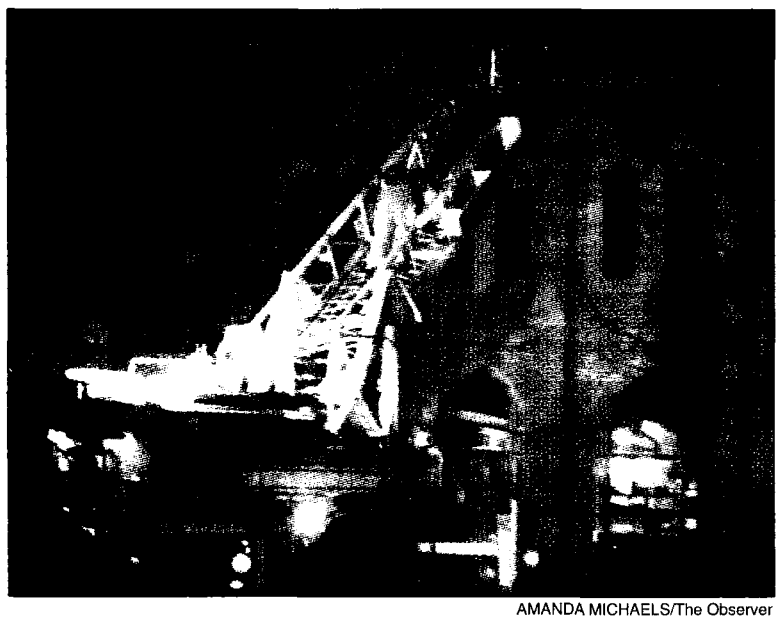
THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 40 : ISSUE 110 MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2006 NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Reckers heats up early Saturday



AMANDA MICHAELS/The Observer

A fireman climbs the ladder to the roof of South Dining Hall to assess damages after a small fire began in Reckers Saturday morning.

By AMANDA MICHAELS
News Editor

Emergency crews were dispatched to South Dining Hall in the early hours of Saturday morning after flames and smoke were reported to be coming out of the chimney connected to Reckers, the 24-hour eatery attached to the back of the building.

There were no injuries, and the building sustained minimal damage, Notre Dame Fire Department (NDFD) Captain Tim Hoeppner said on the scene Saturday.

Hoeppner said NDFD received a call from concerned Reckers staff between 3 a.m. and 3:15 Saturday, and sent a unit to investigate claims of "flames coming from the roof."

Hoeppner said the building's fire alarm was tripped soon thereafter, when firefighters were already responding to the situation.

Once NDFD confirmed the fire, it called in the South Bend Fire Department (SBFD) for additional support, Hoeppner said. According to Hoeppner, SBFD came with three fire engines — including two ladder trucks — an ambulance, a fire chief and a safety officer. One ladder truck was used to approach the fire from the outside, Hoeppner said, while two crews approached the situation from inside the building.

Notre Dame Security/Police officers were also on the scene, and the presence of a unit from the South Bend Police

see FIRE/page 3

Student's condition improves

Eric Morin begins to recover from fall

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Editor

One week after suffering a serious fall in Naples, Italy, Notre Dame junior Eric Morin's condition has improved, University spokesman Dennis Brown said Sunday.

Morin suffered a fractured skull and bleeding in the brain March 19 after a "serious accident" while studying architecture sites in Naples as part of a multiple-city class trip through the School of Architecture Rome Studies Program.

"Eric's condition has significantly improved, and, while he no longer is in intensive care, his condition is serious," Brown said in an e-mail. He declined to provide information on the extent of Morin's injuries or the specifics of the accident that caused them.

Morin remained hospitalized in Naples Sunday. His parents flew to Naples last Monday from their hometown of Edina, Minn. to be with him.

"His family is grateful for the assistance and prayers offered on his behalf," Brown said. "They particularly appreciate the assistance offered by [architecture professor and director of the Rome Studies Program] Samir Younes."

Junior Cailin Shannon, who

see MORIN/page 4

Architecture students learn from devastation

By PETER NINNEMAN
News Writer

Eleven Notre Dame fourth-year design studio students truly received a hands-on education in January when they traveled with architecture professors Philip Bess and Al DeFrees to the Mississippi towns of Biloxi and D'Iberville.

Bess, director of the Notre Dame graduate program in architecture, said the Congress for New Urbanism in Mississippi, a non-profit organization based in Chicago, met in October of last year and produced "master plans" for rebuilding 11 towns along the Mississippi coast ravaged by Hurricane Katrina.

He and his students worked at sites in two of those 11 towns.

"We took those master plans that were produced in four or five days and made proposals for buildings on those sites in accordance with the master plans," Bess said. "We fleshed them out."

Bess said he believes the trip was important for the students for two reasons — the did receive not only valuable real world experience, but were also able to see the human value of their work.

"I think it was a good experience for the students to go work in the context of a real site, particularly one in which there's so much devastation, and they realized that what they do is so important to people," Bess said. "We were treated with great hospitality. Everyone was very grateful for our efforts ... and I think

see PROJECT/page 4

Photo courtesy of Philip Bess

Fourth-year architecture students surveyed damage to buildings like this casino barge in Biloxi, Miss. in January.

Weekend attracts top prospects

Talented applicants enjoy campus life prior to committing to ND

By KAITLYNN RIELY
News Writer

With other top schools like Princeton, Harvard and Yale knocking down talented high school seniors' doors, Notre Dame Admissions officers, professors and even current students spent the past weekend encouraging 85 of the most accomplished of the admitted students of the class of 2010 to commit to the University.

The goal of the Reilly Visitation Weekend is to bring the premier students of the early action acceptance

see REILLY/page 8

PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Professor Neil Delaney talks to Reilly Visitation students about the University's Honors Program as part of the weekend's events.

Dreams really do come true for ND students

By JOE PIARULLI
News Writer

If you attend Notre Dame, now might be a good time to call your parents and tell them to pinch themselves.

According to a recent nationwide survey conducted by The Princeton Review entitled "Hopes and Worries," parents of college applicants ranked Notre Dame fourth among "dream colleges" they would want their children to attend, placing the University behind Princeton, Stanford and Harvard.

The ranking is the highest Notre Dame has received since the survey first began in 2003. In all previous years, the University ranked eighth — though 2005 was the first year the survey separated parents' dream schools from those of their children.

Notre Dame did not rank in the top 10 for the 3,890 high school students surveyed. The No. 1 college named by students was New York University.

According to Director of Admissions Daniel Saracino, the positive results for the University are far from

see DREAMS/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

NCAA Men of Genius

Greg Arbogast

Sports Writer

Last Thursday night's round of Sweet 16 games was just ridiculous. Between Duke forgetting to box out, Texas' prayer being answered and Adam Morrison flat out losing it after Gonzaga's heartbreaking defeat, there was plenty to keep viewers entertained.

Yet, there was something other than all the dramatics that stuck in my mind. After Kenton Paulino sank his buzzer beater that put Texas through to the Elite 8, the obligatory pile-on ensued.

The funny thing, though, was the first person to reach that pile-on. It wasn't A.J. Abrams, who had passed the ball to Paulino right before his shot. It wasn't LaMarcus Aldrige, who had carried Texas with 26 points. In fact, it wasn't even a player who was on the court at the time.

The first person to reach the Paulino was some skinny sub-six-foot white kid still wearing his warm-ups. Why in the world was he that excited? It was obvious he hadn't played a single minute all game. I'll even go out on a limb and say he made no contribution whatsoever to Texas' win over West Virginia. Yet there he was, celebrating like this was the defining moment of his career.

The more I thought about it, though, the more I realized that the behavior of "Mr. Anonymous Texas player" wasn't really that uncommon. We see bench-warmers make fools of themselves all the time in the NCAA tournament.

When the game is on the line, he's the guy on the bench who looks more nervous than the guy standing at the free throw line. During a timeout, he's always the first guy off the bench rushing to high five and re-hydrate their teammates. And you can take it to the bank that when a game winning shot is made, he will be the guy who completely loses it during the celebration.

Is it just me or are these guys straight out of a Real Men of Genius commercial? Wait just one second! That's it. How have those marketing geniuses at Bud Light not come up with this idea yet? Well then, I guess I'll have to go ahead and do it for them. Call it my ode to the benchwarmer.

Bud Light presents Real Men of Genius
(Real Men of Genius)
Today we salute you, Mr. NCAA Tournament Benchwarmer Guy.
(Mr. NCAA Tournament Benchwarmer Guy)
5'11," 165 pounds, and without a speck of basketball ability. You can't dunk, but what you lack in athleticism, you make up for with something no coach can teach … enthusiasm.
(Oh yeah!)
You spend the entire game in your warm-ups. Why? Because you know you have about as much chance of playing as that tuba player in the fifth row.
(Blow on that tuba)
But do you let that stop you from making an idiot of yourself on the end of the bench? No, sir. And when your team scores that basket to take their crucial 8-6 lead, you'll be there.
(That's a two-point lead)
So crack open an ice-cold Bud Light, O pioneer of the pine. Because this time, we'll be the ones cheering for you.

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogas@nd.edu

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

CORRECTIONS

Due to an editorial error, Saint Mary's College President Carol Ann Mooney's name was misspelled in a pull quote in the the March 23 edition of The Observer.

Due to a reporting error, an article in the March 22 edition of The Observer stated that one third of ACE acceptances were Notre Dame students. In fact, Notre Dame students were one half of all ACE acceptances.

The Observer regrets the errors.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: *WAS NOTRE DAME YOUR DREAM SCHOOL? WHY OR WHY NOT?*

Erin O'Neill
sophomore
Lyons

"With a name like Erin O'Neill, how could I not go somewhere Irish?"

Elizabeth Elliott
sophomore
Welsh Family

"It was, until I found out Ben Clarke was going here."

Ben Clarke
sophomore
O'Neill

"Yes, because Elizabeth Elliott was coming here."

Mark Hinken
freshman
Alumni

"No, it's not, because it's in South Bend."

Alan Bauer
sophomore
Fisher

"Yeah. If I didn't come here, I'd be a failure to my family."

Victor Villarreal
junior
Fisher

"I dream of getting out of here."

KRISTY KING/The Observer

Saint Mary's College President Carol Ann Mooney prepares to be dunked by students at Friday's Midnight Madness celebration. Students paid $1 for a chance to get various professors and administrators wet in the dunk tank.

OFFBEAT

Drunks busted — in bars

SAN ANTONIO — Texas has begun sending undercover agents into bars to arrest drinkers for being drunk, a spokeswoman for the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission said Wednesday.

The first sting operation was conducted recently in a Dallas suburb where agents infiltrated 36 bars and arrested 30 people for public intoxication, said the commission's Carolyn Beck.

Being in a bar does not exempt one from the state laws against public drunkenness, Beck said.

"We feel that the only way we're going to get at the drunk driving problem and the problem of people hurting each other while drunk is by crackdowns like this," she said.

"There are a lot of dangerous and stupid things people do when they're intoxicated, other than get behind the wheel of a car," Beck said. "People walk out into traffic and get run over, people jump off of balconies trying to reach a swimming pool and miss."

Public urination ruled illegal

SAN FRANCISCO — Emptying one's bladder in a public place is a crime, even if there is no specific law prohibiting the practice, a state appeals court ruled.

"Urination on or near a busy commercial street interferes with the comfortable enjoyment of both life and property," Presiding Justice J. Anthony Kline wrote in an opinion that concluded public peeing qualified as "a public nuisance."

"The sight and smell of urine are vile and offensive, and those who use the public streets and sidewalks cannot be freely subjected to such unpleasantness," Kline continued.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Harvard University professor Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of "A Midwife's Tale," will be giving a lecture on why **"Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History" Wednesday** at **4:30 p.m.** as part of the Provost's Distinguished Women's Lecture Series.

Internationally acclaimed **collage and montage artist Winston Smith** will be Visiting Artist in the Saint Mary's Art Department Wednesday through Friday. He will be giving a **public presentation** of his works at **7 p.m. Wednesday** in **room 232** of the **Moreau Center for the Arts**.

O'Neill Hall will host the **"O'Neill Spotlight"** — a faceoff with McGlinn — **Thursday** at **8 p.m.** The event will feature singers, comedians and dancers from O'Neill as well as karaoke and free food.

Saint Mary's seniors **Emily Fannon, Sinnamon Wolfe, Amanda Caddy and Amber Painter** will host a **senior comprehensive art gallery opening Friday** from **5 p.m. to 7** in the **Moreau Art Galleries** in the Moreau Center for the Arts. The event is free and the public is welcome to attend.

Famed Notre Dame head football coach **Lou Holtz** will give a lecture on **"Catholicism and Competition" Friday** from **7 p.m. to 8:30** in the **Stepan Center**. The event is sponsored by Student Government as part of the Catholic Think Tank of America Lecture Series. Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross students must present student ID at the door for admittance.

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

LOCAL WEATHER

	TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HIGH	53	27	45	53	65	42
LOW	35	16	35	30	40	30

Atlanta 50 / 35 **Boston** 43 / 34 **Chicago** 39/ 27 **Denver** 47 / 21 **Houston** 63 / 36 **Los Angeles** 74 / 52 **Minneapolis** 35 / 24
New York 44 / 37 **Philadelphia** 50 / 34 **Phoenix** 84 / 55 **Seattle** 54 / 45 **St. Louis** 44 / 28 **Tampa** 68 / 55 **Washington** 49 / 38

McIlduff, Siefert name Wallach chief of staff

By KELLY MEEHAN
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's student body president Susan McIlduff and student body vice president Maggie Siefert have appointed College junior Kate Wallach to serve as the Board of Governance's (BOG) next chief of staff.


Wallach

Wallach — a nursing major from Hinsdale, Ill. — is the third person to fulfill the newly created executive position. The chief of staff serves as the executive assistant to the president and vice president, meets regularly with BOG commissioners to maintain communication and helps execute goals.

McIlduff said Wallach is "extremely qualified" for the role, citing her previous contributions to student government as an example of the hard work and dedication she will bring to the position.

"She best exemplifies a Saint Mary's woman through her participation in cross-country, BOG and student role in Student Nurses' Association," McIlduff said. "She is extremely qualified in all areas — both academically and extracurricular — of Saint Mary's."

Wallach previously served as the publicity chair of the sophomore class board, and most notably as the newly created student services commissioner during her junior year. In this position she has worked to make several improvements to the campus's food services and dining options.

"I felt good placing Kate in this position because I have heard all the work she has done is above and beyond," Siefert said. "She is always trying to improve everything that needs to be improved when it comes to student services."

Wallach said she hopes to mirror the leadership of all past student leaders — not just those in the chief of staff position — to guide her in accomplishing goals.

"I think in some ways [I am] creating [my] own path, but also looking at the leadership examples of everyone else," she said.

According to McIlduff, the chief of staff will no longer have to be a part of the Student Academic Council, allowing Wallach to have more time to dedicate to being the "commissioner's cheerleader."

Wallach said she is anxiously anticipating taking over her new role, a position she had her hopes set on achieving since her sophomore year.

"I love what I do," Wallach said. "I think that so many people have ideas but most aren't willing to step up and execute them, which is something I hope to help [BOG commissioners] do."

Contact Kelly Meehan at kmeeha01@saintmarys.edu

Fire

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Department was reported, but unconfirmed.

Hoeppner said initial assessments indicated the fire originated in the chimney flue for Reckers' wood-burning oven used to make pizzas. It then spread to the ventilation equipment at the top of the chimney and remained confined in that area, he said.

Hoeppner said the fire was possibly caused by a build-up of creasote in the chimney — a common problem with wood-burning ovens. NDFD will carry out an investigation into the exact cause of the fire, Hoeppner said.

Hoeppner said Reckers had experienced a similar fire in the past, "at least a few years ago."

Paula Roberts, Reckers manager on-duty at the time, said she was made aware of the situation by students who saw sparks coming from the chimney outside.

"Inside [Reckers] there wasn't a sign that anything was wrong, it didn't smell like smoke," Roberts said. "But we went outside to see, and sure enough, there were sparks and smoke. We do get that from time to time with the pizza oven, but this did seem [excessive]."

Roberts said there were seven employees and approximately 20 students in the eatery at the time.

"The kids were so cooperative, everyone evacuated calmly. There was never any danger," she said.

Roberts and several adult employees waited outside for just over an hour until they were allowed back in the building.

"It's pretty cold out here, but I don't want to go too far away from the register," Roberts said at the time. "But these nice kids brought us jackets, so we're okay."

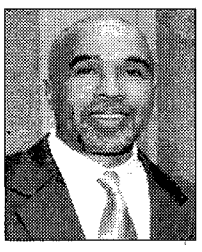
Reckers reopened Saturday with a reduced menu. Damage costs are not yet available.

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@nd.edu

Pope-Davis appointed NCAA rep

Special to The Observer

Don B. Pope-Davis, associate vice president for graduate studies and professor of psychology at the University of Notre Dame, has been appointed chair of the University's Faculty Board on Athletics and its NCAA faculty athletics representative by Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., Notre Dame's president.


Pope-Davis

"As a member of both the Faculty Board on Athletics since 2002 and the Provost Advisory Council since 2004, Don has a distinct understanding of and appreciation for the blend of athletic and academic excellence that we seek at Notre Dame," Father Jenkins said. "I am pleased that he has accepted this appointment and look forward to the leadership he will bring in this area."

Pope-Davis succeeds Fernand N. "Tex" Dutile, professor of law, who had served in both positions since 2000.

A member of the Notre Dame faculty since 2000, Pope-Davis studies in the areas of multicultural psychology, counseling and education. Specifically, he is interested in cultural and racial identity development, cultural competency training, development, and assessment. Other areas of research include multicultural supervision in professional psychology, development of multicultural measures for assessing environments and supervision, issues of mental health of people of color, and cross-cultural communications.

Pope-Davis is the co-author of three books, "Multicultural Counseling Competencies: Assessment, Education, and Supervision," "The Intersections of Race, Class, and Gender in Multicultural Counseling," and, most recently, "Handbook of Multicultural Competencies in Counseling and Psychology."

Project

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that's been imparted on our students."

Student Abbey Oklak said she received both of those benefits.

As part of the project, students talked to professionals, townspeople, Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour and people within city governments, Oklak said.

"They have so much hope for the future and they don't want to make what happened to them reflect on their future ... They want to rebuild," Oklak said. "I'm definitely more interested now in rebuilding cities ... making urban communities that can thrive."

Similar sentiments were echoed by senior Brian Settle.

"Our work in Mississippi gave us a hands-on view, and let us see the political process involved," he said. "[Just] to see the devastation was unbelievable. You don't get the same view on TV."

"[Just] to see the devastation was unbelievable. You don't get the same view on TV."

Brian Settle
senior

Since the University has "traditional urbanism" required in its curriculum and because of the history of the buildings and communities where Notre Dame's architecture students worked, Bess said they have a lot to offer that those from other schools don't.

"These were towns that were eroded by sprawl ... since World War II, and the hurricane wiped all of that out. There's an opportunity to rebuild these places similar to what they were like prior to 1945 in terms of their 'walkability' and their aesthetics," Bess said. "Notre Dame [architecture] students are good at traditional urbanism because we're one of the few schools [in the country] that has it in its curriculum."

Settle agreed that Notre Dame's architectural curriculum provided a beneficial background for approaching their projects.

"It's important for us because we want it to be ... rebuilt the right way with traditional themes. It's more beneficial for the area to be built in the way it was supposed to be to begin with," Settle said. "We learned a lot about the area and the culture, and we used [that knowledge] to design our buildings."

"Other than that, just to see the devastation was unbelievable. You don't get the same view on TV."

According to Oklak, Notre Dame's Catholic mission and economic reasons are also reasons for the involvement of Notre Dame's students and professors in the rebuilding of Biloxi and D'Iberville.

"I think that it's important for us as a Catholic university to try to better society, which involves being active when a tragedy like Hurricane Katrina happens," she said. "We have the understanding of what to do and we're free. We're free professionals basically ... They don't have to pay us."

Contact Peter Ninneman at pninnema@nd.edu

Morin

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is studying in Rome with Morin, said she became good friends with him during the last several months. She described Morin as "amazingly tough."

"The [architecture] school has been really great at keeping the other architecture students updated continually on Eric's condition — and it seems that each time doctors project a new timeline for his pace of recovery, he beats their predictions by leaps and bounds," Shannon said in an e-mail.

Shannon said the day after Morin's accident architecture students stopped mid-lecture in a Sicilian cathedral to pray for their classmate.

"A few hours later, we got word that his condition was turning for the better," she said. "And of course, that is the best remedy we can ask for of the Notre Dame family — just to keep Eric in your prayers."

Morin is a former resident of Siegfried Hall, where a mass was held for his recovery March 20. His former roommate, junior Andy Crutchfield, has been updated on Morin's condition through Siegfried rector Father John Conley.

"From what they're telling me everything's going to be perfectly fine," Crutchfield said March 23. "I'm relieved and just ... looking forward to hearing from him."

Brown said all architecture students in the Rome program were on the trip to Naples, but Morin was the only student injured.

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

French unions slow transportation

PARIS — French students and unions insisted Sunday they will go ahead with a one-day national strike and more street protests unless the government withdraws a youth labor law that has sparked violent demonstrations and shut down universities.

The strike Tuesday is expected to leave some air travelers stranded, disrupt train traffic and slow subway travel in Paris and the provinces. Union leaders said they would meet Wednesday to decide on the next step, and one threatened to extend the strike.

"If there is not a positive response from the government Tuesday night, we will continue the movement," Jean-Claude Mailly of the Workers Force union told The Associated Press.

The National Student Coordination, a loose grouping of university students, urged a big turnout for the strike and demanded the conservative government's resignation. Meeting in Aix-en-Provence, they also threatened to continue protests by blocking roads and railways Thursday.

18 killed in army mosque attack

BAGHDAD — Police and an a top aide to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr said Sunday that 18 people were killed in a clash involving U.S. and Iraqi army forces at a mosque in eastern Baghdad.

American military spokesmen said they were investigating the report.

Abdul-Zahra al-Suaidi, head of al-Sadr's office in Baghdad, said U.S. forces and Iraqi soldiers opened fire at the al-Moustafa Shiite mosque in the Ur neighborhood, killing 18 people in what he called an unprovoked attack.

NATIONAL NEWS

Preacher's wife murders husband

SELMER, Tenn. — The preacher's wife charged with murder in the death of her husband wanted his congregation to know "she was sorry for everything she has done," said a friend who visited her in jail Sunday.

Church member Pam Killingsworth visited Mary Winkler after Sunday services and said the preacher's wife gave no indication why her husband of 10 years was shot.

"She just said she was sorry and for me to write a note to the church saying that she was sorry for everything she had done," said Killingsworth as she walked away from the jail in tears.

Winkler, 32, has been charged with first-degree murder in the death of her husband, Matthew Winkler, the preacher at the Fourth Street Church of Christ in this small town 80 miles east of Memphis.

Township mourns crash victims

MONROE TOWNSHIP, N.J. — Hundreds of mourners paid tribute Saturday to 10 senior citizens who died in a Chilean bus crash.

Eli Perlman, the leader of the Jewish Congregation of Concordia, where six of the victims worshipped, recited the names of the dead. Gov. Jon S. Corzine was among the crowd.

The victims were part of a 64-member B'nai B'rith group traveling on the cruise ship Millennium. They were on an excursion on a tour bus Wednesday when it fell more than 300 feet down a mountainside.

