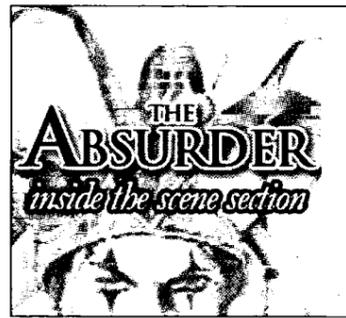


THE OBSERVER

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NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Domers prepare to 'spring forward'

University officials plan adjustments for reinstated observation of daylight-saving time

By KAITLYNN RIELY
News Writer

For years, residents of St. Joseph County have watched their clocks steadily click while the rest of the country sprang forward or fell back. But come Sunday, they will lose an hour with the rest of the nation when Indiana starts to follow daylight-saving time.

Senior Jocelyn Burum does not expect the time change to have a significant effect on her life.

"I'm fine with it really," Burum said. "It's kind of unique that we weren't following any time changes when it was daylight-saving time."

Most counties in the state of Indiana have not followed daylight-saving time since the 1970s, according to the Associated Press. Last April, Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels encouraged the state legislature to pass a bill to force all counties to follow daylight-saving time. The issue stirred widespread debate during the past year as counties decided

whether to follow Central or Eastern Standard Time.

St. Joseph County petitioned the U.S. Department of Transportation to follow Central Time, but that request was denied by the Department of Transportation, so the county will continue to follow Eastern Standard Time.

University spokesman Dennis Brown said Notre Dame did not take a position on whether or not the county should institute daylight-saving time or which time zone it should choose.

"We are fine with following

the policies that have been laid out by the governmental agencies," Brown said.

The Office of Information Technologies (OIT) has been working for the past two months to make the transition a smooth one, said director of distributed support services Peggy Rowland.

"This is actually going to impact us more than Y2K," Rowland said. "We did a lot of pre-emptive work before Y2K ... but the impact that we suf-

see DST/page 4

ND hosts student conference

Annual event studies issues, process of peace

By KATHLEEN MCDONNELL
News Writer

Given the service-oriented nature of many Notre Dame students, it's not uncommon for undergraduates to set their sights on changing the world. Organizers of this year's Student Peace Conference hope the weekend event will provide some answers for students stuck wondering where to begin.

Peace Conference Chair Kevin Walsh said the conference is tailored to students who have a "genuine desire" to live their faith and work for social justice.

"The presentations at the conference will both open your eyes to horrific problems that afflict our global society and empower you with the knowledge that you have the ability to change it," Walsh said.

The annual conference begins with a banquet tonight and continues Saturday with nine different panels and five different presentations throughout the day. Held at the Hesburgh Center for International Studies and sponsored by the Kroc Institute, the peace conference is planned and directed by undergraduate peace studies students.

Walsh said student interest has been exceptional — with nearly 200 students registered to attend. While Friday's banquet registration is closed, all students are encouraged to attend presentations on Saturday, where registration is recommended but not required.

This year's conference, titled "Voices of Today, Changes for Tomorrow," highlights the role of youth in building peace. Urban gang violence, educational programs teaching values of peaceful conflict resolution and identity and discrimination are some of the issues the conference will touch on.

Saturday's 3:30 p.m. presentation of Myla Leguro, nominee for the 2005 Nobel Peace prize, promises to be particularly worthwhile, Walsh said. Myla will discuss her challenges and aspirations in working with Catholic Relief to combat youth violence and religious conflict in the Philippines.

For students interested in local issues, representatives from Take Ten and the

see PEACE/page 6

Leaders take final bows

Saint Mary's Mitros, McIllduff proud of term

By LAUREN LAVELLE
News Writer

As Saturday's Board of Governance turnover approaches, student body president Kellye Mitros and student body vice president Susan McIllduff said they are pleased with the mark they have left on Saint Mary's.

"I am very proud of the work we did this year," Mitros said. "We had a very successful year and I can look back on it with satisfaction."

Both Mitros and McIllduff said they are proud to have completed most of the objectives on their platform, which included adding a Health and Wellness Commissioner to the Board of Governance (BOG), raising awareness about College history and working closely with Enrollment Manager Dan Meyer.

Mitros and McIllduff said they are satisfied with their involvement in the creation of the first annual Heritage Week — a series of events that raised awareness

see MITROS/page 6



Above: Notre Dame student body president's Chief Executive Assistant Liz Kozlow, left, president Dave Baron and vice president Lizzi Shappell lead a meeting of the Council of Representatives. Below: Saint Mary's student body president Kellye Mitros, right, and vice president Susan McIllduff run a Board of Governance meeting.



ND's Baron, Shappell, Kozlow reflect on year

By MADDIE HANNA
News Writer

For Dave Baron, his year spent as student body president all boils down to the campaign slogan that came to him one sleepless night — one student voice, 8,000 strong.

And three leaders who believed in doing it right.

Baron, student body vice president Lizzi Shappell and chief executive assistant Liz Kozlow will bow out of their positions Saturday — except Shappell will be taking a step up to become student body president. Bill Andrichik will serve as vice president and Liz Brown as chief executive assistant.

It hasn't been an easy year for student government's top three, and the end was no exception. Baron, Shappell and Kozlow were visibly stressed after Wednesday's Senate meeting, which centered on Minority Affairs committee chair Rhea Boyd's lobbying to win perma-

see BARON/page 4

Musician Brubeck awarded Laetare medal

By KATIE PERRY
Assistant News Editor

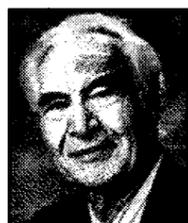
Renowned jazz musician Dave Brubeck will receive the 2006 Laetare Medal — Notre Dame's oldest and most highly regarded award given to American Catholics — at Commencement exercises this May, the University announced Sunday.

The honor is given annually to a Catholic "whose genius has ennobled the arts and sciences, illustrated the ideals of the Church and enriched the heritage of humanity."

"The composed energy of Mr.

Brubeck's art helps us apprehend the fullness of creation," University President Father John Jenkins said in a statement Sunday. "His life and his music splendidly interweave the celebration of beauty with the imperative to worship."

The popular pianist has composed a number of jazz pieces, including "Take Five" and "Blue Rondo a la Turk." In



Brubeck

1954, the Brubeck's quartet graced the cover of Time Magazine following the release of their album, "Jazz Goes to College." The magazine called Brubeck "the most exciting new jazz artist at work today" and the creator of "some of the strangest and loveliest music" in the history of jazz.

Larry Dwyer, jazz studies director at Notre Dame, said the Laetare selection reflects Brubeck's "consistently high level of musical achievement" through his professional career, which has lasted more than half a century.

"Brubeck's music always

swings and always includes interesting and profound levels of improvisation," Dwyer said. "Best of all, everyone — jazz fan or not — always enjoys listening to Dave Brubeck."

But Brubeck's repertoire extends beyond the realm of jazz. The esteemed musician has composed and performed ballets, cantatas, solo piano pieces, a musical, an oratorio and a Mass — a testament of his deep allegiance to the Catholic faith.

In a June 2005 National Public Radio interview, Brubeck echoed the words of a Nez Perce chief

see LAETARE/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

The little guys

To all you March Madness Maniacs out there...
 Were you as shocked as I was during the selection show? Forget the bid upsets and the teams left out of the tournament — more appalling than any of those was the behavior of analyst Billy Packer.

Pat Moore

During the show, he absolutely thrashed selection committee chair Craig Littlepage, bemoaning the field's lack of power conference teams. As the interview wrapped up, Littlepage wanted to offer his congratulations to the selected teams, but Packer wouldn't let the poor guy get a word in edgewise.

News Wire Editor

Let me say this about Billy Packer: He's an elderly, cantankerous, scrooge of a man whom the game of basketball has long passed. Forget his choice words during the selection show — no one could have anticipated the success of the mid-major teams this year.

But CBS still needs to flat out drop him, because of his overly critical, negative attitude while calling games.

Billy, we don't want to hear you whine about the stupidity of the players, coaches, and refs — our family/friends/suitemates are doing a good enough job of that.

The uproar that accompanied this year's Selection Sunday has elucidated a problem with college basketball that has grown progressively worse in recent years.

The so-called "power conferences" have the NCAA in a vice grip, and it's only getting tighter. It's the power conferences that reap the financial benefits of commercialized college basketball — the national television exposure, the mass merchandising, and the NCAA Tournament revenues.

Sure, most of the teams in these conferences are really good to begin with, so their exposure and tournament bids are well deserved. But the whole system creates a "rich get richer" dynamic that makes it difficult for a school on the fringe of notoriety to build up its program. Meanwhile, the power conference schools are receiving the most money to recruit the best players, hire the best coaches, and construct the finest facilities. So much for the innocence of the college game, right?

This year, the tournament belongs to the little guys, the Patriots of George Mason University. These guys embody everything college basketball is supposed to be about — teamwork, heart, and the love of the game. As NCAA basketball fans, let us hope that no amount of smelly corporate taint ever supplants these values.

By the way, my money's on GMU.

Contact Patrick Moore at pmoore1@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 editing error in the March 30 edition of The Observer, the lecture "Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History" by Laurel Thatcher Ulrich was listed as taking place at Saint Mary's, when it took place at Notre Dame.

Due to an editing error in the March 30 edition of The Observer, chemistry professor Emil Hofman was mistakenly quoted as saying students should make reconnaissance visits to Haiti. The program is not for undergraduates.

Due to a reporting error in the March 28 edition of The Observer, philosophy professor Alasdair MacIntyre felt his views were misconstrued in the article "Professor lectures on moral disagreement". "I did in fact argue that rational agents cannot but presuppose the practical authority of the precepts of the natural law. I do not believe those precepts are questionable."

The Observer regrets these errors.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WAS THE BEST APRIL FOOL'S PRANK YOU EVER PULLED?



Marie Ellen Ehourov
junior
 Regina-North

"I told my parents that I was expecting."



Ellen Riley
junior
 Regina-North

"I tricked my teacher with the chalk and eraser routine."



Calli Davison
freshman
 LeMans

"When I wore a sling to school and acted like I broke my arm."



Jim Bochnowski
sophomore
 Fisher

"Hiring Ty Willingham as coach. That one went a little too far."



Jon Boyle
freshman
 Fisher

"I told my parents that I registered as a Democrat."



Tim Smith
sophomore
 Fisher

"One year, I screwed all my brother's furniture to the ceiling."



CHELSEA GULLING/The Observer

Members of Saint Mary's Club La Fuerza sponsored "Fast Food, Fair Trade" in Stapleton Lounge Thursday where members staged a presentation on the exploitation of farm workers.

IN BRIEF

Saint Mary's seniors Emily Fannon, Sinnamon Wolfe, Amanda Caddy and Amber Painter will host a senior comprehensive art gallery opening today from 5 to 7 p.m. 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" today from 7 to 8:30 p.m. 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.

The 2006 Notre Dame student peace conference, "Voices of Today, Changes for Tomorrow," will be held today and Saturday in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies.

The Irish softball team will play Connecticut at 12 p.m. Saturday at Ivy Field.

The No. 11 Irish men's lacrosse team will face-off with Dartmouth at 12 p.m. Sunday at Notre Dame's Moose Krause Stadium.

The Irish men's baseball team will face-off against Pittsburgh at 12:05 p.m. Sunday at Frank Eck Stadium

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

OFFBEAT

College student lives in Wal-Mart for 41 hours

DES MOINES, Iowa — For spring break, some college students set out for sun-drenched beaches or cheap European cities. Skyler Bartels headed for the local Wal-Mart.

Bartels, 20, an aspiring writer and Drake University sophomore, thought he'd spend a week in a Wal-Mart as a test of endurance, using it as the premise for a magazine article. His college adviser liked the idea.

"I just intuitively thought, 'This is brilliant!'" said Carol Spaulding-Kruse, an

associate professor of English. "I wasn't quite sure why, but it just sounded like a really good idea."

For 41 hours, Bartels wandered the aisles of a Wal-Mart Supercenter in Windsor Heights that's open 24 hours a day. He checked out shoppers, read magazines, watched movies on the DVD display and played video games.

Old Shakespeare plays to fetch millions of dollars

LONDON — A rare volume containing some of William Shakespeare's most famous plays, printed only seven years after his death,

will go on sale for millions of dollars at auction in July, Sotheby's here said.

Describing it as "the most important book in English literature", Sotheby's said it was printed in 1623 and contains 36 plays, half of which had never been printed before.

"The First Folio preserves 18 of his plays, including some of the most major, which otherwise would have been lost for all time," said Peter Selley, Sotheby's English literature specialist.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 62 LOW 50	HIGH 47 LOW 40	HIGH 50 LOW 38	HIGH 58 LOW 33	HIGH 55 LOW 33	HIGH 60 LOW 42

Atlanta 74/ 53 Boston 66 / 41 Chicago 59 / 52 Denver 62/ 32 Houston 83 / 65 Los Angeles 64 / 51 Minneapolis 54 / 42 New York 67 / 51 Philadelphia 71 / 45 Phoenix 81 / 57 Seattle 54 / 42 St. Louis 68 / 55 Tampa 83 / 62 Washington 74 / 50

Two years in the making, Saint Mary's debuts SMC-TV

By KATIE KOHLER
News Writer

After two years in the development stage, SMC-TV — an independent television station operated by Saint Mary's — went on the air Wednesday as the first student-produced television program in Saint Mary's history.

SMC-TV will air its programming on Tuesdays at 4:30, 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. on Channel 3.

The station is based out of the Huisking Family Instructional Technology Resource Center in the basement of the library and receives a large portion of its funding from the Huisking Family Foundation.

Senior Michelle Fitzgerald, co-creator and general manager of the station, worked with 20 faculty members and students for two years to make SMC-TV a reality.

Fitzgerald said she was proud of the first broadcast and has high hopes for upcoming productions.

"Our first broadcast went very well and my staff and I were excited to see a product on the air after almost two years of hard work creating the station," Fitzgerald said.

The broadcast was led by two anchors — senior Janet Brace and junior Erin Hanifin. The top stories included highlights from Midnight Madness, SMC Toastal and Accepted Students Weekend. The show also surveyed students' spring break plans.

Hanifin said in addition to covering campus news, SMC-TV will also be a positive resource for

prospective students.

"We are hoping this can become a tool in attracting future freshmen to our school," Hanifin said.

SMC-TV originally was going to be broadcast in the dining hall and other campus locations. But televisions were not installed in time for the first broadcast. Fitzgerald said the televisions should be installed in the dining hall this week, a location chosen primarily because almost every student visits the facility at least once a week.

"By placing a TV in a visible area, students will see the SMC-TV broadcast — gaining the maximum number of viewers for both the station and our advertisers," Fitzgerald said.

Campus news is not the only focus for SMC-TV. Other programs in Wednesday's broadcast included "Art Talk," which profiled a visiting artist on campus. Future shows will include a program called "Community Forum" and coverage of campus events such as the Theology on Fire series.

A cooking show and morning workout broadcast are also in the works.

"We recognized the size of our endeavor and knew we had to start small," Fitzgerald said. "We will use this broadcast as a springboard to improve on the quality of SMC-TV each week."

Keith Fowlkes, director of information technology and SMC-TV faculty advisor, was impressed with the finished product.

"The quality and content was super," Fowlkes said. "They had



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

A Saint Mary's student watches SMC-TV during its first day of programming Wednesday. The station will air programs at 4:30, 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday on channel 3.

some small technical difficulties, but that is expected for a first broadcast."

Fitzgerald said many students provided positive suggestions — like airing the campus news program more than once a week.

"We [the staff] hope that interest will grow as students are able to check out the first broadcast via the homepage and tune in the following weeks," Fitzgerald said.

The whole program will be accessible through a link on the Saint Mary's website so students will be able to download the previous broadcast from any computer on campus.

Student-created advertisements also play an important role in the success of SMC-TV. Fowlkes said the students were entirely responsible for the ads.

"The student team did all the

contacts, marketing and placement of the ads," Fowlkes said.

Fitzgerald said scrolling billboard advertisements and birthday announcements are displayed 15 minutes before each broadcast. Both types of ads had to be purchased by businesses and students. Advertising benefactors include campus cafe Dalloway's, the Social Work Club, First Source Bank and Saint Mary's food supplier Sodhexo.

Michelle Fitzgerald said the goal of SMC-TV is to provide a wrap-up of the week's news stories, adding that there will be no live coverage on events.

Fitzgerald said news updates will be broadcast on Channel 3 when SMC-TV is not on the air.

Fitzgerald said her long-term goal is for the station to continue on after she graduates this

spring.

"When I return to Saint Mary's in five years, I would like SMC-TV to be incorporated into a student's weekly life," she said. "Additionally, I would like to see students interested in one or two specific programs outside of the campus news, watching SMC-TV as part of their nightly television ritual."

Fitzgerald is confident the work of the faculty, staff, and students who created the station will pay off.

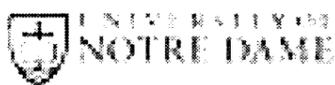
"Most of all, I would like to see students credit SMC-TV with making them better informed and connected to what is happening on campus and what services are available," she said.

Contact Katie Koehler at kkohle1@saintmarys.edu

ThinkPad recommends Microsoft Windows XP Professional

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DST

continued from page 1

ferred was minimal. This change is going to require everyone to change their desktop and their calendaring system."

To prepare for the change, OIT has reconfigured and restarted approximately 300 servers with the correct time. Rowland predicts the biggest complication will come with the Corporate Time calendaring system. The approximately 2,700 faculty and staff who have Corporate Time accounts will need to manually change the times on their calendars.

"There was just nothing we could do to prepare the campus for this, because none of the software developers predicted that there would be the

changes to daylight-saving time," Rowland said.

On Monday, OIT sent an e-mail to all Notre Dame computer users reminding them to adjust their clocks.

Information about changing time and updating calendaring systems can also be found on its Web site. The OIT help desk will be open Sunday from 12-5 p.m. to help computer users with problems they may encounter.

Rowland said computer users should change the time on their computers from Indiana time to Eastern time. They should also program the computer to automatically

adjust for daylight-saving time. Users of Corporate Time should print out their calendars from now until October to prevent confusion, she said.

Rowland said the next week will be "painful," but said it is only an immediate problem — in the fall, when the time changes again, everything will roll over smoothly.

"There's no easy way around this one," Rowland said. "We've tried everything we can do to automate this so it wouldn't affect anyone."

"There was just nothing we could do to prepare the campus for this."

**Peggy Rowland
OIT Director of
Distributed Support
Services**

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

Laetare

continued from page 1

and said, "the Great Spirit made us all."

"Science through DNA knows this to be true," he said. "The very cells of our body know this to be true, and our great religions know it to be true. Our hope lies in the Great Spirit, the God of all Creation, that my particular faith calls the Holy Spirit."

Born Dec. 6, 1920 in Concord, Calif. and raised on a nearby cattle farm, Brubeck first aspired to be a rancher — though the musical persuasion did not evade him for long.

By age four the young virtuoso had wowed his mother — a classical pianist and teacher — with his advanced keyboarding skills and simultaneously unnerved her with his unique improvisations.

A music major at the College of

the Pacific in Stockton, Calif., Brubeck met his wife of 63 years while playing jazz on a campus radio program. He graduated from the school in 1942 and was drafted into military service for two years during World War II. After the war, Brubeck attended Mills College to resume his musical studies. He formed the now-famous Brubeck Quartet in 1951.

Notre Dame announces its Laetare Medal recipient each year on the fourth Sunday of Lent on the Church calendar. The medal is inscribed with the Latin phrase, "Magna est veritas et prevalebit," or "Truth is mighty, and it shall prevail." The first Laetare Medal was awarded in 1883.

Previous medal winners include President John F. Kennedy, novelist Walker Percy and death penalty abolitionist Sister Helen Prejean.

Contact Katie Perry at kperry5@nd.edu

Baron

continued from page 1

nent status for her currently ad hoc committee.

"I'm 100 percent behind this issue, [but] it's a structural question," Shappell said. "To not do it right the first time is irresponsible."

With student evictions, Hurricane Katrina relief and pep rally and bowl game ticketing fiascos clamoring for attention, the Baron administration has shouldered a pretty heavy burden — and the emphasis has always been on responsibility.

Baron, Shappell and Kozlow all said professionalism was integral to their success this year especially in dealing with issues like the inauguration of University President Father John Jenkins and South Bend's newly-revised disorderly house ordinance.

The key, Baron said, is to be "respectful and respectable."

"We advocated and lobbied for the Student Union," Shappell said, "embracing the opportunity with a new [University] administration to set a new tone between student government and the administration ...

"I'm very proud of our effort to do it right."

Just as student government has grown under their leadership, so have Baron, Shappell and Kozlow, individually.

"One of the things I've learned [is] you can't take every issue that comes your way that you want to support and put everything behind every issue," Baron said.

And it's impossible to predict and plan for the unexpected, Kozlow said.

"You never know what issues, how many e-mails you're going to get," she said.

"[Student Union Board president] Jimmy Flaherty used to come over and say, 'There's a flavor of the week,'" Baron said.

One issue the leaders encountered almost immediately was student apathy, Kozlow said, based largely on the belief that students have no impact on big picture decisions at the University.

Not only did the Baron administration work to counter that apathy by mobilizing the student body — "I've seen people who used to be apathetic come and enjoy to-go cups, minority students who used to not [participate] come and petition," Baron said — but it also shattered perceptions that students have no say.

"I think a lot of people come into student government with a bit of cynicism," Kozlow said.

"The administration really does take us seriously. ... And I think we did [take advantage of that] this year."

While his interactions with members of the administration have helped his administration achieve its goals, for Baron, those conversations have transcended the working environment and developed into lasting relationships.

"I consider myself extremely lucky to have seen Notre Dame from an angle that most students don't get to see," he said, "to come to know personally this assembly of people who have committed their lives to furthering the mission of the University."

Baron said he considers Vice

President for Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman "one of my greatest friends" and Jenkins an "introverted leader, as a listener too ... his sheer ability to listen and lead at the same time."

"That's shaped me in ways I have even yet to figure out," Baron said.

While Shappell attested to the deep rapport between this year's student government administration and the University, she said it was relationships with students that made the experience stand out for her.

"It's been more working with peers ... motivated to improve this University," Shappell said. "You're grown up and you're still in college, and you're acting like

an adult and you're still in college. It's something we struggle with."

"I think the team we've worked with has been phenomenal," Kozlow said. "Our attempts, the way we put our hearts into it — that's been the most rewarding."

This year's lessons, Baron said, will carry him into his future.

"I'd say I learned a lot about what it means to be a leader, that leadership is not about being at the forefront of the Student Union. ... It's about service, putting yourself in the middle of what people care about."

"It's paradoxical that by following you become a leader. But that's a very Catholic message," said Baron, who believes his

faith has grown through his leadership experience.

Friendships have formed as well, bonds the three say that grew somewhat unexpectedly.

"Not to get all reminiscing or anything, but not knowing Dave that well, not knowing Liz that well, and now they're two of my closest friends," Shappell said. "It's been a fun ride." "Lizzi and I finish each other's sentences now," Baron said, half-jokingly.

Kozlow, a junior, will take over as Judicial Council president Saturday. Baron, who is graduating, will be attending law school in the fall.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

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(applications due by April 5th)



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Carroll speaks out about captivity

BAGHDAD — Her room was tiny, with a small adjoining bathroom and shower. She couldn't hear any sounds from outside. And the windows were frosted and covered with drapes.

On one occasion in Jill Carroll's 82 days in captivity, the kidnappers brought her a newspaper. On another, they let her watch a little television. She had little idea what was going on in the outside world.

Still, she says, "It's important people know that I was not harmed."

The 28-year-old American reporter's hostage ordeal ended around midday Thursday when she was left on a Baghdad street in front of a Sunni political party office. Wearing a green Islamic head scarf and a gray Iraqi robe, Carroll walked inside.

She was then driven 20 minutes to party headquarters, where she called her family and gave an interview to Baghdad Television before being handed over to U.S. authorities.

Nations work together on economy

CANCUN — President Bush and the leaders of Canada and Mexico worked to iron out disagreements over trade and border security Thursday and to keep a North American economic edge against competition from rising powers like China.

The three leaders, dressed casually in open-collared shirts, strolled together among the ancient Mayan ruins at Chichen Itza before sitting down for more intense one-on-one meetings at a beachfront resort hotel. Mexican President Vicente Fox planned a lavish dinner for his guests.

NATIONAL NEWS

Jury deliberates on Moussaoui's fate

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The jury weighing Zacarias Moussaoui's role in the deaths on Sept. 11, 2001, asked for a definition of "weapons of mass destruction" Thursday as it worked to decide whether the al-Qaida conspirator is eligible for the death penalty.

The jurors obtained the definition as deliberations neared four hours. U.S. District Judge Leonie Brinkema told them the term includes airplanes used as missiles. One of the three convictions on which Moussaoui could receive the death penalty is conspiracy to use weapons of mass destruction.

The nine men and three women, who got the case late Wednesday, then returned to deliberate whether Moussaoui is a calculating terrorist responsible for the deaths of Americans on Sept. 11 or an al-Qaida lackey with delusions of grandeur who had no role in 9/11.

Mine survivor returns home early

SIMPSON, W.Va. — Randal McCloy Jr. was enveloped in loving chaos when he came home Thursday. It seemed a little overwhelming not only to the "miracle miner," the only survivor among 13 men trapped by an underground explosion in January, but also to his 1-year-old daughter, Isabel. Her wailing didn't subside until she sat on her father's lap.

McCloy's homecoming is a wonder to his doctors, who first feared he wouldn't survive and later expected his recovery to take about twice as long as it did.

LOCAL NEWS

Mayor vows to keep hospital open

GARY — Acting Mayor Dozier T. Allen Jr. said he'll fight to keep Gary's only hospital from shutting its doors because of financial losses of nearly \$2 million a month.

During a news conference on Tuesday, Allen said he plans to work with state leaders, lawmakers and administrators at Methodist Hospitals' Northlake Campus to address the budget woes hospital executives predict could force the hospital to close within two years.

BAHRAIN

At least 48 die in ferry accident

The al-Dana capsizes in Persian Gulf just a mile from Bahrain shore, 63 survive

Associated Press

MANAMA — A ferry carrying up to 150 people capsized Thursday night in the Persian Gulf off the coast of Bahrain, and at least 48 bodies were recovered, the country's coast guard chief said. American divers and a U.S. helicopter aided the rescue effort.

Coast guard chief Youssef al-Katem said at least 63 people survived. A passenger on board the ferry calling from his cell phone was the first to alert officials that the ship was listing, he said.

