal with the different ice is to play like nothing has changed.

"You have to play the game like you're on a normal rink," Jackson said. "You can't get decoyed by the wider ice."

The Wildcats are 13-8-1 and 9-8-1 in the CCHA, good enough for second place. The Buckeyes are 11-9-4 and 7-7-2, sixth in the CCHA.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

Upset

continued from page 24

able to stay focused and disciplined throughout the game, allowing the Britons only four trips to the foul line and forcing turnovers — including multiple traveling penalties on Albion.

"The most important part of our win today was our intensity, our man-to-man intensity," Bender said. "We really stepped in our man-to-man defense today."

The Saint Mary's offense also showed great discipline, working the shot clock down to under 10 seconds in many of their possessions, while never receiving a shot clock violation.

Saint Mary's led throughout the entire game despite going on any significant runs. Instead, they were consistent on offense and were able to buckle down and make key defensive stops when needed. The Belles' ability to control the game on both sides of the ball helped them lead throughout the game.

Another key factor in the game was the ability of both teams to shoot from three-

point range. Britons guard Megan Seely led the second half, hitting five 3-pointers. But senior guard Bridget Boyce answered almost every time adding 14 points, including four 3-pointers, and helped the Belles stay in front.

With the upset of now Albion (12-5, 4-4), the Belles are now 7-10 overall and 5-3 in the MIAA. More importantly, this was the first home win for Saint Mary's since Dec. 7 and was the sort of victory that Coach Bender will be able to use to motivate his team for the rest of the season.

"This was a really big win, and the biggest win we've had at home in a very long time," said Bender.

"The most important part of our win today was our intensity."

Steve Bender
Saint Mary's coach

"We really stepped in our man-to-man defense today."

Steve Bender
Belles coach

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

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NBA

James blows chance to be hero

Associated Press

DENVER — LeBron James grabbed the rebound but not the moment.

James pulled down his own missed free throw — which he purposely misfired with .6 seconds left — and drew another foul with Cleveland trailing Denver by two points Wednesday night.

After swishing his first foul shot, he missed his second and Alan Henderson's tip-in bounced out at the buzzer, leaving the Nuggets to celebrate a 90-89 victory over the Cavaliers on Wednesday night.

"It just didn't go down," a crestfallen James said. "I shot it just like I shoot any other free throw, I just missed it. We have to move on. Everything that happened here tonight, I blame myself. When we win, I get the credit, when we lose I take the blame for it, it's just another loss."

"I'm the leader of this team and I failed to make plays down the stretch. I'm the leader and I'm supposed to make plays down the stretch, and we lost. So put it on me."

James finished with 24 points but the Cavs lost their fifth straight, including the first four on their Western trip.

Carmelo Anthony and Earl Boykins led the Nuggets with 17 points each and Kenyon Martin and Eduardo Najera each scored 16. Martin also



Cavaliers guard LeBron James reacts to missing a free throw that would have sent Wednesday's game to overtime.

grabbed a season-best 17 rebounds.

Anthony did have one very huge basket, as usual.

He zipped past Ira Newble for a dunk that gave Denver an 89-87 lead with 21 seconds left. Eduardo Najera stole the ball at the other end and had a chance to seal it when he was fouled by Eric Snow with 4.6 seconds left, but he missed his second shot, leaving Cleveland down 90-87 with a chance to send the game into overtime with a 3-pointer.

Andre Miller fouled James

before he could set up for a three, and James made his first shot, then purposefully misfired his second and grabbed his own rebound while Martin got whistled for the foul.

"It was a perfect miss," James said. "That sounds crazy, but I missed it perfectly, and I followed it and got fouled, and we were in a position to go to OT, but I lost the game for us. I've never practiced that but I know how to hit the back of the rim and make it pop out."

Season

continued from page 24

through a series of mid-set lead changes in the fourth to force a deciding set.

In the fifth set, played to 15, Wisconsin took a 14-8 lead with kill No. 22 by junior Badger Maria Carlini. Brewster cut the lead to five with kill No. 17 on the night for her, but the Irish comeback was short-lived.