LOCAL NEWS

Project Lifesaver tracks missing

JEFFERSONVILLE, Ind. — Some search and rescues in Clark County might become quicker and cheaper under a new program that tracks missing people using electronic bracelets that emit radio signals.

The initiative is part of a program called Project Lifesaver, which allows law enforcement agencies to locate missing people such as Alzheimer's patients or autistic children.

About 10 people around the county have been trained to operate the tracking devices.

UKRAINE

Our Ukraine wins majority vote

Viktor Yanukovych's pro-Russian party wins most votes in presidential election

Associated Press

KIEV — A pro-Russia party won the largest chunk of votes in Ukraine's parliamentary elections Sunday, nationwide exit polls indicated, dealing a stinging rebuke to President Viktor Yushchenko's West-leaning administration.

Polling stations shut after 15 hours, but voters who had waited in long lines and managed to get inside before the official closing time were allowed to cast ballots, choosing from more than 45 parties that sought seats in the 450-member parliament.

Viktor Yanukovych, a pro-Moscow opposition leader who lost to Yushchenko in the 2004 presidential election forced by the Orange Revolution street protests, declared his party the winner on Sunday.

"The Party of the Regions has won a convincing victory," Yanukovych said. "We are ready to undertake responsibility for forming the Cabinet and we are calling on everyone to join us."

The polls gave Yanukovych's party anywhere from 27.5 percent to 33 percent, followed by Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's bloc with about 23 percent, and Yushchenko's Our Ukraine bloc with between 14 percent and 16 percent.

Yushchenko's job was not at stake, but the vote was the first since constitutional reforms cut presidential powers and gave broader authority to parliament, including the right to name the prime minister and much of the Cabinet.

The Yanukovych's victory could potentially give him say over those choices, although he would not have the majority needed to act without parliamentary allies.

There were also indications Yushchenko and Tymoshenko, the flamboyant heroine of the Orange Revolution's protests, might be willing to try to patch over their differences so they could form a governing coalition.

AP

Election commission members empty a ballot box at a polling station in Kiev, Ukraine Monday. The Our Ukraine party beat the party of former Prime Minister Tymoshenko.

Yushchenko also seemed to hint he might even consider working with Yanukovych.

The president's party has suffered from disillusionment over a sharp economic slowdown and the infighting among former Orange revolution allies. But Yushchenko insisted before voting ended that no matter how his party did, the election was still a victory because it was the most democratic election ever held in Ukraine.

"I feel great. It's the kind of feeling you have before a victory," said Yushchenko. "Democratic elections always mean victory."

Yushchenko, who as president retains the right to set Ukraine's foreign policy and appoint the foreign and defense ministers, pledged the nation would continue on its Westward path.

"The vote results will have no impact whatsoever on Ukraine's foreign policy course," he told reporters.

Yanukovych, who enjoys broad support in Ukraine's Russian-speaking industrialized east and has ties to its powerful tycoons, advocates improved ties with Moscow and a halt to Ukraine's efforts to join NATO.

Yushchenko's and Tymoshenko's parties could together end up with more votes than Yanukovych's bloc, but the two had a bitter falling out when the president abruptly fired her as prime minister in September.

Ihor Prikordonny, a 68-year-old retiree, said he voted for Yushchenko's party but was against the president's striking an alliance with Yanukovych.

"Yanukovych has discredited himself and lacks education and culture," he said.

Russia, still reeling from the humiliating defeat it suffered in the 2004 presidential election when a court annulled Yanukovych's fraud-tainted victory and ordered a repeat vote, avoided direct meddling in the campaign.

The U.S. also turned its attention on Ukraine. In recent weeks, Washington adopted legislation ending Cold War-era trade restrictions on Ukraine.

Man shoots eight, commits suicide

Associated Press

SEATTLE — A man suspected of killing six young people at a house party before he turned the gun on himself was described Sunday as respectful and polite by an apartment manager.

The man committed suicide Saturday morning after police said he opened fire on young partygoers who had invited him to a private gathering following a "zombie rave" in the city's Capitol Hill neighborhood.

"This would have been so far out of character," said Jim Pickett, the assistant manager of the Town & Country Apartments, where he said the alleged gunman lived with his twin brother.

Authorities identified the alleged shooter as Aaron Kyle Huff, 28, who moved to Seattle nearly five years ago.

Montana's Flathead County sheriff's Lt. Dave Leib said he informed Huff's mother Sunday afternoon that her son was dead and was a suspect in the shootings.

Pickett said he saw the suspected gunman's brother as police searched the twins' apartment Saturday night.

"He gave a look to me like 'I don't know what's going on,'" Pickett said.

Police spokesman Sean Whitcomb confirmed that a search warrant was served Saturday evening on the block where the twins' apartment is located.

"We believe we have the suspect identified," Whitcomb said. "We are not releasing that identity because we are not 100 percent certain."

Pickett said he never saw either of the brothers with weapons.

The gunman was armed with a 12-gauge pistol-grip shotgun, a handgun and wore bandoliers of shotgun shells and additional clips for the handgun. In his truck, police found an assault rife and multiple "banana clips."

Four young men and two young women were killed, and two people were hospitalized in serious condition after the shooting.

Dream

continued from page 1

shocking.

"It's no surprise," he said. "We're always going to be up there for the same reasons you and I are here — it's just a great place."

Saracino said comparable studies have made similar conclusions. Two years ago, a survey asked high school guidance counselors "If you had to do it all over again, which school would you go to?" According to Saracino, Notre Dame was the No. 1 school — and for the right reasons.

"What's really neat and humbling is that students aren't choosing [Notre Dame] because it's in a New York or D.C. ... Kids are coming to Notre Dame because they really want to be a part of this place," he said. "Notre Dame has just got so much going for it. The place is just quietly each year getting stronger academically, and the students that come here just want to be here."

Despite Notre Dame's reputation, students nationwide are not rating the University above schools like Yale, Brown and Duke — even though their parents are, according to the survey.

"I guess for parents, they're looking at it for ... safety and in the long-term what a Notre Dame education would mean," Saracino said. "I think students don't have that perspective yet."

Freshman Dan Perkey said there are serious differences between the perspective of parents and that of students.

"Parents are looking for what will get you a good job or make you a good person," he said. "Students go after Ivy League schools, party schools and schools that are in Florida and California, depending on the person."

But Saracino said the discrepancy between students and parents is not a major issue, and the survey will not affect Notre Dame's admissions.

"We'd be most interested in surveys if it be the type of students who would be good matches for Notre Dame," he said. "What we do in admissions is not sell Notre Dame — far from it. What we do is we tell the story of Notre Dame."

The admissions numbers tell a more important story, Saracino said. The national average for yield (whether or not a student will come to a university if admitted) is around 30 percent. But Notre Dame's yield is over 50 percent, meaning most students who apply to Notre Dame really want to attend the University, Saracino said.

According to freshman Paul Oddy, Notre Dame was not just any school on his application list.

"If you really want to test yourself you'll apply to Ivy League schools just to see if you can get in," Oddy said. "For Notre Dame that doesn't really happen because people that apply here seem to apply because they have a passion for the school."

> *"What's really neat and humbling is that students aren't choosing [Notre Dame] because it's in New York or D.C. ... Kids are coming to Notre Dame because they really want to be a part of this place.*
>
> **Daniel Saracino**
> **Office of Admissions director**

The Princeton Review's study is not entirely useful to Notre Dame because there's no way of knowing what kind of students are being surveyed and whether or not they would match the profile of a Notre Dame student, Saracino said.

"I would match the non-academic profile of our students against any college in the country in terms of extracurricular [activities] ... Our kids are second to none," he said. "Then when you look at that in addition to the academic profile, that would be the kind of student that I would want to survey."

The survey told parents and students not to factor in chance of admission or cost when ranking their dream colleges. Cost is becoming less and less of an issue anyway, Saracino said.

"Money is not a concern for the students and the parents that know that financial aid is available," he said.

In recent years Notre Dame has significantly increased financial aid, currently offering over $64 million to undergraduates, Saracino said.

This week, admissions for the class of 2010 are "down to the wire," Saracino said. Admissions decisions will be mailed to students at the end of March and will likely be making quite a few dreams come true for both students and parents.

Oddy said he knew the feeling of realizing that dream when he was accepted a year ago.

"My parents were tremendously proud and felt secure about me coming to Notre Dame," he said. "It was definitely a dream school for them. It's a dream school for me too — you can't really ask for more than what Notre Dame offers."

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks		
Dow Jones	11,279.97	+9.68

Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume:
1,938	179	1,286	2,393,178,470

AMEX	1,915.36	+12.51
NASDAQ	2,312.82	+11.17
NYSE	8,252.39	+25.35
S&P 500	1,302.95	+1.28
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	16,495.48	0.00
FTSE 100(London)	6,007.50	+16.20

COMPANY	%CHANGE	$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 110 TR (QQQQ)	+0.51	+0.21	41.30
JDS UNIPHASE CP (JDSU)	+2.81	+0.11	4.03
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	+0.60	+0.16	27.01
LEVEL 3 COMM INC (LVLT)	+5.74	+0.23	4.24
SUN MICROSYS (SUNW)	+2.05	+0.10	4.97
Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	-1.35	-0.64	46.75
13-WEEK BILL	-0.26	-0.12	45.35
30-YEAR BOND	-1.26	-0.60	46.95
5-YEAR NOTE	-1.42	-0.67	46.62
Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE ($/bbl.)		+0.35	64.26
GOLD ($/Troy oz.)		+9.70	560.50
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)		+1.33	88.13
Exchange Rates			
YEN			116.6800
EURO			0.8308
POUND			0.5731
CANADIAN $			1.1678

IN BRIEF

Gold and silver prices on the rise

NEW YORK — Gold prices rose sharply Friday due to fund buying encouraged by recent silver gains, reduced rate-hike expectations after a weak U.S. housing report, the strong tone lately in crude oil, plus chart-based factors.

Silver also edged higher, underpinned by anticipation that a silver exchange-traded fund soon will get final approval.

April gold settled up $9.70 at $560.50 an ounce on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Spot gold rose $9.90 to $560 an ounce.

"It's staging what I would call a catch-up move," said Tim Evans, analyst with IFR Pegaus. "After resisting the upward pull of silver all week long, the market couldn't hold back any more and is making up for lost time here."

Recent strength in crude oil is another background factor helping gold, said Evans. May crude gained $2.14 Thursday, and Friday settled 35 cents higher at $64.26 a barrel.

"That market has kicked into the upper part of its recent trading range over the last two days," said Evans. "That heightens concern about inflationary pressures, even though the recent CPI and PPI data has been benign."

Dollar value slips against euro

NEW YORK — The dollar slipped Friday against most major currencies as the markets considered how two economic reports may influence Federal Reserve monetary policy.

The 12-nation euro bought $1.2030 in afternoon New York trading, up from $1.1966 in New York late Thursday. The British pound rose to $1.7422 from $1.7348.

The dollar fell to 117.46 yen from 117.91 yen late Thursday.

Early Thursday, the Commerce Department reported that orders to U.S. factories for big-ticket manufactured goods rose in February by the largest amount in three months, fueled by soaring demand for civilian aircraft.

The Commerce Department followed with another report showing that new U.S. home sales dropped by 10.5 percent in February.

Housing demand questioned

Federal Reserve continues to raise rates after another quarter of strong earnings

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street closed out the week with modest gains Friday, though trading was erratic as encouraging signs of a cooling housing market conflicted with signals of economic strength and left no real clue as to the Federal Reserve's next move on interest rates.

The latest report on the housing sector showed new home sales tumbling 10.5 percent in February, according to the Commerce Department — the biggest one-month drop in nine years. With slowing housing demand, Wall Street felt that would make it easier for the Fed to stop raising rates soon.

However, a surge in big-ticket factory orders raised questions about whether demand would hold steady, possibly increasing pricing pressure and the chance for higher inflation. The Fed meets Monday and Tuesday, and is expected to raise the nation's benchmark rate by a quarter percentage point to 4.75 percent.

While questions remain as to how many more rate hikes the Fed will implement, analysts believe stocks still have room to move higher, thanks to a decent economy and the chance for another quarter of strong corporate earnings.

"The economic data points to the Fed stopping (hikes) sooner rather than later, and that's encouraging," said Jack Caffrey, equities strategist at J.P. Morgan Private Bank. "Combined with the fact that you haven't had a lot of negative pre-announcements on first-quarter earnings, this is a decent environment for equities."

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 9.68, or 0.09 percent, to 11,279.97.

Bonds surged after the previous session's selloff, with the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note sliding to 4.66 percent from 4.74 percent late Thursday. The dollar fell against most major currencies, while gold prices moved higher.

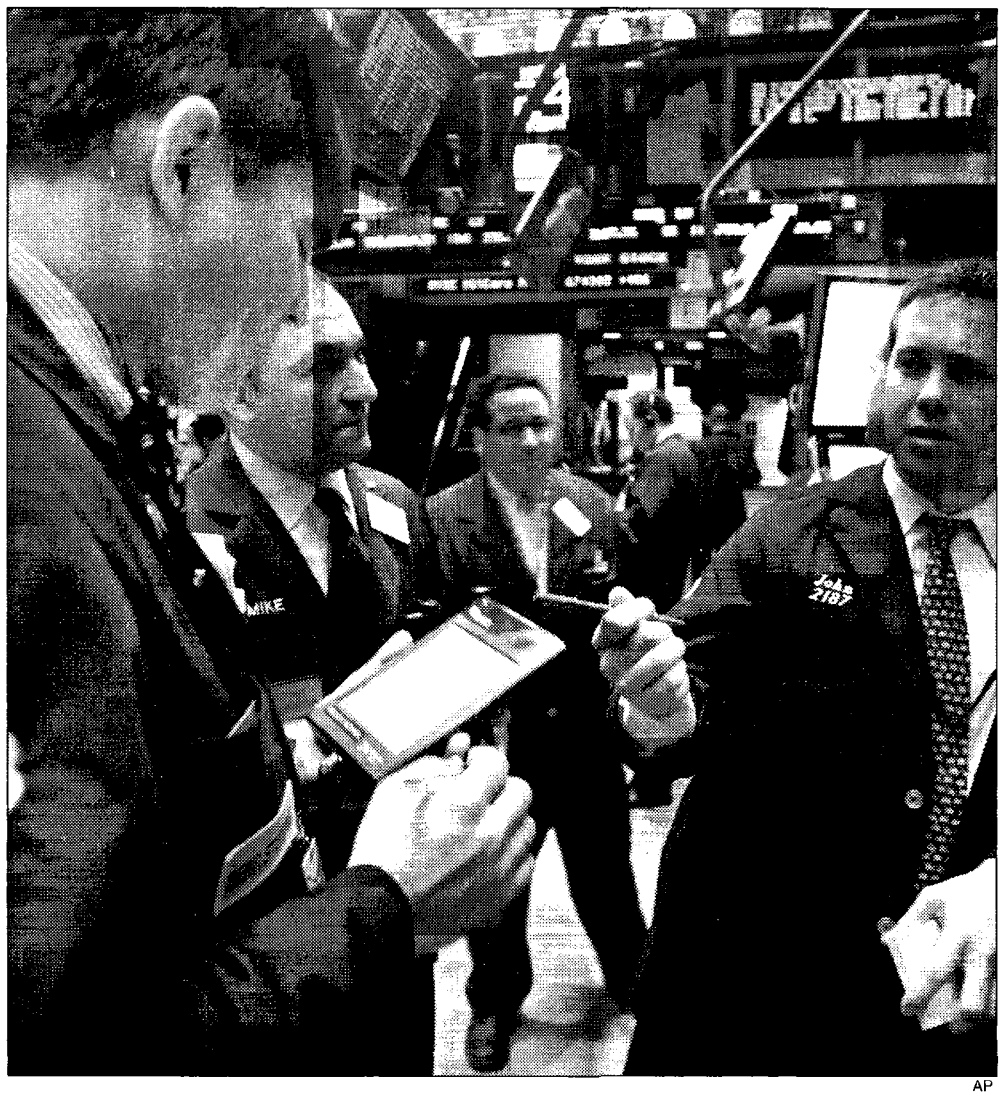
Crude oil prices vacillated after rising more than $2 per barrel in the previous session. A barrel of light crude settled at $64.26, up 35 cents, on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Stocks opened flat as orders for durable goods — big-ticket items designed to last at least three years — climbed 2.6 percent in February, the biggest jump in three months, according to the Commerce Department. Investors worried that the report signaled resurgent economic growth that could encourage interest rate hikes.

"After all this data, where the Fed ends is still a toss-up, and that's weighing on the stock market," said Bryan Piskorowski, market analyst at Wachovia Securities. "But looking at the big picture, the Dow's up 5 percent for the year, the other indexes are up, and it's been a relatively successful quarter."

Despite volatile trading and a new five-year high for the Dow on Wednesday, stocks finished the week mixed. The Dow was up less than 0.01 percent for the week, having risen just 0.32 point from the previous week's close of 11,279.65, while the S&P fell 0.33 percent and the Nasdaq climbed 0.27 percent.

In corporate news, Lucent Technologies Inc., consistently one of the most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, climbed 24 cents, or 8.5 percent, to $3.06 after the company said it was in talks with French telecom equipment maker Alcatel SA about a possible merger. Alcatel added 25 cents to $15.70.



AP

Specialist John Lawlor, right, directs trading in shares of Lucent Technologies Inc. in New York Friday. Shares of Lucent climbed nearly 10 percent after the confirmed merger.

Medical devices collected for defect

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Law firms pressing legal cases against medical device makers took their quest for evidence to an unusual place: a crematorium.

Hennepin County sheriff's deputies collected heart defibrillators and pacemakers from Cremation and Trade Services Inc. of St. Paul, Minn., and sealed 42 of them in evidence bags.

Attorneys who subpoenaed the devices have brought cases against Indianapolis-based Guidant Corp. and Fridley, Minn.-based Medtronic Inc., which have recalled nearly 400,000 defibrillators and pacemakers in the past year because of possible defects.

The crematorium's operator, Rob Maher, contacted several Twin Cities funeral homes to gather the devices after reading news reports of the recalls last summer. Funeral directors typically get family permission to remove the devices before cremation to prevent them from exploding during the process.

Maher says he collected the devices because he believes the makers have no standard way to collect them once they are removed from the deceased. He said he tried to return them to their manufacturers, without success.

Plaintiffs' lawyers supboenaed any Guidant or Medtronic devices in Maher's collection after reading a news story about it in February.

"This is really about the preservation of evidence," said Randy Hopper, an attorney involved in the cases against both companies. He said an independent lab would test the devices.

Rob Clark, a company spokesman, said Medtronic had no evidence that Maher had contacted the company or tried to return its devices.

"We are easily accessible and receive returned devices on a daily basis," Clark said.

Technicians for both companies were on hand when the devices were collected. Clark said that of 26 Medtronic devices inspected by its technicians, all but one was operating properly.

About a dozen devices collected Tuesday were from makers not involved in the two federal court cases.

Reilly

continued from page 1

pool to campus and show them Notre Dame, Office of Admissions counselor Jacob Baska said.

"[Reilly Weekend participants are] literally the best of the best from early action, in all fields," Baska said.

Of the 1,200 students who were mailed early action admittance letters in December, approximately 120 were invited to attend the weekend. The invited students average in the top one to two percent of their high school class, Baska said. Their SAT averages are in the mid-1,500s, and they average a 34 or above on the ACT. The students also boast an impressive array of extracurricular activities — Eagle Scouts, athletic team captains and computer programmers make up the group this year.

William Reilly, a Notre Dame alum and Board of Trustees member and founder of Aurelian Communications, set up a scholarship fund several years ago for students who had "amazingly high talent," Baska said.

"Unfortunately that scholarship was so rarely used simply because that kid was also bright enough to get a full ride at many other great institutions," Baska said. "So there were many years that that money just sat there."

2006 marked the fourth year the Reilly trust has been used to pay for a weekend visit for many of the top admitted students. Baska estimates that more than half of the Reilly Visitation students will decide to attend Notre Dame next year.

According to Office of Admissions counselor and event coordinator Katherine Cardinali, the weekend's events are designed to show students who have been accepted to several other top-tier schools how Notre Dame is unique.

"The goal is to give a portrayal of Notre Dame life," Baska said.

During the four-day weekend, the admitted high school seniors toured the campus and the stadium, attended Mass at the Basilica and met with current students to discuss life at Notre Dame. Today they will attend classes, talk with professors and learn about the various programs offered.

The high school seniors stayed mostly with past Reilly Weekend participants. Freshman Margie Rosmonowski, who came to Notre Dame for the Reilly Weekend last year, hosted a participant. She said the event is a good program for undecided prospective students.

"I think it's a really good opportunity to see campus and see what ND is really about," Rosmonowski said. "You get to experience it as a student instead of as someone on a tour."

Paul Dixon, a high school student from St. Louis, Mo., also applied to Stanford, Washington University in St. Louis and Villanova, but Notre Dame was his top choice before he even arrived on campus this weekend.

"I was suprised by how there is such a sense of Notre Dame family. ... There's a spirit on campus."

Paul Dixon
Reilly prospect

"When I walked on campus in November, it was at nine o'clock at night. I couldn't see anything, but it just felt amazing," Dixon said. "I felt right at home."

Dixon, who stayed in St. Edward's Hall this weekend, said his time on campus cemented his decision to attend Notre Dame next year.

"I was surprised by how there is such a sense of Notre Dame family. ... There's a spirit on campus," he said. "When I visited Washington University, people were there to study and nothing else — here there was a real sense of community."

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Asia prepares for bioterrorism

Epidemic-prone region now readies its citizens for potential attack

Associated Press

SINGAPORE — Hot weather. Crowded communities. Weak public health systems. Conditions like these have turned Southeast Asia into a breeding ground for SARS and bird flu. Now experts warn that the region's vulnerability to infectious disease could prove devastating in the event of a bioterror attack.

The threat cannot be ruled out: Some of the region's Islamic militants are believed to be interested in acquiring disease-causing agents or toxins, and any nation allied with the United States is said to be a potential target.

That is why Interpol is hosting a workshop on the threat of bioterrorism in Singapore next week, gathering senior police and government officials from 37 countries around Asia. A similar conference was held in South Africa in November, and another will be held in Chile later this year.

Starting Monday, the delegates in Singapore will discuss lab security, forensic work and laws to prevent bioterrorism, as well as how to respond to a simulated bioterrorist attack.

The United States, which adopted the Bioterrorism Act in 2002 after anthrax sent through the mail killed five people, wants Asian nations to craft similar laws that mandate tighter controls on access to biological agents and toxins.

So far, militants in Southeast Asia have used conventional terror weapons. Jemaah Islamiyah, a group linked to al-Qaida, is accused of deadly bombings, including blasts on the Indonesian resort island of Bali in 2002. The Abu Sayyaf group has carried out bomb attacks and kidnappings in the Philippines.

AP

Singapore Civil Defense personnel dressed in protective suits gather outside a subway station attacked by bombings during a large-scale emergency exercise in Singapore in January.

But detained suspects include Yazid Sufaat, a former Malaysian army captain and a U.S.-trained biochemist linked to al-Qaida's attempts to produce chemical and biological arms. Yazid was arrested in late 2001 as he returned to Malaysia from Afghanistan.

A Jemaah Islamiyah manual discovered in the Philippines in 2003 indicates interest in acquiring chemical and biological agents for use in a terrorist attack, said Rohan Gunaratna, a terrorism expert based in Singapore.