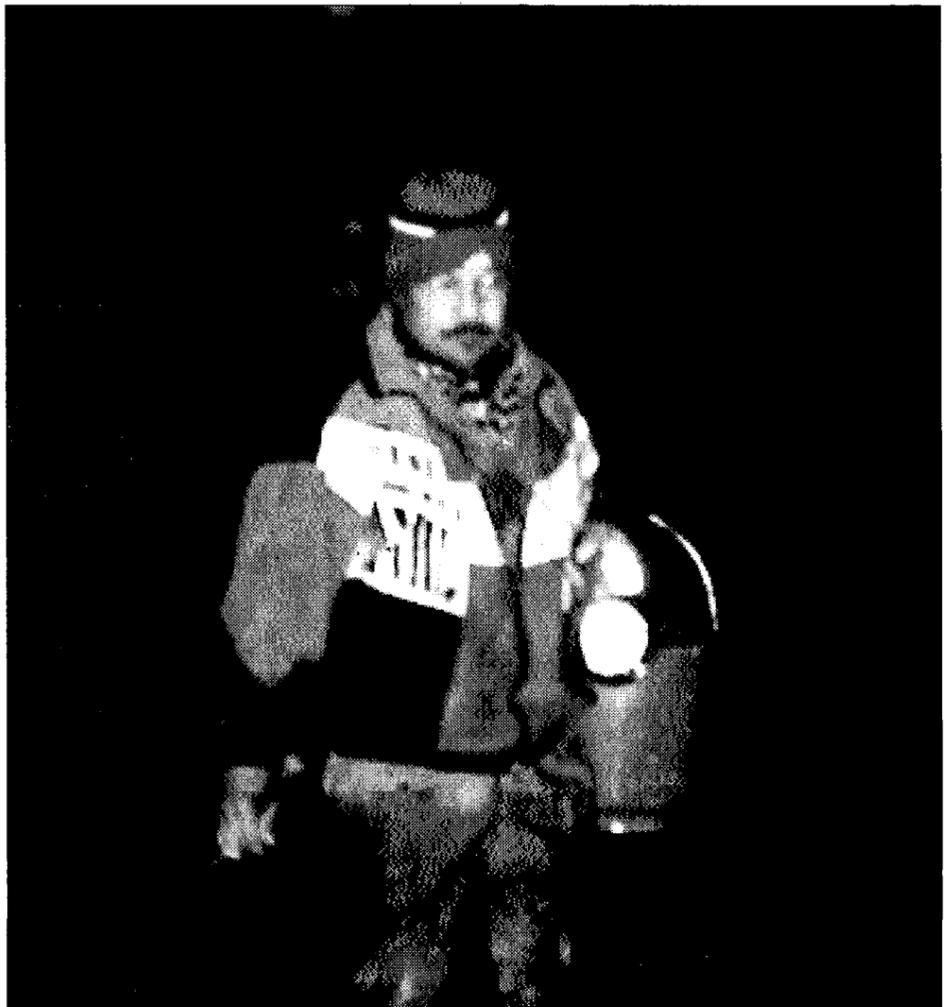
The official Bahrain News Agency said the ferry — the al-Dana — was on an evening cruise that was to last several hours. It overturned less than a mile off the coast, it said. Television footage showed the ferry capsized but not sunk, with rescue workers walking on its brown hull.

U.S. helicopters and divers joined the rescue operation launched by Bahrain's coast guard. Bahrain, a tiny island nation on the western side of the Persian Gulf, is home to the Navy's 5th Fleet.

Rescue teams brought bodies covered with white sheets to shore, and hospital workers hurried them to waiting ambulances. Scores of officials and relatives waited on the dock watching small rescue boats with flashing blue lights bring more bodies and survivors.

There was no indication of what caused the ferry to capsize in what appeared to be ideal weather conditions. The government dismissed terrorism as a cause, and the news agency quoted Interior Ministry spokesman Maj. Mohammed Ben Dayna calling it an accident.

"It's too early to say what caused the acci-



An unidentified man wades into the sea holding a searchlight late Thursday near Manama, Bahrain, where a passenger ferry carrying 150 people sank off the coast.

dent," Ben Dayna said.

Al-Katem said an investigation was underway. The ferry's owners said overloading could have caused the ferry to capsize, according to Bahrain television.

The passengers were thought to be a mix of Bahrainis, nationals of other Gulf Arab nations and Westerners. Health Minister Nada Haffadh told al-Arabiya television that survivors who arrived at hospitals included nationals of India, South Africa, Singapore and Britain.

Information Minister Mohammed Abul-Ghafar,

interviewed on al-Arabiya television, said the passengers included 25 Britons, 20 Filipinos, 10 South Africans and 10 Egyptians.

Haffadh said 24 people were hospitalized and that other survivors had been released upon arrival on shore. Television footage showed survivors, appearing to be in shock and their hair still wet, squatting on the floor of a hospital. Many of them covered themselves with blankets. One male survivor was shown being treated for cuts to the head.

Interior Minister Sheik Al Kahlifa said most of the

ferry's passengers were employees of a Bahrain-based company.

Al-Katem said there were 150 guests at a dinner party at the ferry. The guests, he said, ate dinner while the ferry was still docked and that up to 20 of them disembarked before it sailed.

Cmdr. Jeff Breslau, a spokesman for the U.S. Navy, told The Associated Press that the U.S. military aided the rescue effort. The Navy has had a presence in Bahrain for more than 50 years.

"We're sending divers, small boats and a helicopter," Breslau said.

Army prohibits use of some armor

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Soldiers will no longer be allowed to wear body armor other than the protective gear issued by the military, Army officials said Thursday, the latest twist in a running battle over the equipment the Pentagon gives its troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Army officials told The Associated Press that the order was prompted by concerns that soldiers or their families were buying inadequate or untested commercial armor from private companies — including the popular Dragon Skin gear made by California-based Pinnacle Armor.

"We're very concerned that people are spending their hard-earned money on something that doesn't provide the level of protection that the Army requires people to wear. So they're, frankly, wasting their money on substandard stuff," said Col. Thomas Spoehr, director of materiel for the Army.

Murray Neal, chief executive officer of Pinnacle, said he hadn't seen the directive and wants to review it.

"We know of no reason the Army may have to justify this action," Neal said. "On the surface this looks to be another of many attempts by the Army to cover up the billions of dollars spent on inef-

fective body armor systems which they continue to try quick fixes on to no avail."

The move was a rare one by the Army. Spoehr said he doesn't recall any similar bans on personal armor or devices. The directives are most often issued when there are problems with aircraft or other large equipment.

Veterans groups immediately denounced the decision.

Nathaniel R. Helms, editor of the Soldiers for the Truth online magazine Defense Watch, said he has already received a number of e-mails from soldiers complaining about the policy.

Mitros

continued from page 1

about the school's history. "Out of our term, I think I am most proud of what we did with Heritage Week," McIllduff said. "It really raised awareness and left students yearning to learn more about our history, whereas in the past, students could [not] have cared less."

The week earned a lot of attention and positive feedback from the College community, Mitros said.

"I am so proud of the way the week turned out," Mitros said. "It was a huge success."

While Mitros and McIllduff met success with Heritage Week, they

said they also dealt with disappointments and criticism — most of which stemmed from the cancellation of the College's annual Pride Week.

"Most students try to pin the cancellation of Pride Week on us," McIllduff said. "We did not have any hand in that process. It was the Student Academic Council that had the final say in that matter."

Other challenges for Mitros and McIllduff included learning how to balance their office responsibilities with their class schedules as well as learning to handle different opinions among BOG members. But Mitros said these challenges were small compared to what some administrations have had to deal with in the recent past.

"We have been pretty lucky this year that there weren't really any huge issues that came up," she said. "Looking back on recent years at Saint Mary's, other administrations have faced so much more than we did."

While criticism has been minimal, Mitros and McIllduff said some people questioned the seriousness of their administration. Some members of the College community claimed BOG did not conduct itself in a professional manner, Mitros said. It was not their intention to be unprofessional, McIllduff said.

"I would say our term was very non-traditional," McIllduff said. "Kellye and I took a path less traveled when approaching how to run a board."

Both women said they dealt

with opposition by looking objectively at the criticism and their own actions.

"I think it is important to address a problem and acknowledge that I am human," McIllduff said. "Constructive criticism is valuable because it helps me grow as a person and as a leader. Without it, I wouldn't have direction or a sense of where I need to improve."

While both women said the end of their term is bittersweet, Mitros and McIllduff are ready to move on to other interests. McIllduff also said she is ready to take on the challenge of becoming student body president.

"I am sad that my term as student body vice president is over but at the same time I am ready to meet with the new Board and

to become next year's student body president," McIllduff said. "I enjoyed this year and hope success continues into next year."

For Mitros, the end of her term coincides with the end of her years as a Saint Mary's student. While she hopes to remain an active part of the Saint Mary's community after graduation, Mitros said she will miss being able to serve her fellow students.

"To the students of Saint Mary's, I would just like to say thank you for a fantastic year," Mitros said. "One of the greatest pleasures of my life has been serving you and I hope you can also look back on this year with as much fondness as I do."

Contact Lauren Lavelle at lavel01@saintmarys.edu

Peace

continued from page 1

Children's Defense Fund are speaking at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. respectively.

The conference includes presentations on a wide variety of topics including immigration, human rights, religious conflict and peace through economic development. Interested students should check the Kroc Institute Website for a full list of presentations.

The peace conference promises to be a rewarding experience for all who attend, Walsh said.

"The annual Notre Dame Student Peace Conference works to enlighten students from the Notre Dame community and beyond on how to work for a more just and peaceful world," Walsh said.

"We hope to do so by confronting the very serious challenges to peace that we face and by envisioning real ways to overcome these obstacles," he said. "We hope the conference inspires students to transform this dialogue into action in their own daily lives and in their professional careers."

Contact Kathleen McDonnell at kmcdonn3@nd.edu

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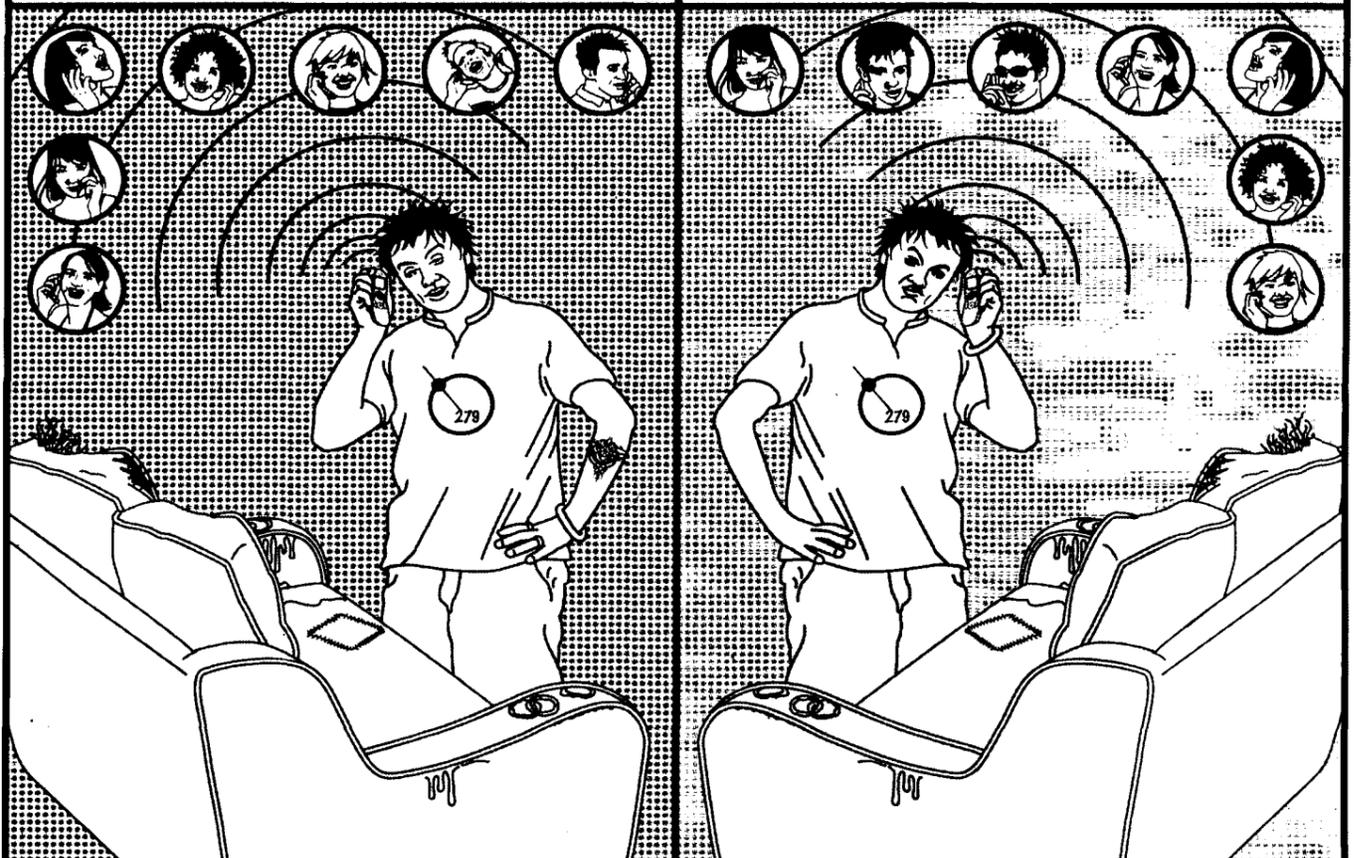


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MARKET RECAP

Stocks		
Dow Jones	11,150.70	-65.00

Up: 1,178 Same: 163 Down: 2,084 Composite Volume: 2,181,098,490

AMEX	1,949.91	+20.97
NASDAQ	2,340.82	+3.04
NYSE	8,271.79	+22.41
S&P 500	1,300.25	-2.64
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	17,032.98	-12.36
FTSE 100(London)	6,015.20	+56.00

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
NASDAQ 100 TR (QQQQ)	+0.31	+0.13	42.05
LEVEL 3 COMM INC (LVLT)	-8.04	-0.45	5.15
SUN MICROSYS (SUNW)	-1.90	-0.10	5.15
INTEL CP (INTC)	-0.61	-0.12	19.70
JDS UNIPHASE CP (JDSU)	-1.20	-0.05	4.13

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+0.94	+0.45	48.55
13-WEEK BILL	-0.38	-0.17	44.85
30-YEAR BOND	+0.50	+0.50	48.92
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.26	+0.26	48.26

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.70	67.15
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+13.20	591.80
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.93	81.78

Exchange Rates	
YEN	117.4550
EURO	0.8222
POUND	0.5730
CANADIAN \$	1.1611

IN BRIEF

Delphi to ask judge to cancel contracts

DETROIT — In a move that would send shudders through an ailing U.S. auto industry, Delphi Corp. was expected to ask a federal judge to cancel its union contracts Friday following months of trying to reach an agreement with General Motors Corp. and its unions to lower workers' wages.

Delphi, the largest U.S. auto supplier, had set a deadline of Thursday to reach an agreement to lower wages for its 34,000 U.S. hourly workers, but it appeared unlikely Delphi would meet that goal since the United Auto Workers and GM hadn't agreed to Delphi's latest wage proposal as of Thursday afternoon.

In a message on its Web site Thursday, the United Auto Workers said Delphi would file motions to void its contracts on Friday morning. Delphi spokesman Lindsey Williams said the company wouldn't comment on that posting.

Williams said Delphi was still in talks with GM and its unions as of Thursday afternoon and hadn't set a deadline for those talks to end. On three other occasions, Delphi has delayed filing motions to cancel its contracts to continue negotiating with GM and its unions. The company has the option of delaying again.

Small businesses lose out in contracts

WASHINGTON — Small businesses lose out on hundreds of millions of dollars in Energy Department contracts each year because the government often gives no-bid work to large firms on flimsy grounds, congressional auditors say.

A report by the Government Accountability Office, obtained Thursday, looks at small business contracting practices at the department, whose \$22.8 billion in annual awards for research, nuclear weapons maintenance and environmental cleanup make it the largest civilian contracting agency.

The report says the agency failed to meet small business contracting goals of 5.5 percent or lower in four of the last five years due to lack of controls, poor planning and questionable assumptions that smaller firms couldn't handle the jobs.

The Energy Department "is clearly constrained by the department's traditional reliance on a limited group of large firms and universities to manage high-cost projects in which public safety and national security are important concerns," says the report, scheduled to be released next month.

Stocks lower after GDP report

Renewed inflation fears, new data on gross national product affect Wall Street

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Renewed inflation fears left stocks mixed Thursday as new data on the nation's gross domestic product bolstered the Federal Reserve's view that the economy remains strong.

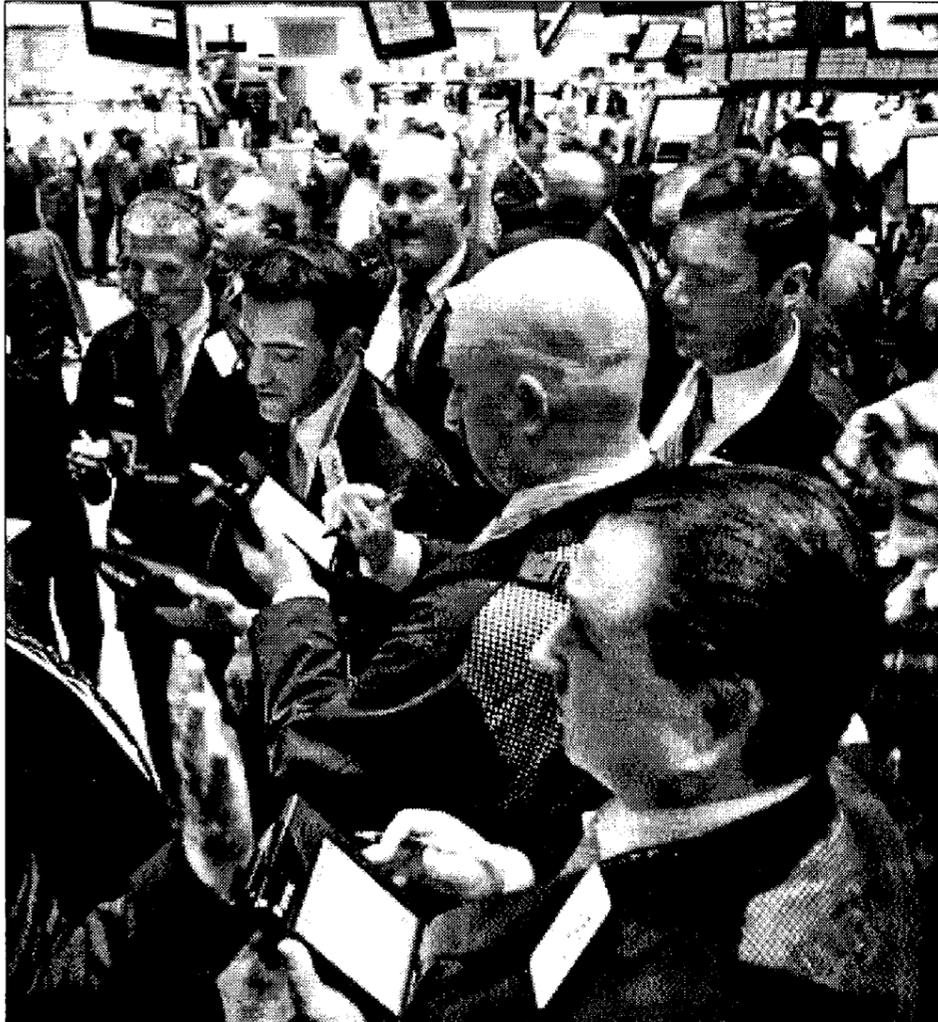
Investors fretted after the Commerce Department revised the nation's fourth-quarter GDP, which was raised to an annual growth rate of 1.7 percent from an earlier 1.6 percent estimate. The slowdown in growth — GDP grew at 4.1 percent in the third quarter — was blamed on an unexpected drop in government spending and business investment.

But while the final GDP reading matched economists' expectations, the department's chain deflator — an inflation measure — rose 3.5 percent, above forecasts for 3.3 percent growth. Investors have been watchful for any hint of inflation amid signs that the Federal Reserve will keep hiking interest rates to control price increases.

"I think you're seeing the market raising its estimates on economic growth, but that also may mean higher rates," said Brian Gendreau, investment strategist for ING Investment Management. "So we're still digesting what all this means, and the result so far is a flat-to-lower market."

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 65.00, or 0.58 percent, to 11,150.70, after opening the session in positive territory.

Broader stock indicators were narrowly mixed. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 2.64, or 0.2 percent, to 1,300.25, while the Nasdaq composite index rose 3.04, or 0.13 percent,



Traders on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange observe the falling stocks caused by new data on the nation's GDP Thursday.

to 2,340.82, reaching its second straight five-year high.

Bonds continued falling amid concerns that rising yields will draw away interest in stocks, with the yield on the 10-year Treasury note jumping to 4.86 percent from 4.80 percent late Wednesday. The dollar was mostly lower against other major currencies, and gold prices rebounded.

Crude futures pushed past \$67 per barrel and

reached a two-month high as investors worried about political tension over Iran's nuclear arms program and a fourth straight weekly drop in U.S. gasoline reserves. A barrel of light crude settled at \$67.15, up 70 cents, on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Fears of higher interest rates were exacerbated as the Labor Department reported that weekly claims for unemployment benefits fell by 10,000 to 302,000 last week, and

said the results still indicate a tight labor market. More employment means more people spending, which could increase demand and spark inflation.

Yet despite high oil prices and overarching concerns about inflation, the lack of massive selloffs after the Fed's rate hike shows the stock market remains bullish, according to Brian Belski, senior equity wealth management strategist at Merrill Lynch.

Venezuela takes on Exxon Mobil

Associated Press

CARACAS — Venezuela had a blunt message this week for Exxon Mobil, one of the world's most powerful oil companies: Get off my crude-rich turf.

Venezuela is tightening its squeeze on the oil industry, telling oil companies to give the state a greater share of profits — or get out.

Oil Minister Rafael Ramirez on Wednesday said Exxon Mobil Corp. was one of the companies that would "prefer to leave ... rather than adjust" to recent policy changes.

"We said we don't want them to be here then," Ramirez told the state TV broadcaster adding, if "we need them, we'll call them."

Exxon Mobil indicated Thursday it had no plans to pull out. "ExxonMobil de Venezuela contin-

ues to have a long-term perspective of its activities in Venezuela," it said in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

The flap helped push the price of oil above \$67 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange on Thursday as the market reacted to the latest sign of tighter state-control of energy around the globe.

Venezuela is taking on Big Oil at a time when rising oil prices, political instability in the Mideast and Nigeria and new buyers in Asia have put the world's fifth-largest oil exporter in a winning position.

After snubbing Exxon Mobil, Ramirez said Venezuela has other eager partners, including state companies from Russia, Iran, China, India, as well as traditional oil companies.

The new climate has given Venezuela the flexibility to diversify "away from Western investors and incorporate state-owned companies

from allied countries ... more willing to abide by new, tighter terms," said Patrick Esteruelas, analyst at the Washington-based Eurasia Group.

The government has increasingly sought projects with state-controlled oil companies in friendly countries. Last year, Venezuela granted exclusive licensing rights to certify and quantify reserves in blocks in the Orinoco tar belt to seven companies, including China's CNPC, India's ONGC and Iran's Petropars. The only western oil major included was Spanish-Argentine company Repsol YPF.

The trend is driven by President Hugo Chavez's distaste for corporate multinationals, which he accuses of looting his country's oil wealth over the years. He enjoys strong support for his efforts to take more industry profits for use in social programs for the nation's poor.

Study findings show prayer does not benefit recovery

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Does praying for a sick person's recovery do any good?

In the largest scientific test of its kind, heart surgery patients showed no benefit when strangers prayed for their recovery.

And patients who knew they were being prayed for had a slightly higher rate of complications. The researchers could only guess why.

Several scientists questioned the concept of the study. Science "is not designed to study the supernatural," said Dr. Harold G. Koenig, director of the Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health at the Duke University Medical Center.

The researchers who tested the power of prayer emphasized that their \$2.4 million study could not address whether God exists or answers prayers made on another's behalf. The study could look only for effects from the specific prayers offered as part of the research, they said.

The highly anticipated study "did not move us forward or back-

ward" in understanding the effects of prayer, said Dr. Charles Bethea, a co-author and cardiologist at the Integris Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City. "Intercessory prayer under our restricted format had a neutral effect."

Dr. Herbert Benson of Harvard Medical School, co-principal investigator of the study, agreed. "We cannot come to a conclusion, except to say that by this study design, with its limitations, this is what we found."

The researchers also said they didn't know why patients who knew they were being prayed for had a higher rate of complications than patients who only knew that such prayers were a possibility.

Maybe they became anxious by the knowledge that they'd been selected for prayers, Bethea said: "Did the patients think, 'I am so sick that they had to call in the prayer team?'"

The researchers said family and friends shouldn't be discouraged from telling a patient about their plans to pray for a good recovery.

Experts called it the largest and best-designed study ever to test the medical effects of intercessory prayers — praying on behalf of someone else. That's different

from studying the effect of a person's prayers and spiritual practices on his or her own health; many studies of that have shown a positive effect.

The new study followed about 1,800 patients at six medical centers. It was

financed by the Templeton Foundation, which supports research into science and religion, and one of the participating hospitals. It will appear in Tuesday's issue of the American Heart Journal.

The research team tested the effect of having three Christian

groups pray for particular patients, starting the night before surgery and continuing for two weeks. The volunteers prayed for "a successful surgery with a quick, healthy recovery and no complications" for specific patients — their identities known only by first name and first initial of the last name.

The patients, meanwhile, were split into three groups of about 600 apiece: those who knew they were being prayed for, those who were prayed for but only knew it was a possibility, and those who weren't prayed for but were told it was a possibility.

The researchers didn't ask patients or their families and friends to alter any plans they had for prayer, saying such a step would have been unethical and impractical.

The study looked for any complications within 30 days of the surgery. Results showed no effect of prayer on complication-free recovery. But among patients who did receive prayers, 59 percent of the patients who knew they were being prayed for developed a com-

plication, versus 52 percent of those who were told it was just a possibility.

Paul Kurtz, professor emeritus of philosophy at the State University of New York at Buffalo, and chairman of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, had a blunt response when asked why he thought the study found no effect of prayer.

"Because there is none," he said. "That would be one answer."

He added that while he tries to keep an open mind, he's seen no good evidence for such an effect in past studies. The new work, he said, "gives added emphasis to those who have been skeptical."

Koenig, of Duke University Medical Center, who didn't take part in the study, said the results didn't surprise him.

"There are no scientific grounds to expect a result and there are no real theological grounds to expect a result either," he said. "There is no god in either the Christian, Jewish or Muslim scriptures that can be constrained to the point that they can be predicted."

"Did the patients think, 'I am so sick that they had to call in a prayer team?'"

Charles Bethea
study co-author

Nev. explosives test to cause mushroom cloud

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The last time a U.S. government official was quoted prominently on the subject of mushroom clouds, it was Condoleezza Rice talking about the risk of discovering too late that Saddam Hussein had a nuclear weapon.

On Thursday it was a Pentagon official musing about the spectacle of detonating a 700-ton explosive in the Nevada desert — a test blast dubbed "Divine Strake" that the official said might remind some of the days of open-air nuclear testing, before the blasts were moved underground to avoid the danger of radioactive fallout.

"I don't want to sound glib here, but it is the first time in Nevada that you'll see a mushroom cloud over Las Vegas since we stopped testing nuclear weapons," said James Tegnalia, head of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, a Pentagon unit that is working on technical aspects of how to destroy deeply buried enemy weapons.

The United States stopped conducting aboveground nuclear tests in 1963.

Tegnalia's use of the term "mushroom cloud" seemed to unsettle some in Washington.

In an entirely different context, Rice spoke prior to the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003 of the risk of waiting too long to confirm with complete confidence that Iraq had a nuclear weapon. The first confirmation, she said, could be a mushroom cloud over the United States. It turned out that Iraq had no active nuclear weapons program.

Several hours after Tegnalia made the mushroom cloud remark to a group of reporters, his office put out a written statement stressing that Divine Strake was not a nuclear blast, that it poses minimal health and safety risks to the public, and that there are no radioactively contaminated soils in the vicinity of the planned detonation.