Senior Meg Henican hit the right side of the net on the ensuing serve, and Wisconsin advanced the round of eight, where it fell to eventual champion Washington in straight sets.

Brewster said the sixth-seeded Irish though they could win but made no expectations of doing so.

"Every team is competing like they have to win every set, so they have to play their best," she said. "In volleyball, any given team can beat anyone on a given night."

The Badgers main advantage all night was the play of their defense. Wisconsin outblocked Notre Dame 18.5 to 12 and held the Irish to hit-

ting .179.

Brewster, the Irish team leader on the court, said she ended her career on a high note, despite the loss.

"We did well against some really good teams," she said. "Overall, I was very fortunate. ... I had phenomenal teammates."

The loss snapped a six-game team winning streak against ranked opponents and ended a season which saw a talented group of seniors lead the Irish to some of their best rankings ever.

Brewster, Notre Dame's first ever volleyball All American, knows that her graduation from the program marks a leadership transition for the team. She said she has the utmost confidence in the underclassmen on the team, and she sees a bright future for Irish volleyball.

"They're getting a great recruiting class," she said. "Our freshmen will be really good."

Contact Ken Fowler and Chris Khorey at kfowler@nd.edu and khorey@nd.edu

"Every team is competing like they have to win every set, so they have to play their best."

Lauren Brewster
Irish captain

"We were excited to make it past the second round. We would have liked to go farther, but just being in the NCAA tournament is exciting."

Lauren Brewster
Irish captain



Academic Freedom and Catholic Character Address and Discussion

By Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.

Please plan to join Fr. Jenkins for his address to the Notre Dame community on the issue of academic freedom and our Catholic character. A period of questions and comments will follow.

Faculty: Monday, January 23, 2006, at 4:30 p.m.
in the Leighton Concert Hall,
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

Students: Tuesday, January 24, 2006, at 12:30 p.m.
in Washington Hall.



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DUSTY MENNELA/The Observer
Junior midfielder Greg Dalby works the ball on Aug. 20 against New Mexico. Dalby was recently named an All-American.

Dalby

continued from page 24

receive three first-team honors in the same season and only the second in the team's history to earn the first-team distinction by the NSCAA and College Soccer News.

The All-American honors come on the heels of an outstanding season for Dalby in the Irish midfield, where he tallied two goals and an assist. As a tri-captain, he helped lead Notre Dame to its third appearance in the NCAA tournament round of 16 after a 2-0 upset win over two-time defending champion Indiana before falling 1-0 to Clemson.

"He doesn't say 'do as I say' but 'do what I do,'" Clark said of Dalby's leadership style. "Everyone listens to him. He's got a quiet, commanding style. He's not a shouter. He's not scared to make his points. He's not scared to stand up to anyone or anything if he thinks its right."

Dalby's also was chosen to captain the U.S. Under-20 team this summer in the FIFA World Youth Championships in Holland.

Clark said Dalby's appointment of leadership on the select team complete with future professionals was a sign of the great respect his midfielder receives from the nation's soccer elite.

"You don't get these kind of honors if you're not a good player," Clark said. "That's a clear indication of the type of player he is."

And don't expect Dalby to disappoint when the 2006 season comes around. The senior-to-be is on the top of his game, but Clark believes that there is always room for improvement.

"When you stop getting better, it's time to hang it up," Clark said. "The type of person Greg is, he's always going to be looking for ways to improve. He has the potential to play in the pro game."

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

Trophy

continued from page 24

that will make anyone around her better," Thorlakson said. "She's a world-class type of player. She can create something out of nothing every time."

Sinclair finished the season with 39 goals, two more than SMU's Lisa Cole in 1987. She added 10 assists to lead the nation with 88 points.

Both Thorlakson and Sinclair are already members of the Canadian national team and have indicated their intention to play on a more regular basis with the team after their college careers. Sinclair has already amassed 53 goals for Canada's World Cup team, the second highest total in the country's history.