"It demonstrates serious intent, but not capability," Gunaratna said.

Terrorists need expertise to acquire pathogens from nature and transform them into a potent weapon. Japan's Aum Shinrikyo cult, whose homemade sarin chemical agent killed 12 people in 1995, was unable to isolate a virulent strain of anthrax.

But more Asian countries are pursuing biomedical research, which can lead to new treatments, and concern is growing that laboratory materials could fall into the wrong hands.

Immigration debate faces fire in Congress

Statutes determine the fate of 12 million people

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Founded by immigrants and praised as a haven for the oppressed, the United States now is struggling to decide the fate of as many as 12 million people living in the country illegally.

The Senate takes up the emotional debate on the heels of weekend rallies that drew hundreds of thousands of people protesting attempts to toughen laws against immigrants. Among the ideas that President Bush and members of Congress are considering:

— Erecting a fence on the Mexico border to deter illegal immigration.

— Treating people who sneak across the border as felons to be deported.

— Allowing foreigners to stay in the country legally as custodians, dish washers, construction workers and other low-paid employees.

— Allowing those working in the U.S. a path to citizenship.

— Requiring them to get in line behind everyone else back in their home countries who want to become Americans.

On Monday, the Senate Judiciary Committee takes up the issue and Bush headlines a naturalization ceremony for 30 new citizens at Constitution Hall. Demonstrations are planned near the Capitol, including a prayer service with immigration advocates and clergy who plan to wear handcuffs to demonstrate the criminalization of immigration violations.

Bush is going to Mexico this week for a meeting with the leaders of Mexico and Canada. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Sunday it's important that Mexico "recognize the importance of defense of the borders and of American laws."

Protests raged across the country over the weekend, led by more than 500,000 people who marched through downtown Los Angeles on Saturday in one of the largest demonstrations for any cause in recent U.S. history. Marchers also took to the streets in Phoenix, Milwaukee, Dallas and Columbus, Ohio.

Demonstrations continued Sunday, when nearly 3,000 people, many wrapped in Mexican flags, rallied at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus and an estimated 3,500 United Farm Workers members and their supporters protested in Los Angeles.

The president, working hand-in-hand with the business community that relies on cheap labor, is pressuring Congress to allow immigrants to stay in the country legally if they take a job that Americans are unwilling to do.

Judiciary Chairman Arlen Specter, R-Pa., also supports the idea and has vowed that his committee will advance a bill to the full Senate on Monday, even if they have to work "very, very late into the night."

"If they're prepared to work to become American citizens in the long line traditionally of immigrants who have helped make this country, we can have both a nation of laws and a welcoming nation of workers who do some very, very important jobs for our economy," Specter said Sunday on ABC's "This Week."

U.S. rallies protest potential laws

Nearly half a million unite in Los Angeles to refute Bush's plans

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Immigration rights advocates more than 500,000 strong marched in downtown Los Angeles, demanding that Congress abandon attempts to make helping illegal immigrants a crime and to build more walls along the border.

The massive demonstration, one of half dozen around the nation in recent days, came as President Bush prodded Republican congressional leaders to give some illegal immigrants a chance to work legally in the U.S. under certain conditions.

Saturday's march in Los Angeles was the largest in a series of demonstrations across the country. Police Cmdr. Louis Gray Jr. said aerial helicopters estimated the crowd.

Many marchers wore white shirts to symbolize peace and waved U.S. flags. Some carried the flags of Mexico and other countries, and wore them as capes.

Elger Aloy, 26, of Riverside, a premed student, pushed a stroller with his 8-month-old son at Saturday's Los Angeles march and called the legislation "inhumane."

"Everybody deserves the right to a better life," he said.

The U.S. House of Representatives has passed legislation that would make it a felony to be in the U.S. illegally, impose new penalties on employers who hire illegal immigrants and erect fences along one-third of the U.S.-Mexican border.

The Senate is to begin debating the proposals on Tuesday.

AP

UFW members and their supporters rally Sunday in downtown Los Angeles to protest pending federal legislation.

President Bush on Saturday called for legislation that does not force America to choose between being a welcoming society and a lawful one.

"America is a nation of immigrants, and we're also a nation of laws," Bush said in his weekly radio address about the emotional immigration issue that has driven a wedge into his party.

Bush sides with business leaders who want legislation to let some of the estimated 12 million undocumented immigrants stay in the country and work for a set period of time. Others, including Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, say national security concerns should drive immigration reform.

"They say we are criminals. We are not criminals," said Salvador Hernandez, 43, of Los Angeles, a resident alien who came to the United States illegally from El Salvador 14 years ago and worked as truck driver, painter and day laborer.

Francisco Flores, 27, a wood flooring installer from Santa Clarita who is a former illegal immigrant, said, "We want to work legally, so we can pay our taxes and support the country, our country."

In Denver, police said over 50,000 people gathered downtown at Civic Center Park next to the Capitol to urge the state Senate to reject a resolution supporting a ballot issue that would deny many government services to illegal immigrants in Colorado.

Elsa Rodriguez, 30, a trained pilot who came to Colorado in 1999 from Mexico to look for work, said she just wants to be considered equal.

"We're like the ancestors who started this country, they came from other countries without documents, too," the Arvada resident. "They call us lazy and dirty, but we just want to come to work. If you see, we have families, too."

On Friday, tens of thousands of people were estimated to have joined in rallies in cities including Los Angeles, Phoenix and Atlanta and staged school walkouts, marches and work stoppages.

Catholic Church names 15 new cardinals in Vatican City

Pope Benedict XVI welcomes religious dignitaries, reflects on Pope John Paul II's life during traditional ceremony

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — From traditional crimson robes to the rare sight of the red flag of China, St. Peter's Square was a study in scarlet on Friday.

Pope Benedict XVI warmly embraced 15 new cardinals in a ritual-filled ceremony that displayed the worldwide reach of the Roman Catholic Church.

In a poignant moment, tears welled in his eyes as he gripped the shoulder of the Polish prelate who faithfully served his predecessor for 40 years.

The tribute to Pope John Paul II drew long applause from the crowd in St. Peter's Square as Benedict elevated Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz, the late pontiff's private secretary, as well as key churchmen from Hong Kong, Boston, Venezuela and the Philippines.

They are now members of the elite group who will eventually choose the German pope's successor.

Coming from North and South America, Europe and Asia, they showed the global power of the 1 billion-member Roman Catholic Church.

One by one, they walked up to Benedict, who was seated on the steps of St. Peter's Basilica, knelt before him and received a "biretta," a four-sided hat with three distinct ridges on its upper side whose crimson color signifies their willingness to shed blood for the church. When the 87-year-old Peter Poreku Dery of Ghana was brought up in a wheelchair, the pope rose from his throne to embrace him.

"I felt wonderful, especially when the pope stood up and gave me a kiss," Dery said.

Archbishop Sean O'Malley, who was brought in to clean up the church in Boston after a major sex abuse scandal, was among the new cardinals, along with William Levada, formerly the archbishop of San Francisco and Portland, Ore. Levada took over Benedict's old job as prefect of the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, the Vatican's chief doctrinal watchdog.

The new cardinals also included Hong Kong Bishop Joseph Zen, a champion of religious freedom in China, Archbishop Jorge Liberato Urosa Savino of Caracas, Venezuela, who has sought to reduce tensions between the church and President Hugo Chavez, and Archbishop Gaudencio B. Rosales of Manila, Philippines, the Catholic bastion of Asia.

At one point during the ceremony, a man waved the red flag of China in the crowd — an unusual sight at the Vatican.

"The Holy Father loves China and I hope to be of service to him," the Hong Kong cardinal told The Associated Press at a reception for the new "princes" of the church in the frescoed rooms of the Apostolic Palace.

> *"I thought of the 2,000 years of history of the Church, of St. Peter who gave up his life. And now there I was. ... Who would have thought?"*
>
> **Sean O'Malley**
> **cardinal**

The pope has been reaching out to China, which broke relations with Vatican after the Communists came to power.

"The church in Venezuela, the bishop conference and me, we are trying to promote dialogue," the Caracas clergyman said. "We hope the actual government may move toward freedom, justice and peace and inclusion of all Venezuelans, without the exclusion of anyone and with an attitude of tolerance."

Thousands stood in line to greet the new cardinals, with many pushing and shoving to try to reach John Paul's longtime secretary.

"I thought of the 2,000 years of history of the church, of St. Peter who gave up his life," said O'Malley. "And now there I was. ... Who would have thought?"

Earlier, he was asked what was said when he passed by Cardinal Bernard Law, his predecessor in Boston, upon receiving his red hat. "I don't recall the exact words but they were words of congratulations," O'Malley replied.

Benedict told the prelates he was counting on them to spread the principles of love and charity that he had highlighted in his first encyclical, "God is Love."

"May the scarlet that you now wear always express Christ's charity, inspiring you to a passionate love for Christ, for his church and for all humanity," he said. "I am counting on you, dear brother cardinals, to ensure that the principle of love will spread far and wide, and will give new life to the church at every level of her hierarchy."

"I am counting on you to see to it that our common endeavor to fix our gaze on Christ's open heart will hasten and secure the path toward the full unity of Christians," he said.

Benedict has said unifying all Christians is a priority of his pontificate.

The cardinals also were each assigned a "titular" church in Rome to cement their links to the Eternal City. The new cardinals will get their rings during a Mass on Saturday in St. Peter's Square.

Levada spoke on behalf of the new cardinals, telling the pope they gave him their unconditional loyalty, "free of concern for ourselves and our own lives, as this scarlet [robe] unceasingly reminds and warns us."

Benedict announced Feb. 22 that he was naming the new cardinals, 12 of whom are under age 80 and thus eligible to vote in a conclave. The additions raised the total number of cardinals to 193, 120 of whom can vote.

While electing a pontiff is the primary task of cardinals, they also are called on to advise the pope on running the church.

Following Friday's ceremony, Europe will still have the vast majority of cardinals at 100, 60 of whom are of voting age. Latin America is next with 20 voting-age cardinals, followed by North America with 16. Asia has 13, Africa nine and Oceania two.

AP

Newly-elevated Cardinal William Levada celebrates Mass at Santa Maria in Dominica alla Navicella Church in Rome Sunday.

Prom survives hurricane

Associated Press

PASS CHRISTIAN, Miss. — Wearing a canary yellow strapless evening gown, Jessica Jenkins walked across the remains of her home, raising her petticoat to keep it out of the red clay.

Prom season holds a special importance for Jenkins and other Gulf Coast students whose last year of high school was defined by Hurricane Katrina.

"The littlest things get to you now," said Jenkins, who was named the prom queen Saturday. "Things that you would never have thought would bother you before the storm, bother you now."

Next to the site of her old home, where their new house is under construction, Jenkins and older sister Leah share a trailer supplied by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Her parents and younger sister Brett live in an adjacent trailer. At one time, they all shared one trailer, with a white maltese and golden haired poodle.

"You have a lot of rough mornings trying to get ready in a FEMA trailer," she said.

Before Saturday's prom, she had to apply her makeup in the trailer's dim lighting while a bulldozer cleared debris from a nearby lot.

She and her classmates from Pass Christian High have been attending school in portable classrooms set up on the campus of the local elementary school. Enrollment was down from 600 students last year to 420.

Other senior classes from Pass Christian have had their proms at a venue in downtown Gulfport but it, too, was damaged by the storm, so Saturday's party for the Class of 2006 was moved to the Orange Grove Community Center off scenic U.S. 49, next to the Kangaroo Gas Station.

AP

Jessica Jenkins, dressed for her senior prom Saturday, steps on boards to avoid clay and sand around her family's FEMA trailers.

Senior Ryan Spear was shocked the school could hold a prom at all, much less have it ready on time.

"It isn't bittersweet. It's just sweet," fellow senior Heidi Knight said. "Having one just makes you feel normal."

They got some assistance from far away, as six students from Pennsylvania's State College High School came to help them decorate and others in the central Pennsylvania town donated 150 formal dresses for the Pass Christian seniors.

"I figured that most people wouldn't think of a prom for hurricane survivors, but it is something important to high school students," said Jony Rommel, a State College High student who put on a performing arts show to help raise money for Pass Christian's big night.

In November, another group of Pennsylvania students, from Lampeter-Strasburg High School in Lancaster, donated money and supplies for an elaborate homecoming gala for Pass Christian and Long Beach high schools.

Katrina's effects extend into the post-high school plans of some students. Spear will attend a community college in Tennessee, where his family evacuated during the hurricane. Jenkins has decided she will attend Mississippi Community College, where she expects to play softball.

"I was going to go off farther to a university but now I'm just going to go to a junior college just to stay closer to home," she said.

NYPD 'Mafia Cops' mob trial intensifies

Drama erupts during witness questioning

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Louie Eppolito had a story to tell. And, more importantly, one to sell.

The decorated ex-New York police detective, who also happened to be the son of a mobster, was living in Las Vegas and trying to peddle doomed screenplays with titles like "Murder In Youngstown." Eppolito was looking for an investor in his latest project — and he was unconcerned about the source of the cash.

"If you said to me, 'Lou, I wanna introduce you to Jack Smith, he wants to invest in this film,' [and] he says, '$75,000 comes in a [expletive] shoe box,' that's fine with me," Eppolito said during a surreptitiously taped conversation with a federal informant. "I don't care. I've had people give me money before."

It sounds like movie dialogue, maybe something out of "Get Shorty." No surprise — the trial of so-called "Mafia Cops" Eppolito and Stephen Caracappa, heading into its third week, has featured plenty of theatrics.

The courtroom histrionics occasionally threaten to overshadow one of the most serious prosecutions in city history: a pair of top-echelon NYPD detectives accused of using their prized gold shields to kill eight people at the behest of a brutal mob underboss, Anthony "Gaspipe" Casso.

Prosecutors allege that Eppolito, 57, and Caracappa, 64, were partners in crime from 1979 to last year, when they were arrested in Las Vegas. They remain free on $5 million bail.

The first day of testimony was punctuated with a screaming match between turncoat mobster Alphonse "Little Al" D'Arco and defense attorney Bruce Cutler, who made his reputation defending the late Gambino family boss John Gotti.

"I don't know what the hell you're talking about," snapped the grandfatherly D'Arco, 73, his Brooklyn accent unaltered by 15 years in witness protection. "You're not making any sense to me."

Cutler, his deep voice rising, tried to ask another question: "Wouldn't you agree with me ..."

"I wouldn't agree with you on anything!" shouted D'Arco, who was threatened with contempt by U.S. District Judge Jack B. Weinstein. That was before the one-time Luchese boss ripped into Cutler as a loudmouth and a cheapskate.

"He was sitting up at the wheel. I went to touch his hand, and he must have just died. His fingertips were cold."

Pauline Pipitone witness

The judge showed little more tolerance for Cutler, cutting off his cross-examination for shouting at D'Arco.

The defendants themselves are a mismatched pair: the portly Eppolito, whose reputation was made as a street cop, comes to court in an ill-fitting sports coat. Caracappa — so thin he was known among fellow cops as "The Stick" — is fastidious in appearance, right down to his neatly trimmed mustache.

The prosecution has already called its key witness, confessed drug dealer Burton Kaplan, who spent four days testifying about the two detectives' brutal work on behalf of Luchese underboss Casso. Kaplan implicated the pair in a dozen homicides.

Cross-examination of another prosecution witness, crooked accountant Steven Corso, focused on his theft of $5.3 million from an ex-employer to finance a life of what he called "girlfriends, jewelry and going out."

It was Corso who recorded the conversations with Eppolito about film financing. The ex-detective, playing up his mob pedigree, sprinkled the conversation with mob names like "Jimmy the Buffalo" and the late crime boss Joe Bonanno.

"I wouldn't agree with you on anything!"

Alphonse "Little Al" D'Arco mobster

There was one witness whose testimony tugged on heartstrings while going to the heart of the case: Pauline Pipitone, describing how her youngest son, 26-year-old Nicholas Guido, had come home for Christmas dinner in 1986.

It was Guido's misfortune to share his name with a mobster involved in a botched hit on Casso. When the underboss wanted revenge, prosecutors said, he turned to the two detectives — who provided an address for the wrong Nicholas Guido.

The innocent man was showing off his new car when he was shot by mob hit men. Pipitone was inside washing dishes.

"I ran over to the car," she testified. "He was sitting up at the wheel. I went to touch his hand, and he must have just died. His fingertips were cold."

THE OBSERVER

The Independent, Daily Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

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THE OBSERVER *ONLINE*
www.ndsmcobserver.com

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

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

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is $100 for one academic year; $55 for one semester.

The Observer is published at:
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame and additional mailing offices

POSTMASTER
Send address corrections to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779

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The sex-politics connection

Joey Falco

Forty Ounces

Sex and politics: in the past half-century, the two have become as inextricably linked as green beer and Americanized religious holidays. For starters, there have been the publicized adultery cases of national figures like JFK, Bill Clinton, and Gary Hart, all of whom managed to prove that in Washington, DC, pimpin' is, in fact, easy. There is also the curious tendency of the religious right to include sex-related legislation — like gay marriage and abortion laws — at the top of the national agenda. What's more, as Bob Dole has so awkwardly shown in his infamous Viagra commercials, even retired politicians still try to keep a little spunk in their Washington Monuments after they leave the DC spotlight.

The real shocker in this twisted web of legislation and fornication, though, has been the onslaught of debate over sexual prowess and ideology that has captivated everyone from GQ magazine to MSNBC's brazen brandisher of bowties, Tucker Carlson. In other words, who does it better? Are Republicans really an elephant in the bedroom, or are Democrats the more desirable piece of ... donkey? The answer, according to most reliable sources available online (author's note: may God strike me down if I ever again refer to "feministing.com" as a reliable source), is actually quite surprising.

"Republican men," reports an anonymous article in the latest edition of GQ, "are infinitely better to have sex with." The woman who penned the piece, while seemingly employing her wealth of personal experience on the topic to give credence to her assertions, explains that "Democrats need something incredibly erotic — like 'Meet the Press' — to get revved up ... Republicans, on the other hand, don't even need Fox News to get it up. They understand that foreplay is about sex. And lots of it. Democrats are too busy checking if the condoms you keep in the jar by the bed are good for the environment." (Author's note: As an intern at "Meet the Press," I am legally obligated to inform you that our show is in no way meant to be viewed as left-wing pornography. Also, keeping a jar of environmentally safe condoms by your bed is a great way to make friends.)

In an interview with Tucker Carlson to elaborate upon this empirically suspicious article, GQ deputy editor Michael Hainey added, "I think she also makes the great point that ... Republicans, they're great on dates, because ... they'll just spend and they won't care about ... who pays the bill. They sort of spend, have a good time, and they'll worry about it later." This certainly explains the record deficits under President Bush — apparently he's just fattening up the federal budget and getting it drunk so that he can take it back to the Lincoln Bedroom to make sweet, fiscally irresponsible love to it while Laura is out of town. Still, you have to admit that Republicans at least have taste when they're committing adultery — even with the GOP's record defense spending, Monica Lewinsky still outweighs Bush's budget by at least a buck fifty.

For those (like myself) who are still not convinced, even ABC News' "Primetime" decided to weigh in on the debate in 2004 with a poll on the American public's views on sex. In the study, they found that "Republicans are around 10 points more likely than Democrats to think about sex daily, to be very satisfied with their ... sex lives, and to wear something sexy to spice things up." (Author's note: For anyone else who instantly pictured Dick Cheney quail hunting in sexy black lingerie, please wipe this image from your mind before proceeding. Thank you.)

Of course, there is another side to this whole debate, and the same ABC News poll touched on it as well.

Liberals, they note, are far more sexually adventurous. Conservatives, on the other hand, are "less apt to have had rebound sex ..., to watch sexually explicit movies, to discuss their fantasies, to have had sex outdoors, to have had sex on a first date, or to have visited a porn site."

Fortunately for ABC, their research was also backed up by a truly credible news source — the bloggers at "feministing.com" — who compiled a list of ten reasons why liberal men are better in bed. While mentioning most of these points in print would get me excommunicated from the Church, the author did note, "A good liberal man realizes that what goes on in politics does have an impact on what goes on in the bedroom. This is in stark contrast to the Republican man who can't understand how his support for anti-choice politicians could possibly impact your sex life. While it may have been fun [with] a Republican man the night before, it's his fault you'll have a hard time getting your Plan B prescription filled the next day."

Touché.

And the moral of the story? Screw economic policy, welfare reform or foreign affairs. When determining which party to vote for in the coming elections, think sex: Have you enjoyed the past six years of the same old Dick and Bush, or do you think it's time to get kinky and have rebound sex with a new piece of ... donkey?

Joey Falco is a junior American Studies major. His column appears every other Monday. He can be contacted at jfalco@nd.edu

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Zahm House resolution out of context

I am responding to Katie Perry's March 24 article contrasting dorm life and fraternities ("Domers defend dorm life at Notre Dame").

I dispute Perry's opening thesis that the Nov. 16 Student Senate Resolution SS0506-14 Recognizing Zahm Hall as Zahm House "demonstrated the desire some students have for an officially recognized Greek system at Notre Dame."

The resolution did not support that end. No references were made to fraternal or Greek life, either in the resolution itself or in the question and answer period that followed its introduction. The minutes of the meeting support this claim. Furthermore, the scope of the resolution was limited to student recognition. It did not seek administrative or other approval for any Greek or fraternal status because there were no such references, desires or requests for Greek or fraternal status, implied or otherwise.

Perry helps to justify her claim by stating, "Dillon senator Dan Bowen opposed the resolution and said Zahm was 'trying to leave the impression they're a fraternity.'" Bowen followed that statement by invoking the memory of George Kostanza of Seinfeld fame and later informed the Senate of the gender inequality of only recognizing male dorms, much to the laughter of other senators. The minutes of the meeting and the Nov. 17 edition of The Observer reflect this. Bowen's remarks were clearly in jest, not to be used as support for other claims.

The Zahm House resolution only demonstrated Zahm's desire to be recognized for its unique place in the Notre Dame residential culture. The assertion that Zahm was demonstrating the desire of some students for a Greek system is out of context and wholly inaccurate.

Pat Knapp
junior
Zahm Hall senator
March 25

OBSERVER POLL

How do you feel about people other than college students viewing your Facebook profile?

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at www.ndsmcobserver.com

Submit a Letter to the Editor at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The Kingdom of Heaven is not a place, but a state of mind."

John Burroughs
American essayist

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Take action on domestic violence in OUR community

By the time you are finished reading this column, three people will have been threatened or abused in the one place where we all expect to feel safest — our homes. According to the National Council on Child Abuse and Family Violence, a woman, man or child is victimized by domestic violence every 15 seconds in America. Yet, you won't find this issue competing for newspaper headlines with strife in Iraq or the latest corruption scandal. But you should.

In St. Joseph County alone, police are asked to respond to approximately 8,000 domestic violence calls a year. However, the U.S. Department of Justice estimates that only 54 percent of intimate partner violence is even reported. Thus, the number of incidents of domestic violence in our own county may be over 16,000. The challenges of speaking out for victims are both psychological and physical. In times of crisis, survivors may visit as many as 19 different offices for necessary medical, legal, childcare and social service support. The system is set against the victim.