And the mushroom cloud? "All explosives, given the right thermal characteristics, will create a cloud that may resemble a mushroom cloud," the statement said, adding that the "dust cloud" from Divine Strake — scheduled for June 2 — may reach an altitude of 10,000 feet but "is not expected to be visible from Las Vegas," about 90 miles away.

Tegnalia said the Russian government has been notified to avoid misunderstanding about the nature of the blast.

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Model Naomi Campbell charged in Manhattan assault

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Supermodel Naomi Campbell was charged with assault for throwing her cell phone at a housekeeper after accusing her of stealing clothes when she couldn't find a pair of jeans she wanted to wear on "Oprah," prosecutors said.

She was released on her own recognizance and allowed to keep her passport after her lawyer argued that her famous face would prevent her from fleeing.

"She is probably the most recognized and prominent model in the world," defense attorney David Breitbart told a judge Thursday in Manhattan Criminal Court. "There is no place she could go and not be recognized."

Campbell, wearing a white fur poncho, was arraigned on a charge of second-degree assault before Judge Richard Weinberg, who allowed Breitbart to enter a plea of not guilty on her behalf.

In a statement issued late Thursday, Campbell called the allegation that she hit or injured her housekeeper "completely untrue." She said she had questioned the housekeeper, Ana Scolavino, about missing items since she started working for the model more than two months ago.

"She is sadly mistaken if she thinks she can extract money from me by concocting lies by recycling old stories," the

supermodel said. "I have asked my lawyer to look into filing both theft and extortion charges against her."

The housekeeper was treated at a hospital for a cut that required four staples, said Assistant District Attorney Elina Kreditor, who asked the judge to set bail at \$3,500 and to order Campbell, who is British, to surrender her passport.

Breitbart called the request for \$3,500 bail "an insult," saying his client's Park Avenue apartment is worth more than \$3 million and she earns "more than six figures on a regular basis."

He said Campbell needed her passport for a trip to South Africa next week to visit Nelson Mandela. He asked the judge for orders to keep the housekeeper away from Campbell's apartment.

The judge said Scolavino, would have to give up her key to the apartment and issued an order of protection against Campbell, telling her she could have no contact with the employee. He scheduled her next court appearance for June 27.

The assault took place at about 8:30 a.m. inside Campbell's apartment, according to a criminal complaint. The housekeeper was hit in the back of the head and was treated at Lenox Hill Hospital, it said.

A woman who answered the after-hours media relations number at the hospital said no one was available to comment



Supermodel Naomi Campbell is led into Manhattan criminal court Thursday in New York. Campbell was charged with second-degree assault after allegedly bashing her housekeeper in the head with a phone.

and that she could not provide any information on Scolavino.

Campbell was taken into custody shortly after police responded to the hospital to investigate the reported attack.

Facing a familiar sea of cameras, Campbell exited a Manhattan police station shortly after 4 p.m. in a scene that was part runway, part perp

walk. Scores of photographers, reporters and film crews had gathered to record her departure; she responded by flashing a quick smile.

In a statement, a Campbell spokesman said the supermodel was not responsible for any assault.

"We believe this is a case of retaliation, because Naomi had

fired her housekeeper earlier this morning," said the statement from J.R. Johnson. "We are confident the courts will see it the same way."

This was not the first time the volatile Campbell, 35, was accused of reaching out and touching someone with a phone. In 2003, the supermodel was sued by a former administrative assistant who said Campbell had thrown a phone at her during a tantrum two years earlier.

In August 2004, in the same apartment, Campbell and her maid battled it out, with the worker claiming the supermodel slapped her across the face. Campbell accused maid Millicent Burton of instigating the fight.

Campbell was discovered at age 15 and launched a career that landed her in magazines worldwide — including the Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue. Campbell's high-profile lifestyle has included appearances in music videos by George Michael and Jay-Z and a close friendship with Mandela.

The international modeling sensation has appeared in several films and dabbled in a musical career.

The mercurial Campbell has a reputation for angry outbursts and abusive behavior. She pleaded guilty in Toronto to an assault charge for beating another assistant while making a film in Canada in 1998.

She also battled a cocaine addiction before reportedly getting straight several years ago.

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Softball

JAMAICA

Nation swears in first female prime minister



Jamaica's new Prime Minister Portia Simpson Miller waves to the crowd after being sworn in Thursday by Governor General Kenneth Hall, right.

Associated Press

KINGSTON — Portia Simpson Miller took office Thursday as Jamaica's first female prime minister, pledging to fight violent crime, root out corruption and protect human rights.

Thousands turned out for her inauguration including the Caribbean's top leaders as well as the Nation of Islam's Louis Farrakhan and Essence magazine editorial director Susan Taylor.

"The first pledge I make as prime minister is to advance human rights and individual liberties," the 60-year-old leader said. "I pledge to work tirelessly to end all corruption and extortion."

"Both of these diminish our economic potential and I will do everything in my power to break the power of the criminals."

Simpson Miller, known as "Sista P," was a long-serving member of parliament who represented South East St. Andrew Parish, one of Jamaica's crime-ridden slums

that she says can be transformed with better schools and more economic opportunity.

Simpson Miller beat three opponents to take over leadership of the ruling People's National Party from outgoing Prime Minister P.J. Patterson, who led Jamaica for the past 14 years.

She said her ascension to Jamaica's leadership post was "a true manifestation of the Jamaican dream."

This indicates that any child regardless of circumstances can rise to the top."

Patterson's administration was dogged by scandals and allegations of corruption while the economy lagged and the crime rate soared — a record 1,671 homicides occurred last year in the nation of 2.6 million.

Simpson Miller's supporters say they hope that her becoming the first female prime minister will inspire others in a country where about 12 percent of political posts are held by women.

GAZA STRIP

Hamas ministers take office

Associated Press

GAZA CITY — It may have been a smooth handover, but it was far from orthodox

The Palestinians' new prime minister was no where in sight Thursday as outgoing leader Ahmed Qureia turned over his office in the West Bank city of Ramallah to his successor.

And at the Foreign Ministry, ceremony gave way to verbal jousting as the departing minister debated with his successor over the need to honor agreements with Israel.

Israeli restrictions and internal friction led to some bizarre moments during the handover of Palestinian government ministries to Hamas, underscoring the militant group's challenges as it tries to govern.

Qureia turned his office to new Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh's deputy, because Israel wouldn't allow Hamas ministers and lawmakers to travel through Israel between Gaza and the West Bank — and Haniyeh was in Gaza.

Still, Haniyeh insisted the seamless transfer was a testament to Palestinian democracy. "This is proof that our people is a great civilized people, and the peaceful handover of power will now be a routine that our people will abide by," he said.

Instead of 100 days of grace, the Hamas government got barely 100 minutes before Western nations, led by Canada and the U.S., moved to cut off funding to the Palestinian Authority, triggering an immediate financial cri-

sis that might delay March salary payments to more than 100,000 public employees next week, many of them armed security troops.

Hamas leaders said the aid cuts violate the Palestinians' democratic rights, but Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice declared, "The principle is very clear: We're not going to fund a Hamas-led government."

Hamas has rejected Western demands to renounce violence,

recognize Israel and accept previous agreements between Israel and the Palestinians. The United States and European Union list Hamas as a terror group, as does Israel.

The Palestinian Authority gets a large part of its \$1.9 billion annual budget from overseas sources, and may run into difficulties next week when March salaries

are due to be paid to some 140,000 government employees.

Haniyeh said the aid cuts hurt the Palestinian people.

"We were hoping that some countries would respect the rules of the democratic game and that they would have had different positions and not act this way," he said.

And Foreign Minister Mahmoud Zahar hinted that any country that shuns Hamas

will be considered "an enemy of the Palestinian people." He said Foreign Ministry employees would not be allowed to talk to them.

Rice said the United States was reviewing its Palestinian aid programs to see which ones it would freeze, emphasizing that the U.S. will not "provide funding to a Hamas-led government."

Rice said she expected to talk about Palestinian funding with France, Germany and Britain during her current trip. "We've been very much on the same page," she said.

The Quartet of Mideast mediators — the U.S., EU, Russia and the United Nations — warned the Hamas-led government Thursday to recognize Israel and seek peace

talks if it wants to be guaranteed continued aid.

"The Quartet concurred that there inevitably will be an effect on direct assistance to that government and its ministries" if those conditions are not met, the mediators said in a statement.

Israel has already stopped transferring tens of millions of dollars a month in taxes it collects on behalf of the Palestinian Authority.

"This is proof that our people is a great civilized people, and the peaceful handover of power will now be a routine that our people will abide by."

**Ismail Haniyeh
Palestinian
Prime Minister**

Several Israelis killed by Palestinian suicide bomber

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — A Palestinian suicide bomber in the West Bank killed four Israelis after nightfall Thursday, just days after the new Hamas Palestinian government took office and Israel elected a premier who pledges to pull out of much of the West Bank.

A huge blast incinerated a car at the entrance to the Jewish settlement of Kedoumim, sending plumes of flame and smoke into the air, the military said.

Police and Israeli settlers pieced together the story: The Israelis picked up a hitchhiker, who was dressed like an Orthodox Jew. He was the bomber and the blast killed everyone in the vehicle.

Officials said four bodies were found after the fire was put out. A fifth body was discovered in the ruins of the vehicle a while later, Israel Radio reported.

The Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, a violent offshoot of Fatah, the movement of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, claimed responsibility. It was the first such attack by Fatah since a cease-fire was declared in February 2005, and it came a day after Abbas swore in the new Palestinian government, dominated by Hamas.

There was no immediate comment from the Palestinian leadership, but Israel was quick to denounce the bombing.

David Baker, an official in the Israeli Prime Minister's office, said the attack "took place while

the Palestinians refused to lift a finger to prevent terror attacks against Israelis, and we saw the results tonight."

Just two hours before the bombing, the Israel Election Commission released the official results from Tuesday's election, giving an extra seat to acting

Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's Kadima Party. The party finished with 29 seats of the 120 in the parliament. The hawkish Likud also picked up a seat, giving it 12. The changes were based on counts of votes from soldiers and others not included in the original tally.

Olmert has pledged to pull out of much of the West Bank and move tens of thousands of Jewish settlers from outlying areas in the West Bank to main settlement blocs. He has said he prefers to settle the conflict with the Palestinians through negotiations, but if not, he would take unilater-

al action to draw Israel's borders.

Olmert has also pledged to take stiff action to halt Palestinian violence. After the bombing, Israeli soldiers blocked roads in the area of the settlement, and Israeli media reported contact with Palestinian security agencies was cut off.

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INSPIRE ME

North Carolina introduces lottery

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — North Carolina lost its label Thursday as the only East Coast state without a lottery, getting off to a quick start as commuters, casino-players and the curious snatched up the first batch of instant tickets.

Attracted by the promise of \$400 million annually for education and spurred on by Gov. Mike Easley, the General Assembly narrowly passed a lottery last summer, following the lead of 41 other states and all of its neighbors.

"Why should we be giving our money to Virginia, South Carolina and Tennessee?" Sarah Haynes asked after buying 40 \$1 tickets at a gas station north of downtown Raleigh. She was wearing a jacket emblazoned with the logo of an out-of-state casino. "Taxes are already too high."

More than 5,000 retailers statewide began selling tickets at 6 a.m., shortly after State Board of Education chairman Howard Lee bought the ceremonial first tickets at dawn.

"This is fantastic," Lee said, holding up the tickets at the lot-

tery's Raleigh office. "This is a great day in the state of North Carolina."

By midday, Lee had given his five \$1 tickets to North Carolina Teacher of the Year Wendy Miller, who won \$10 that she then gave back to the state. It was part of the estimated \$1.3 million in prizes paid out by mid-afternoon, lottery officials said.

Ticket sales by then had reached about \$6.5 million, well beyond the early \$2 million estimate of lottery officials. Executive director Tom Shaheen estimated that sales would reach more than \$10 million for the day.

At least 35 percent of the proceeds from every ticket sold must go public-school construction, class-size reduction, need-based college scholarships and a voluntary prekindergarten program.

North Carolina will join the multistate Powerball numbers game in late May.

The lottery law also sets aside up to \$1 million to assist problem gamblers and requires strict advertising restrictions.

Lawmakers started considering starting a lottery in the early 1980s. Easley began pushing the

idea again after taking office in 2001, and it gained momentum after South Carolina and Tennessee began lotteries a few years later.

But resistance to the lottery remained stiff, as Tar Heel notables from the Rev. Billy Graham to retired North Carolina basketball coach Dean Smith expressed opposition.

They and other opponents said the games would siphon money from the pockets of the poor, encourage more compulsive gambling and simply shift education spending to the lottery without adding any new money.

"People will be led to believe the lottery is a cash cow for education, and it's not," John Rustin, with the N.C. Family Policy Council, said Thursday.

Easley and legislative leaders countered that North Carolina residents were paying to educate children in other states by playing lotteries there.

Across the state Thursday, early customers bought lottery tickets along with their coffee and snacks. When Brian Regling stopped at a Raleigh convenience store, a clerk and the store manager were still reading instructions about the game.

Wildfires threaten homes in Amarillo

Eight homes destroyed, no injuries reported

Associated Press

AMARILLO, Texas — Two wildfires erupted Thursday in this dry and windy city, destroying eight homes and several structures before they were brought under control, officials said.

There were no reports of injuries.

About 400 acres burned, though estimates were difficult because wind gusts of nearly 40 mph grounded Forest Service aircraft, agency spokeswoman Traci Weaver said. The fires were 90 percent contained by Thursday afternoon, she said.

Several cars burned in a junkyard, and authorities tried to evacuate homes in the area, but most efforts focused on protecting the homes in the fire's path, said Amarillo Fire Capt. Bob Johnson.

"We did save a lot of

(structures), but it was moving so fast," Johnson said. "It kept jumping highways, too."

The temperature was in the high 60s with a relative humidity of 12 percent.

Weaver said the conditions were similar to March 12, when hundreds of blazes broke out in the parched region, burning some 960,000 acres and killing 11 people.

Since Dec. 26, more than 11,000 fires have burned about 4.9 million acres and destroyed about 400 homes, according to Gov. Rick Perry's office.

The fires were burning about 17 miles from the nation's only nuclear weapons assembly facility, but the westerly winds meant it likely wouldn't be threatened, Weaver said.

Amarillo, a city of 176,000, is in the Texas Panhandle, about 335 miles northwest of Dallas.

Massachusetts court ruling leaves gay couples confused

Associated Press

BOSTON — Amy Zimmerman and Tanya Wexler knew their 6-year-old son and 5-year-old daughter wouldn't sit still for details about a state high court ruling on the legality of their marriage, so they agreed to deliver the news with a simple thumbs up or down.

It wasn't that easy.

"I said, 'OK guys, looks like it's a thumbs sideways,'" Wexler said.

The Supreme Judicial Court, which in 2003 made Massachusetts the only state to legalize gay marriage, on Thursday upheld a 1913 state law that forbids nonresidents from marrying there if their marriage would not be recognized in their home state.

The decision was a disap-

pointment for gay rights groups, and left uncertainty for Zimmerman and Wexler, who are from New York.

The court sent their case, and the case of a couple from Rhode Island, back to a lower court, saying it was unclear whether their home states prohibit same-sex marriage.

Gay marriage advocates said the ruling means couples from states where gay marriage isn't explicitly banned can argue for their marriages to be recognized in Massachusetts. Zimmerman said she wasn't sure what it means.

"We do consider ourselves still married," Zimmerman, 33. "There is a limbo element to it."

Eight gay couples from surrounding states had challenged the law in a case watched closely across the country. Five of

those eight couples actually received marriage licenses in Massachusetts before Gov. Mitt Romney ordered that the 1913 law be enforced.

In Thursday's ruling, Justice Francis Spina wrote that Massachusetts "has a significant interest in not meddling in matters in which another state, the one where a couple actually resides, has a paramount interest."

The state "can reasonably believe that nonresident same-sex couples primarily are coming to this commonwealth to marry because they want to evade the

marriage laws of their home states, and that Massachusetts should not be encouraging such evasion."

Romney, a Republican who is considering a run for president in 2008, applauded the ruling.

"It's painful to know you'll be treated equally under the law if and only if you happen to live here."

Arline Isaacson
gay rights advocate

"We don't want Massachusetts to become the Las Vegas of same-sex marriage," Romney said. "It's important that other states have the right to make their own determination of marriage and not follow the wrong course that our Supreme Judicial Court put us on."

Arline Isaacson of the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian

Political Caucus called the decision "a painful reminder that we remain second-class citizens."

"It's painful to know you'll be treated equally under the law if and only if you happen to live here," she said. "Otherwise, you are completely unequal as a gay person."

In oral arguments before the high court in October, a lawyer for the couples argued that the 1913 law had been unused for decades until it was "dusted off" by Romney in an attempt to discriminate against same-sex couples. Attorneys for the state argued that Massachusetts risked a backlash if it ignored the laws of other states.

"What the court did today is really to recognize that it's up to each state to decide what their laws will be," Attorney General Thomas Reilly said. "This decision does not impact in any way Massachusetts citizens."

Reilly said the legality of the marriages of out-of-state couples who received licenses would have to be determined in their home states on a case-by-case basis.

New York's top officials have said same-sex marriage is illegal there, although that interpretation of state law is being challenged. Rhode Island law does not specifically address same-sex marriage, but leading politicians there also oppose it.

According to the Registry of Vital Records and Statistics, 7,341 gay couples tied the knot in Massachusetts between the first marriages in May 2004 and December 2005.

The state does not track how many out of state couples were given licenses in Massachusetts.

Opponents of gay marriage are working to put a question on the November 2008 ballot that would define marriage as only between a man and a woman.

The question has gathered the required signatures from registered voters and now needs legislative approval to be placed on the ballot.

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Facebook: know what you're sharing

They're watching.

And don't say you didn't see it coming.

From your underage roommate's tagged photos of his or her visit to a local bar to a friend's membership in a questionable group, the material publicly documented on the Facebook Web site has finally caught the attention of University administrators who have created accounts and viewed student profiles.

From its seemingly innocent beginnings of linking friends at colleges and universities across the nation, the Facebook has most recently morphed into a "watchdog" tool that allows administrators and law enforcement officials a tempting glimpse into what many students falsely consider their private worlds.

While University officials have said they do not peruse student profiles in a quest to uncover duLac violations, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs Bill Kirk said there is no policy "that would prohibit or require" the utilization of Facebook in the disciplinary process — an ambiguous statement that clouds any future speculation.

At Saint Mary's, monitoring of the site may have additional implications for students. Director of Residence Life Michelle Russell said the College is preparing "to explore ways to utilize Facebook to communicate with students and to determine if these sites should be considered when hiring

student leadership positions."

At neither school has the administration doled out punitive measures based solely on infractions spotted on Facebook — marking a line that shouldn't be crossed. The outside scrutiny is far from illegal, since the only requirement for Facebook membership is an ".edu" e-mail address. This allows administrators, future employers, police and virtually anyone who has had an ".edu" e-mail address at some point in his or her life to access the site.

It's important to remember that as a public domain, Facebook requires users to be responsible for what they post — or are associated with — on the site. Given the examples of Facebook crackdowns at other universities paired with some Notre Dame and Saint Mary's faculty and administrators' admitted Facebook usage habits, it is ignorant to think that what you post on the site is for your friends' eyes only.

Unless you make it that way, that is.

Bottom line: Be careful.

You can't keep administrators from trying to peek, but there are easy ways to protect yourself from their scrutiny. Re-set your privacy settings to only allow friends to see your profile. Untag your photos.

And remember that you aren't the only face looking at your Facebook profile.

The Observer Editorial

The Last Waltz

Next weekend marks St. Mary's Senior Formal — a night which I have heard many refer to as "drunk prom." My friends and classmates are anticipating a great evening — a sort of last hurrah with the friends they have made over the past four years. To be quite honest I am not so excited.

I didn't even really want to go to the dance, but I found myself getting roped into buying a hundred dollar ticket for an evening that doesn't even include an open bar. My friends convinced me to come by pulling out the "we only have a few more weeks" card. My really good friends, who obviously know me even better, pulled out the "you'll get to get a new dress and heels" card. I was sold. I was even briefly looking forward to the night.

That was until the issue of who I would bring came up. I thought this would not be a problem. Not surprisingly, I checked to see if my boyfriend could come first. One would think this is a definite "yes". Think again — it seems that first year law students get take-home finals this time of year. I decided not to sweat it. I knew I would have had the best time with him, but I have some great guy friends that would also make really

fun dates. I talked to a few them about it — they would love to come. Great. But have friends visiting or tickets to baseball games that day. Great.

So now I'm feeling pretty dejected. Here I think I've got it made with a great guy and great friends, but I can't even get a date to some dance. It then dawns on me that life has come full circle. This is most likely the last dance I'll need to find a date to go with and I'm having no luck. Can we say high school? The month leading up to high school dances was a notoriously stressful time for me. I recall putting my head in my shirt (a nervous habit of mine) listing all possible dates and making up reasons why none of them would ask me. If you didn't go to the dances



Molly Acker

Nobody Likes a Dumb Blonde

"I didn't even really want to go to the dance, but I found myself getting roped into buying a hundred dollar ticket for an evening that doesn't even include an open bar"

not only were you not fulfilling your role in student government that requires you to attend events, but even worse, it was social suicide.

I have found myself waking up in cold sweats after having nightmares of what life was like in high school. Along with the pressure of finding "someone to walk in the door with" there are all the pictures. Everything was captured on film — be it the fashion crimes committed in shades of lavender, maroon, and blue, the date that was shorter than you or who couldn't dance, the hairstyles with curls

hanging all over the place. I thought that I had put all of this behind me when I donned the cap and gown four years ago.

Now my friends and family are laughing at me. They think it is hilarious that I am having such trouble. My dad called and said he'd be happy to go with me. I'm not even sure I could count on that. With my date history I'd turn into the Joan Rivers joke about the girl who was so ugly that she got stood up for the father-daughter dance.

Here I am, so fortunate to have a wonderful family and friends, and I can't find a date.

It is an all too fitting way to cap off the last eight years of my education and a perfect reminder of why if it were up to me there would be no more dances. An event that lasts for only a few hours causes all these problems. Needless to say, I'm keeping my fingers crossed that some poor soul will be willing to spend his evening feasting on undercooked chicken, drinking cheap booze, and making idle chit chat. Actually, though, I think I have a few good leads on dates. After all, that guy who finds the term "Fighting Irish" offensive seems like a lot of laughs, and I doubt he'll have anything going on on a Saturday night.

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

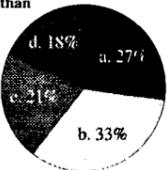
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OBSERVER POLL

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

- a. Not concerned.
- b. Slightly concerned.
- c. I censor my profile.
- d. I do not use Facebook

*Poll appears courtesy of www.ndsmcobserver.com and is based on 238 responses.



Submit a Letter to the Editor at
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I have come to believe that the whole world is an enigma, a harmless enigma that is made terrible by our own mad attempt to interpret it as though it had an underlying truth."

Umberto Eco
Italian novelist

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unite for higher wages

Just this week Notre Dame hosted a conference on white privilege. Generally speaking, white privilege refers to those systemic advantages in this society that members of the white "race" are granted solely on the basis of their membership in that group of people with white-colored skin — without any consideration of individual members, aspirations or achievement. Among the many benefits that being white automatically assures a person, perhaps the most significant is the ability to ignore issues of race and racism; that is, to claim colorblindness.

Though it often overlaps with the white kind, there is another, distinct type of privilege system that is just as prevalent in America: it is the one based on socio-economic class. On account of this "rewards" program, people who have money are enabled to ignore those who don't. Indeed, it is a uniquely moneyed luxury to claim that money doesn't matter. But this privilege extends further. America's treasured myth of meritocracy, that Horatio Alger story in which hard work invariably assures success, allows the economically comfortable classes to believe that everything they have is the result of their own hard work — and is completely unrelated to their completely unearned inheritances of all sorts: money, reputation, education, childhood environment, etc. Conversely, this economic fantasy (a fantasy because there is a whole class of jobs in the United States on whose wages alone, no matter how long or hard you work, you cannot survive) also allows the well-off to imagine that if a person and her or his family are poor, it is somehow that person's fault — even, by some inexplicable stretch of the imagination, if that person is working.

Though my purpose here is to argue for the necessity (a humanitarian, as well as a Christian, necessity) of a living wage for campus workers, I have brought up these issues of race and class-based privileges because I feel that they are extremely pertinent to situation of the living wage campaign here at Notre Dame. More precisely, I am claiming that it is because the majority of the students

here come from very well-off families, and because all of the administrators here are financially well-off, that there is not more support for a living wage for campus workers. What I mean by this is that I truly believe that almost every individual associated with this University would like for every other individual associated with this University to have enough to eat, to have access to adequate healthcare, to live in a safe house and area and to afford decent clothes for themselves and their children. But I feel that it is our class-based capacity to deny social and economic injustice, since we ourselves probably have not been victims of it, that permits us to avert our engaged attention away from those people who work here at this school, for us, everyday, and yet who are often unable to keep themselves and their families above that mystical (to us) poverty line.

Since we the students (but also the faculty, the alumni, our parents, etc.) make up this University, if a critical mass of us demanded a living wage for all campus workers, the administration would undoubtedly make this happen. After all, this is not an issue of scant resources, but of budget priorities (think: the new main entranceway). However, our money buys us the privilege, which we accept, of ignoring this matter of inadequate wages and feeling apathetic towards campaigns that try to make the University's economic policies more humane, more just. But, in truth, a wage system that does not pay each worker enough to survive and to support her or his family on the worker's income alone is not simply the concern of the workers or of volunteer groups like CLAP — it is a problem for all of us. This University's economic policies are our own. And if we do not challenge them, we enforce them.

Patrick Wall
junior
O'Neill Hall
March 30

Wages a Catholic responsibility

Many Roman Catholic institutions, which served as vehicles for social mobility for poor and working class Catholics in the 20th century, are now resisting requests that they pay their workers a living wage.

The country's 238 Roman Catholic colleges and universities are a case in point. Over the last hundred years these institutions have helped millions of families move solidly into the middle class. They have also shaped the spirituality and ethics of millions more young adult Catholics.

This story is borne out in my own family. My grandfather never finished high school. He worked in the auto factories of Detroit and ran a corner drug store in Akron. But somehow his parents managed to send him to Notre Dame in 1948. For my father and for our family, Notre Dame was a ticket to the world of business and to the middle class.

My wife and I graduated from Notre Dame in 1977 prepared for our careers and equipped with an adult faith that has served us well as we raise our own family. Two of my nieces now attend Notre Dame and are doing well academically even as they participate in a wide array of service projects.

But Catholic colleges — and indeed all faith-based institutions — cannot just live off the ideas and traditions of the past. Historian Jaroslav Pelikan has said that "tradition is the living faith of the dead" not "the dead faith of the living."

If places like Notre Dame are to be the "living faith of the dead" they must go beyond the idea that the only things that really matter in Catholic universities are the success of the students and the quality

of the research. Their challenge is to see their mission in a broader way and be leaders providing living wages to their non-professional employees.

Last fall, students at Notre Dame launched the Campus Labor Action Project to bring together students, workers, faculty, alumni and community allies to work for living wages on Notre Dame's campus. Their work mirrors efforts in 35 other colleges and universities to raise the wages of their non-faculty workforce so they too can have a shot at owning a home, saving for retirement and sending their children to college.