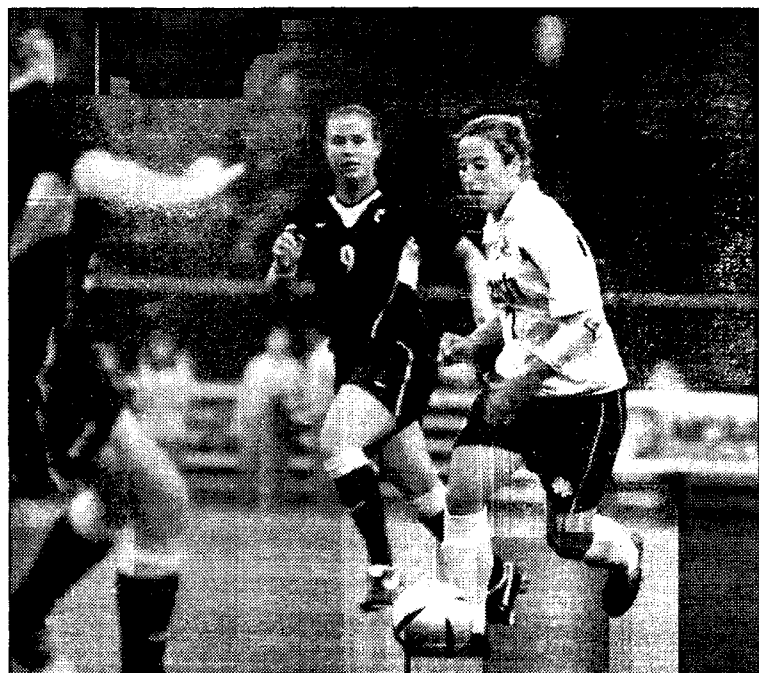
"It's exciting playing against her too because I got to play with my ND team, but playing with her for Canada is really fun," Thorlakson said.

Notre Dame's senior forward was one of three finalists, joining Sinclair and Penn State's Tiffany Weimer for a press conference and banquet at the Missouri Athletic Club in downtown St. Louis.

Last season, Thorlakson won player-of-the-year awards from several national publications but was not among the Club's three final-

"It's just a really great honor for me, especially to be [a finalist] with a Canadian teammate."

Katie Thorlakson
Irish forward



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer
Senior forward Katie Thorlakson attempts to dribble past two defenders in a Sept. 23 game against Cincinnati.

ists.

This year, Irish coach Randy Waldrum accompanied the senior to St. Louis and spoke about her career to the crowd.

Thorlakson said the most poignant part of Waldrum's speech was when he mentioned her ankle sprain at the beginning of a national soccer camp her senior year in high school. Waldrum had only seen her play for a few minutes but nonetheless offered Thorlakson a spot on

the Irish roster.

Four years later, both were happy with the decision. Thorlakson said her invitation to the awards ceremony is a testament to Notre Dame's success given the quality of other finalists.

"It's just a really great honor for me," Thorlakson said, "especially to be [a finalist] with a Canadian teammate."

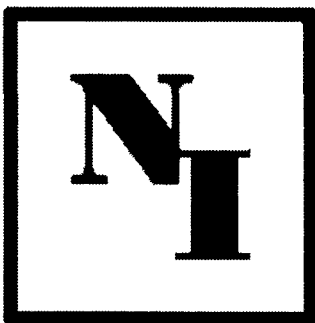
Thorlakson said there would be no hard feelings between herself and Sinclair.

"At the end of the day, Christine's a great player, and everyone looks up to her," she said.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler@nd.edu

The Nanovic Institute for European Studies offers the following Undergraduate Travel Grants and Internships for Summer 2006