Last Thursday, over 80 members of St. Joseph County came together for a town hall meeting to discuss a new initiative to respond to this situation. The U.S. Department of Justice and Office on Violence Against Women are piloting The President's Family Justice Center Initiative, allocating $20 million to help establish 15 comprehensive domestic violence victim support centers. In 2004, St. Joseph County was chosen from 400 applicants and awarded $1.2 million dollars to initiate a Family Justice Center, providing "medical care, counseling, law enforcement, social services, employment assistance, and housing assistance together in one location." Thursday saw the community come together to turn the tide on domestic violence.

Yet, at this gathering, certain members of the community were visibly missing — Notre Dame students and administrators. I find this deeply disappointing on two fronts. First, this year's student government committed to improving relations with the community. Does the lack of attendance at key community events help or hurt our image with the community? Second, in the recent debates over "The Vagina Monologues," both sides have been clear that they are open to explore other ways to address violence against women. Why, then, didn't members of either side attend this meeting to face the problems of domestic violence? Our absence raises doubts about our sincerity.

Yet, we still have a chance to do better. Tonight at 8 p.m., Pete Morgan, the chair of the Family Justice Center board, will speak at the Center for Social Concerns about the initiative. The center needs volunteers to help organize mailing lists and facilitating publicity. Most of all, the center needs us to personally contact our county council members to ask for their support. Please consider coming to the City Council meeting Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the County City Building at the Corner of Jefferson and Lafayette in downtown South Bend.

Before we die, one in two of us will know someone involved in domestic violence. We have a responsibility to address this crisis of our families and communities. This is not a partisan issue. This is not a race issue or a class issue. This is not an issue of academic freedom. This is about communities coming together to support victims of domestic violence and their families, recognizing their dignity and humanity and as one woman at last Thursday's meeting put it, standing together to say, "You are not alone, we are all here with you." I hope members of the Notre Dame family agree.

Jess Collado
senior
Pasquerilla East Hall
March 23

Residence hall system not to blame

I think it's a shame that a number of Notre Dame students take a "victim mentality" and blame the rules and institutions (or lack thereof in the case of fraternities) of Notre Dame for certain deficiencies in their lives. Last time I checked, Notre Dame doesn't prevent men or women from asking each other out on actual dates. It isn't Notre Dame that promotes the Facebook and Instant Messenger as primary means of communication. Parietals only begin at 12 a.m. on weekdays — what is to blame for the so-called "distortion" from 9a.m.-12a.m.? Those who choose to blame parietals or single sex dorms for gender relations either don't really want a relationship (which is fine) or lack the courage or ambition to actually get out in the world and develop one.

Students wanting fraternities and sororities at Notre Dame are also disappointing. The residence hall I live in has dynamic commissions for every aspect of life: spiritual, liturgical, residence hall unity, community service, dances, sports, everything. Residence halls also offer the opportunity to join in the spirit of the hall or work to promote it more. Outside the hall there is the Center for Social Concerns, Campus Ministry, intramural sports, and a club for every interest plus the resources to start a club if one desires. If a student like one of those quoted in the Greek life series doesn't find adequate resources to "get a life" and "a part of a community" on this campus, then it's not the University's fault. As college students, it's time to take personal responsibility to get what we want out of life. And if what you want out of life is just more out of control parties, I'm sure you can find those too, but I doesn't think the University needs to promote any institution that would help you meet that goal, especially here at the most prestigious Catholic university in the United States.

Fellow students of Notre Dame, it is truly a privilege to go here. It is not the rules or institutions that are preventing you to seize the day. As a transfer student who got denied admission from the University the first time, I urge you to think about how many people wish they were attending your school and had your resources. Every minute you spend wishing things were different is a waste of time that you could be using the tremendous resources here to make yourself truly happy. Don't waste the gift of being a Domer.

Amanda Golbabai
junior
Badin Hall
March 24

Greek life not for ND

Just a comment as someone who tried desperately to get admitted to Notre Dame but did not (even as the son of an alum), this series of letters and comments about Greek life and some support for it among some students scares me. As someone who attended two state universities for undergraduate and graduate school where the Greek system was particularly strong, I can promise you that the University residence hall system produces far stronger bonds than those supposedly created by the Greek system.

While the Greek system could have a positive place on a campus, I can promise you that the former fraternity and sorority friends that I have will tell you that the Greek life really, in effect, did little for them other than to prevent them from making friends with a broader section of people. Most "former Greeks" that I know say that it was "a way to party" and little more. Those Notre Dame students who think that the Greek life is better either don't belong at Notre Dame or don't realize and appreciate that the grass is greener at Notre Dame.

Calvin Colbert
Dallas, TX

"Fighting Irish" inaccurate

This letter is in response to the recent letters and articles which question the racist nature of the term 'Fighting Irish.'

Make no mistake, the stereotyping of the Irish people that exists at Notre Dame today is not only insulting and racist but portrays a completely inaccurate representation of modern Ireland. For these reasons I second the view of Paul Richards that the "Fighting Irish" moniker is indeed offensive to Irish people ("'Fighting Irish' moniker found offensive," March 22).

This year marks the 90th anniversary of the Easter Rising, the event that catalyzed the establishment of the Irish Free State. It is time for the Irish nation to reflect and acknowledge our country's origins, origins rooted in a determined and dynamic struggle for emancipation and sovereignty. The Irish men of 1916 envisioned a free and independent Ireland, one which indeed exists today.

However, many of the economic and politic realities of modern Ireland are contrary to this ideal of a principled and sovereign nation. Ireland's primary industry, the service industry, is completely reliant on tourists, many of whom are American. Thus, our Tourist Board regularly perpetuates a vision of a mythical land of leprechauns and shamrocks or a land of Guinness-imbibing drunks, since these reductive images appeal more to the foreign masses than a complete depiction of the Irish nation. Ironically, growing up in Ireland, I did not hear the term "leprechaun" after the age of nine, when I stopped reading children's stories. The "leprechaun" has little, if any, part in the realities of modern Ireland. Yet, our nation is so dependent on foreign tourists that we encourage the perpetuation of this ridiculous image. We don't even object when it is considered a representation of Irish people drunkenly engaging in bar brawls. We have become so dependent on U.S. money that our leaders allow our nation's policies to be determined by the desires of the U.S. market and American politicians. We are right now struggling under a de-facto economic and political colonization.

We can no longer stand for this. We can no longer compromise our nation's values or subdue our people's voices in order to maintain the economic support of America. We have essentially sold our soul to the devil. Instead, let us spread the representation of the 'real' Ireland, a country with courageous history, a rich culture, pride in our national language and filled with Irish men and women who kneel at the alter of Croke Park and not at that of a financial God. Let us determine our political policies based on our people's wishes and beliefs, and not on the desire for American financial support.

Needless to say, I am Irish. I am also a graduate student and have studied at Notre Dame for the past two years. It has been, for the most part, an enjoyable experience. Indeed, my time here has been marred only by having to daily stomach the nauseating view of Ireland perpetuated by the "Fighting Irish" brand, the constant repetition of the stereotypical associations of Irish with drunk, and the supposedly "authentic" leprechaun.

While I acknowledge that Irish study programs offered here present different perspectives and work toward a more complete picture of Ireland, these goals are contradictory with the ridiculous "Fighting Irish" logo and carousing leprechaun. Don't fool yourselves into thinking that these representations are in any way authentic or that they do not offend Irish people. They are constant reminders of the dependence that our nation still has on foreign economic support and the ways that our leaders compromise national integrity in exchange for cold, hard, American cash.

Sinéad Howley
graduate student
March 23

MOVIE REVIEW

'Top Hat' offers fantastic dancing, little plot

By MARTY SCHROEDER
Scene Critic

When is the story completely sacrificed for the entertainment value of a film? When Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers join together on the silver screen in Mark Sandrich's "Top Hat." The five times Astaire and Rogers dance together drive this film forward and present its only reason for existing — making it difficult to find a plot.

"Top Hat" played at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center (DPAC) Saturday as part of the DPAC Classic 100 series. The story revolves around Jerry Travers, played by Fred Astaire, and his romantic pursuit of Ginger Rogers' Dale Tremont. Mistaken identities ensue, and slaps on the face pull the characters from London to Venice.

Aside from the main characters, Horace Hardwick's butler Bates spies, and the Italian dress designer, Alberto Beddini, runs through the film with his rapier and even sharper sense of gender roles. The characterization and plot take a backseat to the theatrics of the dancing that occurs around every corner.

Top Hat

Director: Mark Sandrich
Writer: Allen Scott and Dwight Taylor
Starring: Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers, Edward Everett Hornton and Eric Blores

According to IMDB.com, this was the first film written specifically with Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers in mind as the leads — and they both dance beautifully. While Astaire steals the show as the better dancer, his voice leaves a bit to be desired. The beautiful Rogers — while an excellent dancer — truly shines when she sings.

Perhaps the most famous scene of the film is the "Cheek to Cheek" dance sequence. The song was written by Irving Berlin and garnered an Academy Award nomination for best original song. This sequence sums up the film's themes of dancing and romance, as both are displayed here. Astaire is appropriately suave while Rogers swoons. It may not be politically correct, but the relationship between the two adds a classic feel to the film.

Two other memorable scenes occur near the opening of the film. When the characters of Travers and Tremont are first introduced, Travers wakes Tremont with his impressive dancing and then lulls her to sleep as he dances on sand above her room like a true gentleman.

The next is when a storm stands both of them on a gazebo. This is the first time that Rogers displays her considerable dancing and singing skills. Travers begins the dance and Tremont follows his lead. She ultimately ends up adding her own parts of the dance in an elaborate and obvious courtship scene where Travers steals her heart.

Photo courtesy of meredy.com

Dale Tremont (Ginger Rogers), left, and Jerry Travers (Fred Astaire) dance and sing their way through a romantic plot in the classic musical film "Top Hat."

While the dancing is top notch throughout the film, the production value is not. The parts of the film that take place in London look like sets from an older film — appropriately glamorous while classically reserved.

However, when the film shifts to Venice, the production value drops. The bridges and canals of Venice are surrounded by sets that look like they belong more in children's fantasy than a Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers film. While the acting and dancing does not suffer, this brings the film down from what it could be.

The old saying about the two stars, "He made her classy, while she made him sexy," applies to this film. Rogers brings the voice and very good dance skills, while Astaire plays the reserved lover who steals the show with his dancing. The entertainment value is very high and the dancing excellent — but do not expect a particularly developed plot.

Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroed1@nd.edu

MOVIE REVIEW

'Ballet Russes' entertains with real-life drama

By MICHELLE FORDICE
Scene Critic

Filmmakers Dan Geller and Dayna Goldfine present a beautiful documentary in "Ballet Russes," revealing the way art can mold the lives of those it touches. Its detailed look into the world of ballet may occasionally be a bit much for the average viewer, but when "Ballet Russes" turns to the dancers themselves it enraptures the audience. It manages to breathe life into history and to bring "high" culture down to earth.

"Ballet Russes" tells the stories of the dance troupes of the early to mid-20th century that made up the Ballet Russes. The film traces the Ballet Russes phenomenon from its origins with Diaghelev and his team that consisted of such famous artists as Nijinsky, Balanchine, Stravinsky, Picasso, Miró and Matisse through its peak in the 1930s and 1940s. It finally looks at its demise due to rising costs, internal mismanagement, egos, love affairs and outside competition in the 1960s.

Ballet Russes

Director: Dan Geller and Danya Goldfine
Writer: Dan Geller and Danya Goldfine
Starring: Irina Baranove, Marc Platt, Nathalie Krassakova and Nina Novak

Geller and Goldfine fuse together hazy archival footage and crisp present-day interviews with the veteran dancers to make a strong statement of the lasting effect this troupe had on ballet and the people who experienced it. The old film and photographs of these dancers in their prime stirs amazement among the audience as it watches the stunning movements and bodies of these dancers. Ultimately, though, it is their voices decades later that inspire the most attention.

From the interviews emerge characters that could not be more captivating if they were fictional. There is Nathalie Krassakova who says she "always wanted to dance" and still giggles, even though she is nearly a century old, as she speaks of her marriage to a violinist that lasted just weeks.

There is Irina Baranove who admits that she "never wanted to dance," but her mother was never one to be disagreed with, so eventually it grew on her. There is Marc Platt who, after declaring he never would do it, allows his name to be "Russianized" into Platoff, so that he, the first American dancer, would fit in among the rest of the bill.

The Ballet Russes included dancers from so many different places and situations that no personality, from the stubborn egoist to the little girl yearning for home, is left out.

"Ballet Russes" reveals how art's effects are never left behind. At the 2000 reunion of the Ballet Russes, partners who had not seen each other in years took up their old roles. This time they dance with a little more arthritis and re-enact the scenes that captivated their audience decades prior. Nearly all the veteran dancers teach dance today, even if they do so leaning on canes, and a few still perform in theatre.

Photo courtesy of nynewsday.com

"Ballet Russes," a documentary directed by Dan Geller and Danya Goldfine, follows Russian ballet troupes during their turbulent history in the 20th century.

That "Ballet Russes" is a Zeitgeist (or "spirit of the times") film is exceptionally fitting. The story of the Ballet Russes reflects the events of the decades it spans. The original Ballet Russes is known for being a group of Russian refugees who had escaped the Russian Revolutions and had never danced in Russia. The later Ballet Russes troupes flee as Hitler begins conquering Europe. Raven Wilkinson becomes the first African-American to be a part of a major ballet troupe and also the first to be forced to quit because of the overpowering racial tensions in the southern United States that wouldn't let her perform.

"Ballet Russes" is about more than just ballet. It tells the story of both the first half of the 20th century and a select group of dynamic and diverse people. It is a wonderful documentary that will make audiences laugh in delight and will inspire them through the determination and strength hidden inside such a delicate art form.

Contact Michelle Fordice at mfordice@nd.edu

DPAC REVIEW

Success no 'Flook' for inventive Irish folk band

By SEAN SWEANY
Scene Writer

The internationally acclaimed Anglo-Irish band "Flook" captivated the audience at the Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center (DPAC) Saturday night with their energetic tunes and melodies. The recipient of numerous international awards for Celtic folk music, "Flook" played at Notre Dame as one of the final stops on its American tour.

Since it was founded in 1995, "Flook" has delighted audiences with its innovative style of Celtic, Scottish and English folk music. The music revolves around two flute and whistle players, Sarah Allen and four-time All-Ireland champion Brian Finnegan. They are joined by guitarist Ed Boyd and bodhran player John Joe Kelly. A bodhran is a traditional Irish drum. The foursome's imaginative use of instruments allows them to create a wide range of unique toe-tapping songs.

"Flook" plays in the style of traditional Irish music where one song is actually a set of several songs that flow from one to another. Saturday's concert began with an energetic set of Irish reels entitled "Wrong Foot Forward." The piece was driven by the talented flautists and set the tempo for the evening.

As the band performed more tunes, it became clear that the praise and acclai the Irish music community has heaped on "Flook" is well merited. The band creates a full, rich sound using only four performers that some bands cannot create with dozens of musicians. Perhaps the only fault with the band is the lack of a vocalist, but the sound that they create in their music, especially in self-written songs, more than makes up for the absence of lyrics.

In addition to playing excellent music, "Flook" knows how to win over an audience. For a song called "Gone Fishing," the audience had the chance to try and name the tune being mimicked in the opening to the song. When one audience member figured out the song, she got to join "Flook" onstage and was rewarded with a "Flook" CD for singing the intro to "Hotel California." For another song called "Granny," the entire audience joined the band by sounding like trumpets to provide musical accompaniment to the band.

"Flook" also had a humorous stage presence, led mostly by guitar player Ed Boyd. Boyd kept things lively between sets with his jokes and commentary about everything from being in Indiana to his grandmother. The other band members seemed to warm to the audience as the concert progressed, especially after intermission.

Not surprisingly, as the band became more at ease, it took its music to a higher level. The first song after intermission, called "Flutopia," featured Allen and Finnegan using their flutes in unconventional ways to produce catchy, staccato sounds. In a later song, "Flook" was joined by two Irish dancers, both of whom are Notre Dame students. The talented dancers mesmerized not only the audience but also the band members, who said they do not perform with dancers often.

DUSTIN MENELLA/The Observer

Flook flautist Sarah Allen, left, and guitarist Ed Boyd perform during Saturday's performance. The band combines numerous styles to create a unique folk sound.

Not wanting to be left out of the action, the bodhran player Kelly, who seemingly always had a full beer in front of him, played an amazing drum solo. Kelly is regarded as one of — if not the best — bodhran players in the world and demonstrated his incredible talent in his lengthy solo. As the band rejoined him, it ramped up the tempo once again in its final songs to bring the concert to an energetic close. A thunderous standing ovation from the audience brought "Flook," along with the Irish dancers, back to the stage for an exciting encore that left audience members tapping their toes all the way home.

Contact Sean Sweany at ssweany@nd.edu

DPAC REVIEW

Glee Club spring concert blends modern, traditional

By MOLLY GRIFFIN
Assistant Scene Editor

After their successful concert tour of California over Spring Break the Glee Club performed their annual spring concert on Friday at the Leighton Concert Hall.

The show opened with two African-inspired songs, "Welcome Song" and "Beautiful Rain," which provided an uptempo opening to the show and showcased the vocal abilities of the Glee Club well.

The performance balanced classical pieces with more contemporary numbers, and the songs tended to emerge in groups centered around a common musical theme. The songs crossed lines of language, style and arrangement, and allowed the diverse musical talent of the Glee Club, which included proficiency on musical instruments for some performers along with vocal ability, to shine.

The show contained a number of somewhat more somber religious pieces. This group of songs began with the powerful "Dirge from Cymbeline," which featured a trumpet solo from Steve Feutz. From there the group moved on to Rachmaninoff's "Slava v vishnih Bogu" and the stirring "Absalon fili mi." The Gregorian chant "Alma redemptoris mater" finished out this section of the performance.

A selection of Mozart's Masonic choruses made up another section of the performance. A small symphony made up of club members performed during these pieces, which added some musical diversity to the evening and highlighted the soaring nature of these pieces. "Ave Maria," a Glee Club standard, ended the first half of the evening's performance.

Interspersed throughout the performance were songs performed by small groups, which provided some musical diversity — as well as humor — to the evening. The small group called the Wookies chose a more contemporary piece and sang Huey Lewis and the News' "It's Alright." Later in the evening another group, the Axis of Octave, chose the classic "Somewhere Over the Rainbow." The final small group, the Undertones, performed the Matchbox 20 hit "3 a.m."

A group of spirituals opened the second half of the show. The beautiful "Little Innocent Lamb" and the joyous "Ye Ke Omo Mi" engaged the audience and immediately brought them back to the show after intermission. One of the highlights of the whole evening was the following songs, "Marry a Woman Uglier Than You," which added some humor to the show while still being vocally well-executed.

The next section of the show featured a selection of Celtic songs, beginning with the slow and beautiful "She Moved Through the Fair." The next song was the gorgeous Gaelic song "Dulaman," which was followed by another Glee Club standard "Loch Lomand." The final Celtic song of the evening was the boisterous "Bonnie Hielan' Laddie," which was arranged by current Glee Club member Tom Schreck.

The biggest crowd-pleasers of the evening were, naturally, the final songs of the night. A selection of songs from the musical "The Music Man," which included "Trouble," "Lida Rose" and "76 Trombones," were one of the evening's highlights. "Trouble" allowed the group to showcase their humor skills once again, which provided some contrast to the love song "Lida Rose." The final selection from the set, "76 Trombones" was a hugely entertaining song and revealed the unique barbershop spin that the group gave to songs from a musical.

ERIC SALES/The Observer

The Glee Club performs selections from Mozart's Masonic Choruses. The songs featured instrumental accompaniment from a symphony made of club members.

Finally, the show moved towards its finish with the classic Irish tune "Danny Boy." The Glee Club finished with the three Notre Dame songs that close all of their shows — the Glee Club alma mater "Notre Dame, We Hail Thee," the University's alma mater "Notre Dame, Our Mother" and the University's fight song "The Notre Dame Victory March."

The Glee Club's spring concert provided a great blend of music that showcased the group's skills effectively. The appropriate mix of slow songs with uptempo ones and traditional music with more contemporary pieces made it an enjoyable performance for any and all audience members.

Contact Molly Griffin at mgriffin@nd.edu

NBA

Redd leads as Milwaukee defeats Toronto in overtime

Cavs outlast Rockets; T-Wolves beat Knicks

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — The best game of his NBA career couldn't save a lousy day for Charlie Villanueva.

Villanueva scored a career-high 48 points, but the Milwaukee Bucks got 35 points from Michael Redd to beat the Toronto Raptors 125-116 in overtime Sunday.

That came less than an hour after Connecticut, Villanueva's college team, was upset by George Mason in the NCAA tournament.

"Right now I am little disappointed and frustrated," Villanueva said. "We lost. If we won, it would have made my night even bigger. UConn lost, too. That's 0-for-2 for me."

Toronto played much of the way without injured All-Star Chris Bosh, but stayed in the game behind Villanueva, who shot 20-of-32 and had the highest point total by an NBA rookie this season.

But it was Redd, Charlie Bell and the Bucks who stole the show late. Bell filled in for the injured T.J. Ford and added a career-high 18 points and 11 assists in 47 minutes.

Reserves Joe Smith had 19 points and Dan Gadzuric had 17 for Milwaukee, which was also playing without the injured Mo Williams. Gadzuric added nine rebounds.

"I am starting to play a little better. My confidence is coming," said Bell, who joined the Bucks this season after playing overseas. "I just try to make the best of it because you never know what is going to happen in the future. I am getting a chance to go out there and show other teams and this team what I can do."

Bobby Simmons added 15 points for Milwaukee. He was quick to credit the bench, including Toni Kukoc, who had nine points, six rebounds and seven assists in 30 minutes.

"It was an unbelievable effort for those guys," Simmons said.

The Bucks shot 55 percent and made 34 of 45 free throws to 12-of-17 for Toronto.

Bosh entered play averaging 22.7 points and 9.4 rebounds. He played just 7 minutes before injuring his left thumb while going after a loose ball with teammate Pape Sow. X-rays were negative, and the injury was listed as a mild sprain.

Cavaliers 104, Rockets 102 OT

The Cleveland Cavaliers got their second overtime win of the week and LeBron James took down the only NBA team he'd yet to beat.

James scored 36 points, including the go-ahead dunk with 3:24 left in overtime, to lead the Cavaliers to a victory over the Houston Rockets on Sunday.

Four days after hitting his first game-winner in the final seconds for a 120-118 overtime victory over Charlotte, James broke his five-game losing streak against Houston.

The win is Cleveland's fifth straight and helps the Cavaliers move closer to their first playoff berth since 1998.