The movement for just wages is rightly aimed at Notre Dame and its \$4 billion endowment. But the same question should be put to all Catholic institutions — parochial schools, hospitals and congregations included. Are we practicing what we preach when it comes to our teachings about what constitutes a just wage? Are our institutions responding to the demands for justice of their prophets and saints — or to the lower bar of what the market requires? All across America, there are families like mine — only African American, Caribbean American, Hispanic and Asian — who need Roman Catholic institutions to do for them what they did for my parents. In Notre Dame's case, instead of being forced to give its workers a living wage, it should be the national Catholic leader of the effort.

Thomas Lenz
alumnus
Class of 1977
March 26

Military contract not ambiguous

In response to Jonathan E. O'Reilly's letter (U.S. Army doesn't honor ROTC contract, March 28), O'Reilly has failed to mention anything regarding the verbal oath every officer takes upon accepting a Commission, which concludes "I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter." Unlike enlisted personnel, commissioned officers take an oath to serve "freely and without mental reservation" at the behest of the Commander-in-Chief, and are therefore granted the unique responsibilities and obligations of this esteemed office. One of the obligations is to serve as long as one's services are deemed necessary, not by the individual, but by the organization. When an officer resigns his or her commission, it is a request to resign, a request which may be turned down.

I am not questioning O'Reilly's dedication or faithful eight years of service to the Army, but as an officer he should know that the Army's needs supercede his own needs or desires. This is made clear in any ROTC program or other commissioning contract. As a student who will be commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Marine Corps this May, it has been made explicitly clear that I may be required to serve beyond the minimum (the exact word

used in the contract) four years of my commitment, and that resignation is a request which could be denied. If this was not made clear to O'Reilly at the time of his commissioning, that was a failure of his ROTC staff, but I can attest to the fact that currently the ROTC staffs are stressing the possibility of being held beyond the minimum requirement.

O'Reilly alludes to this at the end of his letter where he wants this clause pointed out to him in his contract. As future officers and leaders of young men and women of the enlisted ranks, we are expected to be fully responsible for our actions, including reading and fully understanding what our office actually entails. It is not anyone else's responsibility to make sure the officer candidate understands his or her obligation to fulfill that office. Again, I am not arguing that O'Reilly does not have a legitimate claim to be released from his oath, but his letter shows gross ignorance toward the actual commitment officers are expected to make upon being granted the special trust and confidence of the Commander-in-Chief.

William Sullivan
senior
off campus
March 28

Two sides to contract interpretation

Regarding the letter, "U.S. Army doesn't honor ROTC contract," by Jonathan E. O'Reilly (March 28), I feel it is important to see the other side of the issue.

I was in Army ROTC at Notre Dame from 1989-1993. My contract for service with the U.S. Army required eight years of service, and I served four years on active duty and another four in the "inactive reserves," where I served with no unit and did not participate in any military activities.

However, the total length of service for my contract was "indefinite," meaning that, unless I resigned my commission after completing my obligatory eight years, I was subject to recall into either the active reserves or active duty. I could request resignation once my eight-year commitment was satisfied. I did resign at this point, and it was accepted.

However, officers who have completed their obligation are not guaranteed that their resignations will be accepted, especially in a time of war. If their military specialty or rank is in short supply, it is possible that their resignation will not be accepted (a situation referred to as a "stop-loss"). In short, the ability to resign is subject to the needs of the Army, even if one's contractual obligation for minimum service has been met.

So, a critical distinction must be made between the minimum length of service a cadet must serve in return for a scholarship (eight

years) and maximum length of service (indefinite unless a resignation is accepted) the Army may require by the contract signed by ROTC cadets.

I cannot speak to O'Reilly's specific circumstances, such as his military specialty and whether there is a "stop-loss" for that specialty, but I can tell you that, though four people might have been able to sue their way toward an honorable discharge, I know of others in similar situations who have accepted the "call-up" and fulfilled their duties as best as they could, despite the hardships. They didn't see it as a breach of contract on the part of the Army, but rather a case of the Army's exercising an authority the contract allows it to exercise.

Incidentally, this is also true of officers who enter the Regular Army and serve their entire careers on active duty. Once an officer is Regular Army, he or she has an indefinite obligation, unless he or she resigns the commission or retires. It's not just an issue with Reserve commissions.

The key here is that anyone signing a contract needs to be very clear about what that contract requires — not just the minimum requirement, but also the maximum — especially when it comes to the military.

Kris Hull
alumnus
Class of 1993
March 28

DPAC SPOTLIGHT

Cultures collide in Heaney's 'Burial at Thebes'



JESSICA LEE/The Observer

King Creon (Sean Sweany), left, and the messenger (Jim Schneider) star in "The Burial at Thebes." The play is Seamus Heaney's translation of "Antigone."



JESSICA LEE/The Observer

"The Burial at Thebes" fuses Irish and Ancient Greek cultures together into one tragedy and is sponsored by the classics and Irish Studies departments.

By MOLLY GRIFFIN
Assistant Scene Editor

Two distant cultures — Irish and Ancient Greek — are brought together in the performance of "The Burial at Thebes." The play is Irish poet Seamus Heaney's translation of Sophocles' Greek tragedy "Antigone," and the production combines these two distinct influences.

The production is sponsored by the Irish Studies department and the classics department. The shows this weekend are set for Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the Philbin Studio Theatre.

"The play is appropriate for this University because it has a strong connection with Irish culture," director Andrew Faulkner said. "Notre Dame has a strong Classics department and a strong Irish Studies department and the play bridges between the Irish and the classical."

The play centers around Creon (Sean Sweany), who represents the traditional and rigid values of the state. A conflict arises when Antigone (Meg Trucano) disobeys an edict Creon issues regarding the

burial of her brother, who died fighting against their state. Sweany is a Scene writer for The Observer.

The Irish and Greek elements emerge in the production in diverse ways. Immediately noticeable are the costumes — some are distinctly Greek, some distinctly Irish and others a combination. Antigone's white chiton is distinctly Greek, while Haemon (Andrew Hayes) sports a costume with Irish designs. On the other hand, Antigone's sister Ismene (Jennifer Melillo) wears a colorful costume that melds Greek and Irish influences.

Several of the actors in the play speak with an Irish lilt, which very overtly adds an Irish bent to the play. Heaney's translation of the play adds some English idioms to the Greek tragedy, which also adds to the melding of the two cultures in the production.

"This production of 'A Burial at Thebes' is unique because it tells a story, which at heart is ancient Greek tragedy, with an Irish taste to it," Jim Schneider (Messenger) said. "The elder characters in the play use an Irish accent, but the younger ones work with a toned down American accent. This difference helps build the tension between old and new,

the traditional and the untraditional."

Another interesting facet of the production is the presence of the chorus. The chorus is an integral part of any Greek play, and they play a central role in the progress of the play. In "The Burial at Thebes," the chorus, composed of three women — Marisa Behan, Maureen Mullen and Elizabeth Rogalski — who sing, dance and speak throughout the play. Their unaccompanied singing, dancing and singing add a unique dimension to the play as a whole.

While classical Greek tragedy is thousands of years old, the themes that are presented are still a part of our culture today, Behan — the chorus leader — said.

In particular, the themes present in "Antigone" and the translation of the story presented in "The Burial at Thebes," still resonate with the present day.

"Seamus Heaney — who wrote/translated 'Antigone' into 'Burial at Thebes' — saw the story as a sort of political allegory, where King Creon's 'for us or against us' mentality resembles President Bush's rhetoric concerning the war in Iraq" Gavin McDowell (Guard) stated.

"However, I've always read the play on a religious level — as a story about what

happens when civil authority refuses to submit to divine authority."

The play can be read on multiple levels, and the combination of cultural influences, particularly in Heaney's version of the play, makes it especially open to varied interpretations.

While the play deals with serious issues like politics, religion, family and duty, it manages to evoke emotions while still being entertaining. The unique combination of Irish and Greek influences seen in this production add to the play and make it especially appealing to the Irish — in this case, the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame.

"I think that Notre Dame audiences will particularly resonate with the Irish bits of the production, but hopefully they can be persuaded into thinking of the 'Antigone' story while being simultaneously entertained," Meg Trucano (Antigone) said.

"The Burial at Thebes" updates a classic story with a production that celebrates its diverse influences. The combination of Irish and Greek elements, while different, comes together in an exciting way in this performance.

Contact Molly Griffin at mgriffin@nd.edu

DVD REVIEW

'Ae Fond Kiss' a multicultural 'Romeo and Juliet'

By GRACE MYERS
Scene Writer

"Ae Fond Kiss" is the story of an independent Scottish woman and a first-generation Pakistani man who fall in love in middle-class Glasgow. When their family and friends discover their love, scandal breaks and threatens to tear them apart.

Sound familiar? Yeah, there's nothing particularly groundbreaking about this Romeo and Juliet-like plot. But director Ken Loach gives the story the spin it needs to be fresh and appealing.

The film addresses the issues of race, immigration and religion in multicultural Britain, beginning with the younger sister's class speech stating, "I reject the Western simplification of a Muslim." Indeed the problems this family faces are anything but simple, focusing on how Muslim's are viewed in British society during our modern age of terrorism. "Ae Fond Kiss" is indeed provocative, intense and fabulously up-to-date. It's a great love story by a renowned director.

Casim (Atta Yaqub) is the lover of his tight-knit, first-generation Pakistani family. His parents have struggled greatly to

raise and educate their children in a city they do not understand. The audience discovers that Casim's father is busy building an extension to their house, so that Casim can live there with his arranged bride-to-be, Jasmine. Casim is resigned to this fate, valuing the happiness of his family above all else. That is, until he meets Roisin (Eva Birthistle), a music teacher at his sister's school. She is smart, talented, beautiful and extremely independent. She is also white and Catholic.

Despite his fast-approaching marriage, Casim asks Roisin out, she accepts and they begin seeing each other frequently. She sees the club he deejays at and the space he dreams of turning into his own club. Casim soon calls off his marriage with Jasmine. His family is devastated and is shamed by the entire Pakistani community. Casim struggles greatly from the heartache he has caused, while Roisin tries to understand his situation despite not having had a family for many years.

One might assume that Roisin can lose nothing by this relationship (and indeed Casim suffers much more), but when Casim and Roisin move in together out of

wedlock she is rebuked by her local parish priest and forced to resign from her teaching position at the Catholic school. Prejudice is rampant in both communities, with Roisin and Casim fighting to stay together. Finally, Casim leaves his family, knowing that it is, sadly, the only way he can be with the woman he loves.

"Ae Fond Kiss" is the first major film for both of the leads. Their inexperience is often evident and they sometimes do not quite carry the gravity of their role. However, their innocence helps the film in many ways. The two sometimes seem nervous in a subtle way, indicating the feelings of a new romance. They grow more comfortable as the film progresses and have remarkable on-screen chemistry.

Director Ken Loach is an internationally acclaimed British director, who began working as a television dramatist for the BBC in 1963. Throughout the 1990s he rose to international acclaim for his feature films containing highly provocative and often radical political messages. He is not afraid to display the worst aspects of society. But "Ae Fond Kiss" is not typical for Loach. It takes place in comfortable, middle-class Scotland, free from drugs



Photo courtesy of sziget.hu

Casim (Attam Yaqub) is a star-struck lover in Ken Loach's "Ae Fond Kiss."

and gangs, with characters that have ideals, hopes, dreams and a sense of humor.

"Ae Fond Kiss" may not be highly original, or a landmark piece for Loach, but it is a remarkable love story with a highly relevant call for tolerance.

Contact Grace Myers at gmyers1@nd.edu



THE ABSURDER

The Independent Newspaper Mocking Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

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SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2006

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Junkins: St. Patrick's Day conflicts with values

By BARE HEINYGIRL
News Writer

University President Father Jim Junkins announced Thursday that the exclusion of St. Patrick's Day from Notre Dame's academic calendar will continue indefinitely due to deep conflicts between the popular Irish-American holiday and the University's Catholic character.

Since St. Patrick's Day — and its trademark green beer, clothing and vomit — occurs annually on campus every March, outside observers could easily believe Notre Dame endorses the holiday's values, Junkins said.

"This decision has nothing to

do with pressures from alumni or the Church," he said, looking up from a cash pile of donations to lovingly stroke a framed photograph of Pope Benedict XVI. "The concern here is not with censorship, but with ... well, yeah, I guess it is censorship. Deal with it."

Adjustments to this year's academic calendar — whose extended four-week Christmas break resulted in March 17 falling when students were away from Notre Dame for spring break — will soon be made permanent, Junkins said.

"With students gone, there won't be anyone to embarrass the University by drinking in class or falling off balconies,"

the president said. "That way, the officers and I can celebrate the holiday the way God and Our Lady intended it — in an academic setting, like 339 O'Shaughnessy."

Unlike in his recent addresses concerning "The Vagina Monologues" and the former Queer Film Festival, Junkins did not ask various campus constituencies for feedback about his St. Patrick's Day choice.

"Can you believe faculty and students actually wasted all that time writing Viewpoint letters and e-mailing me about their opinions?" Junkins said incredulously. "Between flying my

see BAN/page 3



HAIR SMELLEY/The Absurder

University President Father Jim Junkins, left, called St. Patrick's Day celebrations, right, an intolerable embarrassment to Notre Dame.

Ordinance bars students from city



CUTYOUR MULLETT/The Absurder

South Bend Police officers, right, chase Notre Dame students across the South Bend-Mishawaka border Thursday night.

By REGINA GEORGE
Queen Bee

Following months of tension between South Bend residents and Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students over off-campus parties and inflammatory stereotypes, the South Bend Common Council on Thursday passed a new housing ordinance banning students from living anywhere in the city.

Students living in houses or apartment complexes off-campus have until 11:59 p.m. April 1 to vacate the premises, and must take all of their belongings and vehicles with them, Assistant City Attorney Nan-Cheryl Splash said.

"Despite all the bitching about that amendment we passed last summer, we only got six real evictions out of it," Splash said. "So this will be like one HUGE eviction — we're getting rid of all the snotty, spoiled, puking, fornicating brats at once!"

Common Council member Yumm Itsjello said she proposed the ordinance after her constituents complained about Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students having cracked-out naked orgies in the South Bend residents' living rooms. But other behavior is just as problematic, she said.

"If a police officer can hear any bit of noise coming from your house when his face is pressed up against the window, you are just too loud," Itsjello said sternly. "We're talking about something extremely disrespectful, something that will keep the entire neighborhood awake — especially after normal nighttime hours like 4 p.m."

Splash and Itsjello said the Council considered waiting until students were away from campus for the summer to pass the new ordinance — as the group did for the amendment in July 2005 — but ulti-

see GET OUT/page 4

New ad is aired by University

ND tops 'Candle' with God appearance

By MO'THAT BOOZE
News Writer

Amid much speculation during the last several weeks, administrators finally confirmed Thursday that the new University institutional spot, set to air during halftime of all 2006 Notre Dame football games, will star none other than God Himself.

"We've been in talks with Him for a while but didn't want to let the cat out of the bag until it was a done deal," University spokesperson Lon Highcliff said.

The commercial, according to

see HOLY/page 4

SMC takes revenge on Shockular twosome

By MEAGHEAEN O'NEALLE
News Writer

A group of Saint Mary's students calling themselves Mooney's Posse kidnapped Notre Dame junior Alec Black and senior Erik Powerless from their respective residences Thursday night and are holding the pair hostage somewhere in the Saint Mary's tunnel system.

Black and Powerless are best known as the creators of The Absurder's comic strip "Shockular," which raised eyebrows and ruffled feathers on campus all year with its cynical humor and sexual innuendo.

In a ransom note issued shortly

after the kidnapping, members of Mooney's Posse stated Saint Mary's College and its students are the butt of the joke in a disproportionate number of Shockular comics.

"Saint Mary's women are sick and tired of being portrayed as unintelligent jersey chasers who go around telling people they attend Notre Dame," the statement read. "These images serve only to promote hurtful stereotypes in our community. Letters to the editor and complaints made directly to Mr. Black and Mr. Powerless have gone unheeded. As such we have been forced to take matters into our hands."

see KIDNAP/page 3

Duve LeBaron reveals all



HAIR SMELLEY/The Absurder

The many faces of Duve LeBaron, above, Notre Dame's favorite baby bureaucrat.

By MORE POWERFUL THAN YOU
Emeritus

You know he's a hardcore Kelly Clarkson fan. You probably guessed he forbid his 6-foot female vice president from wearing heels. You may even know he sleeps over at Father Poorman's house. But there's

still a lot you don't know about outgoing student body president Duve LeBaron — and that's all about to change.

In a recent interview with The Absurder, LeBaron revealed a side rarely seen by his adoring Notre Dame public, expounding on topics from his future political ambitions to where — in a pinch — he would hide his

student senators' dead bodies.

The Absurder: What do you consider your biggest achievement as student body syco- I mean, president?

Duve LeBaron: Well, first of all you have to understand that you don't pick your issue. Your issue picks you. And you wouldn't

see JEDI/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Eat fresh

Hey, that long, rambling story you're telling sounds just like my last Inside Column.

I couldn't help but overhear your conversation about how every time you really hate when Subway has a long line, and I have to say, it sounds just like my last Inside Column for The Absurder.



12-inch ... turkey

Our shared opinion regarding the unnecessarily long line that one must wait in to get a sub sandwich just

proves that, while seemingly trivial, this issue needs to be published in a public forum to inspire others who share our views.

Staff bitch

The Inside Column is perfect for such issues. While they aren't placed in the same category as morally difficult problems like abortion, war and the potentially offensive nature of college mascots, these are things that affect student life directly every day.

I too began my story by setting up the somewhat necessary background for my story that was ultimately pointless and required continued interjections to keep the listener/reader updated.

To quote my last column: "It seems like every time I walk by Subway there is an endlessly long line just to get a sandwich. Doesn't anyone at Notre Dame eat anything else? I went to Subway once at 1 a.m. after a long night of studying and there was still a line. Granted, it wasn't as long as it normally is at lunchtime, but I really just wanted a 6-inch turkey sub on honey oat bread with sweet onion sauce and having to wait for it just made me angry enough to write this column. Most of the time I'll just walk by when the line is long, but every so often I'll get in line and endure the long, boring wait just to get a sandwich. My freshman year roommate was always getting Subway, and she ran out of Flex Points so fast and would often try to mooch off of me."

The things you said about wanting to improve the situation made me think that either you had read my column or that I had really managed to tap into the pulse of student opinions about Subway on campus.

As I wrote in my last Inside Column: "The growing length of the Subway line, along with issues like academic freedom and gender relations, should be of great concern to students on campus. If Notre Dame wants to continue its continued growth as an academic institution, it should deal with this problem head-on. Ropes to direct the line growth would be a temporary solution, but ultimately, the university should consider both expanding Subway and offering other food options to students on campus. Without continued emphasis on the variety of food options available to students outside of the dining halls, Notre Dame will lose a part of what has made it great over the years."

I'm so glad that I inadvertently heard your thoughts on Subway. It tells me that in however small a way, the Inside Column I was pressured into writing at midnight by someone from the News Department during a weak moment and produced in less than 20 minutes is really speaking to the student body.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are probably those of The Absurder, since we can't remember which editor was too drunk to read this.

CORRECTIONS

The Absurder never makes mistakes. Ever. And if we did, we really wouldn't want to hear about them.

Especially from little runts like you. Call us at 1-4541 to hear Mr. Garrison from South Park say, "You go to hell. You go to hell and you die."

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME?



John Zabowski

Irish safety

"Hit people ... in the face."



Baby Finn

Irish quarterback

"Shave my arms."



Farty Booney

Irish quarterback

"Secretly play interhall football."



SharkFace

Irish wide receiver

"Brush my hair."



Robby Borton

Irish offensive lineman

"Lasso Texas cattle ... and ladies."



Donald Malley

Irish defensive lineman

"Run, bitch."



JENNI SWANG/The Absurder

Absurder employees Cyle Kastley, far left, and Smatthew Wedburgh, far right, exhibit a very public — and strangely symmetric — display of affection.

BEATOFF

Walking student detained

NORTH QUAD — A student was detained late Wednesday night for walking across the quad. An NDSP officer, who was on patrol, saw the student while perched on his ATV and eating donuts. The student was suspected of trafficking cocaine with intent to distribute.

While there was no visual evidence that would suggest the student was carrying an illicit substance, the officer on patrol had an itch on his calf which he took to be a sixth sense indicating that the student might be up to no good. The student was

questioned and released, but NDSP is considering sending the case to ResLife pending the results of a 20-page questionnaire that was distributed to his peers. NDSP said they want to know more about how people feel about the incident before they take the next step.

Endowment "Flushed"

SNITE — University officials, in a surprise move, decided this week to invest the entire \$4 billion+ endowment fund on a toilet for the Snite Museum. The toilet is storied to have had its porcelain graced by the great Chuck Norris, the legendary

martial arts master and movie star.

"We've been looking to acquire more and more pieces of historical significance, and I think we've managed to grab something that will make a real splash," said University CFO Scott Malappropriate. Students protested the move Thursday by flushing copies of DuLac down campus toilets, causing a massive backup of campus sewer systems — and ironically, the only working toilet left on campus is the newly purchased "Chuck Norris Toilet," which is currently locked in a room in the Snite.

IN BOXERS

Editors of the Irish Rover will be shoving copies of their "newspaper" into students' hands in South Dining Hall tonight from 5-8 p.m. Students who resist will immediately be labeled Satan-worshipping liberal baby killers.

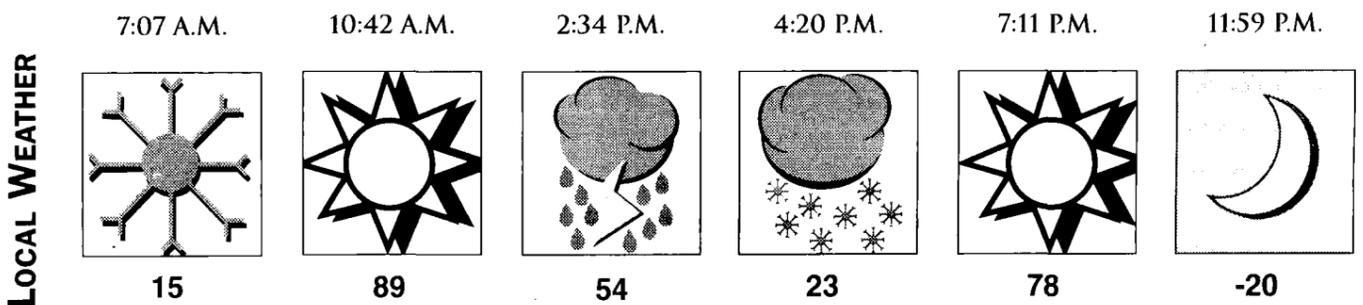
The Irish men's and women's basketball teams will be hosting a coed naked beer pong tournament in the Joyce Center tonight from 8 p.m. until someone besides Chris Quinn or Megan Duffy makes a shot. The event is free and open to the public, except the Leprechaun Legion.

The men of Keenan Hall will be staging a retaliation against Zahm at 2 p.m. today. Residents will be vomiting not only under the Zahm rector's window, but also on his Bible, under his desk and inside his pillowcase.

University President Father Jim Junkins will be holding a town hall meeting for the University community to discuss Academic Freedom and Catholic Character on God Quad today at 4 p.m. Junkins will not be in attendance; however, former University spokesman Fat Borin, will field questions in the president's absence.

The PSA, CLAP, V-Day, AllianceND, College Democrats, College Republicans and Right to Life will not be holding protests on the quad, in the Main Building or next to DeBartolo today. Apathetic students are encouraged not to notice.

The Notre Dame Fraudit and Advisory Services Department will host an open house titled "Don't Be Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf" from 1-3 p.m. today. Director Bill Iapalooni promises not to look at your expense reports if you bring him a beer.

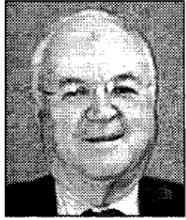


McFrien previews 'Code'

Famous Notre Dame prof defends himself against plagiarism charges

By BOLLY WIFFLIN
News Writer

Father Dick McFrien — the Notre Dame theology professor and nationally renowned CNN, NBC, ABC, CBS, Fox News and WNDU commentator who faced plagiarism accusations twice this year — held a conference on campus Thursday to discuss his work on the upcoming film adaptation of "The Da Vinci Code." McFrien served as an advisor for the film, and during his lecture previewed scenes from the movie in which he claimed his influence was most visible.



McFrien

McFrien began the lecture by welcoming listeners and thanking them for their support during the plagiarism controversy. McFrien insisted he has no fears about further accusations, saying, "Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn."

The rest of McFrien's opening remarks, while welcoming, inspired some confusion: "Call me Ishmael. Friends, Romans, countrymen, this experience has been the best of times, and it has been the worst of times, but I have always depended on the

kindness of strangers."

The first scene shown to the crowd, described as "titanic" by McFrien, interestingly showed a large boat with Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet rather than the billed stars of the film, Tom Hanks and Audrey Tautou. In response to seeing a clip from the film for the first time, McFrien exclaimed, "I feel like the king of the world!"

Questions about the appearance of the unbilled DiCaprio and Winslet in the clip from what was billed as "The Da Vinci Code" arose from several audience members. McFrien replied by saying "The truth? You can't handle the truth!" He subsequently refused any further questions on that topic.

The next scene featured a character not seen in Dan Brown's novel, Darth Vader, and mysteriously took place in a galaxy "far, far away." McFrien claimed that he was "unable to reveal the context of the scene without ruining the film" but told audience members to "use the force" to better understand the relationship of this scene to what they imagined the rest of the film

would be like.

When asked if he continued to pursue further work with "The Da Vinci Code" director Ron Howard, McFrien responded by saying "I'll make him an offer he can't refuse." He declined to comment on what exactly the offer to Howard would entail.

The lecture ended with McFrien revealing his plans for the immediate future — the release of a new book. The project, tentatively called "The Code of Da Vinci," has "absolutely no connection to the similarly titled novel or to my work on the film based on said novel," McFrien said.

Several audience members asked questions regarding whether or not McFrien would consider turning his own book project into a feature film. McFrien expressed some interest in finding a studio to option his movie, provided that they could "show [him] the money."

Contact Bolly Wifflin at cardinalnewman@nd.edu

"The truth? You can't handle the truth!"

Father Dick McFrien cable news whore

"Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn."

Father Dick McFrien not a copycat

Kidnap

continued from page 1

In exchange for Black and Powerless' release, the Posse demanded the strip be discontinued in The Absurder and the newspaper be screened for any content that presents The College or its student body in a negative light. If their stipulations are not met by Monday, Mooney's Posse said, Black and Powerless will never see the "glint of the Golden Dome again but instead will remain eternally under the aura of the Bell Tower."

Police said they believe the hostages are being held somewhere below Le Mans Hall and are working to determine their specific location. Saint Mary's officials screened their phone calls and locked their office doors Thursday to avoid having to comment on the situation at this time.

Animosity toward Black and Powerless has been building for months, and a large crowd of students assembled on the Le Mans green Thursday night to express support for the kidnapers.

"Those Shockular guys are huge jerks," said sophomore Maighan O'Sullivan. "They took their jokes too far and now they are paying for it. I hope they never make it out of the tunnels alive."

Senior Maygen O'Brien admitted some of Black and Powerless' comics are funny but others are "wildly inappropriate."