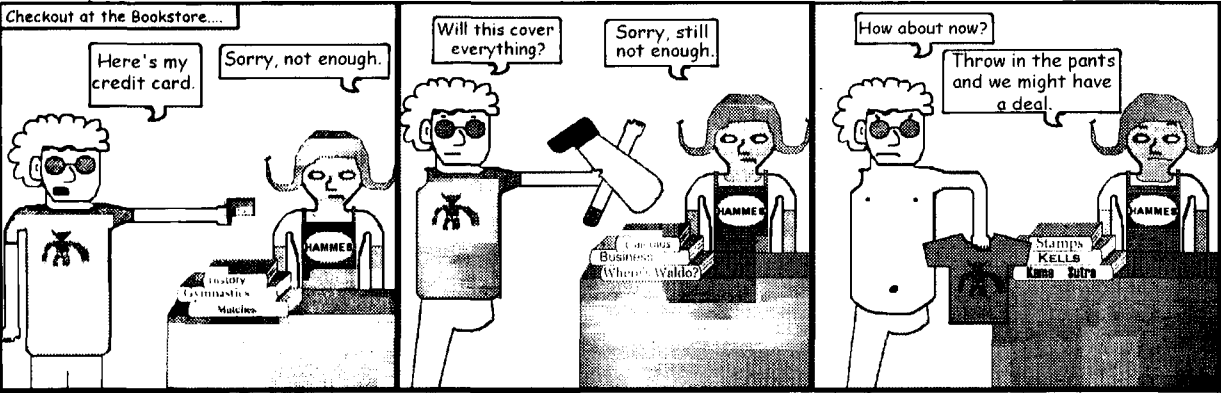
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JOCKULAR

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.

SESMY

PRAAK

QUILOR

ANSAUE

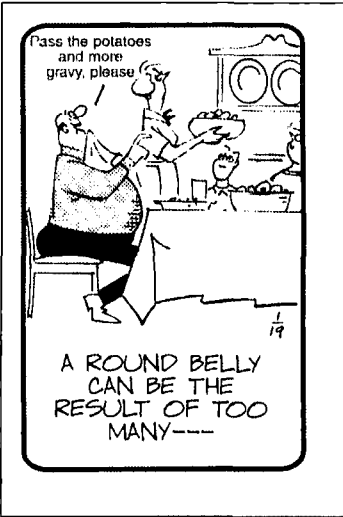
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans: _____

Answers tomorrow

Yesterday's Jumbles: TRUTH EXILE HEIFER PROFIT

Answer: What innning did they pass the bottle around? — THE "FIFTH"



CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**

1 Hate or fear follower

5 Accra's land

10 Held up

14 Actress Skye

15 Like some beans

16 Golf club

17 Pen denizens

18 Jumped between electrodes

19 Retin-A treats it

20 Jungle crusher

22 Hostile incursion

24 Line C, maybe, in a voting booth: Abbr.

25 Bullet point

26 Quaint contraction

29 All there is

33 Fish in a John Cleese film
- 34 Inner: Prefix

35 It may follow a cut

36 Justice Fortas

37 Athrob

40 Badge issuer, for short

41 Kind of crime

43 Court statement

44 Phantom's haunt

46 Ready to freak out, maybe

48 Stable parents

49 Pencil-and-paper game

50 Brain scan: Abbr.

51 Response to "Gracias"

54 Brezhnev's successor

59 Scads

60 Busey and Coleman
- DOWN**

1 Santa _____

2 "Tell me more"