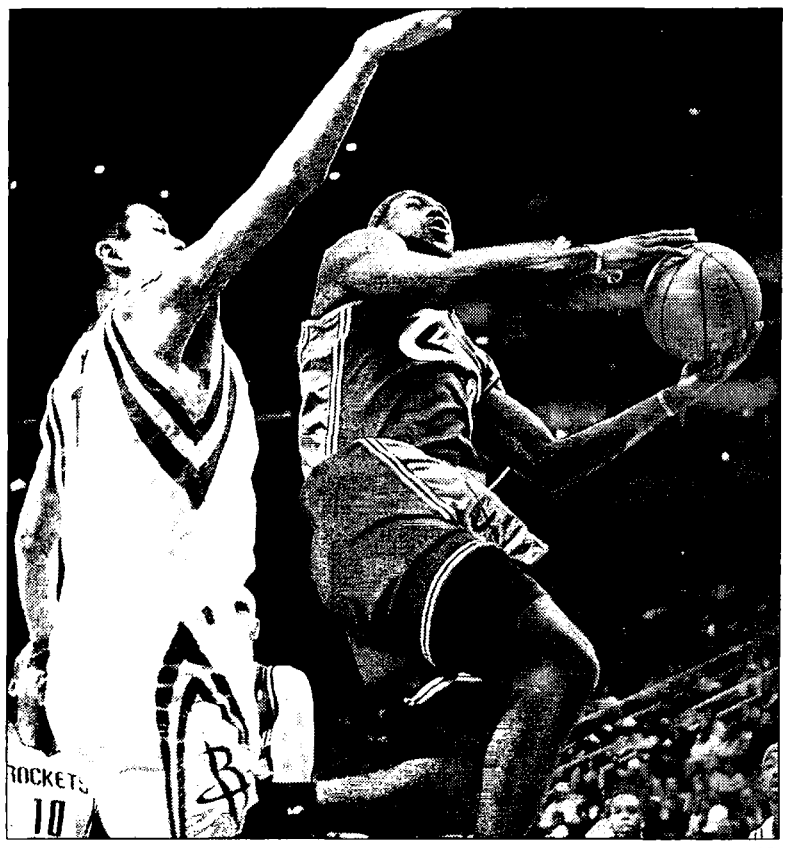
"It was exciting," James said. "We did a great job. Yao's (Ming) very talented and it's tough to beat this team. To get a win on their court is even better."

The Cavaliers were ahead 103-101 when Damon Jones hit the second of two free throws to stretch the lead.

Houston's Rafer Alston made the first of two free throws with less than a second left and intentionally missed the second one, but the ball was thrown out of bounds.

The Rockets didn't lead in overtime, but tied the game twice on baskets by Yao before James' dunk.

"Going through games like this should really help us to be able to close it the right way," Cavs coach Mike Brown said. "To execute it offensively and defensively at the end is huge."



AP

Cavaliers forward LeBron James shoots over Rockets center Yao Ming. Cleveland beat Houston 104-102 in overtime Sunday.

Timberwolves 98, Knicks 94

After the Minnesota Timberwolves avoided their biggest collapse in franchise history, Kevin Garnett made it clear he doesn't want to go through another season like this one.

And both Garnett and Stephon Marbury said they would be open to being reunited in the future — although neither seems to want to change cities.

"I've always said I'll be in Minnesota as long as they want me," Garnett said after scoring 26 points and grabbing 15 rebounds in the Wolves' victory over Marbury and the New York Knicks. "I don't think I can take another one of these rebuilding stages."

It's been a frustrating season for both Garnett and Marbury, who played three seasons in Minnesota together before an unhappy Marbury forced a trade in 1999. Despite the league's highest payroll, the Knicks are one of the worst teams. And the Wolves will likely miss the playoffs for the second consecutive year after playing in the Western Conference finals in 2004.

Asked if he would like to play with his former point guard, Garnett said: "I have no beef with Steph. I've never had a problem with Steph on the court. ... You ask him, 'Can you play with me?'"

Before the game, reporters asked Marbury about reuniting with Garnett.

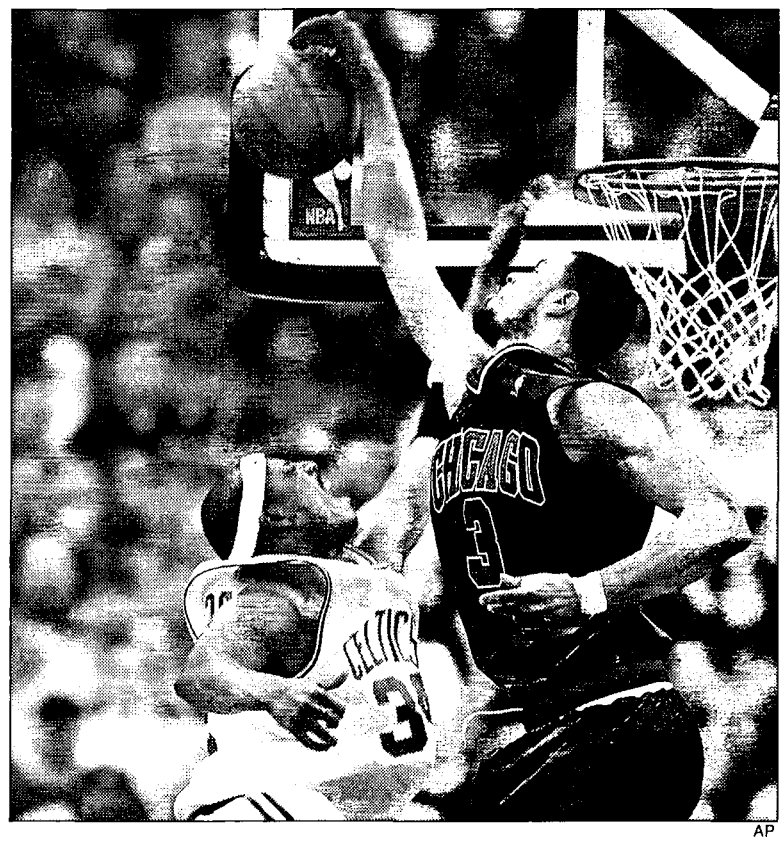
"In New York? That'd be great," he said.

What about in Minnesota?

"Nah."

Sunday's game was a typical one for Minnesota this season, save for the victory. The Wolves led by as many as 25 points through three quarters, only to be outscored 33-18 in the fourth.

Garnett had 21 points through three quarters and, with the Wolves leading by 19 heading into the final period, looked like he might get the fourth off.



AP

Chicago center Tyson Chandler blocks the shot of Boston swingman Paul Pierce during the Bulls' 101-97 win Sunday.

Bulls 101, Celtics 97

With Ben Gordon and Tyson Chandler coming off the bench, the Chicago Bulls are starting to recreate their formula from last year.

Luol Deng scored 20 points, Gordon added 13 of his 17 in the fourth quarter, and the Bulls rallied to beat the Boston Celtics Sunday.

"The last two games have been very similar to a lot of wins we had last year where we're not playing our best but we keep battling, stay in the game and make the big plays in the end," Chicago coach Scott Skiles said.

The win, coupled with Philadelphia's loss to Indiana, pulled Chicago within 1 1/2 games of the 76ers for the eighth and final Eastern Conference playoff spot.

The Bulls trailed 78-68 after three quarters, but outscored the Celtics 33-19 in the fourth to win their second straight after losing four in a row.

It was the Bulls' sixth win this season when trailing at the start of the fourth quarter. They won 10 such games last year to make the playoffs for the first time since Michael Jordan retired in 1998.

Chicago improved to 2-0 since Skiles took Gordon and Chandler out of the starting lineup to help create a spark off the bench.

Gordon scored 25 points, Chandler had 21 rebounds and the Bulls outscored New Orleans 27-17 in the fourth quarter Friday en route to a 96-82 win.

"Coach was trying to shake it up," said Chandler, who had 10 points, 11 rebounds and four blocked shots — including three in the fourth quarter. "He needed some guys to shake things up, and the last couple of games we've been able to provide that."

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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NCAA Women's Division I Tennis Rankings

	team
1	Stanford
2	NOTRE DAME
3	North Carolina
4	Southern Cal
5	Duke
6	Northwestern
7	Florida
8	Georgia Tech
9	California
10	Miami (FL)
11	Texas
12	Arizona State
13	Vanderbilt
14	Pepperdine
15	Baylor
16	Harvard
17	UCLA
18	Wake Forest
19	TCU
20	Long Beach State
21	VCU
22	Michigan
23	Arizona
24	Georgia
25	Tennessee

NCAA Men's Division I Tennis Rankings

	team
1	Georgia
2	Pepperdine
3	Illinois
4	Duke
5	Mississippi
6	Stanford
7	Florida
8	UCLA
9	Baylor
10	Washington
11	Texas
12	Ohio State
13	Virginia
14	North Carolina
15	Clemson
16	California
17	Miami (FL)
18	NOTRE DAME
19	Louisville
20	VCU
21	Arkansas
22	Georgia Tech
23	TCU
24	LSU
25	Wake Forest

Fencing Coaches' Association Rankings

	Men's		Women's
1	Ohio State	1	NOTRE DAME
2	NOTRE DAME	2	Penn State
3	Penn State	3	Harvard
4	Harvard	4	St. John's (NY)
5	St. John's (NY)	5	Columbia
6	Columbia	6	Northwestern
7	Stanford	7	Pennsylvania
8	Princeton	8	Duke
9	Pennsylvania	9	Princeton
10	North Carolina	10	Ohio State

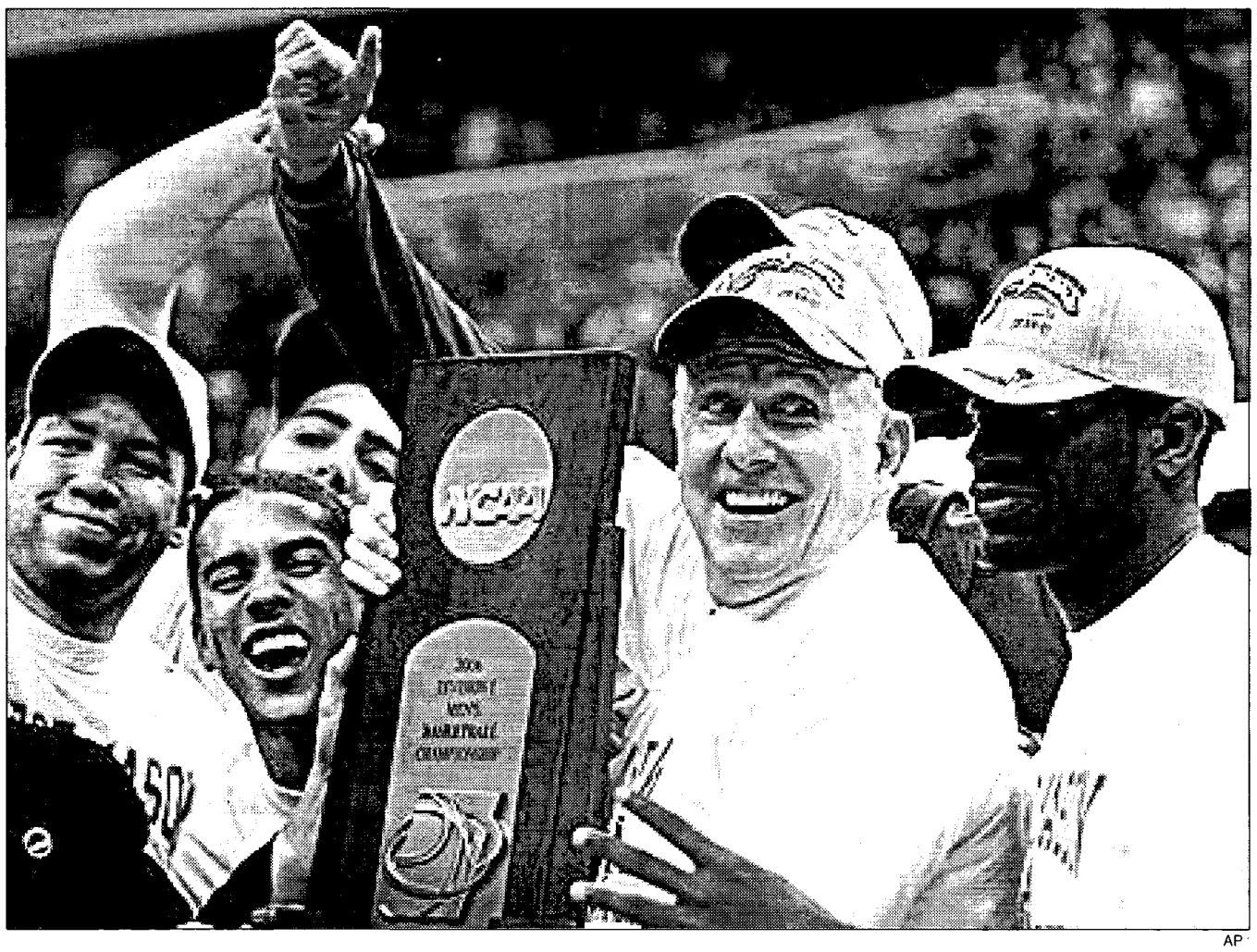
around the dial

WOMEN'S NCAA BASKETBALL
Regional Final Games (Teams TBA),
7 p.m. and 9 p.m. ESPN

NHL
Detroit at St. Louis,
8 p.m. OLN
Los Angeles at Vancouver,
10:30 p.m. OLN

NBA
Indiana at Miami,
7:30 p.m. NBATV

NCAA BASKETBALL



AP

George Mason head coach Jim Larranaga holds the regional championship trophy as he is surrounded by his players Sunday afternoon. The Patriots beat UConn 86-84 to earn a Final Four berth.

George Mason upends top-seeded UConn

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — George Mason is no longer the cute little underdog. The Patriots, by golly, are going to the Final Four.

The suburban commuter school from Fairfax, Va., beat top-seeded Connecticut 86-84 in overtime Sunday in the Washington Regional final, ending the stranglehold that big-time programs have enjoyed for 27 years in college basketball's biggest showcase.

They lacked in size, athleticism and history relative to their opponent, but the 11th-seeded Patriots made up for it with tenacity.

Buoyed by a partisan crowd and playing some 20 miles from their campus, George Mason rallied after trailing by 12 late in the first half and nine early in the second.

They hit six straight 3-pointers in the second half, shot 5-for-6 in overtime and outrebounded UConn 37-34 even though the Huskies have three starters taller than any of the Patriots' frontcourt players.

The Patriots became the second double-digit seed to make the Final Four, matching LSU's run, also as an 11th seed, in 1986.

The Colonial Athletic Association team is the first true outsider to crash the Final Four since Penn and Indiana State both got there in 1979. The Patriots, whose at-large selection was roundly criticized, celebrated after the final horn by standing on the press row table and waving their shirts to their fans.

Patriots guard Tony Skinn said coach Jim Larranaga fired up his players by telling them that UConn's players didn't even know which conference George Mason is in.

"That's a little bit of disrespect," Skinn said. "Coach told us the CAA stands for 'Connecticut Assassin Association.'"

Larranaga led one of the school's familiar chants, yelling "George!" to the crowd's "Mason!" as he waited his turn to cut down the net. Then he climbed the ladder and worked the scissors with a smile, then waved the net high in the air to more cheers before slipping the nylon around his neck.

"I feel so good, through my own sadness, for Jim Larranaga," UConn coach Jim Calhoun said. "Playing at that level is not easy. I can only imagine the feeling they must have on that campus, in that locker room. ... It's something they probably never imagined. We've imagined it, and we've done it. They could never have imagined it."

IN BRIEF

Dolphins show interest in Vince Young

DAVIE, Fla. — Even though the Miami Dolphins now have Daunte Culpepper, they're still interested in Vince Young.

The University of Texas quarterback is scheduled to pay the Dolphins a visit April 9-10.

Young is among some 20 to 25 draft prospects expected to visit Miami. The Dolphins are in the market for a young quarterback to groom while serving as an understudy to Culpepper, acquired from the Minnesota Vikings in a trade March 14.

With the 16th overall pick, Miami would likely need to trade up to obtain Young, touted as the potential No. 1 choice. Should Young slide in the draft, there will still likely be plenty of competition for him. Every NFL team except Washington was on hand when he worked out Wednesday in Austin, Texas.

Ames wins The Players Championship

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — An embarrassing loss to Tiger Woods is in the past. A trip to the Masters might not be in his future. All that mattered to Stephen Ames was playing the best round of his life to overwhelm the best players in golf Sunday in The Players Championship.

A month after making fun of Woods, Ames won like him.

He hit impeccable iron shots to build a big lead on the treacherous TPC at Sawgrass, then let everyone collapse in a series of wrecks around him. When he had fired at his last flag, Ames had a 5-under 67 — the best round of a demanding final round — and won by six shots over two-time U.S. Open champion Retief Goosen.

"This is big," Ames said. "This is characterized as the fifth major. I beat the top players in the world."

Busch outduels Kenseth to win Food City 500

BRISTOL, Tenn. — Kurt Busch's friend and former teammate was in his way. So Busch banged Matt Kenseth aside — the first of two hard shoves Kenseth received — to win yet another race at Bristol Motor Speedway.

Opinions differed after if Busch's brash bump with four laps to go Sunday in the Food City 500 was out of line.

"We had to muscle past Matt Kenseth," Busch shrugged. "He's a good friend of mine, but he'll be OK with it."

Uhh, not really.

"He knocked me out of the way," Kenseth said. "I thought if he had a run on me, had me beat, that would have been OK. But he drove extra hard and knocked me out of the way. I thought it was a cheapshot."

Busch disagreed, believing the move was perfectly legal.

NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

ACC champion North Carolina edges past Boilermakers

Duke, Tennessee also advance to Elite Eight

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Ivory Latta crumpled to the floor when the pain became unbearable. But by then, North Carolina's season had been saved, rescued by the teeny, tenacious point guard who refused to lose.

With her left leg cramping, Latta made a driving layup with 2.8 seconds left and top-ranked North Carolina moved on in the NCAA tournament with a 70-68 win Sunday over Purdue in the semifinals of the Cleveland Regional.

"She's a winner," Tar Heels coach Sylvia Hatchell said of Latta. "She's just a tough little kid and she finds a way to win."

After flinging in her game-winner, the 5-foot-6 Latta tumbled into North Carolina's cheerleaders as Purdue inbounded the ball for a final chance at victory. Latta scrambled to her feet near the baseline, grabbed her leg and watched as Purdue's Katie Gearlds missed a 3-point heave as time expired.

The top-seeded Tar Heels (32-1) then surrounded a hunched-over Latta, who gingerly dropped onto the court and screamed in agony. In a matter of seconds, an arena buzzing from another madcap finish in March went silent.

Latta, tears rolling down her cheeks, laid on the floor for several minutes before she was carried to Carolina's locker room. The other Tar Heels remained on the floor to hear the school's alma mater, not knowing the junior star's status for their regional final matchup against Tennessee.

No worries, Tar Heel fans. Latta is fine.

"I'm a tough little cookie," she said with an ice bag soothing her sore calf. "It's going to take a lot to knock me out of a game."

Latta said her calf muscle cramped as she went up for the layup, but that she'll be able to make the Tar Heels' game with the second-seeded Lady Vols, who beat Rutgers 76-69 in the other semifinal.

"[Ivory Latta] is a winner. She's a tough little kid and she finds a way to win."

Sylvia Hatchell
Tar Heels coach

If not for her dramatic basket, North Carolina might have been on its way home.

The No. 4 seed Boilermakers (26-7) pushed one of the tournament favorites to the brink of elimination before Latta bailed her team out with a basket that neither she nor Tar Heel fans will soon forget.

"When I went up for the shot I was cramping in the air," she said. "I was trying to figure out how I was going to come down. I'd say it's one of the biggest shots I've made. I just love to win. We're not ready to go home. We work too hard."

Latta was unaware that her injury had quieted more than 8,000 fans in an instant.

"I was crying too hard," she said. "I was cramping so bad."

Aya Traore's 15-foot jumper with 29.6 seconds to go tied it at 68 before North Carolina called a timeout. On the final possession, Latta let some time run off the clock before she blasted toward the basket, used a pick from Camille Little to get some space and finished the Boilermakers off.

Erlana Larkins scored 23 points and Latta added 19, eight assists and four steals for the Tar Heels.

Lindsay Wisdom-Hylton scored a season-high 21 and Traore 17 for the Boilermakers, who battled back from seven points late in the second half but came up short.

Tennessee 76, Rutgers 69

Pat Summitt is sick of seeing good friend C. Vivian Stringer in March.

Tennessee's famed coach knocked her fellow Hall of Famer out of the NCAA tournament for the second straight year Sunday, winning in the semifinals of the Cleveland Regional.

Candace Parker scored 29 points with six blocks, and Shanna Zolman hit five 3-pointers for a career-high 29 points to lead Tennessee to its 21st regional final appearance.

Summitt took no joy though in beating Stringer.

"I hope we never see Rutgers again in a regional tournament," Summitt said. "We've seen them so many times. It's tough to play against one of your best friends."

The matchup of two of the three winningest coaches in women's basketball has gone Summitt's way every time in the postseason. The Scarlet Knights are 0-5 against the Lady Vols in the NCAA tournament, including a loss last season in the regional final.

Tennessee (31-4) will play Tuesday night against the winner of the other semifinal between North Carolina and Purdue.

Summitt previously called Tennessee's No. 2 seed in the same region with top overall seed North Carolina a "slap in the face."

Stringer didn't hold back in her criticism of the NCAA after the game.

"They have been a joke with regards to the selection," Stringer said. "I didn't say that earlier because I thought I'd get sent to Alaska and they don't have a regional there."

Parker, who last Sunday became the first woman to dunk in an NCAA tournament game, showed she can do much more than dunk.

She scored 12 straight points during a critical run by the Lady Vols early in the second half. The freshman hit jumpers, blocked shots and at times brought the ball up the floor, looking a little bit like NBA star LeBron James in his own building.

"I've only dunked in one game. I don't want that to be my identity," Parker said. "I want to be known for an all-around game."

Tennessee improved to 21-4 in the regional semifinals in its 25th straight appearance. The Lady Vols have not missed the regional finals since 2001.

As Summitt left the floor, she stopped to kiss her son and her mother, who is in a wheelchair.

"One more mom. One more," said Summitt, who is seeking her seven national title and first since 1998.

Matee Ajavon led Rutgers (27-5) with 24 points and Cappie Pondexter, a Naismith player of the year finalist, scored 22 in her final game.

"It's hard," Pondexter said in tears. "I've just got to move on."

Zolman, who has made three Final Four appearances and is Tennessee's career leader in 3-pointers, shot 10-for-14 and played all 40 minutes. Parker and Zolman accounted for all but 18 of the Lady Vols' points.

In the hallway waiting to begin their postgame news conference, Summitt rubbed Zolman's right shoulder.

"Show off," she told her senior guard, whose final 3-pointer put the Lady Vols up 69-59 with 4:26 left. "You were feeling it, huh?"

"Yeah," Zolman said.

Rutgers' defense, which led the nation by holding teams to 51.1 points per game, disrupted Tennessee early, but the Lady Vols went on a 30-10 run to go up 54-41 with 10:46 remaining.

"Candace Parker did a great job of attacking and it opened things up," Pondexter said.

Stringer tried defending Parker with several different players and even tried some zone, but couldn't find an answer.

Rutgers twice got within seven but Parker hit two free throws and added a right-handed scoop in the lane with 1:15 left to seal it. Tennessee's point total was the most allowed by Rutgers all season.

Parker went 11-of-13 from the foul line, had five rebounds and frustrated the Scarlet Knights inside.

Duke 86, Michigan State 61

The smiles broke out on the Duke bench midway through the second half. And why not? This one was over by then.

Monique Currie scored 17 points to lead top-seeded Duke to a win over Michigan State on Sunday night in the Bridgeport Regional semifinal.

Duke (29-3) advanced to a regional final for the sixth time and will play either third-seeded Georgia or second-seeded Connecticut on Tuesday night.

The Blue Devils had an answer for every Michigan State run early on — then ran away with the game in the second half and led by as many as 27 in the closing minutes.

Currie was one of six Blue Devils in double figures. Alison Bales, Duke's career blocks leader dominated inside and gave the Spartans (24-10) few second chances. Seven of her eight rebounds were on the defensive end and helped get the Blue Devils' transition off and running with every Michigan State miss. Duke had 18 points off the fast break and outscored the Spartans 48-22 in the paint.