"How would Notre Dame students like it if a couple of Saint Mary's women drew a bunch of cartoons highlighting the worse stereotypes about Domers?" she said. "Would they really want to see themselves portrayed as socially inept nerds who can only interact with the opposite sex when they are wasted?"

Reaction to the kidnappings at Notre Dame was surprisingly muted. University officials encouraged prayer for the safety of Black and Powerless but said they would not take an active role in securing their release.

"The truth is Black and Powerless, with their crude humor, have become a bit of liability to the squeaky clean reputation of this institution," the administration said in a statement.

While some Notre Dame students expressed concern that there will be no Shockular strip in Monday's paper, others sympathized with Mooney's Posse.

"Saint Mary's students are not the only ones insulted by the Shockular jokes," said junior Meagahan O'Leary. "There are other groups in this community who have also been deeply offended. I wouldn't describe this as a huge loss."

Contact Meaghean O'Nealle at Belle4life@acrossthestreet.com

"Those Shockular guys are huge jerks."

Maighan O'Sullivan SMC chick

Ban

continued from page 1

trustee entourage to Rome and planning the first-anniversary-of-my-inauguration gala, who has the time to look at all of that?

"If the president of the United States doesn't read, the president of Notre Dame shouldn't have to either."

Junkins added he fully supports the goals of St. Patrick's Day — "The need to promote Irish-American heritage is one unequivocally shared by all at this University," he said — but doesn't think the holiday is the appropriate means to achieve them.

"Given the distinctive character and aspirations of Notre Dame, you can't have just any holiday on campus," Junkins said. "I mean, we wouldn't have Yom Kippur, or, God forbid, Martin Luther King Day."

The president said he also considered banning Halloween on the basis that its title seems to

promote and celebrate a pagan lifestyle. However, after the holiday's organizers agreed to change its name to "All Hallows Eve: Ghosts, Ghouls and Christian Responses," Junkins decided it could still take place at Notre Dame.

Students and faculty swiftly responded to the president's announcement by dividing into cliques and screaming at one another.

"Doing away with St. Patrick's Day is a despicable blot on the University's reputation of academic freedom and intellectual achievement," history professor Ihave Tenure said. "Father Junkins' power trip has gone too far. I miss Monk letting the U.S. News and World Report rankings boss him around."

Right to Sobriety president Guinness Scaresme disagreed.

"Finally, a University president who stands up for what Notre Dame is really about," Scaresme said, dropping to his knees in prayer. "Forbidding stuff. What could be more Catholic than that?"

Contact Bare Heinygirl at don'tyouaretouchchristmas@nd.edu

"I mean, we wouldn't have Yom Kippur, or, God forbid, Martin Luther King Day."

Jim Junkins University president

"[This] way, the officers and I can celebrate the holiday the way God and Our Lady intended it — in an academic setting, like 339 O'Shaughnessy."

Jim Junkins University president

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Holy

continued from page 1

Highcliff, features a prospective student who visits a chapel every day to pray and make a sizeable cash donation. Then, on the third day, the student receives a visit from God, who hands the student his Notre Dame acceptance letter, which emits a heavenly glow. God

then smiles and says, "I'm off to the Dome to visit my mother. See you in the fall."

The role of God was originally scripted for screen star Charlton Heston, who had agreed to the part, but administrators wanted to do "better than that," Highcliff said. Talks with God began in December, but did not conclude until after University President Father Jim Junkins' trip to Rome in early February.

"It wasn't until Junkins met with the pope that God seriously considered taking the role," said Highcliff. "Once Ben — that's what we call the pope around here; we're very close — told God He should take the part, talks began in earnest."

The pope told God the commercial would be good for His image and make Him more accessible to the people, he continued. Administrators are thrilled God

has chosen to include Himself in the project, but there are other perks.

"We don't need any special effects technicians, as God takes care of all that," Highcliff said.

Highcliff would not comment on how the University originally established direct contact with the Almighty, only saying, "We have some pretty powerful alumni."

The other major difference between this commercial and last

year's "Candle" spot is the size of the envelope.

"We made this year's envelope much larger because some believed that the small envelope featured in last year's ad was a rejection letter," Highcliff said. "We didn't want to give the impression that those who pray a lot don't get into this University."

Contact Mo' That Booze at behindthe8ball@nd.edu

Jedi

continued from page 1

believe the issues that picked me. Issues as small as to-go cups, and as overarching as academic freedom. Issues as universal as a living wage, and as local as a city ordinance. Issues that all touched my heart and my desire to serve. Issues-

The Absurder: Okay, okay, easier question. Who is your favorite administrator?

Duve LeBaron: Gosh, I respect them all so much. I mean, there's Father Jenkins, of course. He wrote me such thoughtful letters of recommendation. And I have Father Poorman's cell phone number. But it's not just priests. Dr. Affleck-Graves and I are on a first-name basis. Burish and Crnkovich, too. And I could never forget Brian Coughlin. Did I mention I have Father Poorman's cell phone number?

The Absurder: Yes, Duve. How about your life outside of student government?

What can you tell us about that?

Duve LeBaron: [stares blankly]

The Absurder: Duve?

Duve LeBaron: Next question.

The Absurder: All right. What are your plans for after graduation?

Duve LeBaron: Well, right now I'm planning on attending law school at Harvard, Yale, Chicago, Duke, Michigan or outer space.

The Absurder: Outer space?

Duve LeBaron: Yes, I'm a huge Star Trek fan. [pulls figurine from desk drawer] See?

The Absurder: We see. Put that away.

Duve LeBaron: [looks crestfallen, closes drawer]

The Absurder: You've spoken very highly of your successor, Frizzi Sharrell. Would you compare her to any great contemporary leaders?

Duve LeBaron: Osama bin Ladin.

The Absurder: What?

Duve LeBaron: Frizzi and al Qaeda have four qualities in common. Strong will.

Determination. Empathy. Terrorist.

The Absurder: Right. Sounds like she'll be great. Do you have any regrets as you turn over the presidency?

Duve LeBaron: Well, between dealing with the South Bend Common Council, serving on the Board of Trustees, building respectful relationships with administrators, sucking up to the press, implementing the College Readership program and keeping the student union in line, I have been too busy to address one important campus issue — three-legged cats. But people need money to care about cats. So the cats remain.

The Absurder: [dumbfounded]

Duve LeBaron: Thanks for the exit interview. I'll put in a good word with Father Mark. And if there are any dead bodies in the ceiling tiles tomorrow, you know where to find Frizzi bin Ladin.

Contact More Powerful Than You at gogocubbies@nd.edu

Get out

continued from page 1

mately decided it made no difference whether or not students were present to defend themselves.

"Well, obviously, but they didn't have to go and SAY it," student body sycophant Slaveto Poorman said sulkily. "Hey, I'm still talking."

Off-campus president Matthew Wormsaregross patted his collar and declined to comment.

The announcement of the ordinance prompted angry reactions from students and landlords.

Shark Krymer, owner of Krymer's Monopolies, which controls 99.997 percent of student housing in South Bend, said the Council was infringing on his right to profit.

"Oh, and it's pretty inconvenient for the students, too," Krymer added hastily, punching buttons on his diamond-studded cell phone. "Tell me, are the townies this hostile in Granger?"

When asked whether the

University would intercede on the off-campus students' behalf, Associate Vice President for Residence Life Will Jerk folded his arms, shook his head and stuck out his tongue.

As they packed their beer bong, condom stashes and meth kits Thursday night for their impending exodus to Mishawaka, Granger and Elkhart, students lashed out against the South Bend residents whom they blamed for the new law.

"At first, I felt a little guilty saying this s**thole would never live up to my standards," senior St. Pete's Street resident Mydads Amillionaire said. "But now we have proof that South Bend townies are uneducated, low-aspiring, low-achieving and generally NOT nice."

Senior Washington Street resident Ipee Inpublic was more blunt.

"F*** this f***ing excuse for a city, I can't f***ing wait to graduate," Inpublic said, giving his neighbors the finger as he backed his Hummer out of his driveway. "Abate THIS."

Contact Regina George at armyofskanks@nd.edu



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MONDAY:
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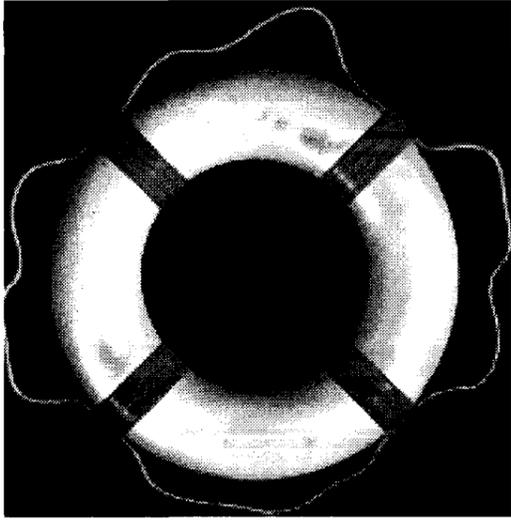
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Date of Birth: ____/____/____

"we bought off the cops, so buy off our beer!"

**Please note, we will only re-open if we can get all the kings horses and all the kings men to put us back together again. Sorry...*



BARE NELLEY/The Absurder

Irish head coach Barley Cheis calmly explains his side to an official. Cheis, an avid golfer, is the most laid-back, non-controlling coach at ND.

Control

continued from page 8

enough," he screamed. Then Cheis held out his left hand, covered in Super Bowl jewelry. "Kiss the rings," Cheis said.

Notes

♦CheisTV will be supported by money raised from The Shirt sales. Though some students are skeptical of purchasing the fan shirt in the future.

"If it's yellow, I'm not buying it. This year's shirt was the worst fan shirt I've ever seen," said every student.

♦The commercials for CheisTV will consist of Chuck Norris videos.

Contact The Cap at Precision@rhymerips.com



BANNED FROM PRACTICE/The Absurder

Irish coach Barley Cheis flips his whistle while he politely tells a reporter that he's stupid for asking a question.



SAD ABOUT LOSING/The Absurder

Irish basketball players Fallin' Balls and Mick Bernet walk off the court after another loss, probably at the last second.

CAA

continued from page 8

"We have made a commitment to excellence in football, now it's time for basketball, and we think the CAA is the place to do it," Black said.

Since the move is effective for all sports, all Irish teams will now face the likes of Drexel, James Madison, Towson and Virginia



Black

Commonwealth.

"I just wish someone would acknowledge that we exist," Irish cross country runner Bephanie Badia said in response to the conference change. "Maybe the CAA is the place to do it. If George Mason can be famous this way, why not us?"

For Notre Dame basketball coach Ike Frey, the chance to play against the Fightin' Blue Hens of Delaware is the most exciting.

"I am thoroughly excited to return to Delaware, where I was able to cultivate my coaching abilities," Frey said Thursday during halftime of the NIT Championship game. "I think Kevin has made the right choice in switching conferences — I just hope he doesn't start switching up the coaching staff's next."

"I am thoroughly excited to return to Delaware, where I was able to cultivate my coaching abilities. I think Kevin has made the right choice in switching conferences."

Mike Frey Irish basketball coach

Contact Patriot Envy at UNDFAN@caa.com

Losing

continued from page 8

an 87-84 loss to Michigan in Ann Arbor in the second round of the NIT on March 20. The loss was the fourth overtime loss for Notre Dame this season.

"I know we lost to Michigan, but I'm proud of this group," Frey said. "They fought, they fought hard. We really are the Fighting Irish. Did I tell you how much I love this team?"

Notre Dame failed to make the NCAA Tournament for the third straight year, as it finished 6-10 in the Big East, good for a No. 12 and final seed in the Big East Tournament.

The Irish lost every close game they played in, including Pittsburgh, DePaul, Syracuse, Marquette, Georgetown, Villanova, West Virginia, Louisville and Connecticut. But the Irish didn't let small point margins get them down. All year they fought back ... and lost. Fought back ... and lost. From Beve Bobak's fallaway three at Marquette to Fyle Cowerly's tip in to propel Villanova ahead, the Irish couldn't win a game in the last two minutes if their scholarships depended on it.

However, despite Notre Dame's inability to win close games, athletic director Kevin Black stands behind his loving, tie-less coach.

"Ike Frey is a proven winner," Black said. "He won at Delaware and DeMatha and he will win at Notre Dame. Unlike previous coaches who were only successful Monday through Sunday, he is consistent in his losing ways. But I have utter confidence in his ability to turn this program

around. After all, we were so close in so many games ... so close. Did I tell you how much I love Notre Dame?"

Frey reflected on his fifth season as the head coach at Notre Dame, one that was filled with missed last-second shots and failures to win a close game.

"I really love this team," Frey said. "I know they got flustered at the end of games, turning the ball over too much and waiting until the last second to take a bad shot, but they're a great bunch of guys. They really are."

Frey reiterated that he wouldn't have done anything differently this season, even if it meant the Irish would fail to win those close games again.

"I will go to my grave with Bliss Gin shooting the ball," Frey said. "He could shoot from the top row of the bleachers with .08 seconds left — I wouldn't care. I put all my trust in Bliss — he's the man. I really love that kid."

However, Frey has come under fire as the state-of-the-art Moyce Center has failed to fill up for games this season, and the Irish continued to struggle just three years after making the Sweet 16 of the real tournament.

But Black responded to criticism of Frey by saying that he still believed in him as a person and a basketball coach.

"Frey has been a great representative of Notre Dame," Black said. "I know he will eventually find a way to win games, because he is a disciple of Coach Z at Duke. Coach Z is a pretty good coach and we're just waiting for it to show up in Ike. After all, it's only football where we're impatient with coaches."

Contact Working Overtime at Irish@whoneedsthencaa.com

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THE ABSURDER POINTLESS

Saturday, April 1, 2006

page 7

We're better than you

It has recently come to our attention that some tragically misguided Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students think they are too good for The Absurder. You know the type — the guy who brags to his friends that he only reads Shockular and PastryLand because our reporting is too "juvenile" for his refined tastes. Or the girl who scoffs at the debates in the Pointless section because they never mention "real issues" like immigration reform or Nick and Jessica. If this sounds all too familiar to you — yes, you ripping out the cross-word puzzle, three words of which you will actually finish — consider this your wake-up call.

It's been scientifically proven time and again that journalists are not only drastically more intelligent than the rest of the population, but also happier, savvier, funnier, sexier, richer, more truthful, sexier, hotter and more attractive. Furthermore, these traits are multiplied when discussing journalists at the college level — one need only look at The Absurder's newsroom for evidence of this fact. Yet journalist remains one of the least-respected profes-

sions in America — right up there with lawyer, garbage-man and assistant rector.

Why the contradiction?

Obviously, jealousy is a factor — who wouldn't envy the high-profile, glamorous lifestyle found in the South Dining Hall basement? — but we suspect it runs deeper than that. We think you're intimidated.

Admit it, Absurder haters. You couldn't be more terrified of this publication. Our enormous power to independently set the tone and topic of campus conversation, to determine a student government administration's fate, to publish incriminating

birthday ads, to print Saint Mary's swimming stories no one will read — all that overwhelms you, doesn't it? It's easier to just tune it out, isn't it?

We thought so. So think twice the next time you're tempted to declare yourself above The Absurder's standards. We know where you live, we know all your dirty secrets and we're not afraid to splash them across the front page.

If only every profession could be so noble.

The Absurder Editorial

Fire Barley Cheis

Don't get me wrong, I think our football program has been at its very best from Sundays to Fridays, but I think its time we took steps to improve the way our program performs on Saturdays. When I first heard that Barley Cheis was being hired to be our coach, I was worried that he would bring the same results to Notre Dame that he had in New England in the NFL. Unfortunately, I was completely correct.

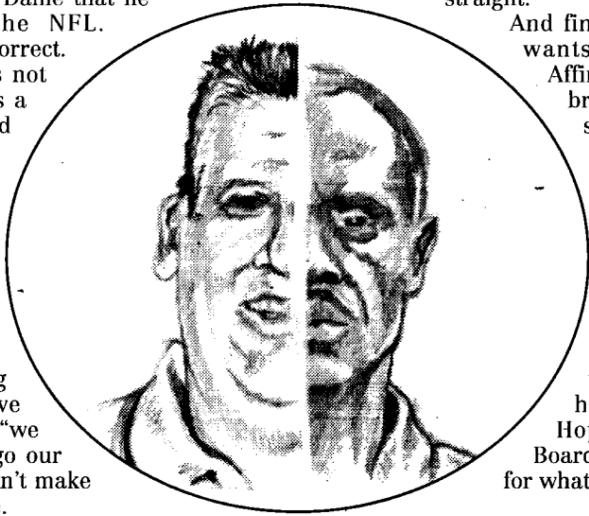
9-3! Are you serious? That's not even anywhere near the success a program like Notre Dame should be having. We should have won 13 games last season, easily. Hyrone Twillingham, who is perhaps the greatest molder of men to ever coach football, would have easily had us playing in a National (Golf) Championship at season's end. But more importantly, there wouldn't be any excuses being made. None of this "it takes five years to implement a system" or "we played hard and things didn't go our way" BS. Any other coach wouldn't make excuses, he would just get it done.

Then there's the recruiting, or lack thereof, for that matter. Sure, Cheis gets up at 4 a.m. every day to start working, but how inept is he if he can't get things done during normal working hours? At least Twillingham could get things finished by noon or so and hit the back nine before

sunset. I just question Cheis' work ethic and commitment to the job. Furthermore, why are we looking at recruits for two years from now? Shouldn't Cheis be concerned with teaching the guys about integrity and character in the spring? Again, I just don't think he has his priorities straight.

And finally, there's the reason no one wants to talk about, but I'll say it. Affirmative action. I know we celebrate diversity at Notre Dame, as should all institutions for that matter. But hiring a guy like Cheis just to paint a prettier picture of Notre Dame, with little regard to his actual football know-how and coaching ability, is just plain wrong.

How long will it take for us to realize that Cheis is just floundering about in this profession with no real plans or direction for how we're going to win games? Hopefully, the administration and Board of Trustees will see this situation for what it really is and act.



Tyrese Billingham
Seattle, Wash.
Class of 1969
March 31

Laugh at Shockular, with my blessing

Looking down on Notre Dame from heaven, I have observed many angry conversations among administrators, faculty and students about the content of certain "Shockular" cartoons. Even my chosen disciple, Barley Cheis, has been provoked to anger by Alec Black and Erik Powerless' work and admonished The Absurder for running "offensive cartoons."

But I say to you, my children, I am not offended by Shockular. Neither is my Son — who frequently appears in the comic — and therefore you should not be either. While some might think Black and Powerless are overtly rude, they

serve the important function on campus of reminding you all not to take yourselves so seriously. And while some of the strips certainly flirt with the line between appropriate and inappropriate, you must remember there is some truth to every joke.

For example, the Nov. 1 comic poked fun at female students and their choice of Halloween costumes. Can you honestly tell me ladies, that you nor any of your friends use Halloween as an excuse to dress in ridiculously scanty clothing? I believe a quick search of your Facebook pictures would prove otherwise. And is there any topic more ripe for parody

then the Notre Dame social scene? Priests, sisters, I assure you it is OK to laugh at the popular perception of your profession. Administrators, your University will not be any less Catholic if students openly talk about sex. Women, you know you make just as much fun of guys as Shockular does as you, so why don't you submit your own comic for next year?

And to all the rest of you, just lighten up, will ya?

God
off campus
March 31

You were so right all along about the war in Iraq ... and this is why

I am writing in response to Iworship Rumsfeld's March 27 letter to the editor, which was written in response to my March 25 letter titled "The war in Iraq is an inexcusable moral outrage."

After thoughtfully reading Rumsfeld's letter multiple times and carefully considering her opinion of our country's current military action in Iraq, I have come to the conclusion that she is in fact correct and President George W. Bush was wise to invade that country.

As Rumsfeld so eloquently and convincingly states, Saddam Hussein was a cruel dictator who needed to be removed from power in order to ensure world stability. The fact that our original purpose for going to war — finding and destroying weapons of mass destruction — turned out to be a farce does not diminish the fact that the Iraqi people now have the joy of living under a peaceful system of democracy.

Nor does the now-obvious lack of ties between Hussein and Al-Qaeda undermine the infrastructure building we are doing in cities like Baghdad and Basrah. In her Pointless letter, Rumsfeld also convinced me that not only should the United States government keep our troops in Iraq, the number of troops should actually be increased. It was silly of me to think our presence was "disruptive and deadly" as I stated in my original letter.

Our soldiers are not viewed as the enemy, they are seen as liberators just as they were in Vietnam 40 years ago. "United States marines serving in Iraq are not only protecting the freedom of the Iraqi people, they are bring to them the blessing of American democracy," Rumsfeld writes in her letter.

After being a strong opponent of the war in Iraq for the last three years, I am tremendously grateful to Rumsfeld and the Pointless section of The Absurder for showing me the errors of my ways and pushing me to reconsider my stance. The Pointless section continues to serve as a wonderful forum for intelligent and honest discussion on seriously global issues such as the Iraq war and the Notre Dame mascot.

Ima Convert
Lewis Hall
sophomore
March 31

TODAY'S STAFF

Bare Heinygirl
The Cap
Henrietta Van Rowengartner
Sam Pandingo
Hair Smelley
MoThat Booze
Meaghean O'Nealle
Sancho ManThong
Bolly Wifflin

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Vote at www.ndsmcabsurder.com
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I know, right?"

Pike Jilloon
most powerful student on campus

FOOTBALL

Cheis achieves total control

By THE CAP
Sports Writer

Notre Dame head football coach Barley Cheis has a long-term contract, high expectations and the respect of his fans. And now, he has a **bsolute control.**



Cheis

CheisTV, a cable network available to all on-campus Notre Dame students beginning next fall, will broadcast 24-hour programming to promote the football program's superiority.

"I win. It's what I do," Cheis said Wednesday from his throne in the Guglielmino Center. "Whether it's football or television, I win. I've never lost."

At any point during the day, a student will be able to receive messages and watch press conference re-runs with their "favorite Irish coach," a press release, a.k.a. e-mail, from sports information director Bug Chalker read Thursday

evening.

The athletic department sees the move as essential in maintaining the "tradition and wholeness" of the Notre Dame image.

"See, the thing we weren't comfortable with, in a sense — with the way things were playing out here — is that students could obtain information from other sources about coach Weis," Notre Dame assistant athletic director Jim Liesler, referring to Internet and print media sources that actually followed Notre Dame football, too. "And that wouldn't benefit all the parties involved, including the athletic department. We can't have any kind of well-rounded perspectives here."

"One clear message gets the point across."

Cheis was out on campus Thursday promoting the television venture, showing brief clips as examples of the network's programming. At one point during a slide show in LaFortune Ballroom, Cheis stopped the presentation and made three inattentive members of the audience do pushups.

"Nine and three is not good

see CONTROL/page 6



Notre Dame king coach Barley Cheis yells at a director during the filming of his new CheisTV, which will air next fall.

CENSORED BY BARLEY/The Absurder

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Frey leads team to lose close games

Coach still 'loves his team' despite losses

By WORKING OVERTIME
Sports Writer

Despite his and his team's best efforts, Notre Dame basketball coach Ike Frey and the Irish just couldn't win a close game this season — and two weeks later, Frey was finally able to speak with The Absurder about it.

"It's just been such a tough year," Frey said, showing some emotion as he sat in his new office, previously the home of former football coach Hyron Twillingham. "I love this team more than any team I've ever coached — even more than my son's park district teams. They just couldn't get it done."

The Irish ended their season with



Frey

see LOSING/page 6

SMC ATHLETICS

SMC starting its own football team like ND

By SMC PREDATOR
Sports Writer

The Belles have had enough, and it's time for tradition to cross Business Route 31. Saint Mary's College is starting its own football team.

"Eleven national championships and seven Heisman winners?" Belles offensive tackle Sally Slay, skeptical of Notre Dame's history of prominence, said Thursday. "Is that it?"

Saint Mary's president Darrell Rooney said he expects the College not only to break convention with the announcement. He also presumes the Belles will dominate their opposition — who could not comment — immediately.

However, while Notre Dame has a national television con-

tract with NBC, Saint Mary's games will be broadcast on local South Bend cable channels and radio, according to Notre Dame athletic director Kevin Black.

Belles first-year coach Hannah Barbara said she is enthusiastic despite the fact that only 11 girls — or, "young lady athletes" — came to the first tryouts.

"We're legends," Barbara said. "The fact that the College has finally given its girls the freedom to pursue football is pretty legit."

Recruiting expert Dom Menning said the Belles are already hot on the recruiting trail and are poised to secure 20 players from his annual top 100 list.

Contact SMC Predator at ilovepowderpuff@smcfootball.com



ND ATHLETICS

ND joins CAA due to George Mason basketball successes

By PATRIOT ENVY
Sports Writer

In a stunning move, Notre Dame athletic director Kevin Black announced Thursday Notre Dame would be leaving the Big East Conference to join the Colonial Athletic Association in pursuit of basketball greatness.

"As we watch George Mason in the Final Four this weekend, our fans can now realize that next year that can be Notre Dame," Black said in a press conference. "We expect nothing but the best from our basketball program, and this is the step in the right direction."

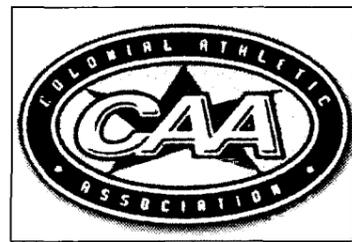
Black said all other Notre Dame sports would also be a part of the CAA — with the exception of football, because Irish head coach Barley Cheis refused to allow it.

"All of our teams will benefit from the competition of the CAA," Black said. "However, the senior leadership of the University decided football will not be joining the conference. The money received from the exclusive contract with NBC is essential to pay mine and Cheis' salaries, in addition to helping some students."

The move comes in light of Mason's dramatic and historic run to the Final Four as a No. 11 seed. LSU and Florida, both SEC teams, and UCLA, a Pac-10 team, round out the Final Four. The Big East had just two teams in the Elite Eight and four teams in the Sweet 16.

"We felt the Big East wasn't good enough for us anymore," Black said. "At Notre Dame we hold ourselves to the highest standard, and the CAA is just that in basketball. ...It's good in other sports, too."

The Big East had seven teams in this year's tournament, but the Irish didn't make it in after finishing 15-13 overall and 6-10 in the Big East. The Irish also failed to win a game in the Big East Tournament, dropping their first game to Georgetown. But Black maintained that Notre Dame basketball was doing just fine.



see CAA/page 6

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

SIGNING BONUSES

Business Majors \$1,000,000, Arts and Letters Majors 0

Once again, business majors make more money sooner than anyone else.

page 5

SUDOKU

Hank 1.5 seconds
Matt 1.5 days

Hank dominates Matt in their first ever matchup of the new numbers game, as Matt couldn't count to 9.

page 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,2,9

FIESTA BOWL

Despite the huge hit her lover J.A. Mawk put on her brother Baby Finn during the game, Blaura is still committed to the relationship, according to an ABC interview, aired 25 times.

page BeOnTV

DRINKING RANKINGS

Shoup claims top spot

ResLife director jumps to No. 1 after posting scandalous pictures on his Facebook profile.

page 1/5

NOTRE DATING

South Quad, 7 p.m. Friday

In an event sponsored by the Congregation of the Holy Cross, students can speed-date on the quad to find soulmates.

page First Base

FOOTBALL

PW 13, Notre Dame 0

Led by a stout defense, the Purple Weasels defeat the Irish in Notre Dame Stadium.

page 20

DVD REVIEW

Acting powers 'Violence'



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

David Cronenberg's "A History of Violence" centers on Tom Stall (Viggo Mortensen). Stall shows an eerie violent streak when his diner is nearly robbed.