3 Sicilian city

4 Cancel

5 Thou

6 Source of a thundering sound

7 Chad's place

8 Family tree word

9 Ell, maybe

10 Moved like army ants

11 Bonkers

12 Mrs. Chaplin

13 Joined at the altar

21 Draft status?

23 Calif. neighbor

25 _____ rubber

26 Mop wielders

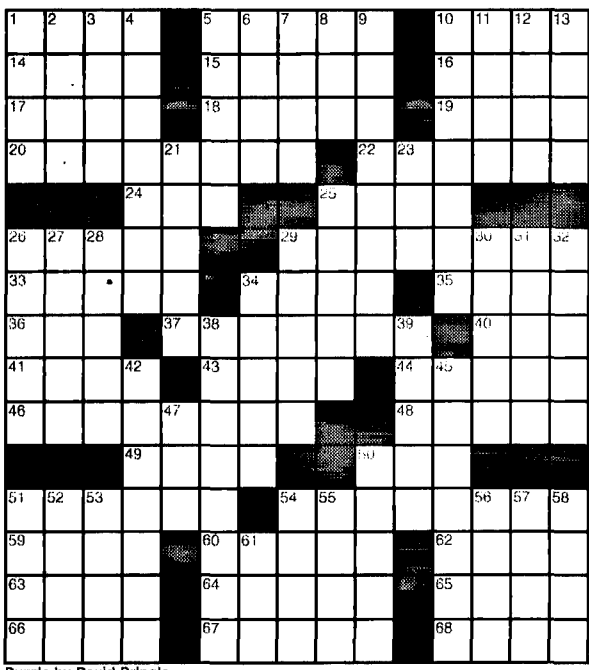
27 Something to kick

28 Lend _____ (listen)

29 Still not happy

30 Direct elsewhere

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



Puzzle by David Pringle

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: Mark Messier, 45; Kevin Costner, 51; Bobby Goldsboro, 65; Jesse L. Martin, 37

Happy Birthday: You may be tempted to help someone out for the wrong reasons this year. Don't lend someone money or even your time before you take care of your own business. The opportunity to do something that you've always wanted to pursue is now -- stop thinking about it and go for it. Your numbers are 12, 19, 22, 36, 42, 48

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Consider the promise you made yourself at the beginning of the year. If you haven't stuck to it, take the time to get back on track. Don't let other people's agendas take precedence. Stick to your game plan. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't wait for others to do things for you. Take the initiative and you will get results. Today is not about standing in someone else's shadow. A connection can be made with someone professionally and personally important. *****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You may be led astray by someone who has his or her own motives. This is not a good time to spend money or to try to make personal or physical changes. A fast decision will be based on false information. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Home will be where the heart is today. You should make a few adjustments to your surroundings that will make you more comfortable. Take the time to deal with someone you love in a positive way. You will avoid unnecessary upset later. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't even think about taking a break. You have to put your heart and soul into a job that requires your undivided attention. By following through with a business plan, you will get things moving in a positive direction. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You really should be on vacation or at least doing something you enjoy today. Time spent with children, family, friends or your lover will be worth its weight in gold. This is a perfect day to make adjustments to your life. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You are likely to be ridiculed for whatever you try to do around the house today. Money matters can be resolved and making a change to one of your investments will be wise. Renovations may cause some worry. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get on top of things, especially partnerships. You can win in the end if you are articulate in the way you describe your plans. Your position must not change, regardless of the circumstances. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): It may be difficult for you to keep what you are trying to do a secret but you will stand a better chance of accomplishing your goals if you do. Someone will cause trouble if you are too trusting or open. **

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You see it, you want it, you take it. That should be the flavor of the day. Rethink why you have been watching out for everyone else. Don't forget to make special plans late in the day. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't believe everything you hear. Someone may be trying to convince you of something by being complimentary. Steer clear of overindulgent people and distance yourself from a partner who has caused you grief in the past. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Listen to someone who is fighting for a good cause. You may want to join in. Getting involved will take your mind off your own problems and the changes taking place in your life. Develop one of your many talents. ***

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, caring and a do-gooder. You are a problem-solver. You are a thinker and a reactionary who is responsible and reliable.

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

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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The Observer

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SOCCER

Critically acclaimed

Dalby first Irish mens player named to three All-American teams

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

The accolades continue to pile up for Irish junior Greg Dalby, and no one is more proud — or less surprised — than Notre Dame coach Bobby Clark.

Less than a month after being named a first-team All-American by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, Dalby was selected to both the College Soccer News and SoccerTimes.com first-team All-American teams on Jan. 10.

"I'd be disappointed if he wasn't [selected]," Clark said. "That would have been my reaction. I hope I don't take him for granted, because I kind of expected him to."

Dalby was not available for comment Wednesday.

He is the first Notre Dame men's soccer player to ever

see DALBY/page 22



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Left, junior midfielder Greg Dalby dribbles the ball on Nov. 18 against Western Illinois. Right, senior forward Katie Thorlakson winds in a Nov. 18 game against Yale.

Thorlakson finishes second in Hermann Trophy standings

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

Christine Sinclair topped Katie Thorlakson yet again, but Notre Dame's most prolific postseason scorer won't hold a grudge.