"I don't know if we have played a team this year that was harder to play than Georgia was in every area of the game."

Geno Auriemma
Huskies coach

Mistie Williams had 13 points and a season-high four steals for the Blue Devils, who scored 23 points off turnovers.

The inside combination of Bales and Williams helped neutralize Liz Shimek, MSU's career scoring and rebounding leader. Shimek finished with five points. Victory Lucas-Perry had 17 points to lead the Spartans, last year's NCAA runner-up.

Michigan State hung around for the first 10 minutes of the game and was down by just a basket after a quick 7-2 run that got the Spartans fans into the game. The Blue Devils silenced them quickly with a 3-pointer from Jessica Foley and poured it on with a 13-4 run, capped by another Foley 3-pointer.

The Spartans had one more run in them as the first half wound down. Lucas-Perry's hit a 3 with 35 seconds left to close out a 7-0 run and cut the deficit to five.

But the Blue Devils came right back with a 3-pointer, this time from freshman Abby Waner in the final seconds and took a 45-37 lead into the half.

Connecticut 77, Georgia 75

Barbara Turner wasn't about to go home.

The Connecticut senior hit a fadeaway 3-pointer with 1.8 seconds left and two defenders on her to give the second-seeded Huskies a win Sunday night over Georgia in the Bridgeport Regional semifinal.

They will play top-seeded Duke in the regional final Tuesday night.

Turner had a career-high 31 points and nine rebounds to help the Huskies (32-4) rally from 15 points down. With the victory, the five-time national champs pushed their NCAA winning streak in the state of Connecticut to 29 games.

"Never in my basketball career have I had the opportunity that I just had with the ball in my hands, with the game on the line and to be able to make the shot," Turner said. "There is no better feeling in the world."

Tasha Humphrey led Georgia (23-9) with 27 points, but picked up her fourth foul with 8:45 to play. In the closing minutes, Turner drove inside and scored six points on Humphrey. Turner's layup with 1:42 left gave UConn a 71-68 lead.

Cori Chambers tied it for the Lady Bulldogs with a 3-pointer on Georgia's next possession. Sherill Baker then gave the Lady Bulldogs their first lead of the half, making the second of two free throws to make it 72-71.

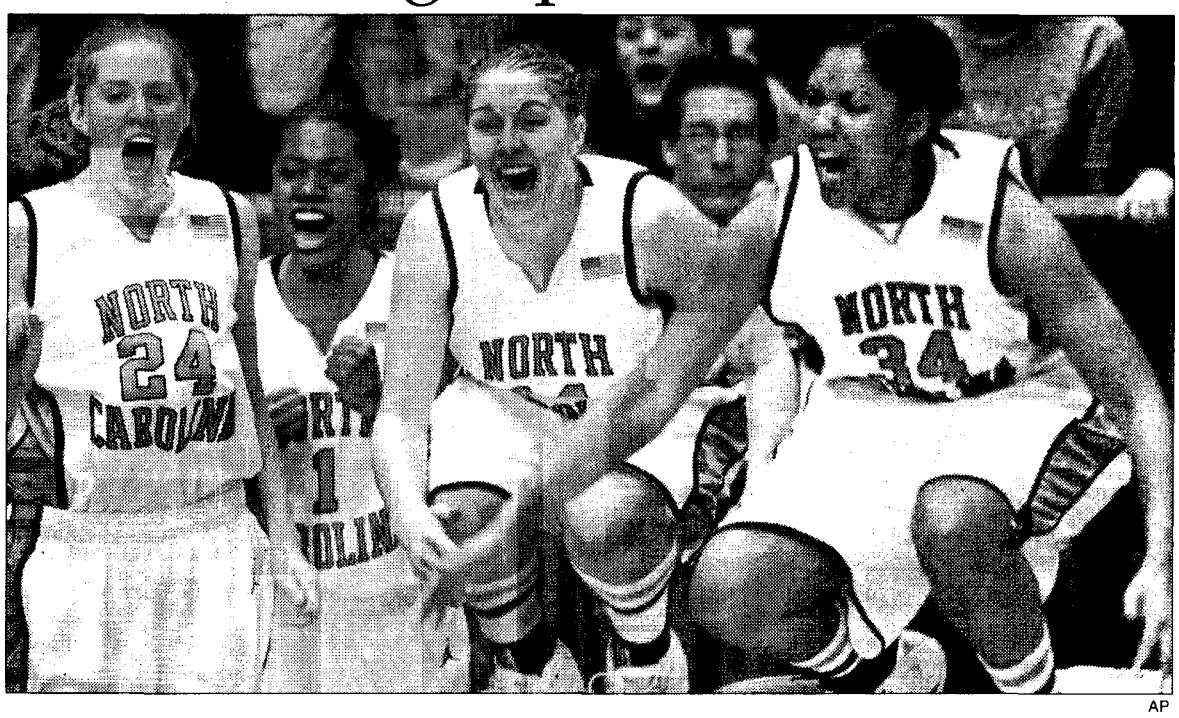
Ann Strother countered with a 3-pointer for UConn and the lead swung back the Huskies' way. But it didn't last long. With defenders looking inside for Humphrey, Chambers hit again from 3-point range with 20.3 seconds left to silence the partisan UConn crowd of 9,091.

After a UConn timeout, Turner got the ball on the right wing and, unable to drive inside with two defenders blocking her way, she fired up the winner.

At the final horn, Turner was mobbed by her teammates. Humphrey sank to her knees as her team and coaches gathered round her.

"I don't know if we have played a team this year that was harder to play than Georgia was in every area of the game," UConn coach Geno Auriemma said. "For us to get down 15 and come back and win the game, I feel really good about these two [Turner and Strother] because of the time and effort that they put into it."

It was Humphrey the Lady Bulldogs had turned to time and again throughout the season to shore up a depleted front court. Before the season even started, the Lady Bulldogs lost two post players to knee injuries and two more left the program for personal reason.



AP

North Carolina players celebrate their 70-68 win over Purdue Sunday. The Tar Heels move to the Elite Eight where they will play the No. 2-seed Lady Volunteers.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Florida knocks off top-seed Villanova 75-62

No. 3-seed Gators face George Mason in Final Four in Indianapolis

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Joakim Noah and the rest of Florida's sophomores were simply too strong for the last No. 1 seed standing.

With a 75-62 win over top-seeded Villanova in the Minneapolis Regional on Sunday, the young Gators are going to the Final Four a lot sooner than anyone would have thought.

Noah had 21 points, 15 rebounds and five blocks to lead the third-seeded Gators.

Fellow sophomore Al Horford added 12 points and 15 rebounds and Taurean Green scored 19 points for the Gators (31-6).

Florida will play No. 11 seed George Mason next Saturday in the national semifinals in Indianapolis.

This marks the first time since the field was expanded to 64 teams in 1985 that no top-seeded team advanced to the Final Four, and the second time in tournament history.

Villanova star Randy Foye fouled out with 28.9 seconds left and walked slowly to the bench to hug his coaches and teammates with tears streaming down his face.

He carried the Wildcats (28-5) for the second time in three days, without any help from fellow senior Allan Ray.

Foye had 25 points. Ray scored 11 points, on 5-for-19 shooting.

This was Florida's eighth straight trip to the NCAA tournament under coach Billy Donovan, but so many of his previous teams — minus the national runner-up in 2000 — failed to fulfill their potential in the postseason.

This tight group of sophomores, led by the fiery, ponytailed Noah, vowed to change that after bonding during their first few weeks on campus.

Despite a second-round loss in the tournament last year to Villanova, the Gators are a nation-best 15-1 in March over the last two years.

AP

Florida players celebrate their 75-62 win over top-seeded Villanova Sunday in Minneapolis. The Gators advanced to the Final Four in Indianapolis April 1 against George Mason.

Noah and Horford were too tough for the Wildcats to use much of the flashy, four-guard attack for which they are known.

Foul trouble made it impossible in the second half, as Foye drew his third at the 18-minute mark.

Kyle Lowry picked up his fourth with 14 minutes left and Ray's third came soon after.

A smooth, sweeping layup across the lane by Ray cut the Gators' lead to 54-47 with 7 1/2 minutes to go.

But after a foul by Will Sheridan, a timeout, and two more free throws by Noah, it was a nine-point edge for Florida.

The cap came when Horford, slowly backing down with the ball in the post as if he were Charles Barkley, spun and dropped an easy pass on the baseline to Noah — who powered up and dunked it for a 66-54 lead with less than 3 1/2 minutes left.

Before that, every time the Gators opened up a healthy lead the Wildcats came right back.

Ray picked up an early technical foul during a brief tiff for holding the ball in the face of Florida's Walter Hodge.

And the Wildcats lost some energy after that — falling behind by as many as 12.

A foul by Ray a little later in the half sent him to the bench, and put Green on the line for three shots.

Green made two of them to give the Gators a 31-21 lead with 5:46 left before halftime.

Despite shooting 21 percent from the field (8-for-38), Villanova refused to limp into the locker room with a double-digit deficit — as it did two days before in a third-round win over Boston College.

Florida became a bit careless, started getting frustrated with the officials and struggled when the Wildcats used their full-court zone press with Mike Nardi pestering Lee Humphrey at the top.

WOMEN'S CREW

Irish take 6 of 7 in Lubbers Cup

Notre Dame wins in spite of harsh weather

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame dominated the Lubbers Cup regatta in Grand Rapids, Mich. Saturday, winning six of the seven races in which Irish boats competed.

Amid rain and hail during the races, the Irish recorded victories in the varsity-eight, second varsity-eight, varsity-four, third varsity-four, novice-eight and second novice-eight competitions. Notre Dame rowers also placed second in the second varsity four competition.

"The weather is what it is and we can't change it," Irish coach Martin Stone said. "As long as there's a race, this team will row. We just have to worry about our own performance."

Official race times were unavailable Sunday night.

The Lubbers Cup was the team's last race before heading west to compete in the San Diego Classic next weekend. That regatta will feature seven squads that began the year in the national top-20.

"It should call for some fierce racing," Stone said of the event. "We just have to prepare well and not worry so much about the other teams."

"We just have to prepare well and not worry so much about the other teams."

Martin Stone
Irish coach

The Irish rowers believe their strong effort in Michigan has helped them gear up for their next event.

"This was definitely a good warm-up for [the San Diego Classic]," said freshman Elli Greybar, who helped the Irish finish first in the second varsity-eight and first novice-eight races. "And, as well as we rowed, we definitely feel like we'll do a good job next weekend. We're all looking forward to it."

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NCAA WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Wisconsin wins first NCAA title

Vetter, Badgers defeat Gophers in Minnesota

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Jessie Vetter and Jinelle Zaugg teamed to help Wisconsin win its first NCAA women's hockey title Sunday.

Vetter made 32 saves for second straight shutout in the Frozen Four and Zaugg had two power-play goals in the Badgers' 3-0 victory over Minnesota on Sunday.

Vetter, who beat St. Lawrence 1-0 in the semifinals on Friday, was selected the tournament's most valuable player.

The freshman finished the season with five shutouts.

"I made the first save in every period, and that really got me into the game," Vetter said.

"I was a little more relaxed in the last few minutes with the 3-0 lead, but we all defended really well."

With the win, the Badgers (36-4-1) claimed the school's first women's NCAA title since the cross country team won in 1985.

Zaugg opened the scoring midway through the first period, tapping in a rebound.

IRL

Rookie Paul Dana dies in practice lap crash

High speed collision kills racer in warmups

Associated Press

HOMESTEAD, Fla. — Paul Dana was an up-and-coming rookie driver living his dream, a former motorsports journalist who was hours away Sunday from beginning his most promising season yet.

Then, before the green flag flew, something went terribly, inexplicably wrong.

While streaking around the Homestead-Miami Speedway oval during a warmup session, Dana failed to notice that another car had spun to a stop, slamming into it at close to 200 mph. Two hours after his shattered car came to a rest, the 30-year-old Dana was pronounced dead at a hospital.

"Obviously, this is a very black day for us," team owner Bobby Rahal said. "This is a great tragedy."

Dana believed he had finally gotten his big break in the months before the season-opening IRL IndyCar Series race here. After a string of modest successes rising through racing's ranks, he had secured a ride with the elite Rahal Letterman Racing — the same team that fields IRL phenom Danica Patrick and Indianapolis 500 winner Buddy Rice.

Patrick and Rice did not run Sunday, but the race went on as planned, with defending Indy 500 and IRL points champion Dan Wheldon beating Helio Castroneves by a nose cone.

If the drivers had any jitters going into the race, it didn't show by the end — Wheldon and Castroneves carried off a side-by-side, tire-bumping duel in the final laps en route to the thrilling finish.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the Dana family and all of Rahal Letterman racing," said Wheldon, who ran the race with Dana's No. 17 on his side pod. "It's a very, very sad day. I think hopefully we put on a good race."

Two days before his death — the first in the IRL in three years — Dana was strolling through the paddock, shaking hands and signing autographs.

"I can't wait to get started because I want to prove to everyone that I can do the job," Dana told a longtime acquaintance. "I'm feeling good and I know I can race with these guys. And now I've got great equipment."

Dana's wife, Tonya, was in Indianapolis, where the couple lived, and was notified of her husband's death while attending a church service.

Dana, who began his career in Formula Fords and worked his way up through the ranks, was known as a strong self promoter. He got his new ride by bringing the Ethanol sponsorship to the Rahal Letterman team over the winter.

Still, the wreck might have been the result of a rookie mistake by Dana, whose previous IRL experience included just three races last season. Moments into the 30-minute warmup, Ed Carpenter, grandson of IRL founder Tony George, crashed in turn two and went spinning down the racetrack.

Yellow lights came on around the track, and several cars could be seen slowing, some of which avoided Carpenter's car. But Dana's car kept its speed, passing Buddy Lazier and Scott Sharp.

"He carried way too much speed in and wasn't aware of what was going on around him," Lazier said.

Seconds later, Dana's Honda-powered Panoz slammed into Carpenter's Dallara-Honda at nearly full speed — about 200 mph.

Dana's car nearly split in half. The chassis flew about 6 feet off the ground and pieces were strewn down the track. It nearly turned over, but landed on its wheels before sliding to a halt.

"I really don't know at this point what happened or who was at fault," said George, who founded the IRL in 1995. "It's just a real shame. I don't know that it was inexperience. I don't want to say anything about that."

Both drivers were flown by helicopter to a Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, where Dana was pronounced dead about two hours after the 10:03 a.m. crash. IRL officials said tests revealed no injuries to Carpenter, but the 25-year-old third-year driver was kept overnight for observation.

Dana's previous three IRL races with Ethanol Hemelgarn Racing came at the start of the 2005 season. He finished a season-best 10th at Homestead, but his year ended in May when he sustained a broken back while practicing for the Indianapolis 500.

There was no immediate explanation for Dana's failure to slow down several seconds after the yellow lights came on around the track because of Carpenter's crash.

"That's just the first time of the weekend that we got all 20 cars on the track at the same time," said IRL president Brian Barnhart. "Ed had his problem in turn two initially. The yellow lights were called immediately and all systems functioned properly. It's just a busy time out there, with a lot of cars and a lot of traffic."

Rahal, co-owner of the Rahal Letterman team, said he knew of no problem with communications.

"The spotter made clear the incident," Rahal said. "From what I could see, there was a car on the outside. Paul was just passing or had just passed, but I think it would be conjecture and probably very irresponsible for me to try to dissect as to why what happened, happened. But there was no problem with communication."

The Rahal Letterman team withdrew Patrick and Rice from the Toyota Indy 300, and a moment of silence was observed before the start of the 300-mile race. Otherwise, the prerace ceremonies, including the introduction of the remaining 17 drivers, went according to schedule.

Several drivers dedicated their race to Dana, but the fatality didn't slow them down a bit. The crowd was on its feet for the final 20 laps and the spectacular finish. The winning margin of 0.0147-seconds was the ninth closest finish in league history, and there were no serious accidents in the race.

WTA

Mauresmo, Craybas to face off in 5th round

No. 2 Clijsters, No. 3 Henin-Hardenne fall

Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — The lone American woman left at the Nasdaq-100 Open is Jill Craybas, which says something about Amelie Mauresmo's title chances.

With several top players absent or already eliminated, the No. 1-ranked Mauresmo eased into the fourth round by beating hobbled French compatriot Marion Bartoli 6-4, 6-0 Sunday.

Craybas knocked off a seeded opponent for the second day in a row, sweeping No. 27 Klara Koukalova 6-1, 6-2. That wasn't quite as monumental as her upset Saturday of defending champion Kim Clijsters, but it was pretty sweet for a 31-year-old tour veteran with one career title.

While the 5-foot-3 Rhode Island native is still standing, fellow Americans Serena and Venus Williams and Lindsay Davenport withdrew before the tournament. Two-time champion Martina Hingis was beaten Sunday by Svetlana Kuznetsova, and No. 2-seeded Clijsters and No. 3 Justine Henin-Hardenne lost their opening matches.

The depleted draw leaves Mauresmo as a heavy favorite to reach the final for the first time.

"I'm aware that Kim and Justine are out, but I'm really focusing on myself and what I have to do," Mauresmo said.

Also avoiding the upset trend was No. 4 Maria Sharapova, who erased eight set points in the second set and beat Maria Elena Camerin 6-2, 7-6 (2).

MEN'S SWIMMING

Diver competes in NCAAs

Freshman Bulfin lone Irish team member to dive at Nationals

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

Freshman diver Michael Bulfin became just the third Irish athlete in history to compete in the NCAA National Championship swimming and diving meet Thursday, finishing 18th and 27th in the preliminary rounds of two events at the competition in Atlanta, Ga.

He dove in the 1-meter and 3-meter events, with his better finish in the latter competition.

"The atmosphere was amazing," Bulfin said. "World records were being broken in the pool, and in the diving, well, I was in the midst of Olympic hopefuls. It was a lot of fun diving with those guys."

He qualified for the meet two weeks ago at the Zone-C diving championships by placing fourth in the 3-meter dive, a finish that came as a surprise to him.

"Next year, my expectations will increase a little now that I know making it to Nationals is possible," Bulfin said. "I hope to repeat getting back there and hopefully bring some points home."

"I hope to repeat getting back there and hopefully bring home some points."

Michael Bulfin
Irish freshman

The top 16 in each event scored points. The top eight qualified for the finals.

Bulfin said he cannot yet grasp the importance of his performance.

"I don't think it has really sunk in yet," he said. "I think I was more nervous [at the Zone-C meet], which determined if I would go to Nationals or not, than I was actually competing [in Atlanta]."

Bulfin's accomplishment was the culmination of Notre Dame's season, which included a second consecutive Big East Championship and 13 Irish swimmers and divers capturing All-Big East honors.

"I think [Irish coach Tim Welsh] has increased his expectations for me and the team in general, and hopefully we can meet those expectations," Bulfin said.

"The team is in a transition where I think we will be sending more and more kids to Nationals each year."

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TRACK & FIELD

3 Irish athletes qualify for NCAA Regionals

10 others earn berth to Big East Championship

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

Three Notre Dame competitors recorded NCAA Regional qualifying marks, while ten earned Big East Conference Championship qualifying spots at the NCAA Mideast Regional Saturday in Tucson, Ariz.

Senior Ryan Postel and seniors Stacey Cowan and Emily Loomis all set regional qualifying marks. Postel's first place mark of 47.03 seconds in the 400-meter was the seventh fastest time in school history in the event.

Cowan and Loomis both qualified in the women's high jump by clearing 5 feet, 8.75 inches. They finished third and fourth, respectively, after a jump-off.

In addition to Postel, sophomore Austin Wechter, freshman Mary Saxer, and freshman Alyissa Hasan also recorded times or distances in the top-10 in Notre Dame history. Wechter is now third in Notre Dame's record books with a personal best 52.67 seconds in the 400-meter hurdles.

Saxer captured the ninth best mark in Irish history with a height of 12 feet, 1.5 inches in the pole vault, and Hasan's 4,665 points in the heptathlon was the second most in program history.

Junior Maryann Erigha won the women's 100 meters in 11.67 seconds — just a hundredth of a second slower than her previous regional qualifying time — while junior Okechi Ogbuokiri finished eighth in the 200-meter dash with a Big East qualifying time of 24.72 seconds.

Regional qualifier Laura Huarte, a senior who holds the school record in the javelin, finished sixth in the pole vault.

The Observer could not contact Irish coach Joe Piane Sunday.

This week, part of the track team will trek west to the Stanford Invitational March 31 and April 1 while the rest of the team will compete in the Notre Dame Outdoor Opener at Moose Krause Stadium April 1.

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SMC TENNIS

Belles win conference match, fall to Aquinas

Saint Mary's beats Adrian 9-0 in second league match of year

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's split two matches this weekend, defeating conference foe Adrian but falling to Aquinas College in a back-and-forth match.

The Belles dominated Adrian from start to finish Saturday, winning all nine matches while never allowing the Saints to win more than three games in any set. In the 9-0 win, Saint Mary's won 11 of the 18 sets without allowing Adrian to win a game.

Kelly McDavitt, Mary Elizabeth Campbell and Grace Gordon all won their singles matches 6-0, 6-0.

But the Belles failed to capitalize on their momentum from the morning, as Saint Mary's lost a close match to Aquinas 5-4.

Four of the six singles matches went to three sets — and the overall outcome came down to a tiebreaker in the No. 3 doubles match.

Ultimately, Campbell and Tara O'Brien fell short in a tiebreaker, losing 9-8 (7-4) to Karri Santusky and Kelly Magee.

Saint Mary's won two of three doubles matches but captured just two of six singles points.

Picking up wins for the Belles in singles were Kristen Palombo and Campbell. The teams of Kelly McDavitt and Calie Mulcahy, and Palombo and Gordon won the doubles matches.

Saint Mary's record for the season stands at 6-4 on the season.

The win over Adrian moved Saint Mary's to 2-0 in conference play, as the Belles prepare to face the top conference foes in the coming weeks.

The stretch of tough competition begins Wednesday against conference rival Hope.

Belles coach Dee Stevenson could not be reached for comment Sunday.

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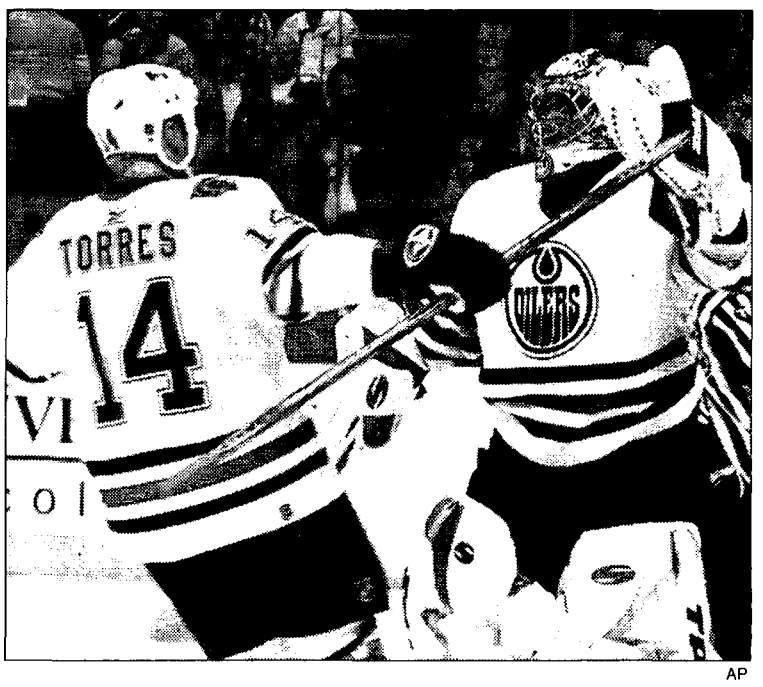
NHL

Samsonov propels Oilers

Edmonton beats the Rockies in tiebreaker to garner two points

Associated Press



AP

Edmonton Oilers goalie Dwayne Roloson, right, celebrates with left wing Raffi Torres after Roloson stopped all three shots in a shootout to seal the Oilers' 4-3 win over Colorado.