By MOLLY GRIFFIN
Assistant Scene Editor

The title of the film "A History of Violence" doesn't lie — the film is raw, bloody and emotionally devastating. It boasts fantastic performances from a bevy of talented actors, and while the story gets lost at times in the sheer grittiness of the film, it is a deeply powerful portrayal of one of humanity's most basic instincts.

"A History of Violence" centers on Tom Stall (Viggo Mortensen), a seemingly normal everyman living in a small town in Indiana. His life changes radically when he displays a somewhat eerie proficiency for killing when his diner is almost robbed. His violent act, while portrayed as heroic, only leads to greater and more escalated violence in the world around him. His brutal exhibition eventually calls his identity into question and manages to tear his family apart.

The film displays a variety of types of violence, from heroic to senseless, youthful to sexual, and it reveals the destructive power in all of these forms. The story itself in the film, while important, is truly in place so as to allow violence to occur and wreak bloody havoc on the characters, revealing its universally damaging effects.

Acting emerges as the greatest draw in "A History of Violence," with wrenching performances from numerous characters. Mortensen manages to balance the family man warmth and cold-blooded killing instincts that his character exhibits with great skill, while Maria Bello is a whirlwind of emotions as his wife Edie. Supporting comes from Ed Harris and William Hurt, who was nominated for an Oscar in the Best Supporting Actor category for his work in "A History of Violence."

Director David Cronenberg doesn't shy away from showing graphic, disturbingly violent images. This unflinching portrayal of violence is alternately disturbing and powerful, and is what ultimately gives the film its gut-wrenching emotional impact.

"A History of Violence"

is part of a recent trend in Hollywood — films based on graphic novels. The film is based on the work by Vince Locke and John Wagner and joins recent graphic novel — inspired cinema like "Sin City" and "V for Vendetta."

The DVD of "A History of Violence" features a number of features that enhance the viewing of the film. There is audio commentary from Cronenberg that provides some insight into the film as a whole, and there are three featurettes included as well. The first, "Violence's History: U.S. vs. International Versions," compares the U.S. cut of the film to the more graphic international release. "Too Commercial for Cannes" looks at the film's release at the French film festival, while the third feature "Act of Violence," which clocks in at 65 minutes, provides the entire background on the film's production.

A lengthy deleted scene is included on the DVD, and it includes optional director commentary. Along with this lengthy scene is the featurette "The Unmaking of Scene 44" which details how the

scene was made and why it was ultimately axed from the film.

The graphic, brutal nature of "A History of Violence" can make it difficult to stomach. But the film provides a deeply moving commentary on the role of violence, not only within families but as part of human nature as a whole.

The extras on the DVD add insight into the film's purpose, but in the end, it is the film itself that stands alone as a somewhat complicated work. While viewers may leave the film with conflicted feelings, it is impossible to remain untouched by the raw emotional power of the film.

Contact Molly Griffin at
mgriffin@nd.edu

A History of Violence

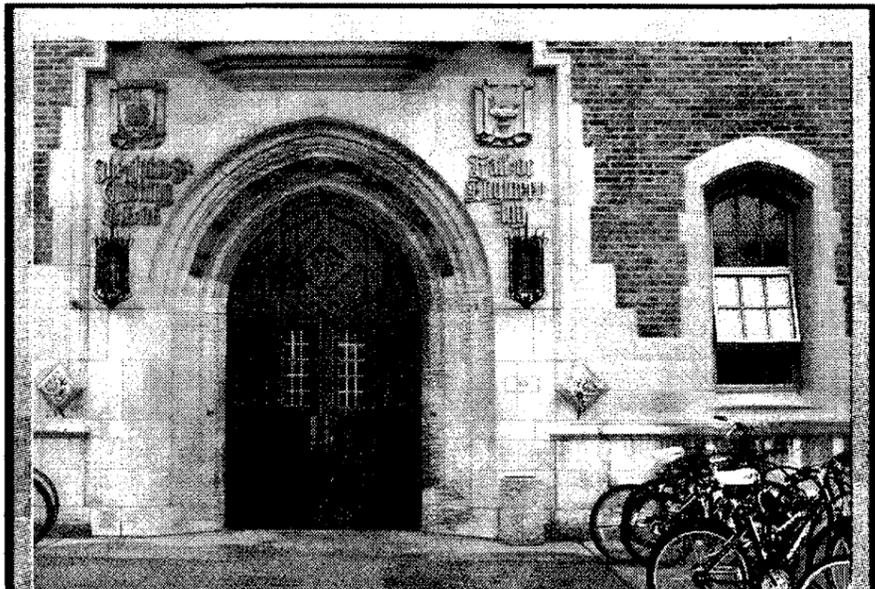
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NOTRE DAME'S
BEST... *Doors*

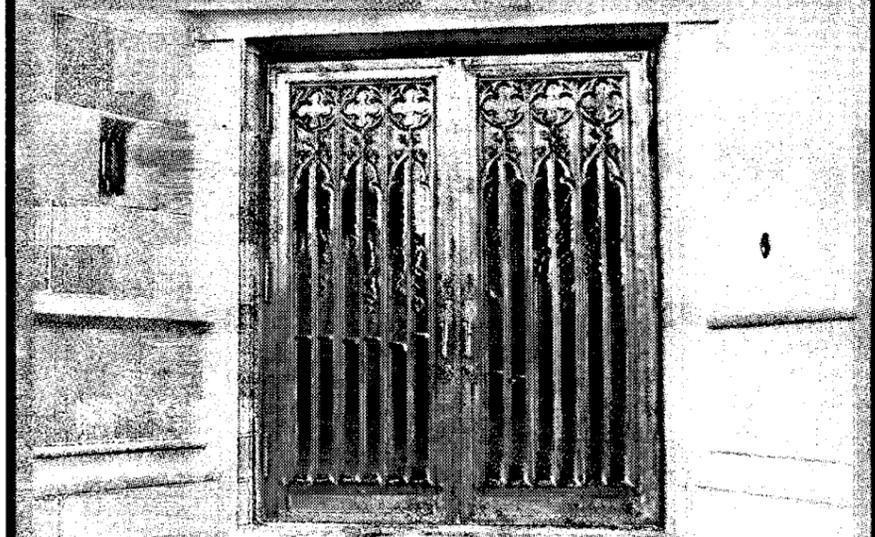
BY OBSERVER PHOTO STAFF



As the main entrance to the Cushing Hall of Engineering, these doors see heavy student activity at all hours, both day and night.



Often overlooked due to the majesty of the building they adorn, the doors of the Barber are a beauty in and of themselves.



These ornate doors facing the LeMans circle are often ignored by students, but provide a warm welcome to any guest.

For next week: What are the best bathrooms on campus?
Send your suggestions to obsphoto@nd.edu

NHL

Roloson makes 20 saves in 4-0 Edmonton win

Senators blast Rangers 4-1; third period rally sparks Detroit over Nashville; Afanasev leads Lightning past Atlanta

Associated Press

EDMONTON, Alberta — Dwayne Roloson's timing was perfect for the Edmonton Oilers.

Roloson made 20 saves for his first shutout with Edmonton, a 4-0 victory over the Los Angeles Kings 4-0 on Thursday night that moved the Oilers into a tie three-way tie for sixth place in the Western Conference.

"It's important for any goalie coming to a new team to get his first shutout," Oilers coach Craig MacTavish said. "It couldn't have come at a better time."

Roloson, making his 12th straight start since a trade-deadline deal with Minnesota, has two shutouts this season and 18 in his NHL career.

"I seemed to be square all night long and pucks were hitting me," Roloson said. "We have to keep that killer instinct going."

Sergei Samsonov, Jaroslav Spacek and Ales Hemsky each had a goal and assist, and Raffi Torres also scored.

"We have made it easier on ourselves," said Samsonov, another deadline pickup who has three goals in his last four games. "Rollie shut the door for us."

The 10th-place Kings lost for third time in four nights to drop five points behind the Oilers, Anaheim and Vancouver.

"It's a lack of desperation and a lack of effort," said Jeremy Roenick after his second game back with the Kings after sustaining a chip fracture in his right ankle.

Torres opened the scoring at 1:43 of the first period with his 27th goal of the season, and Samsonov made it 2-0 on a power play with 2:59 left in the period.

Spacek scored a power-play goal in the second period, and Hemsky, with his first goal in 14 games, completed the scoring in the period.

Senators 4, Rangers 1

The Ottawa Senators found a way to overcome the absence of three top defensemen — and keep NHL-scoring leader Jaromir Jagr in check.

Ray Emery made 24 saves, and Chris Neil, Patrick Eaves, Dany Heatley and Peter Schaefer scored in Ottawa's victory over the New York Rangers on Thursday night.

The Eastern Conference-leading Senators played without defensive partners Zdeno Chara

(hand) and Chris Phillips (knee), and Wade Redden missed the game to travel to Saskatchewan on Thursday to be with his ailing mother.

"I asked a couple of guys if they could meet a challenge and they responded," coach Bryan Murray said. "It was a team hockey game, a team effort. A lot of people did a real fine job. That's what hockey is."

Fedor Tyutin had the lone goal for the Rangers, and Henrik Lundqvist made 28 saves.

Ottawa finished 3-for-9 with the man advantage, while New York was 0-for-6.

"It's tough to take so many penalties," Lundqvist said. "I thought 5-on-5 we played pretty well and got some scoring chances. They just played smart and seemed to wait for our penalties. They have a great power play."

Jagr, who had four assists Wednesday night in a 5-1 road victory over the New York Islanders to break Jean Ratelle's franchise scoring record, assisted Tyutin's goal to push his NHL-leading scoring total to 114. Jagr also has an NHL-leading 52 goals, tied with Adam Graves for the team record.

In Chara's absence, Andrej Mezсарos was given the challenge of shutting down Jagr.

"This was a big opportunity for me to show the coach I can play 30 minutes if need be," said Mezсарos, who played 29:55. "My focus was to keep Jagr in check and not letting him score any goals. I think I had a pretty good game."

Jagr said he rarely pays attention to who is or isn't on the ice and admitted he was feeling under the weather due to a cold.

"When I play games I don't really care. Everyone is replaceable," Jagr said. "I just tried to help the team."

With the loss, the Rangers remained four points ahead of second-place Philadelphia in the Atlantic Division race. The division winner is in position to get the No. 3 seed in the conference and the loser is expected to open against Buffalo in the 4-5 series.

"We worked, we tried things, but collectively we weren't on the same page," Rangers coach Tom Renney said. "They really need a break, but I'm not making excuses."

Neil scored his 16th goal of



Martin St. Louis of the Lightning is checked from behind by Thrashers defensemen Garnet Exelby, left, and Greg de Vries during Tampa Bay's 4-3 win Thursday.

the season on a two-man advantage early in the first period, and Eaves made it 2-0 with his 16th on another two-man advantage at the 13-minute mark. New York countered less than a minute later on Tyutin's backhand.

Heatley added his 43rd goal of the season on another power play in the second, and Schaefer scored his 19th in the third.

"Special teams are big," Senators center Jason Spezza said. "That's how you're going to win games down the stretch."

Red Wings 4, Predators 2

Brendan Shanahan and Jason Williams each had a goal and an assist in the third period to help the NHL-leading Detroit Red Wings beat the Nashville Predators on Thursday night.

Tomas Holmstrom and Kris Yzerman assisted on the two third-period goals and Manny Legace made 32 saves.

Mike Sillinger and Scott Hartnell scored for the Predators. The loss was Nashville's fourth straight and also ended a six-game home

winning streak. The Predators' last loss at home was Feb. 9 against Detroit.

Holmstrom tied it at 2 on a power play with 35 seconds left in the period, deflecting the puck past Tomas Vokoun.

Shanahan gave Detroit the lead at 1:42 of the third period, skating in front of the crease and backhanding the puck past Vokoun for his 33rd goal. Williams completed the scoring with 4:06 left, beating Vokoun with a wrist shot.

The two teams played to a 2-2 tie in the first period, with Nashville capitalizing on one of three power-play opportunities and Detroit scoring on one of four.

Sillinger struck first on the power play, beating Legace at 13:29.

Kris Draper tied it at 14:09, and Hartnell scored 27 seconds later.

Lightning 4, Thrashers 3

Dmitry Afanasev and the Tampa Bay Lightning made a big playoff push Thursday night — at the Atlanta Thrashers' expense.

Afanasev scored two goals

to help the Lightning beat the Thrashers on Thursday night, leaving seventh-place Atlanta seven points out of the final Eastern Conference playoff spot with 10 games left.

With the victory, Tampa Bay remained tied with New Jersey and Montreal for sixth place in the Eastern Conference with 83 points. On Thursday night, New Jersey beat Buffalo 3-1 and Montreal edged Washington 3-2 in overtime.

"Right now, time is running out," Atlanta coach Bob Hartley said. "We don't have any points to give to anyone. We will need some great performances from everyone."

Tim Taylor and Paul Ranger also scored for the Lightning. Taylor snapped a 28-game scoring drought, and Ranger's goal was the first of his 67-game NHL career.

Tampa Bay goalie John Grahame's bid for his third shutout against Atlanta this season ended when Steve McCarthy scored from the blue line with 9:16 left. Vyacheslav Kozlov and Bobby Holik added goals for the Thrashers in the final 2 minutes.

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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3,4,5,6 bedroom homes. Web site: mmmrentals.com. Contact: Gary 574-993-2208 or grooms@ourwebsites.net

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Here's a shoutout to B. Murphy!

New Month's Eve Party in Siegfried 4A tonight.

Hot girls need only apply.

AROUND THE NATION

Friday, March 31, 2006

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 17

NBA Standings

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

team	record	pct.	GB
New Jersey	42-28	.600	-
Philadelphia	32-38	.457	10
Boston	30-42	.417	13
Toronto	26-45	.366	16.5
New York	19-51	.271	23

Eastern Conference, Central Division

team	record	pct.	GB
Detroit	57-14	.803	-
Cleveland	42-29	.592	15
Milwaukee	36-35	.507	21
Indiana	35-35	.500	21.5
Chicago	31-40	.437	26

Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

team	record	pct.	GB
Miami	48-23	.682	-
Washington	37-33	.523	10.5
Orlando	28-44	.364	20.5
Atlanta	22-48	.323	25.5
Charlotte	20-52	.269	28.5

Western Conference, Northwest Division

team	record	pct.	GB
Denver	40-32	.559	-
Utah	34-37	.470	5.5
Minnesota	30-41	.409	9.5
Seattle	29-42	.400	10.5
Portland	20-51	.299	19.5

Western Conference, Pacific Division

team	record	pct.	GB
Phoenix	47-23	.692	-
LA Clippers	41-29	.600	6
LA Lakers	38-34	.507	10
Sacramento	36-36	.500	12
Golden State	30-40	.431	17

Western Conference, Southwest Division

team	record	pct.	GB
San Antonio	55-16	.788	-
Dallas	54-18	.776	1.5
Memphis	41-31	.561	14.5
New Orleans	33-37	.484	21.5
Houston	31-40	.433	24

NCAA Men's Baseball Top 20

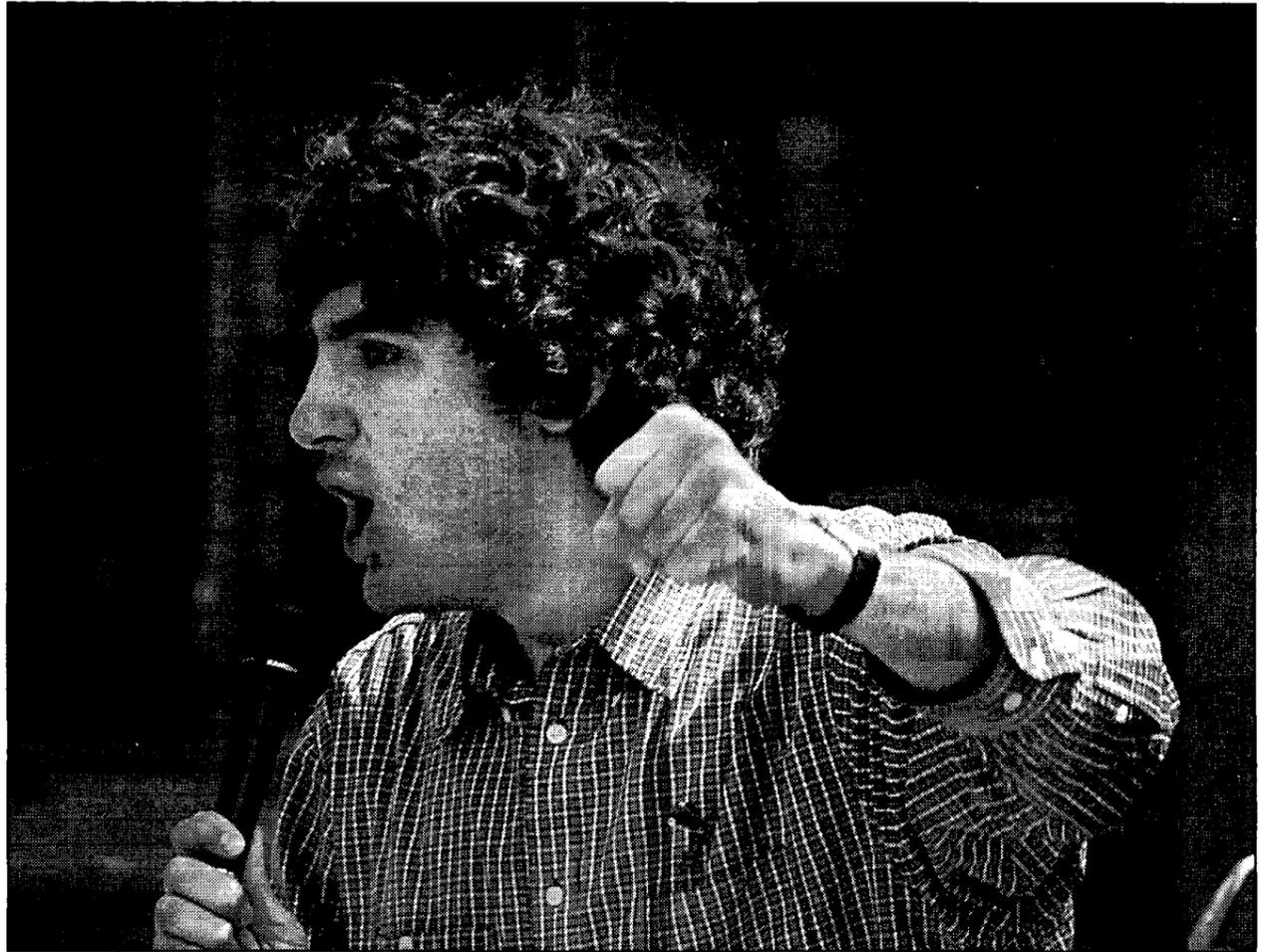
team	record	previous
1 Georgia Tech	16-1	1
2 Clemson	10-3	2
3 Rice	15-5	3
4 North Carolina	13-2	4
5 Tennessee	13-2	5
6 Mississippi State	11-0	6
7 Cal State-Fullerton	14-6	7
8 Florida State	18-1	8
9 South Carolina	13-2	9
10 Arkansas	16-1	10
11 Louisiana State	16-3	13
12 Nebraska	11-2	14
13 Oregon State	11-5	11
14 Tulane	12-6	12
15 Florida	14-6	15
16 Arizona State	17-5	17
17 Stanford	11-7	16
18 Texas	13-9	21
19 Washington	15-5	NR
20 Georgia	11-2	NR

around the dial

NBA

Memphis at New Orleans, 7 p.m., ESPN
LA Lakers at Seattle, 9:30 p.m., ESPN

NCAA MEN'S LACROSSE



Duke University graduate student Jacob Remes calls for the firing of lacrosse coach Mike Pressler and athletic director Joe Alleva Thursday during an open mike protest in front of the university's administration building in Durham, N.C.

Blue Devils await DNA test results

Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — The lawyers for Duke men's lacrosse players said Thursday that police and an outraged community will owe the team an apology after DNA tests are completed — tests they said will prove no one on the team raped an exotic dancer.

Four attorneys representing nearly all the 46 players forced to give samples protested what they said was a presumption that their clients attacked the dancer or kept quiet about what happened. No one has been charged.

"We believe that the DNA will show that this is not true. We believe that a full and complete and fair investigation will show that it is not true," lawyer Joe Cheshire said. Investigators are still collecting evidence, but District Attorney Mike Nifong has said in recent days he already believes a crime occurred. Even if the state crime lab's DNA analysis proves inconclusive or doesn't provide a match for any of the athletes, Nifong has said he'll have other evidence.

"If the only thing that we ever have in this case is DNA, then we wouldn't

have a case," Nifong said Wednesday.

This week, university president Richard Brodhead suspended the highly ranked team from play until the school learns more about the accusations. But Cheshire said Nifong and police have created a mob mentality that has tainted the men "before the evidence has all come out in a way that they will never recover."

Nifong's office did not return calls Thursday seeking a response to the criticism.

English professor Melissa Malouf said she is one of those prepared

for the DNA tests to prove inconclusive.

"I don't think the DNA is the case," she said after speaking at an outdoor protest near Brodhead's office. "Guys can wear condoms."

According to the application for a court order seeking DNA samples from the team, a nurse trained to treat rape victims and a physician who treated the woman said they witnessed symptoms consistent with sexual assault. The document also includes details of a search of the house where the woman said she was raped for about a half-hour.

IN BRIEF

Ochoa ties record for best round in an LPGA major

RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. — Lorena Ochoa had only 100 or so people following her record round Thursday in the Kraft Nabisco Championship, which was fine with her. She was able to hear that familiar voice, her father urging her to attack the flags and stick it close.

"Just like this," Javier Ochoa said to her after Ochoa began the first round with a 9-iron to 2 feet birdie.

And she obeyed, knocking down flags on a calm morning in the desert, piling up birdies until she was in the record books with a 10-under 62 that gave her a four-shot lead over 16-year-old Michelle Wie.

Wie got all the attention and matched her best score on the LPGA Tour, a bogey-free 66 in which she played with poise and precision and had a birdie putt on every hole.

Boeheim wants to see more teams in tourney

INDIANAPOLIS — Jim Boeheim wants more schools playing in the NCAA tournament, and his coaching-colleagues appear to agree.

The Syracuse coach believes the tournament field should expand from its current 65 teams and hopes to start lobbying for an increase Friday during a meeting with the National Association of Basketball Coaches.

"I have a number in mind, I think it should probably be about four to six, somewhere in there," Boeheim said Thursday. "The problem really is that it shouldn't come down to logistics."

The field expanded from 48 to 64 in 1985, then added a 65th team to the field in 2001 when the NCAA increased the number of automatic bids from 30 to 31.

Boeheim believes the rapid increase in Division I schools, to more than 300, and increased parity, as demonstrated by George Mason reaching the Final

Four, indicates its time to include more teams.

Roddick continues slide with loss to Ferrer

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — Andy Roddick shanked a service return, sending the shot straight up, then took off his cap and used it to catch the ball.

Give Roddick credit for trying to make the best of a difficult day. He hit another bump in his bid to shake an early-season slump Thursday, losing to David Ferrer 6-3, 4-6, 6-4 in the quarterfinals of the Nasdaq-100 Open.

Roddick, who slipped from third to fourth in the rankings last week, has yet to reach a final this year.

"I feel a lot better leaving this tournament than I did a couple of days before this tournament," he said. "I feel like I'm on the verge of playing really good tennis again."

Roddick's biggest weapon — the serve — betrayed him against the 11th-seeded Ferrer. In the first set he made only 35 percent of his first serves.

MLB

Anna Benson asks for divorce from Orioles pitcher husband

Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE — Anna Benson has requested a divorce from Baltimore Orioles pitcher Kris Benson, who still believes the New York Mets traded him in response to actions by his impulsive wife.

Anna Benson, an actress and model who has posed topless, filed for divorce in Atlanta on Thursday. The petition for divorce claims the marriage is

“irretrievably broken.”

The couple has been married for seven years.

Kris Benson initially protested the deal that sent him to the Orioles. But now he thinks the Mets did him a favor.

“I was a little upset because I enjoyed my time in New York and I feel like they had a good team coming into the season,” Benson said in a recent interview. “But now that I realize the opportunity I have, it’s going to be a good career

move for me.”

Now, it appears as if he will go at it alone.

In 2005, his first full season with the Mets, Benson allowed three runs or fewer in 19 starts. He was 10-8 with a 4.31 ERA, but New York won 17 of the 28 games in which he pitched.

Despite those numbers, the right-hander was traded to the Orioles in January for pitchers Jorge Julio and John Maine. There was speculation

that the deal was perpetuated by the behavior of Anna, who has her own web site and publicly discussed intimate details of their sex life.

Mets general manager Omar Minaya contended that Anna Benson was not a factor in the trade. Kris Benson isn’t buying it.

“New York is just a world of its own. I knew that coming in, but you learn that a little more when you get put in the spotlight like that in a nega-

tive and undeserving way,” Kris Benson said. “It was a little frustrating at the time because people kind of believe what they read. For her it’s been a little tough, because they kind of portray her in a negative light.”

Anna Benson wore a provocative dress at the team Christmas party, and there was talk that she was considering posing nude for Playboy. Kris Benson bristles at the memory.

NCAA MEN’S BASKETBALL

Gamecocks beat Michigan at MSG

Victory gives South Carolina second NIT title in as many years

Associated Press

NEW YORK — South Carolina certainly didn’t begin the season hoping to repeat as NIT champions.

The Gamecocks were, however, happy to end it that way and become only the second school to win consecutive NIT titles.

Tarence Kinsey scored 21 points and Tre’ Kelley added 20 and seven assists to help South Carolina beat Michigan 76-64 on Thursday night.

With four starters back from last year’s NIT champs, the Gamecocks began the season with hopes to graduate to an NCAA tournament berth this season. That didn’t work out, though South Carolina (23-15) made a late run at an automatic bid before losing the Southeastern Conference title game 49-47 to Florida.

Back in the NIT, the Gamecocks made the most of it and joined St. John’s, which won the NIT in 1943 and 1944, as the only teams to win back-to-back championships. Kentucky was the only other team ever to play in consecutive championship games (1946-47).

The SEC could make it a tournament sweep with Florida and LSU playing the NCAA Final Four on Saturday.

Renaldo Balkman added 10 points, 11 rebounds and six blocks and was named the MVP of the tournament for South Carolina.

Daniel Horton, who was the MVP of the 2004 NIT, scored 18 points to lead Michigan (22-10), which was trying to win its second championship in three years.

Chris Hunter and Brent Petway each added 12 for Michigan, which won the title in 2004 with most of the same players who led this year’s run to Madison Square Garden.

Trailing 24-14, Michigan went on a 7-0 run to close to 24-21 on Ron Coleman’s 3-pointer with 6:07 left in the half. Tempers flared soon after when Balkman blocked Petway’s shot. Balkman grabbed the loose ball and caught Petway with an elbow in the lip. Petway responded,

shoving Balkman to the floor for an intentional foul.

The play seemed to spark the Gamecocks, who closed the half on a 13-6 run. Dwayne Day hit two 3-pointers during the spurt as South Carolina built a 39-27 halftime lead.

South Carolina opened the second half with an 8-3 run as Kelley hit two 3-pointers to make it 47-30. Michigan could get no closer than nine the rest of the game.