Sinclair, the Portland senior who set the NCAA record for goals in a season while leading her team to the national championship in December, took home the nation's most prestigious player-of-the-year award for the second consecutive season — a month and a half after the Pilots topped the Irish 3-1 in the NCAA quarter-finals.

Thorlakson congratulated Sinclair on capturing another Hermann Trophy and said she was eager to play alongside her fellow native of British Columbia in international competition.

"She's the type of player

see TROPHY/page 22

ND VOLLEYBALL

Notre Dame falls to Wisconsin in 3rd round

By KEN FOWLER and
CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writers

Despite a loss to Wisconsin in the third round of the NCAA Tournament, Notre Dame captured final rankings

of No. 12 in the CSTV/AVCA Coaches' Poll and No. 11 in the Molten/Volleyball Magazine Top 25, matching the team's best ranking in the history of each poll.

"We were excited to make it past the second round," senior co-captain Lauren

Brewster said. "We would have liked to go farther, but just being in the NCAA tournament is exciting."

After struggling mightily against unranked Dayton in the first round of the tournament and taking out Northwestern in three close

sets in the second, the Irish lost a back-and-forth, 3-2 third-round match to the Badgers in College Station, Tex. on Dec. 9. Only one of the five sets saw a lead change, but the teams alternated set wins.

The Badgers staked the

early lead, besting the Irish 30-25 in set one, but Notre Dame returned the favor with a two-point victory in the second set. Wisconsin scored another relatively easy win in set three, but the Irish fought

see SEASON/page 21

HOCKEY

Irish preparing for four-game road trip

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

After playing in front of their first home sellout of the season Saturday, the Irish will spend their next two weekends away from home, with trips to Northern Michigan and Ohio State.

Notre Dame (7-12-3, 5-8-3 in the CCHA) is just 2-5-2 away from the Joyce Center this year, but the Irish are unbeaten in their last three road contests,

posting a 2-0-1 mark against Nebraska-Omaha and Minnesota State-Mankato.

"Just as the rest of our game has improved over the year our road games have improved too," Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson said about the team's turnaround on the road.

Jackson said the improvement has to do with better play from Irish goaltender Dave Brown and Notre Dame's special teams.

see ROAD/page 20

SMC BASKETBALL

Kessler leads Belles to upset win

Strong defensive play brings SMC victory

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

Allison Kessler went from being Saint Mary's backup point guard to its hero in the span of one half.

With 22 seconds left in the game, Kessler made two foul shots to cement the 55-51 upset of the Albion Britons. Albion guard Kellyn Glynn made a 3-pointer nine seconds earlier to bring the Britons to within two points,

but Kessler's free throws put the game out of reach.

Kessler stepped up for Saint Mary's, replacing

starting point guard Bridget Lipke, who left the game with 17:30 left in the second half with a leg injury.

Kessler led all scorers with 19 points, and grabbed three rebounds.

Lipke, despite having only

2 points and 2 rebounds in the first half, leads the team at the point and directs the offense.

"Allison has the heart of a champion," Belles head coach Steve Bender said. "We lost Bridget [Lipke] and were still able to win somehow."

Saint Mary's defensive intensity was visible for the entire game. Playing predominantly man-to-man, the Belles forced bad shots and out-rebound the Britons 18-10 in the first half.

Moreover, the Belles were

see UPSET/page 20



Kessler

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

NFL

The Pittsburgh Steelers and Carolina Panthers are both better than their No. 6 seeds indicate.

page 19

NFL

Sean Payton, who coached in Dallas under Bill Parcells, was named coach of the New Orleans Saints on Wednesday.

page 18

NFL

Carolina defensive back Ken Lucas will return to Seattle for the NFC championship game, the team he played with for four years.

page 18

NFL

Sources told the Associated Press that Rod Marinelli will be named head coach of the Detroit Lions.

page 17

NCAA BASKETBALL

**Duke 81
N.C. State 68**

Duke guard J.J. Redick scored 28 points, and Sheldon Williams added 21 in the win.

page 16

NBA

**Nets 101
76ers 90**

New Jersey guard Vince Carter led the team with 31 points.

page 14