DENVER — Not even a muffed shot on a shootout scoring attempt could ruin the spirits of Edmonton's Ryan Smyth.

Sergei Samsonov scored the lone shootout goal on the first attempt in the tiebreaker to help the Oilers beat Colorado 4-3 on Sunday night, leaving the Avalanche tied for first place in the Northwest Division.

After Samsonov scored, Edmonton's Michael Peca and Smyth failed to get the puck past Avalanche goalie Peter Budaj.

"We needed this one badly," Smyth said. "Right now two points are better than one."

Jarret Stoll and Steve Staios also scored in regulation for the Oilers, third in the division — two points behind Colorado and Calgary.

"We all know what's going on here and we maintain getting points, especially teams that are right there with us," said Smyth, who scored the first goal of the game for Edmonton. "We had our chances and we still won in a shootout."

The Oilers' Dwayne Roloson stopped Antti Laaksonen, Milan Hejduk and Joe Sakic in the shootout after making 31 saves in regulation and overtime. Oilers coach Craig MacTavish pondered using another goalie a day after Edmonton had beaten Vancouver 3-2.

"My mindset all along with Roloson was that I was going to take my reads from last night's game and determine how many shots he faced, what the result was, and his makeup coming through that," MacTavish said. "After last night's game, I knew I was going to play him tonight."

The Avalanche had much more to stew about, missing a chance to move past Calgary for first place in the division.

"It's tough when you don't need a lot of goals to win and don't," Colorado coach Joel Quenneville said. "But we did get three out of four points this weekend, and we're tied for first place."

Hejduk, Andrew Brunette and Jim Dowd scored goals for the Avalanche.

Stoll broke a 2-2 tie at 3:51 of the third period, deflecting a shot from Raffi Torres between Budaj's pads. Dowd tied it at 3 with his fifth season, scoring off a cross ice pass from Brad May.

"It was just one of those things you just keep going," Dowd said. This is a pressure type team they want to go without giving up on the defensive side."

NBA

Foyle and Dunleavy lead Warriors to win

Sacramento has slim chance to get back in thick of playoff race

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — This isn't the first time the Golden State Warriors have looked like a playoff team just after the postseason slipped out of reach.

Still, if Jason Richardson and his teammates maintain this latest late-season surge, they've got a slim chance to put themselves right back in the pressure of the playoff race.

Adonal Foyle scored a season-high 18 points, Mike Dunleavy added 17 and the Warriors hung on to snap the Kings' 14-game home winning streak, beating Sacramento 90-83 Sunday night for their sixth victory in their last eight games against their Northern California rivals.

Richardson added 16 points for the Warriors, who never trailed but blew a 16-point lead in the second half before winning for the fifth time in seven games overall. Richardson struggled all night with 5-for-19 shooting, but hit a 3-pointer with 1:08 to play and added two free throws in the final minute.

As usual, the Warriors are playing splendidly now that their near-annual midseason slide is complete. Last season, Golden State won 14 of its final 18 games after Baron Davis arrived in a deadline trade.

But this win put last-place Golden State in 11th place in the Western Conference, just four games behind eighth-place Sacramento with two games in hand. Sure, it's a long shot — but after 11 straight seasons out of the playoffs, the Warriors will tell themselves just about anything.

"We're still hoping," Richardson said. "The Kings have got the playoff spot we want. We know we've pretty much got to run the table from here on out."

Davis sat out his fifth straight game with a sprained ankle that's limited him for several weeks, but the Warriors got several big shots from Derek Fisher, who scored 16 of his 17 points in the second half. Foyle and Dunleavy carried Golden State through the first three quarters, but Fisher and Richardson made the final big baskets.

"There's still a possibility, and that's what we're playing for," Fisher said of the postseason. "This game felt really good. This was some of the best balance we've had in a long time. It's nice to win one of these games without Jason having to score 99 points."

Shareef Abdur-Rahim scored 24 points for the Kings, who hadn't lost at home since Jan. 8 against Indiana, pounding most of their opponents during their midseason resurgence into a playoff spot. They were 10-0 at Arco Arena with Ron Artest — but the star forward's erratic 4-for-20 shooting was a big reason for this defeat.

"We just have to see what we did back then, and see what we're doing now," Artest said of the Kings' slump. "We're going to have to finish the last games off strong. I felt pretty good out there. Right now we're not playing both ends of the floor each game, only sometimes."

MEN'S LACROSSE

Fifth-ranked Hofstra upends eleventh-ranked Notre Dame

6-0 Pride run puts away Irish in third

By TIM DOUGHERTY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame hung tough with No. 5 Hofstra for two quarters Saturday, but a 6-0 third-quarter run by the Pride put the game out of reach for the No. 11 Irish.

The Irish were looking to snap Hofstra's four game winning streak but couldn't recover from Hofstra's late surge and lost 13-5. Hofstra also scored the game's final four goals.

"We talked about how they're a streaky team," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan. "They can turn three goals into six. ... They play on emotions, and they score in bunches. We knew we had to be poised enough when they make a couple plays."

Notre Dame played the Pride close throughout the first half, coming back from an early 3-0 first quarter deficit to tie the game at 3-3 in the second quarter thanks to back-to-back goals from senior midfielder Matt Karweck and the first of three goals by senior attack Brian Hubschmann.

Pride senior attack Chris Unterstein scored one of his game-high four goals just before half to give Hofstra a 4-3 edge into the break. Hubschmann responded with his second score less than a minute into the second half to tie it at 4-4. But the Pride used a 9-2 second half advantage to seal the outcome in front of 4,363 fans at James M. Shuart Stadium — the biggest crowd Notre Dame has played in front of this season.

"They're a very good team that is playing very well," Corrigan said. "They did what they needed to be very successful. We did what we needed to for 30 minutes. They did it for the entire 60 minutes."

With face-off specialist Taylor Clagett missing his second straight game due to an injury sustained in a March 14 game against Villanova, Irish senior backup Steve Panos won only two of the 15 face-offs he took while splitting time with sophomore defenseman Sean Dougherty.

Winning 16 of 22 the game's face-offs, Hofstra controlled long possessions, sparking its second half run.

"When they scored two or three in the quarter, we didn't handle that as well," Corrigan said.

Notre Dame's failure to stay composed led to poor execution, Corrigan said, including ball handling mistakes that accounted for seven failed clears of Notre Dame's 21 attempts — a performance not emblematic of the team's .798 average on the year.

Amid failed clears and lost face-offs, the Irish spent most of the game on defense, as the Pride offensive players responded like a top-5 team, beating tired Irish defenders one-on-one and recording eight unassisted goals.

The 13 goals were the most given up by the Irish this year. Hofstra's edge over the Irish in groundballs (14) and shots (17) were also the largest advantages Notre Dame has surrendered.

"Defensively we didn't play as well in terms of team defense as we wanted to," Corrigan said. "Part of that credit goes to them. They made some plays."

The Irish had just four third-quarter possessions, while Hofstra had six goals in the period.

The five Irish goals was the team's lowest total of the season, as only season goal leaders Hubschmann (18) and Karweck (13) put the ball in the net.

Senior attack and preseason All-American Pat Walsh tallied one assist but suffered his second straight goalless game, after scoring six goals at Hofstra last year.

"Limited possessions usually end up in limited goals," Walsh said. "Things didn't go our way and in a limited possession game, you've got to cash in on the opportunities you've got. I didn't do that personally, and we didn't do that as a team."

With eight games remaining in the season and eight more chances to play their way into postseason contention, Corrigan said he will not allow his team to dwell on Saturday's disappointment.

"I'certainly hope our morale doesn't go down because we lost to a top five team on the road," he said. "We can't be that fragile."

Notre Dame meets Brown Wednesday in the team's first home game after three straight on the road.

Though Corrigan hopes to have Clagett back this week, he is not sure how long it will take him to recover. He does expect Clagett to return sometime this year — as well as injured sophomore midfielder Mike Podgajny, who has missed the last three games.

Contact Tim Dougherty at tdougher@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish remain unbeaten after win against Iowa

Juniors Christian and Catrina Thompson propel Notre Dame as team has yet to lose a doubles point this spring

By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer

The No. 2 Irish dominated another opponent Saturday at the Eck Tennis Pavilion, defeating No. 39 Iowa 6-1 to improve to 16-0 on the season — the best start in the program's history. Notre Dame is only one of three Division-I teams that remain unbeaten.

"It is definitely exciting to be playing our first [season] in college for a team that is doing so well," freshman Katie Potts said. "Everyone has really played their best tennis."

Notre Dame claimed the doubles point for the 16th time in as many matches. The first team to win for the Irish was the No. 3 pairing of juniors Christian and Catrina Thompson. The All-American juniors downed the Hawkeyes' Jacqueline Lee and Meg Racette 8-2 at No. 1.

Playing at No. 2 for Notre Dame was the No. 29 duo of sophomore Brook Buck and freshman Kelcy Tefft. The twosome defeated Kayla Berry and Hillary Mintz 8-4.

But the Irish failed to complete the sweep with a loss at No. 3. Seniors Kiki Stastny and captain Lauren Connelly fell to the pairing of Krissy Dowlin and Milica Veselinovic after forcing a tiebreaker.

"We've played well in every match," Tefft said.

In singles, No. 30 Catrina Thompson recorded her 11th victory in dual matches at No. 1 with a 6-1, 6-3 win over No. 33 Racette.

No. 74 Christian Thompson began the match by dropping just one point to Mintz in the first set, but she needed a super-tiebreaker to secure the 6-1, 5-7, 1-0 (10-5) victory at No. 2.

Following at No. 3 was Buck who came back after losing the first set to top Veselinovic 2-6, 6-4, 1-0 (10-3).

Iowa claimed its only point during the contest with a 6-4, 7-5 win from Lee over Tefft.

"She hit the ball hard and had big forehands," Tefft said.

The last two wins for the Irish came from Stastny and Potts at Nos. 5 and 6.

Stastny defeated Dowlin 6-3, 6-1 and Potts topped Merel Beelen 6-1, 6-2.

"I just went into the match confidently and found an early rhythm during the match," Potts said.

Despite the challenges the Hawkeyes gave the Irish during the contest, the Irish were just glad to be playing at Eck.

"It was just nice having a home match after being away for 11 days [during spring break]," Tefft said.

The Irish head back to the road Tuesday when they face No. 12 Vanderbilt in Nashville, Tenn.

"It is definitely exciting to be playing our first [season] in college for a team that is doing so well."

Katie Potts
Irish freshman

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No-no

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so far this year, so we wanted to get her some work, and she did a great job," Gumpf said.

With an ERA of 1.62 in her four appearances so far this year, Fuemmeler is likely to see more time.

Sunday marked the second time Booth has pitched part of a no-hitter. The first came when she combined with 2005 graduate Carrie Wisen last season.

"She owned them today," Gumpf said. "They just couldn't touch her changeup."

In the second game, Booth pitched in relief in extra innings to shut down the Broncos for a second time and earn her third save of the season for the Irish.

"I felt pretty good today," Booth said. "It was good to connect with [catcher] Erin [Glasco]. I feel like her and I made good strides."

Booth replaced Brittany Bargar on the mound in the bottom of the eighth inning after Bargar had allowed only three hits and one run through the first seven and a third.

The Irish had trouble getting to Broncos pitcher Krysten Shumaker early in the game and the game was scoreless after seven innings.

But in the top of the first extra frame, Alexandra Kotcheff came through with the hit that the Irish needed. Her one-out single up the middle found its way past the Western Michigan center fielder, and both Stephanie Brown and Stephanie Mola scored on the play. Mola led off the inning with her first career hit.

Mola, Kotcheff and Bargar — all freshmen — continued to make a large impact for the Irish this season.

"[The freshmen] have really stepped up," Gumpf said. "I always have had confidence in them, and expected a lot from ever since they were recruited."

Notre Dame will play its first home game this Wednesday as Notre Dame takes on Bowling Green at Ivy Field.

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SMC SOFTBALL

Belles take sweep of doubleheader in rain

Team dominates Rose-Hulman in two games Saturday afternoon

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

Forced to play in less than comfortable weather conditions, the Belles were able to both physically and mentally outplay Rose-Hulman Saturday in Terre Haute, Ind., as Saint Mary's swept the Engineers in a doubleheader on the road.

"We went in knowing that the team who was mentally together was who was going to come of with a win," senior Bridget Grall said.

Grall led the Belles from the mound in their dominating 10-1 win over Rose-Hulman. Margaret Kelly brought in the sole run for the Engineers in the bottom of the second off Megan Messer's fly-out to right field.

The Belles' ability to keep their minds on the game allowed them to turn in strong offensive performances, Grall said.

The weather varied throughout the day, but Grall said the Belles focused better than their opponents. One minute both teams were dealing with the cold and snow and the next dealing with the hot sun.

Grall said there was no one moment that secured the Belles' win, since everyone delivered impressive performances across the board.

"Our offense was key," Grall said. "They helped the confidence of our pitchers to go out and get the job done."

Freshman Kristin Amram brought heat from the mound as she helped Saint Mary's garner a 15-1 win in the second game. Amram, last week's athlete of the week at Saint Mary's, grabbed her fourth career win at Terre Haute. Her success on the mound was met by stellar offensive performances from the Belles.

> *"Our offense was key. They helped the confidence of our pitchers to go out and get the job done."*
>
> **Bridget Grall**
> **Belles pitcher**

High scoring marked the fourth inning for the Belles. Junior Sarah Meisle homered, driving in two runs. Laura Heline also collected two RBIs, adding to the nine runs the Belles secured that inning.

Coach Erin Sullivan praised her team for its ability to continue on a successful run.

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NBA

Seattle overcomes San Antonio

SuperSonics guard drains a 3-pointer to secure crucial victory

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Ray Allen got the final say Sunday night in his escalating feud with San Antonio's Bruce Bowen.

Allen's 3-pointer with 5.4 seconds left capped a 33-point performance and gave the Seattle SuperSonics a 106-102 win over the San Antonio Spurs.

Earlier in the game, Allen was kicked in the back by Bowen while the two were laying on the ground. Bowen was called for a technical, while Allen had to be restrained by Robert Swift and Nazi Mohammed.

"It's just dirty basketball. It's plain, outright, dirty basketball," Allen said. "You guys have chronicled our battles over the last couple of years and I don't mind the competition, someone going at me on both ends of the floor. ... But when guys start throwing elbows and kick you when your down, that's dirty basketball and I don't respect guys like that."

Afterward, Bowen was apologetic, admitting it was a mistake. Allen believes the Spurs' forward should be fined.

"I did what I did and I'm sorry for that," Bowen said. "But there's nothing I can do to take it back."

After Allen had his shot blocked out of bounds with 9 seconds left, Seattle inbounded to Johan Petro trailing 102-100. The center then handed off to Allen and screened Bowen, giving Allen room to shoot over Tim Duncan.

San Antonio still had a chance to keep its lead over Dallas in the race for the top spot in the Western Conference. After a timeout Manu Ginobili tried to pass to Duncan, but the ball was knocked away by Petro and over to Rashard Lewis, who was fouled with 1.6 left. Lewis made the first free throw, missed the second, but got the rebound after it was tipped by Allen. He was fouled with 0.3 left and made both attempts.

Allen rebounded from two subpar performances making five 3-pointers. In his previous two games, Allen had missed 23 of 33 shots, but was 13-for-23 against the Spurs and found his stroke against the suffocating, physical defense of San Antonio's Bowen.

> *"I don't mind the competition, someone going at me on both ends of the floor. ... But when guys start throwing elbows and kick you when your down, that's dirty basketball and I don't respect guys like that."*
>
> **Ray Allen**
> **SuperSonics guard**

Seattle made 10 of 16 3-point attempts. Luke Ridnour added 19 points and seven assists and Lewis had 16 points for the Sonics.

"I don't want to get caught up in those little battles where I'm out there angry, trying to get him back," Allen said. "I just want to make the right plays, continue to be aggressive ... and not layoff."

Duncan led the Spurs with 28 points, rebounding from a season-low six against Portland on Friday. But the Spurs fell into a tie with Dallas for the best record in the Western Conference at 54-16. Ginobili and Tony Parker both finished with 17 points and Parker added 12 assists.

Parker gave the Spurs a 102-100 lead with 35 seconds left on a baseline floater, capping a 9-0 run.

On Seattle's next possession, Ridnour's pass was intercepted by Robert Horry, but Horry fell out of bounds before calling timeout, giving Seattle possession with 13 seconds left.

"We just needed to call timeout," San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich said. "We can never put that in a referee's hands to call a push or not."

Trailing 100-93 with 3:12 left, the Spurs scored seven straight to pull even at 100 on Ginobili's reverse layup with 1:12 remaining. Horry started the run with a 3-pointer and Bowen added a short jumper, while Seattle turned the ball over twice.

"We did a good job to fight back into it," Duncan said. "We got the stops and jus made too many mistakes down the stretch."

Bowen finished with 12 points and Horry scored 10 off the bench for San Antonio. Chris Wilcox scored 14 for Seattle and Petro had six points and four rebounds in the fourth quarter.

Blowout

continued from page 28

team's defensive tenacity after Notre Dame's 21-12 loss to Northwestern March 18.

"One of the things we really wanted to work on in this game was extending our limits," Coyne said. "I definitely think we did that with the interceptions and causing those turnovers on defense."

Coyne said the offense matched the defense's level of play.

It was the team's third highest goal total on the season, but in neither of the top two goal-scoring games was it so dominant, Coyne said.

The difference was evident as the team utilized a more risk-taking style of attack that it lacked against Northwestern.

"I was definitely pleased with the attack today," Coyne said. "We were taking a lot more risks, and really thinking outside the box."

The one goal that most epitomized what Coyne wanted from her team came at the end of the first half, when attack Meghan Murphy shot and scored over her shoulder with her back to the goal to give Notre Dame an 11-2 halftime lead.

Murphy was one of 10 Notre Dame scorers, including four Irish players with multiple goals. Orr's four goals led all scorers, followed by three from both Murphy and attack Caitlin McKinney, and attack Jill Byers added two.

Notre Dame midfielder Crysti Foote, the team's leading scorer, was shut down for most of the game, contributing only one goal in the second half. But that one goal was the 123rd of her career, moving her ahead of Lael O'Shaughnessy as the second-leading scorer in Irish history.

Orr said a major reason for Notre Dame's win was its method of practice, which focuses more on itself than on opponents.

"I was definitely pleased with the attack today. We were taking a lot more risks, and really thinking outside the box."

Tracy Coyne
Irish coach

"All week in practice we worked on how we could complicate our offense, doing things like feeding the ball in the middle and running different offensive sets," Orr said. "It was more important for us to know what we had to improve on than to know what our opponents might do — and that definitely helped us win."

Next up for the Irish is a challenging five-game road swing, as Notre Dame travels to No. 2 Duke, No. 11 Georgetown and No. 13 Syracuse all in the next month.

"It was more important for us to know what we had to improve on than to know what our opponents might do."

Kaki Orr
Irish attack

"The level of talent in our next few games is much higher than it has been so far," Orr said. "The Canisius game was a good building block, but there are still a lot of tough games coming up that we can win."

The Irish begin the road stretch Friday at 1 p.m. against Connecticut.

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Returns

continued from page 28

and James will get some looks at kickoff return," Weis said. "We've got a whole bunch of guys with return ability that are coming in the door."

Aldridge, a 6-foot-1, 215-pound running back, and West, 5-foot-8, 172-pound receiver, are settling in to spring practice well, Weis said.

"I think they're going through a little bit of a transition [to a faster pace]," he said.

Weis said competition in special teams will be important after Notre Dame averaged just 19 yards per return last year on kickoffs. Rising sophomore receivers D.J. Hord and David Grimes were the main return men for the Irish at the end of last season.

"Let's see if we can't get the [best] returners back there — whether it's David or D.J., or ... George West," Weis said. "I don't care who it is, we need to start getting the ball past the 30 when it's not a touchback."

On Friday, Irish safety and punt returner Tom Zbikowski said his expressed desire to participate on kickoff returns is subordinate to his need to improve on defense.

"I've got to stick to getting better and worrying about the secondary right now," he said. "I'll try to step into his office, maybe. I don't know."

A day later, Weis said he was opposed to the idea.

"He wants to play quarterback — you're barking up the wrong tree," Weis said. "Any time he can touch the ball, he likes to touch the ball."

Weis said the competition for kickoff returns will be similar to the competition at almost every other position. He said he has reminded all the returning players that 25 incoming freshmen will arrive in August to compete for starting jobs as motivation for the team.

"I think that our competition ... will be better this year because we will have more quality athletes competing for the same jobs," Weis said.

Weis said he is most focused on the competition between potential starters at the linebacker position and is looking for improvement at the other defensive positions.

He said the first three days of practice went well in evaluating talent at linebacker.

"We're getting a legitimate look at all of the contenders because they're getting a lot of action," he said.

Defensive coordinator Rick Minter said he was watching the contest for the starting role closely.

"The new guys have got to step up," Minter said. "It's going to be fun and challenging and scary all at the same time to see who those three are going to be — who's going to be starting at linebacker for the spring game."

While the linebacker spot has garnered the most attention, Weis said a lack of depth on the offensive line has forced him to alter his practice setup.

"When you don't have two complete offensive lines ... it forces [changes]," Weis said. "We have the same number of reps we normally have but it's broken up so much more so people aren't dropping out on you."

Practice resumes today at 4 p.m. at the Loftus Center. Weis said practices will remain indoors until the grass on Cartier Field grows thick enough to avoid injuries.