With the victory, South Carolina coach Dave Odom improved to 21-3 in the NIT and now has 100 wins with the Gamecocks. He also led Wake Forest to the title in 2000.

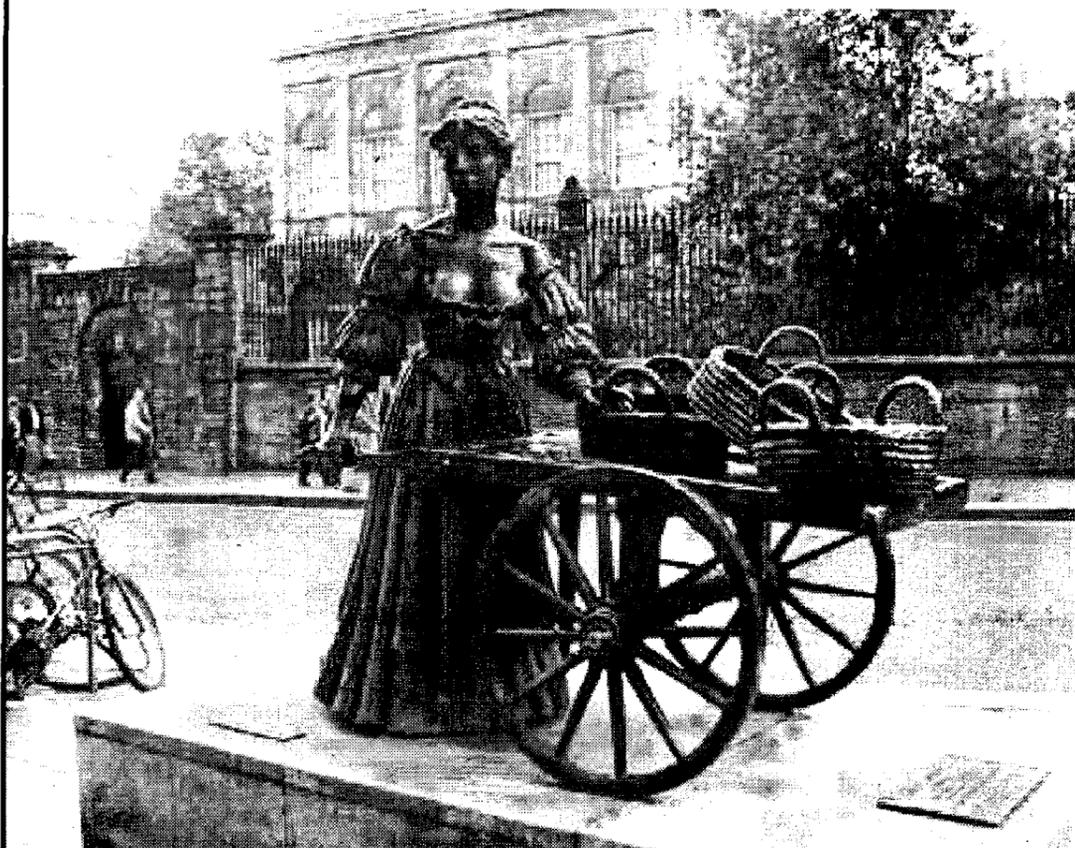
The Gamecocks advanced to the championship with a 78-63 win over Louisville on Tuesday night.

Balkman scored 23 points and Kinsey added 21 in that win.

Courtney Sims scored 18 points to help Michigan beat Old Dominion 66-43 in the semifinals.

The Wolverines fell to 7-2 all-time in the semifinals and finals of the NIT. They also had won the championship in 1984, 1997.

Famed Irish Prostitute Molly Malone Knew That Sex Sells...



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**Friday, March 31
@ 6:05pm**

**Saturday, April 1
@ 1:05pm**

**Sunday, April 2
@ 12:05pm**

Free Admission for Students

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

100,000 fans expected in Indy for Final Four

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Marc Sawyer figures he won't sleep much this weekend.

The 21-year-old UCLA senior was flying with several friends to Columbus, Ohio, late Friday, then renting a car and driving three hours to Indianapolis. Once here, he'll don a blue and yellow outfit that includes colored glasses, gym shorts, a T-shirt, knee socks and a pompom to cheer on the Bruins in the

Final Four before returning to Los Angeles 30 minutes before his first class Tuesday morning.

Whirlwind trip? You bet. "We're just running on adrenaline once we get there," said Sawyer, a San Diego resident who is president of The Den, UCLA's student athletics fan club. "We're not even going to want to sleep."

Thanks to a monthlong buildup, multimillion-dollar ad campaigns and celebrity-studded entertainment, this year's

Final Four will be a far cry from the event's humble beginnings in 1939, when only eight teams competed for the title. This weekend, when an expected 100,000 fans descend on downtown Indianapolis for the culmination of a nationwide basketball frenzy, the tourney will have transformed itself into a full-out extravaganza.

"When a sporting event moves to the next level and becomes a big event, it's more than just attending the games

— it becomes a destination point on everybody's calendar of events," said John Rowady, president of rEvolution, a Chicago sports marketing agency that partnered with the NCAA to promote various game packages. "I think (the Final Four) has moved into the realm of being a rival to the Super Bowl."

Included in the lineup is a free, two-day music festival headlined by Indiana rocker John Mellencamp and featuring last season's "American Idol" winner, Carrie Underwood.

The NCAA's Hall of Champions museum will be open for a marathon 100 straight hours to mark the governing body's centennial. Thousands of entertainment-minded fans were expected to visit an interactive festival at the Indiana Convention Center.

That doesn't count the scores of private parties, hospitality rooms and VIP events for special ticket holders and corporate partners who have shelled out thousands of dollars for all-inclusive Final Four packages.

All the while, CBS will be broadcasting games on 11 jumbo screens throughout downtown.

"I think consumers expect more of a total fan experience now," said Vince Thompson,

president and chief executive officer of the Atlanta-based Creative Presence Partners, which is working with the NCAA and Coca Cola Co. to put on the musical festival.

Fans aren't the only ones demanding more.

Big corporations use tickets to top sporting events such as the Final Four, the Super Bowl, the Masters golf championship and the Kentucky Derby to schmooze their best customers.

"The Final Four is becoming one of the premier events in the country from a corporate perspective," said David Lord, chief executive of RazorGator and PrimeSport, an online ticket broker based in Los Angeles. "It's becoming more and more the approach of the big sponsors to leverage these events as opportunities to get close to their big clients."

RazorGator expects to send as many as 4,000 customers to the Final Four — half of them through corporate packages that include work meetings, a casino night and special appearances by top coaches and players.

Evolution's premier package costs \$55,000 and includes 10 lower-level seats in the RCA Dome, a four-night downtown hotel stay and access to other VIP events.

TWO GREAT LIVE BANDS... ONE NIGHT.



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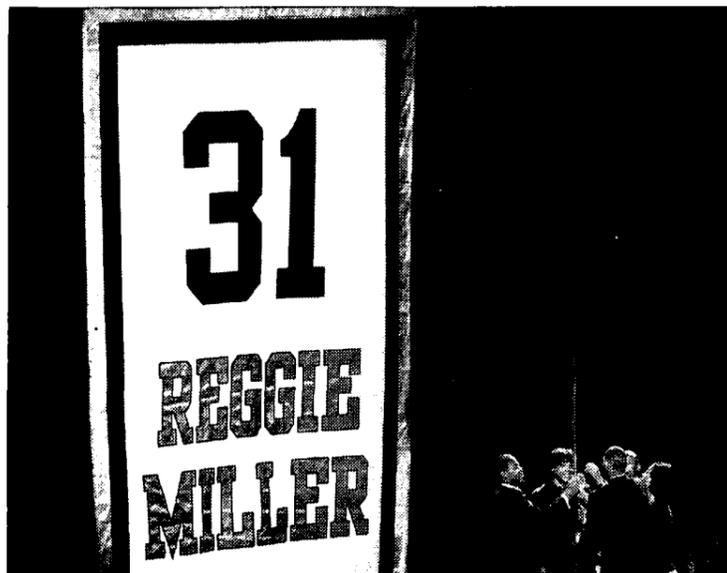
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NBA

Pacers honor Miller, fall to Phoenix, 114-104



Former Indiana Pacers guard Reggie Miller and his family raise his number 31 to the rafters during Thursdays loss to the Phoenix Suns.

Marion scores 29 to lead Suns, Indiana has lost 6 of 8 games

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The capacity crowd that showed up at Consecro Fieldhouse to watch Reggie Miller's jersey retirement ceremony had nearly vanished by the fourth quarter.

That's because the Pacers didn't resemble the team Miller turned into a contender with his countless clutch shots.

Shawn Marion scored 29 points, Steve Nash nearly had a triple-double, and the Phoenix Suns beat Indiana 114-104 Thursday night to snap a two-game losing streak.

Nash finished with 15 points, 13 assists and eight rebounds.

"Miller Time" never came because the Pacers were out of the game so early. Phoenix led 58-44 at halftime and 92-78 at the end of the third quarter.

Phoenix entered the game averaging a league-best 108 points.

The Suns' offense was too sharp for Indiana's fourth-ranked scoring defense.

"They had some bigger guys," Marion said. "We were trying to force the tempo of the game. They couldn't run with us and it showed."

Indiana got no closer than nine points in the second half.

"They make you play their tempo," Indiana point guard Anthony Johnson said. "If you don't make shots, they can dominate you. We would put up a string of baskets and you look up at the board and you're still down by 12."

Peja Stojakovic scored 25 points and reserve Danny Granger added 16 for the Pacers, who were again without Jermaine O'Neal to start the game and watched their injury woes grow during it.

Indiana (35-36) has lost six of its last eight games and dropped below .500 for just the second time this season.

"I don't think anybody in this locker room expected to be one game under .500 at this point," Johnson said. "I don't think anybody expected to be one game under any time this season. We can talk about it, but now it's time to just show up and play ball."

Phoenix (48-23) bounced back from back-to-back blowout defeats. The Suns lost 110-72 at New Jersey on Monday and 132-110 at Milwaukee on Tuesday.

"We're back to the team we were, the team that won 47 games," Phoenix coach Mike D'Antoni said. "We're going to be pretty good. Those other two games we got out of synch a little bit, started pressing a little bit."

O'Neal was inactive after re-aggravating his groin injury earlier in the week. Stephen Jackson sprained his ankle in the second quarter and did not return, and center Scot Pollard missed the second half with a sore foot.

"We knew they were coming in undermanned, so we really needed to get this one tonight," Nash said. "They still have a lot of dangerous guys on that team, even without Jermaine O'Neal."

The Suns shot 52 percent from the field and forced 17 turnovers.

SMC TENNIS

Belles try to avenge defeat

Saint Mary's will face Olivet Nazarene and Wheaton this weekend

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

Coming off its first conference loss, Saint Mary's will have a chance to get back in the win column when it takes on Olivet Nazarene at 2 p.m. today and Wheaton College at 5 p.m. Saturday in the Jack Schwarz Memorial Classic Tournament in Wheaton, Ill.

As this weekend's tournament is sandwiched between conference matches, the Belles players will have a brief reprieve from the pressure of the conference schedule. The team hopes to put that break to good use, senior Kristen Palombo said.

"Tournaments like this take the pressure off for a little while because we know that no matter what happens, it won't affect our conference standing," Palombo said. "We're able to try new things in these matches, and we're able to work on parts of our game that we might not be comfortable using in conference matches."

Saint Mary's will still be taking this weekend's matches seriously, though, and will be facing some difficult competition. Olivet Nazarene has won two NAIA Region III-VII Championships and made three NAIA National Tournament appearances since 2001. This year, Olivet



Belles junior Kelly McDavitt hits a shot against Albion April 17, 2005. Saint Mary's will play Olivet Nazarene and Wheaton this weekend.

Nazarene boasts a 3-1 record, having won their last three matches.

Wheaton will present an even greater challenge for the Belles, as they enter this weekend with a record of 6-0 and are currently ranked No. 18 in the nation by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association.

In addition, two of Wheaton's players are ranked in the region.

Freshman Jordan Hook is currently the No. 5 player in the central region, and she comes into this weekend with an unblemished record of 19-0.

Senior Elizabeth Maclellan, a two-time winner of the CCIW Player of the Year award, is currently the No. 2 player in the central region.

The team, however, sees the benefits of playing against such strong competition.

"No matter what happens regarding the outcome, it makes you a better player," Palombo said. "You have to try harder, come up with shots you didn't know you had, and you have to expand your game."

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogas@nd.edu

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MEN'S GOLF

Squad to play in Augusta

ND will try to bounce back from mediocre finishes during break

By **JOE QUINN**
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will head south to Augusta, Ga. this weekend to take part in the Augusta State Invitational at Champions Retreat Golf Club.

After finishing eighth at the Border Olympics March 18 and 11th at the General Jim Hackler Invitational March 13, the Irish are anxious to start competing for tournament championships, and, Irish coach Jim Kubinski said, there's no better place for that than Augusta.

"Just the name Augusta brings to mind thoughts of championship golf," Kubinski said. "I feel we are ready to start playing our A-game, and what better place to do it than Augusta, Georgia."

Kubinski said he hopes this is the weekend where the team returns to the form it showed in the fall.

"We had such a strong fall season, I just want the guys to match that this weekend," he said. "We played top-20 golf [all fall] and now is the time to prove to everyone else that we are a top-20 program."

The Irish will take on some of the top teams in the country in Augusta. UCLA leads the field coming in ranked No. 5 in the country according to the GCAA/Bridgestone Top 25.

In addition to the Bruins, the tournament field boasts three top 20 teams — East



Irish sophomore Greg Rodgers putts in last year's Notre Dame Invitational. Notre Dame will travel to Augusta, Ga. for the Augusta State Invitational this weekend.

Tennessee State (No. 11), Tennessee (No. 12) and Clemson (No. 14).

Besides the four top-20 teams, there are five more teams just outside the top 25 and the top ranked team in Division II, South Carolina — Aiken.

While the Irish are one of the few teams competing in Augusta that is not ranked in the top 50, Kubinski said he is confident about their chances.

"If we can play like I know we can play, we'll show that we're closer to the team we were in the fall than the one that's been playing this spring," he said.

Kubinski is going to tweak his line-up for the weekend,

adding freshman Josh Sandman. Sandman's outstanding play in qualifying rounds this past week, according to Kubinski, is the reason for the move.

"We played in three [qualifying rounds] this past week and [Josh] finished behind only Cole [Isban] and Scott [Gustafson]," Kubinski said.

Kubinski said Sandman's proficiency near the hole will help the Irish this weekend.

"[Josh] always exhibits fantastic short game. I'm hoping he'll add a little something to the mix down in Augusta," Kubinski said.

Contact Joe Quinn at jquinn6@nd.edu

TENNIS

Sharapova advances on opponent's injury

Russian star fails to convert four match points, endures boos

Associated Press

KEY BISCAVAYNE, Fla. — Maria Sharapova blew a big lead, drew boos for taking a bathroom break and won only when opponent Tatiana Golovin was forced to retire in tears because of an ankle injury.

The hollow victory Thursday night earned Sharapova a berth in the final at the Nasdaq-100 Open.

Sharapova failed to convert four match points in the second set and played for another 75 minutes before Golovin twisted her left ankle and fell chasing a shot in the corner.

A trainer taped Golovin's ankle. The French teenager played one more point, hitting a return wide, then called it quits with Sharapova serving and leading 6-3, 6-7 (5), 4-3, ad in.

The stadium was less than half full when the match ended at 11:40 p.m. EST, but the fans were noisy. Three times they jeered Sharapova for taking a break leading 5-4 in the second set.

The interruption didn't deter Golovin, who won the crowd's favor by completing her comeback from a 5-1 deficit in the set to force a third set.

No. 4-seeded Sharapova's opponent in the final Saturday will be No. 12 Svetlana Kuznetsova, who advanced by beating top-ranked Amelie Mauresmo for the second time in five weeks, 6-1, 6-4.

Andy Roddick hit another bump in his bid to shake an early-season slump, losing to David Ferrer 6-3, 4-6, 6-4 in the men's quarterfinals. Roddick, who slipped from third to fourth in the rankings last week, has yet to reach a final this year.

"I feel a lot better leaving this tournament than I did a couple of days before this tourna-

ment," he said. "I feel like I'm on the verge of playing really good tennis again."

The loss cost Roddick a shot at top-ranked Roger Federer in the semifinals. Defending champion Federer rallied from a break down in the opening set and beat No. 9-seeded James Blake 7-6 (2), 6-4.

Federer extended winning streaks of 25 consecutive matches against Americans, 46 matches in a row in the United States and a record 22 in a row in Masters Series events. He has reached the semifinals in his past 13 tournaments.

"Maybe I'm a slow learner," said Blake, who also lost to Federer in the Indian Wells final two weeks ago. "But he doesn't make it easy. I'm starting to feel like one of those basketball players in the early '90s. You feel like you make Michael Jordan play well, but then every time he comes up and beats you and makes you realize why he's the best."

Like Federer, Sharapova is bidding for back-to-back titles after winning at Indian Wells. She's 2-2 against fellow Russian Kuznetsova, winning their past two meetings.

Sharapova led the No. 22-seeded Golovin 5-1 in the second set and held four match points serving at 5-3. But the situation inspired Golovin to raise her level of play, and she hung on by winning a series of long rallies to cut the deficit to 5-4.

Sharapova requested a bathroom break. Because of the timing of the request, the chair umpire initially turned her down before relenting.

Fans jeered as Sharapova trotted off the court and booed again when she returned.

Golovin twice held serve to force the tiebreaker. She reached set point at 6-5, then hit a forehand that skipped off the net cord and landed on the baseline for a winner. Sharapova challenged the call, but instant replay confirmed the ruling, and the crowd erupted.

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WOMEN'S CREW

Rowers ready to churn waters of Mission Bay

Team travels to San Diego to participate in annual Classic

By **TIM KAISER**
Sports Writer

This weekend the Irish will travel to southern California to race in the San Diego Classic.

The races, which will host over 3,500 competitors, will be held in Mission Bay in San Diego. Both men's and women's college teams will compete, along with club teams from all age groups. Thousands of spectators are expected to attend the event, which is one of the most popular the Irish compete in every year.

Rowing relies on its premier national events, like the Classic, to raise interest in the sport. College coaches use the Classic to scout high school programs for good rowers.

The Classic began in 1976, a joint effort between the San Diego Rowing Club and the ZLAC Rowing Club for women, and the first event featured eight schools from the west coast and the Naval Academy.

This year's event will feature the Naval Academy, Washington, Long Beach State, San Diego State, UC-San Diego, UCLA, UC-Santa Barbara, Harvard, Yale, Stanford, UC-Berkeley, Duke and Virginia.

The Irish will compete for the Jessop-Whittier Cup, the

top honor for women at the Classic. The cup features eight-person races. Notre Dame's probable varsity lineup will consist of coxswain Maria Romano and rowers Julie Sobolewski, Amanda Polk, Mary Quinn, Laura Pearson, Allison Marsh, Melissa Felker, Megan Boyle and Sarah Palandech. They will look to improve upon last year's time of 7:03.21, which earned them eighth place. Teams of Irish rowers will also compete in the JV and Novice races.

The Irish fared well in their last competition, winning six of seven races at the Lubbers Cup in Grand Rapids, Mich. despite hailstorms and turbulent water.

Irish head coach Martin Stone was pleased with his team's performance and is looking forward to seeing what his team can do at the Classic.

"I thought we raced well and hard under hard conditions," Stone said after last weekend's competition in Grand Rapids. "I'm happy how we handled the racing conditions, and I could see that each of our boats improved from the previous week."

Stone said the team can be happy with their performance today, but we now need to focus on next weekend's regatta at the San Diego Crew Classic."

The races begin at 7:30 a.m. on both Saturday and Sunday, and end at 2:30 p.m.

Contact **Tim Kaiser** at tkaiser@nd.edu

"I thought we raced well and hard under hard conditions."

Martin Stone
Irish head coach

"I'm happy how we handled the racing conditions, and I could see that each of our boats improved from the previous week."

Martin Stone
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WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Irish travel to face Huskies

8-1 ND squares off against struggling UConn in Storrs

By CHRIS WILLIAMS
Sports Writer

The Irish hope to continue their winning ways as they face Connecticut today at 1 p.m. in Storrs, Conn.

After avenging their 21-12 loss to Northwestern with a dominating 18-2 win over Canisius, No. 10 Notre Dame heads into Friday's game against Connecticut with an 8-1 record.

After the win over Canisius, senior captain Crysti Foote was named to the Tewaaron Award watch list.

Its matchup against the Huskies is Notre Dame's second Big East game this season.

The Irish currently hold a 1-0 record in the Big East with a March 17 win over Loyola-Maryland.

Against the Huskies, the Irish will face last week's Big East Player of the Week, midfielder Shannon Burke. Burke earned the award by scoring 10 goals in two games against Quinnipiac and Harvard.

Notre Dame and Connecticut have essentially switched positions in the lacrosse world this season.

The 2006 Irish have been a surprise with their nearly perfect record and convincing turnaround from last season's 3-12 mark.

Aside from Burke's success, the Huskies have had



Notre Dame midfielder Jill Byers moves upfield against Cornell March 5. The Irish will face Connecticut this weekend.

GEOFF MATTESON/The Observer

little to celebrate this season.

Riding the wave of the most successful season in Connecticut history in 2005, the Huskies have struggled to a 2-4 record thus far in 2006.

Connecticut capped its stellar 2005 season with a 12-5 record and a No. 15 ranking. The program also

won its first Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championship in school history.

Irish coach Tracy Coyne and team members were traveling and were unavailable for comment Thursday night.

Contact Chris Williams at cwilli11@nd.edu

SMC SOFTBALL

Team opens conference season against Adrian

Belles split two games against Manchester earlier this week

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

The Belles will play their first Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA)

game Saturday at 1 p.m., taking on Adrian College at home.

While Saint Mary's (10-4) has had more success this season than the Bulldogs (9-7), Belles head coach Erin Sullivan

said her team is taking nothing for granted.

"I think that Adrian is a team that is often overlooked," Sullivan said. "So we need to play with the same intensity as we do against teams that we know are very talented."

The Belles' are coming off a split in a doubleheader against Manchester on Wednesday. The team struggled in their first game, falling

2-1. They fought back and claimed a 9-1 win in game two.

The Belles, who have been strong at the plate all year scored six runs in the fifth inning alone. Third baseman Laura Heline and designated hitter McKenna Corrigan each drove in two runs in the game.

Freshman pitcher Kristin Amram struck out thirteen

batters, breaking the school record, in the second game. The win was Amram's fifth of the season.

Sullivan said the Belles will try to keep the intensity from the second game

against Manchester going into this weekend's game.

"We just need to come out focused and ready to play," Sullivan said.

"We are a truly talented team and our offense has been dominating. If we hit the way we have been hitting all season, we will have two more wins come

Saturday night."

Contact Deirdre Krasula at dkrasula@nd.edu

"I think that Adrian is a team that is often overlooked, so we need to play with the same intensity we do against teams that we know are very talented."

Erin Sullivan
Belles head coach

"We just need to come out focused and ready to play."

Erin Sullivan
Belles head coach

SMC GOLF

Belles look to defend Purple and White title

Squad set new course record last season at Foxfire Golf Club

By BECKI DORNER
Sports Writer

The Belles will look to defend their championship at the Purple and White Invitational, hosted by Capital University this weekend at the Foxfire Golf Club in Lockbourne, Ohio.

The Belles shot a tournament record 357 as a team last year to defeat 12 other teams at the Players Club Course.

Capital University comes into the meet off a win last weekend, shooting a total of 352 to triumph over Ohio Northern by two strokes. The Crusaders were led by Charissa Mills on Sunday who fired a team-best 85 to tie for third-place, while Emma Stowe was two strokes behind with an 87.

The meet begins Friday morning at the Players Club Course before moving to the Foxfire course on Saturday for the

final round.

Megan Mattia, last season's Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) most valuable player, will look to improve on her top-20 finish at the tournament last year.

Mattia and the Belles finished 11th in cold and snowy conditions last weekend at the Northern Kentucky Spring Invitational.

Mattia led the Belles with an 82 on day one and a 79 on day two for a total of 161 (+17) — good enough to earn her 30th place in the 91-golfer field. The Belles showed off their young talent with contributions from a sophomore — Katie O'Brien with a score of 169 in 49th place and a freshman — Alex Sei with a score of 177 for 66th place and finished ahead of Division I Dayton.

In addition to Mattia, the other two seniors made big contributions. Nicole Bellino had a score of 171 good enough for 56th place and Kirsten Fantom had a score of 175 for 63rd place.

Contact Becki Dornier at rdornier1@nd.edu

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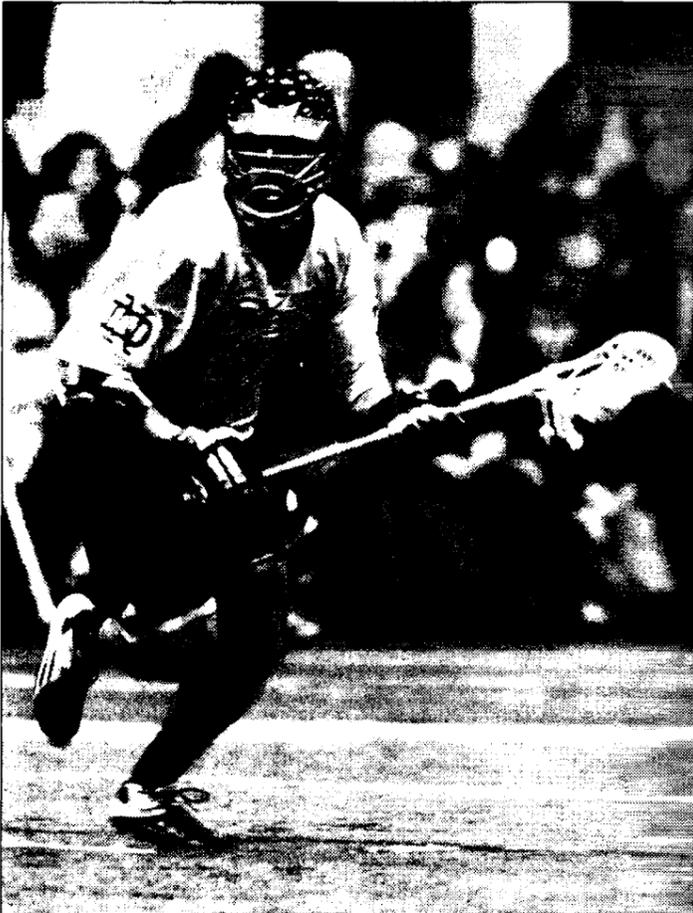
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Steven Smith is one of the nation's foremost scholars in the area of law and religion and teaches in the areas of law and religion and constitutional law.

MEN'S LACROSSE

Irish offense ready to mow down Big Green



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Irish defenseman James Severin cradles the ball in an 8-4 win on Feb. 26 over Penn State.

Squad fresh off 11 goal performance in win over Brown

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

After an 11-5 victory over Brown Wednesday, Notre Dame looks to finish the week undefeated when they take on Dartmouth at Moose Krause Stadium Sunday at 12 p.m.

Notre Dame's 11 goals against Brown marked its largest scoring output of the season, and Irish head coach Kevin Corrigan said he is looking for his offense to turn in a similar performance Sunday.

"I against Brown, we did a better job of dodging and aggressively trying to get to the goal," Corrigan said. "Also,

when you play as many good defenses as we have, your offense starts to react to the defense rather than the defense react to the offense."