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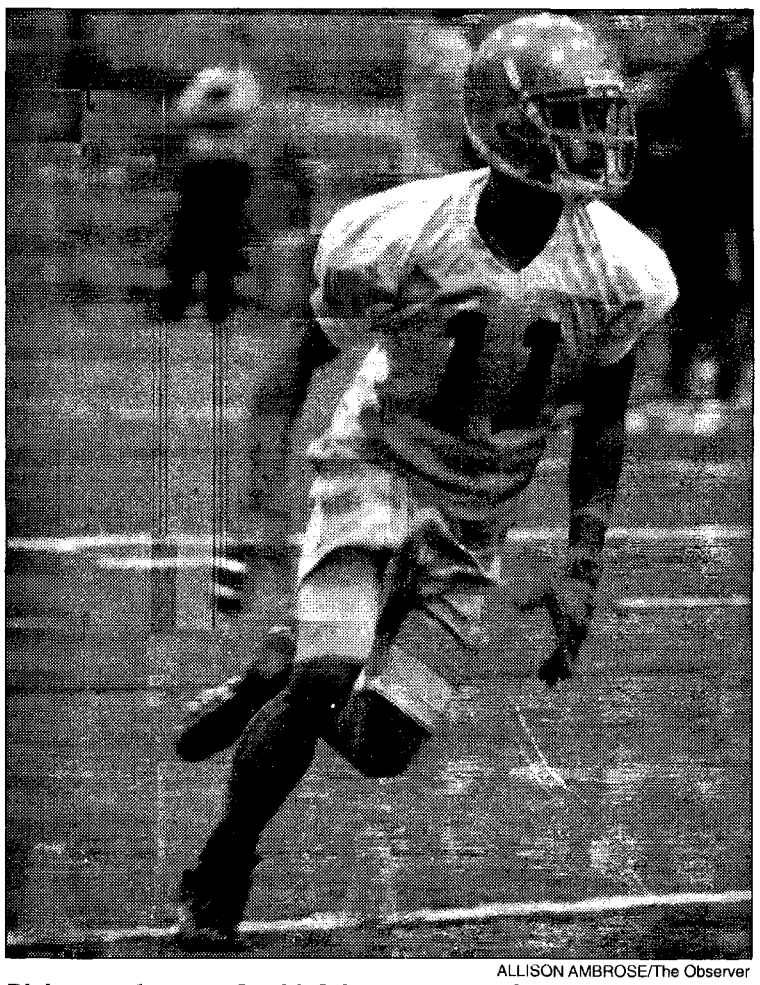
ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Early enrollee running back James Aldridge prepares to hit a blocking sled during practice March 22. Irish head coach Charlie Weis said Aldridge will compete for the kickoff return job.



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Rising sophomore David Grimes runs during practice Friday. Grimes returned kicks for the Irish last year averaging 22.5 yards per return. Irish head coach Charlie Weis said there will be increased competition for the kickoff return position.

Troubles

continued from page 28

both points with No. 2 singles victories in each match. Parbhu has played some matches at No. 1 this season, switching positions with Stephen Bass.

"Sheeva's playing at a very high level," Bayliss said. "He's been there for us all year and I'm very encouraged by what I see."

Against Texas A&M, the Irish went down early with a lopsided loss in doubles. Eric Langenkamp and Andrew Roth lost 8-1 at No. 2 and Ryan Keckley and Parbhu lost by the same score at No. 1. The No. 3 match was abandoned in the interests of time, but Bass and Barry King were trailing 7-4 when the point was clinched.

In singles, Andrew Roth quickly fell at No. 6, losing 6-2, 6-2 to Brett Joelson. Parbhu clinched a straight-set victory at No. 2, defeating Bryan Wooten 6-3, 7-6 (7-3) for the only Irish point. The rest of the Irish forced four third sets but were unable to finish the points.

"Basically all of them fought back and pulled themselves back in the matches," Bayliss said. "It was really touch and go at the end. This is a match we could have won."

Barry King lost 6-2, 1-6, 6-3 at No. 4 and Conor Pollock topped Langenkamp 6-0, 6-7 (2-7), 6-3 to clinch the match for the Aggies.

Brett Helgeson, who usually plays at No. 3 singles, was out with a minor injury. Bayliss said that the Aggie players were very close in ability but did not speculate on the effect Helgeson's injury had on the match.

"You play with what you have and you don't make excuses," he said. "We had a good enough team to win the match and we had enough opportunities.... They're a good team."

Bass chose to finish his match, but ended up losing 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 to Jerry Makowski at No. 1. Makowski is No. 8 nationally in singles play.

Keckley, who made his debut in the singles rankings in the No. 115 slot, was tied 3-3 in the third set of his match at No. 3, which was abandoned according to an agreement made before the match to conserve time for the traveling Irish.

Although the loss was disappointing, Bayliss praised his team's grit and determination in fighting back into position against a strong team.

"I was surprised [Texas A&M] beat [No. 2] Illinois, but now I can see why," Bayliss said. "They're pretty tough at home."

Texas 6, Notre Dame 1

The Irish fell to No. 5 Texas on Saturday in a difficult match against top-flight competition.

"Texas just spanked us," Bayliss said. "They showed me why they are a top-five team and they played very well. We were in a lot of the matches but they were the better team and deserved to win."

"Texas just spanked us. They showed me why they are a top-five team and they played very well. We were in a lot of the matches but they were the better team and deserved to win."

Bobby Bayliss
Irish coach

In doubles, the Irish lost all three matches. Bass and King were first off the courts, falling 8-3. They were followed by Keckley and Parbhu, who lost 8-2 at No. 1. Although the point was already clinched, the Longhorns added a victory at No. 2, winning 8-4 over Langenkamp and Roth.

In singles, Keckley lost 6-1, 6-2 at No. 4 to put Texas up 2-0. Parbhu pulled the Irish within one with a 6-4, 6-1 victory over No. 20 Callum Beale at No. 2, but the rest of the outcomes would be dismal for Notre Dame.

At No. 3, Helgeson lost 6-4, 6-3 to Longhorn star Roger Gubser and Eric Langenkamp lost 6-3, 6-4 at No. 6 to clinch the match for the Longhorns.

"You play with what you have and you don't make excuses."

Bobby Bayliss
Irish coach

After the final point, King lost 6-4, 6-4 at No. 5 and Bass lost to No. 20 Travis Helgeson 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 in the top spot.

Although the team was frustrated by the loss, Bayliss pointed out that playing against elite competition puts the Irish in the best position for the postseason.

"The reason we try to play the best teams is to play ourselves [into] a position [so that] at NCAA [tournament] time, we know what it's like and we know what it takes and we know what areas we have to improve to be at that level," Bayliss said.

The Irish next play April 8 at home at 1 p.m. against Southern Methodist.

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Milestone

continued from page 28

Georgetown 8, Notre Dame 3

The Hoyas exploded for four runs in the eighth against Notre Dame reliever Jess Stewart to put the game away.

Mainieri sent junior Jeff Manship to the mound for the first game Saturday. Manship pitched six full innings, allowing four runs on eight hits, but left the game trailing and ended up with the loss.

The Irish opened the scoring with two runs in the top of the first on an RBI double by left fielder Matt Bransfield, but the Hoyas came back to tie in the bottom half with two runs of their own.

"We were disappointed not to win all the games. But we'll be happy to win the series and look forward to Pittsburgh next weekend."

Paul Mainieri
Irish head coach

Georgetown picked up two more runs in the bottom of the third, and the Irish answered with one in their half of the fourth after center fielder Alex Nettey took first on his Big-East leading 10th hit-by-pitch and was later driven in on a single by shortstop Greg Lopez.

"I think we've got some tough kids that stand close to the plate and when pitchers throw inside they don't back down," Mainieri said.

But that was all the scoring the Irish would do.

Notre Dame 12, Georgetown 2

The Irish bats came alive in the second game of Saturday's doubleheader as Notre Dame put 12 runs on the board in a 10-run win.

Rizzo led the Irish offensively, going 3-4 with a home run, four RBIs, and three runs scored.

"[The win] was big for us after losing the first game," Rizzo said. "We came out and showed them we're a better team than that."

First baseman Jeremy Barnes also homered for Notre Dame from the leadoff spot.

Right-hander Jeff Samardzija threw seven innings, allowing just five hits en route to his second win of the season.

Hoyas starter Darren Sizemore struggled, giving up nine runs and 11 hits in just 4-plus innings.

Notre Dame 6, Georgetown 3

The Irish jumped out to a 6-0 lead on the Hoyas before a ninth inning Georgetown rally cut the lead in half.

Notre Dame starter Tom Thornton pitched 8-plus innings without allowing a run, but was pulled after allowing two in the ninth. Closer Kyle Weiland came in to get the final outs.

"There was never really any fear they would come back," Rizzo said. "We thought six runs would be enough."

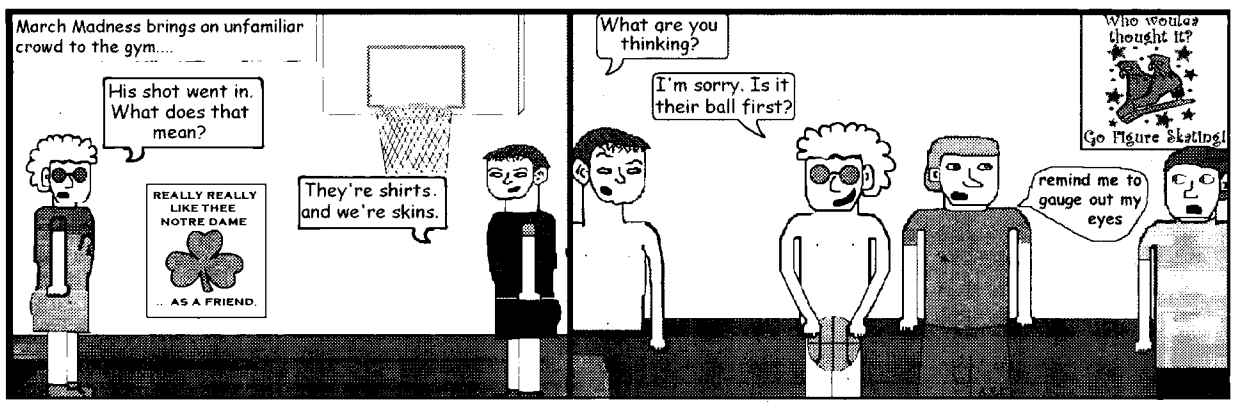
The Irish scored two runs in the top of the first, then added three in the fifth and one more in the ninth. The Hoyas tallied only six hits in the game and had no players with more than one.

Notre Dame will next be in action Tuesday at 5:05 p.m. against Valparaiso at Frank Eck Stadium.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

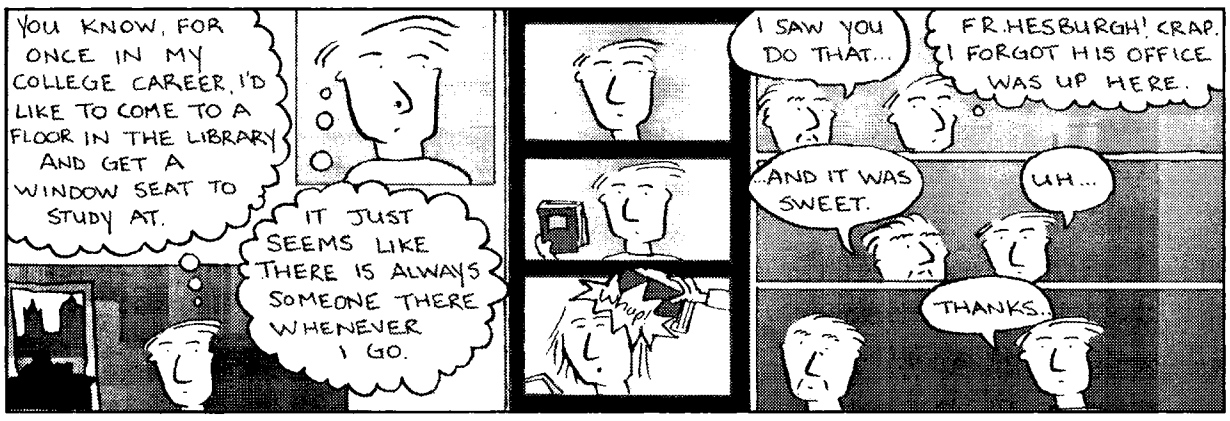
JOCKULAR

ALEC WHITE & 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.

SOSAB

RATTI

MOCINE

www.jumble.com

GOADIA

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

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

Answer: ( ) " ( ) "

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PUDGY ERUPT MALLET JESTER
Answer: When they settled their disagreement over a new bed, they – PUT IT TO "REST"

CROSSWORD

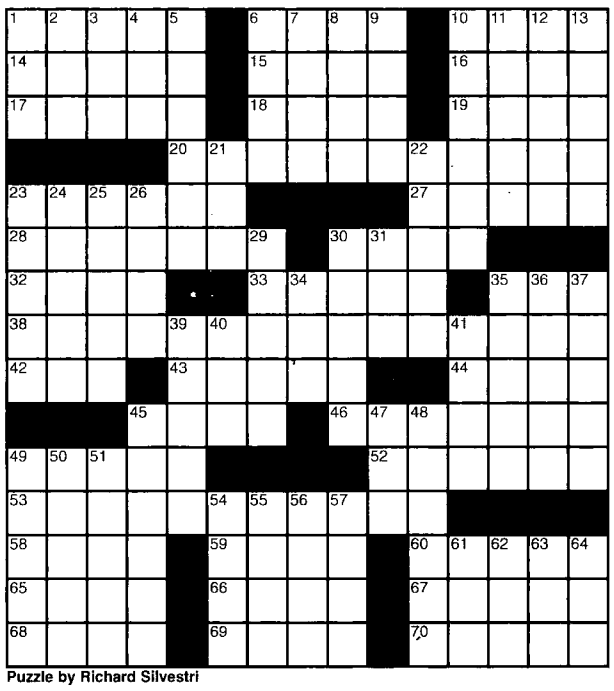
WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

1 Cousin of a cockatoo
6 Read on the run
10 Lip
14 Sultanate citizen
15 Shower square
16 Fall preceder
17 Informal head cover
18 Housing ___
19 First name in architecture
20 One who gets a piece of the pie?
23 Kind of sauce
27 Religious commemoration
28 Fearful
30 Baltimore partner
32 Ticked off
33 Allude
35 Copy
38 Borderline logic?
42 Ring site
43 Cockamamie
44 Roll
45 Sing the praises of
46 Kind of ring
49 Bee-related
52 Ally in movies
53 "Stay away from the swamp grass"?
58 Poe product
59 Bridge
60 It may be well-taken
65 Pastry chef's aide
66 2003 A.L. M.V.P., familiarly
67 Displaced person
68 Some M&M's
69 Bank (on)
70 Durable fabric

DOWN

1 In style
2 Start of a Latin conjugation
3 Elevator part
4 Baptist leader?
5 Passamaquoddy home
6 Formal accessory
7 Double checker
8 Rival of Bjorn
9 Parcel
10 Sound setup
11 Final Four site
12 Horse fathers
13 Wear
21 Poetic conjunction
22 Combusted
23 Try a tidbit
24 Luau greeting
25 Not so common
26 Palm, e.g.
29 Huge worry
30 Did in
31 Part of H.M.S.
34 Many millennia
35 To the left or right
36 Put forward
37 Diary note
39 "Cheers" role
40 Savanna sight
41 Tissue additive
45 Some brews
47 Key abbr.
48 Masticated
49 Moving
50 Sign of the 1960's
51 Sat around
54 Open a bit
55 Scale start
56 Old fiddle
57 Dr. Jones, to friends
61 Fire truck accessory
62 Canterbury can
63 Elm City collegian
64 "Stand" band, 1989



Puzzle by Richard Silvestri

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

G	A	P	E	D		W	A	T	T	S		H	O	N
A	B	A	C	I		I	D	A	H	O		A	P	E
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T	R	I	S	T	A	R			B	O	N	K	E	D
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O	F	T		S	I	T	S	A	T	U	R	D	A	Y
D	E	E		E	M	I	T	S		T	A	U	P	E
E	R	R		A	E	S	O	P		S	L	O	T	S

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Keira Knightley, 21; Kenny Chesney, 38; Martin Short, 56; James Caan, 66

Happy Birthday: It's your time to shine. Set up a schedule to work by and stick to it. This year is meant for saving and making sure your future is safe and secure financially. Travel should be implemented if it will help you protect your position. Your numbers are 13, 19, 24, 26, 27, 34

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can stabilize your position and work through some details today. Progress will be yours if you are smart with the way you handle your money. Make a commitment to a creative project you want to pursue. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Problems with a loved one or older relative may add to your responsibilities today. Someone you thought you could trust is probably leading you on or astray. Use your better judgment -- if something sounds too good to be true it probably is. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You will have to walk a fine line today. If you are intent on getting something you believe in off the ground, fine. But don't count on getting help. If you strive for too much, too soon you will fall short of your goals. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Do something nice for yourself. You can expect a little extra cash or a gift to come your way. Making changes to your home or getting your spring cleaning out of the way will leave you feeling tired but good. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Memories will make you want to visit people or places from your past. Someone you used to know may fool you by exaggerating about his or her life. Travel will be a good lesson and experience that will help you put your own life in perspective. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You may feel drawn to someone who is trying to use you. Ask a trusted friend for help handling a personal situation you are in. A little thought put into your future professional plans will pay off. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your ability to explain your position and your intentions will help you get the help and support you need. A look at different locations and opportunities may set the stage for a move. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Spend time with people who are enthusiastic about the same things you are. Love is prominent but you will have to be true to yourself. Steer clear of getting involved with more than one person. Shopping will lead to a great buy. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): People will either love you or hate you today. You won't be able to please everyone so just be yourself. You should consider partnering with someone who is trying to do something similar to you professionally. ****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Stay out of trouble by avoiding any kind of family feud or controversial topic. Remain neutral or avoid all personal dealings by concentrating on a professional project instead. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will be eager to get out and make yourself heard. Love is looking very promising so let someone you think is special know how you feel. Don't promise what you can't deliver. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Not everyone will be open about the way they feel. Make your own decision as to whom you can trust and whom you can't.***

Birthday Baby: You are dependable but unpredictable. You strive to be different and are not afraid to speak out for what you believe in. You are unique, ahead of your time and an inspiration to others.

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

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Golden goals

Irish dominate Golden Griffins to rebound from their first loss

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

Kaki Orr's two quick goals in the first half put Notre Dame on top of Canisius early, and the Irish never looked back en route to an 18-2 victory Saturday at Moose Krause Stadium.

The Golden Griffins struck first on a Whitney Card goal less than 30 seconds into the game, but Orr retaliated quickly, scoring her first of four goals only seconds later. She would score an unassisted second goal within five minutes to give the Irish a lead they would not relinquish.

After surrendering the early goal to Canisius, the Irish defense stepped up and stopped any attempts on goal by the Griffins. Canisius had only four shots total in the game, none of which were taken in the second half.

The Notre Dame defense was also important in starting the attack, forcing 34 turnovers.

The tough defense impressed Irish coach

see BLOWOUT/page 25

MARY KATE MANNIX/The Observer
Irish attack Kaki Orr races for the ball during Notre Dame's 18-12 victory over Canisius Saturday. Orr scored four goals against the Golden Griffins.

MEN'S TENNIS

Deep in the heart, Notre Dame falters

Sheeva Parbhu is lone star for Irish on trip to Texas

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

The Irish battled back from an early deficit in Sunday's match against Texas A&M, but it was too little, too late for Notre Dame, which finished the weekend 0-2 after a loss at Texas Saturday.

The No. 15 Irish (13-7) fell 6-1 to No. 5 Texas and lost 5-1 to the No. 22 Aggies in a match that was closer than the score appears.

"After playing absolutely miserably in doubles and starting very slowly in most of the singles matches, our guys fought back and I'm very proud of them," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said.

Sheeva Parbhu was the lone star for Notre Dame in Texas, accounting for

see TROUBLES/page 26

BASEBALL

Mainieri collects 500th win as team takes two of three

By CHRIS KHOREY
Associate Sports Editor

Head coach Paul Mainieri earned his 500th victory at Notre Dame, and the Irish got their Big East schedule off to a strong start by taking two of three games from Georgetown this weekend in Bethesda, Md.

Mainieri, who has compiled a 500-204-3 record in 12 seasons in South Bend, downplayed his achievement.

"It has nothing to do with me," he said. "It's all about the kids we've had and the staff over the years."

Mainieri

The coach saw his reigning conference champion Irish drop the first game of a doubleheader Saturday 8-3 before winning the second game 12-2 and capping the weekend with a 6-3 victory Sunday. Notre Dame moved to 12-8 overall on the season.

"We were disappointed not to win all the games," Mainieri said. "But we'll be happy to win the series and look forward to Pittsburgh next weekend."

The Irish and Panthers will meet for a three-game set next weekend at Frank Eck Stadium.

The Hoyas dropped to 11-14 overall and 1-2 in the Big East after their three-game homestand at Shirley Povich Field outside Washington, D.C.

The Irish got a lot of offensive production out of their eighth and ninth place hitters, shortstop Greg Lopez and right fielder Cody Rizzo.

The two combined for seven RBIs and five runs over the three games.

"[Rizzo] and Lopez have not hit for high average in their careers, but I guess their adrenaline gets pumping because they always seem to come through in the clutch," Mainieri said. "If our bottom of the order has that kind of production and we can get the middle of the order to do the same, we'll have a great offensive team."

see MILESTONE/page 26

FOOTBALL

New faces may return for Weis

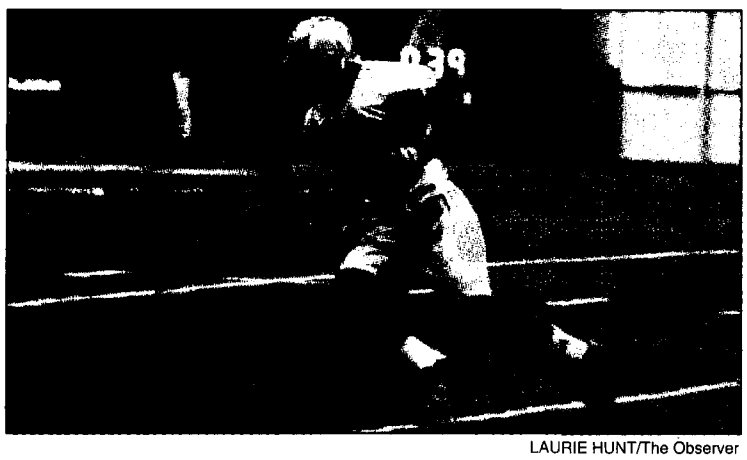
Weis says West and Aldridge will compete for kickoff return job

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Early-enrollee freshmen James Aldridge and George West will compete for the kickoff return job during spring practice, Irish head coach Charlie Weis said Saturday.

"George, on the one [hand],

see RETURNS/page 25



LAURIE HUNT/The Observer
Irish receiver George West practices Friday. Head coach Charlie Weis said West will compete for a spot on kickoff returns.

ND SOFTBALL

Fuemmeler and Booth combine for no-hitter

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Solid pitching combined with timely hitting led to two wins for the Irish as Notre Dame opened up regional play this weekend.

After rain in Kalamazoo Saturday delayed the start of a double header until Sunday afternoon, Notre Dame made easy work of Western Michigan.

The Irish took the first game 5-0 thanks to a combined no-hitter by Heather Booth and Kenya Fuemmeler. Booth struck out five in the first four innings, and the Irish claimed a 5-0 lead when Irish coach Deanna Gumpf called on Fuemmeler to close out the remaining three innings.

"Kenya hasn't gotten the innings that I wanted to get her

see NO-NO/page 25

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

SMC SOFTBALL

The Belles swept a doubleheader amidst driving rain Saturday, beating Rose-Hulman 10-1 and 15-1.

page 24

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Notre Dame 6 Iowa 1

The Thompson twins won their doubles match as the Irish remained unbeaten.

page 23

SMC TENNIS

Saint Mary's captured a league contest against Adrian but lost to Aquinas College this weekend.

page 22

NBA

Warriors 90 Kings 83

Adonal Foyle scored 18 and Mike Dunleavy added 17 in the win for Golden State.

page 22

MEN'S BASKETBALL

George Mason 86 UConn 84 (OT)

The Patriots continued their magical run, beating the top-seeded Huskies.

page 17

NBA

Cleveland 104 Houston 102 (OT)

LeBron James scored 36 points to help the Cavaliers win their fifth straight game.

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