Another positive aspect from the Brown game was the vast improvement in face-offs. Although face-off specialist Taylor Clagett was still sidelined with an injury, senior midfielder Steve Panos was effective, helping the team win 11 of 20 face-offs, a major improvement over the 6 of 22 face-offs the team won in their first game without Clagett — a loss to Hofstra.

"Steve did a terrific job last week, and we really hope that he can do it for us again this week," Corrigan said.

After losing to the Pride, the

team talked about the Brown game as a statement game. After sufficiently making their statement Wednesday, Corrigan said the Irish will look at Sunday's game as a momentum-builder.

"We know how important it is to have momentum going into league play," Corrigan said. "It's not just momentum for league play, though, because every game counts for the NCAAs. The last two years we've been the seventeenth team in the 16-team NCAA tournament. If there's anybody who counts, it's us."

A tough Dartmouth squad stands in Notre Dame's way this weekend. Dartmouth is currently 4-3 on the season, and it's coming off a 12-9 win over No. 11 Albany. The game before that, the Big Green were blown out, 14-2, by No. 3 Maryland, but

the Irish aren't giving as much weight to that performance.

"I definitely think that the Albany game is more indicative of who Dartmouth is," senior co-captain DJ Driscoll said. "They just never really got into the Maryland game. We're going to expect the best from them."

Notre Dame rested Thursday after its game Wednesday, and they haven't had much time to prepare for Dartmouth.

"Coming off a short week, the game is more about your match-ups and less about adapting to the other team, so we're going to focus more on ourselves," Corrigan said.

Contact Greg Arbogast
garbogast@nd.edu

TRACK AND FIELD

Team to host outdoor event

Distance runners to participate in Nike Stanford Invitational

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

The Irish team welcomes four regional foes Saturday to Moose Krause Stadium for the first outdoor home meet of the season.

The last time Notre Dame hosted an outdoor home meet was almost two years ago on April 3, 2004. The team hopes to repeat their effort in that meet, which earned Notre Dame 10 event victories.

"The early season meets are all about getting some good times under your belt and starting off the year in a strong way," said sophomore sprinter Zach Labrecque.

Labrecque will run the 100 and 200-meter races for the Irish Saturday.

Notre Dame will also see its first conference action of the outdoor season as DePaul comes to South Bend. The meet will be the Blue Demon's second of the season after last weekend's performance at the Southern Illinois Spring Classic. Only one DePaul runner, freshman Gabe Harris, competed at Notre Dame earlier in the year at the Alex Wilson Invite. Harris finished

10th in the 400-meter run.

Detroit-Mercy of the Horizon League, whose full team will be at Notre Dame this weekend, also sent three of their runners to the indoor invitational held at the Loftus Center in February.

Another Horizon League team, Loyola-Chicago, will also be competing this weekend. The Rambler men opened up their outdoor season placing 12th in Tuscaloosa, Ala. at the Alabama Relays.

The women's team failed to place despite the 4 x 100 relay team setting a new school record with a time of 49.25 seconds.

Central Michigan will round out the field Saturday. The Chippewa men have pulled out of the meet, but 17 members of the women's squad will be there for their first outdoor meet.

None of the four teams will be at full strength

this weekend as many of the distance runners will be racing in the nationally known Nike Stanford Invitational. The annual outdoor tournament attracts elite runners from across the country and more than 4,000 college and

high school athletes are scheduled to compete.

"Some of our best athletes will be missing this weekend, so in that sense it will hurt us," Labrecque said. "We still think we will be able to do well."

"Some of our best athletes will be missing this weekend, so in that sense it will hurt us."

Zach Labrecque
Irish sprinter

Irish junior Thomas Chamney will lead the small Notre Dame contingent heading to Palo Alto. He is a main contender to win the 800-meter race after being named an All-American at the NCAA Indoor Championships.

On the women's side, Molly Huddle and Stephanie Madia will make the trip to Palo Alto. Huddle makes her season debut after sitting out the winter with a leg injury.

"A lot of the girls have been running well in the past few weeks and they are showing that they are ready to race fast," Madia said. "We are all excited to get some regional qualifiers this weekend."

Madia traditionally runs the five-kilometer event but is giving herself a break this weekend after qualifying for the NCAA Regional Tournament last weekend in Tucson, Ariz. She will compete in the 1,500 meter run.

"I want to keep my speed pretty consistent because my ultimate goal is to continue to improve my time in the 5,000," Madia said.

Contact Dan Murphy at
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Knute

continued from page 28

here."

The memorial service will start at 10 a.m. CST and include a ritual football toss and prayers. Family and friends of the seven other victims on the flight will be in attendance.

Emma helped organize some of the pilgrims, assisting chief organizer Pat Reis, a 1985 graduate of Notre Dame. Reis has been making annual pilgrimages since he was in college.

"A bunch of my roommates — like college guys do — just decided they wanted to road trip and see where the big, concrete marker that's seen in a lot of Notre Dame football films is," Reis said. "So they said, 'Let's go find that thing.' So they set off for the Middle-of-Nowhere, Kansas when they met this Easter Heathman guy who gave them a tour. And we've been doing it ever since — and the last 20 years since we graduated."

Reis said around 75 pilgrims made the journey in 1991 to celebrate the 60th anniversary, which has been the largest turnout since they began the pilgrimage.

Jim Sears, a fellow member of the class of 1985, said his trips to the crash site began in 1984 when he and his friend Al Gates, a 1984 Notre Dame graduate, decided on March 30 to drive to Kansas that night.

"I had a road atlas in my car, and I used to page through it

instead of doing my homework, and I would study the landmarks," Sears said. "There was a red dot in the map of Kansas that indicated a Knute Rockne Memorial."

When he read a story in the South Bend Tribune about the anniversary of the crash and the memorial in Kansas, Sears decided to make the trip.

"I put the two things together and called up the one person I knew was doing less homework than I was — Al Gates — and I proposed it to him, and he didn't hesitate — he said, 'Let's go,'" Sears said. "[The monument] salutes our alma mater Notre Dame and all the things Rockne did.

"This is another way to celebrate this ... great man."

Since then, a contingent of Notre Dame alumni and "subway alums" — fans of the University who did not attend the school — have made the pilgrimage annually.

Reis took over the majority of planning for this year's event from 89-year-old Easter Heathman, an eyewitness to the crash.

"He's basically done all the work to accommodate and host whoever shows up on the anniversary date of the plane crash," Reis said. "[He's] the caretaker of the site."

At the time of the crash,

Heathman was a 14-year-old out in the fields and one of the first to arrive at the scene. He has been guiding visitors to the site ever since.

But Heathman's sister, Sue Ann Brown, and Reis organized most of the pilgrimage this year, with the help of some friends like Emma.

Reis said this year's pilgrimage has attracted greater attention than any of the previous ones, thanks in large part to the notability of a 75th anniversary, combined with the accessibility of the Internet — something that was not available for widespread use before the 60th anniversary.

"There's definitely a heightened interest this time," Reis said. "It is a tragic day — you lose site of that sometimes. It is a celebration of Knute Rockne's life and the seven other people who died that day. We try to celebrate their lives in the best way, but at the same time, it's a very tragic event; it's somber."

The range of emotions and motivations for different pilgrims will be mixed, Reis said.

Minneapolis resident Joe Pupel and his wife brought their three sons — ages 10, 8 and 4 — from Minnesota to celebrate Rockne's life.

"We've decided to share a little bit of American history with them so they can remember a little bit of their heritage and experience the importance of [Rockne's death]," Pupel said.

There will also be a moment of silence and memorial service in Rockne's native Voss, Norway.

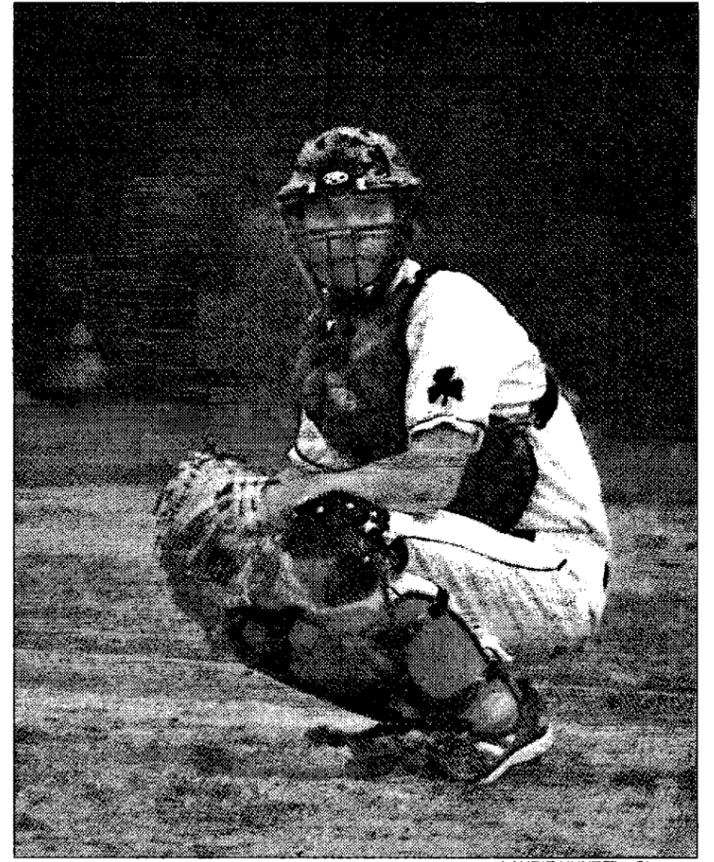
Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

"A bunch of my roommates — like college guys do — just decided they wanted to road trip and see where the big, concrete marker that's seen in a lot of Notre Dame football films is."

Pat Reis
Notre Dame alumnus

"[The monument] salutes our alma mater Notre Dame and all the things Rockne did."

Jim Sears
Notre Dame alumnus



LAURIE HUNT/The Observer

Junior catcher Sean Gaston looks towards the dugout from a crouch in Wednesday's 2-0 win over Western Michigan.

Shark

continued from page 28

[and] get the off-speed working," he said. "Hopefully I can get some pitches to go along with my fastball just to make everything a little bit smoother."

The Irish hurler will face Panthers southpaw Rob Brant. Brant is 2-3 with a 4.42 ERA and 37 strikeouts in 36.7 innings pitched.

Irish coach Paul Mainieri said it will be important for Samardzija to deliver a quality outing to start the weekend set.

"This is obviously a huge series for us," Mainieri said. "You need to take care of business at home in our conference because the road games are just such tough games to win."

Pittsburgh enters the weekend on a four game losing streak, highlighted by a three-game sweep at the hands of West Virginia in Morgantown last weekend.

"You have to respect all your opponents, and we know Pittsburgh is a very good team," Mainieri said. "Pittsburgh's like a wounded dog right now with [its back] against the wall."

The Irish enter having won four in a row. Sophomore hurler Wade Korpi threw a complete game shutout and struck out 11 batters against Western Michigan Wednesday.

"You define momentum in baseball as the performance of your starting pitching — and Wade Korpi gave us great momentum," Mainieri said.

Notre Dame enters the series batting .293 with an on-base percentage of .395. Mainieri said that while the overall numbers are good, the Irish still lack consistency.

"It's the heart of the order, the middle of the order — where you should be getting your greatest production — that has been so inconsistent for us," he said. "If we can just figure out a way to score

four, five, six runs, we should figure out a way to win the game."

In the second game of the series, Notre Dame junior right-hander Jeff Manship will take the mound for the Irish for Saturday's 1:05 p.m. first pitch.

Manship will face Panthers junior righty ace Paul Nardozi. Nardozi is 4-2 in six starts with a 3.32 ERA and 49 strikeouts in 43.1 innings pitched.

Mainieri said Pittsburgh's strikeout ability will minimize the Irish hit-and-run game. In part because of a slew of failed hit-and-runs this year, the Irish are just 28-of-47 on stolen base attempts.

The series finale begins at 1:05 Sunday and will pit Notre Dame senior lefty Tom Thornton against Panthers junior right-hander Kyle Landis.

Landis is 2-1 with a 3.71 ERA in nine appearances but has made just two starts. He has allowed 23 hits in 26.2 innings, holding opposing hitters to a .225

batting average.

Thornton comes in after nearly throwing his second straight shutout against Georgetown March 25. He threw eight-plus innings without allowing an earned run but was relieved in the ninth as two infield errors allowed three Hoyas runners to score.

Despite the late-game lapses in Thornton's last start, Mainieri remains confident in the Irish defense.

"If we could get a little bit more consistent on offense ... we can be a pretty dangerous team," he said. "And with our pitching and defense, sometimes it doesn't take a lot of runs to win the game."

Mainieri said he is confident in his team but knows the dangers of a struggling Pittsburgh squad.

"They know this is a critical weekend for them, too," he said. "They're going to come out there and really battle."

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

"Hopefully I can get some pitches to go along with my fastball just to make everything a little smoother."

Jeff Samardzija
Irish pitcher

On the 75th Anniversary of the
Death of Knute Rockne
The Notre Dame Athletics
Department
Presents
"Knute Rockne and His Fighting
Irish"
A 52-minute Video Documentary
Showings at 3:00, 4:00, 5:00 and
6:00 p.m.
Friday March 31, 2006
Hesburgh Library Auditorium
Admission is Free



Senior Sara Schoonaert huddles with teammates during Wednesday's 1-0 extra-innings victory over Bowling Green.

Big East

continued from page 28

of business in the conference. "We have amazing talent, motivation and team chemistry, and when we bring all of these aspects to the field we are one great ball club," Lenn said. The Friars, who face Notre Dame in two games Sunday afternoon, also come to South Bend firing on all cylinders. Before losing to Rutgers last weekend, Providence had reeled off eight straight wins to bring its record to 15-5 on the year.

Unlike the Huskies, the Friars have been winning games by big scores — including a 7-2 win over Villanova, an 11-1 defeat of Rutgers and a 16-7 blowout of Fairleigh Dickinson in recent weeks. The Irish pitching staff has succeeded in shutting down big bats all year long and is confident it will be able to do the same with the Friars. "As a whole, we always try to focus on keeping the ball in the park and giving our hitters a chance to win the ball game," Fuemmeler said.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

Eagles

continued from page 28

win three of the six singles matches to claim the win. The two wins in singles came from No. 5 Kiki Stastny and No. 6 Katie Potts who has only lost once in dual matches this season. "The whole team fought hard in the last match," Potts said. "We've also had a great season, so now we just need to play great tennis in the upcoming matches."

Eastern Michigan heads into the contest with an impressive 6-1 win over Ball State last Saturday. The Eagles now stand at 6-6 overall and 1-1 in the Mid-American Conference. In the match, Eastern Michigan claimed the doubles point with wins from their Nos. 2 and 3 doubles. Playing at No. 2 for the Eagles was the duo of Catherina Bestahorn and Elizabeth Syrova and at No. 3 was Falvia Micati and Laura Fernandez.

Leading the team in singles is Syrova at No. 1 and Aditi Krishnan at No. 2. "Although [Eastern Michigan] isn't ranked as high as us, we never want to underestimate any of our opponents," Potts said. "We are expecting great matches from them." The Irish feature two highly ranked doubles teams. Leading the team is the No. 3 duo of juniors Christian and Catrina Thompson at No. 1. The Thompson's are coming off a 9-7 win over Vanderbilt's



Junior Catrina Thompson prepares to serve in a Jan. 28 match against Ohio State.

Amanda Fish and Amanda Taylor. Following the Thompson's is the No. 29 pairing of sophomore Brook Buck and freshman Kelcy Tefft. The third Irish team is the twosome of seniors Kiki Stastny and Lauren Connelly. In singles, No. 30 Catrina Thompson leads the team at No. 1. Thompson is followed by No. 74 Christian Thompson

at No. 2. "We are really looking forward to playing at home after having several matches away," Nelson said. "Getting a win against Eastern Michigan will be a great way to start [the upcoming series of matches on the road]."

Contact Dan Tapetillo at jtapetil@nd.edu

Forget everything you learned at Notre Dame! It's who you know.

Robert Putnam

Professor of Public Policy
Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

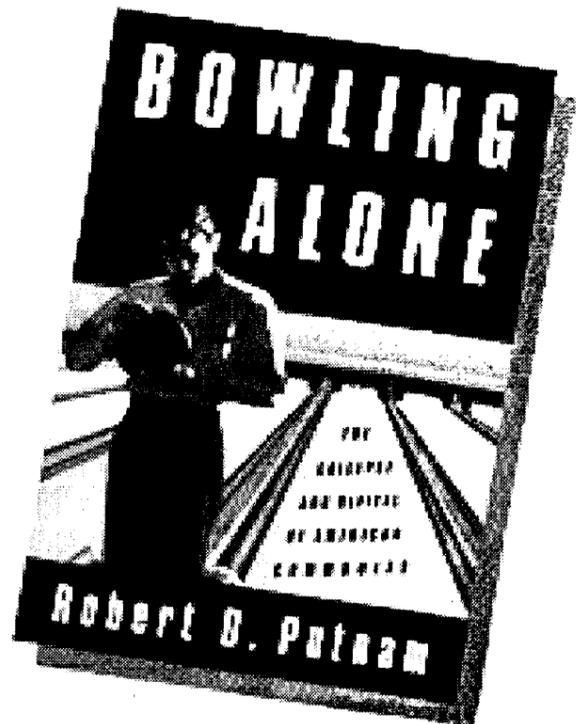
Sunday, April 2 at 4:00pm

Jordan Auditorium Mendoza College of Business

Robert Putnam's book, *Bowling Alone*, seems to have struck a chord with many concerned with the decline of civic engagement in the United States over the last thirty years.

A question and answer session will follow Professor Putnam's presentation.

business.nd.edu/socialcapital



Refreshments Served

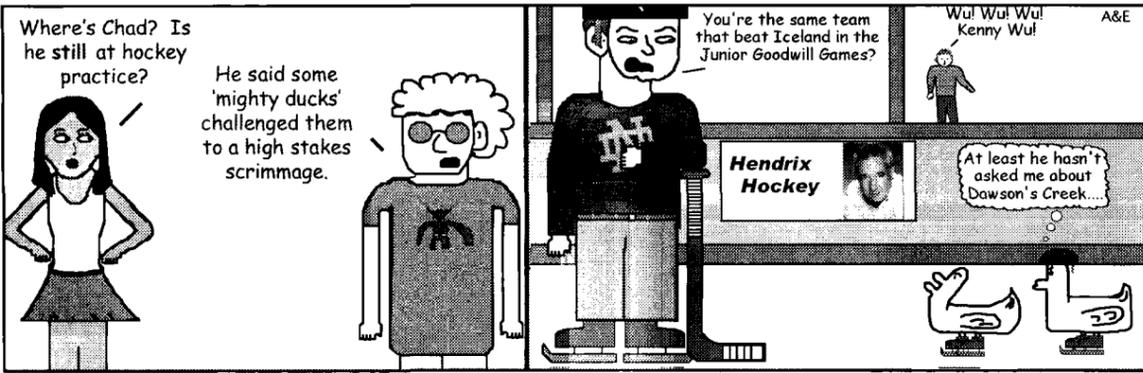


Reach in. Reach out.


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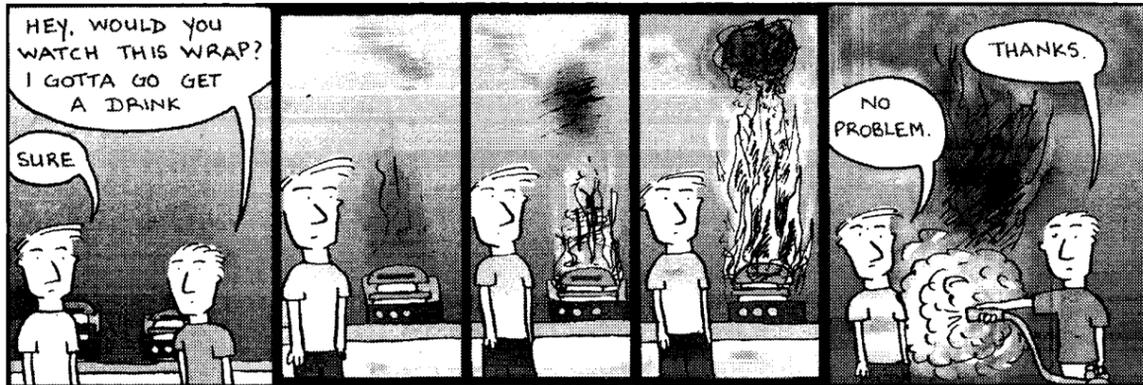
JOCKULAR

ALEC WHITE & ERIK POWERS



CROISSANTWORLD

ADAM FAIRHOLM



JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

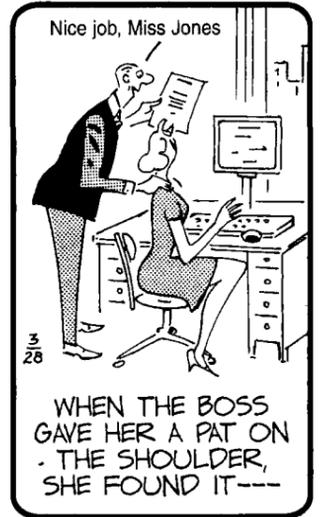
JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

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



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

Answer here: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

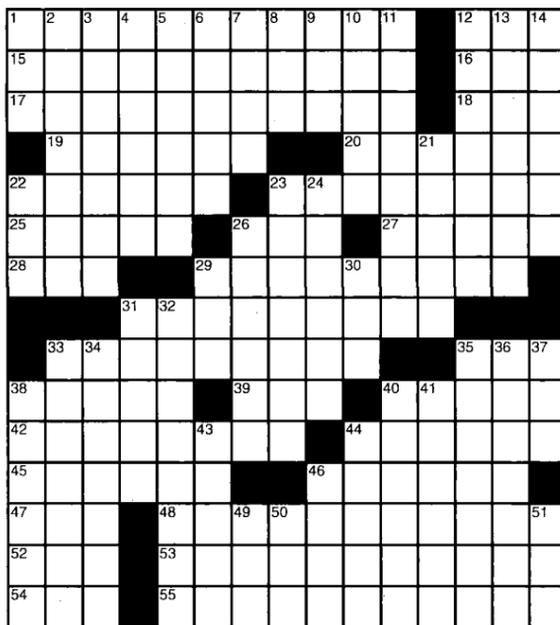
(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: DERBY FETID COOKIE GUILTY
Answer: Although he was a vegetarian, the diner had a - "BEEFY" LOOK

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Royal protection
 - 12 Swift quality
 - 15 Vitamin C, e.g.
 - 16 "Another Green World" musician
 - 17 1990's White House chief of staff
 - 18 Largest U.S. youth org.
 - 19 Certain connection makers
 - 20 Gets the word out?
 - 22 Whom auditors audit
 - 23 Remiss
 - 25 Hangouts
 - 26 Spherical cereal
 - 27 Little jingle
 - 28 Custom
 - 29 Representation of tuning fork sounds
 - 31 List
- DOWN**
- 33 Route markers
 - 35 RR place
 - 38 Infrangible
 - 39 Directory data: Abbr.
 - 40 Solara, for one
 - 42 Friend of "Ralphie boy"
 - 44 Words of resignation
 - 45 Person who's authorized to shorten a sentence
 - 46 Former New York senator
 - 47 Tanning need
 - 48 Alternative to eBay
 - 52 Sight seer
 - 53 1996 Emmy-winning role in a sitcom
 - 54 Lottery-running org.
 - 55 Game that involves opening a door
- DOWN**
- 1 Political columnist Thomas
 - 2 Lacks of energy
 - 3 One who sings but maybe shouldn't
 - 4 Inflammatory stuff
 - 5 Runners
 - 6 What cribs are used for
 - 7 Array on a bar shelf
 - 8 It's fruit-flavored
 - 9 Inked art, for short
 - 10 Key word
 - 11 Steadily took in
 - 12 It always has a home
 - 13 Raid targets
 - 14 Warmed by the fire
 - 21 Animate
 - 22 Bird ___
 - 23 Consumes with flair
 - 24 Puts forth
 - 26 It literally means "thing to wear"
 - 29 Slangy greeting
 - 30 Verb for a historian
 - 31 Victorian-era novelist
 - 32 Indiana-born composer/writer
 - 33 Busy times at fast-food restaurants



Puzzle by Trip Payne

- 34 Sets off
- 35 Composer of the opera "Brandenburgers in Bohemia"
- 36 Eight-line verse form
- 37 Newspaper inits. since 1851
- 38 Former Falcons coach Dan
- 40 Acquire
- 41 Put down
- 43 Word immediately preceding some signatures
- 44 More like a swami
- 46 The Great ___ (Victor Borge's nickname)
- 49 Some Eng. majors get them
- 50 Alma mater of NPR's Tom and Ray Magliozzi: Abbr.
- 51 Storm dir.

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

Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$34.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Meshach Taylor, 58; Louise Lasser, 66; Joel Grey, 73; Johnny Messner, 35

Happy Birthday: Stop putting pressure on yourself and start to do the possible. This can be a highly energetic year, but getting started will be the problem. Surround yourself with people who can support you emotionally. A change is headed your way by year-end so prepare to accept something new. Your numbers are 1, 13, 22, 27, 33, 38

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get down to business early today so you have plenty of time later in the day for socializing and romance. You may have to take care of the needs of an older relative. Organization will be the key to fitting everything in. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Digging your heels in and refusing to budge may work against you in the end. Don't oppose the very people who are trying to do something to help you. Anger will not help you find a solution to a disagreement. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): If you find yourself a little confused about someone you recently met, stick to your longtime friends. Problems with authority figures or while traveling can be expected. Do something to help a cause you believe in. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Good times are ahead if you take part in activities that include a lot of people. You will make new friends or even get involved in a business partnership. Put a little time aside for love and romance. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may know exactly what it is you are trying to accomplish. Expect some opposition along the way. Take the path of least resistance and steer clear of people who like to play devil's advocate. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Hope you've planned a day trip or business trip. You will make the greatest gains if you are en route both personally and professionally. Your mind is open to change and new ideas. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't get angry about the things that aren't happening in your life. Do something about it and hold on to what you've got. There will be plenty of people trying to take your cash without your giving it away. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A new partnership will give you a positive spin on something you've been trying to do for some time. You can make deals and sign contracts. Consider starting or expanding your own business interests. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A stubborn colleague may put a hold on what you are trying to accomplish today. Prepare to deal with this person before it's too late. Do whatever it takes to drum up the support you need. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can't win at a personal level, and chances are good that you will have trouble with your peers today. Book into a spa, get a massage, go to the hairdresser, get a consultation with a make-over expert, but don't just sit around trying to force people who aren't going to budge. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can expect to face difficulties with someone regarding emotional issues you probably don't want to deal with. You aren't likely to be able to talk someone into changing his or her mind, so don't bother. Prepare yourself for your next big adventure. **

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The more you do with friends or the more involved you become in your community, the more you will get in return. Consider the relationships you have with different people, and if you haven't been getting anything back, you may want to let go. ****

Birthday Baby: You are quick, intelligent and you can create your own opportunities. You have pizzazz and discipline -- a rare combination. You are creative, sensational and very capable of being a leader.

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

THE OBSERVER

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BASEBALL

Blood in the water

Samardzija ready to lead Irish against Pittsburgh in Big East home opener at Eck Stadium

By **KEN FOWLER**
Sports Editor

Notre Dame right-hander Jeff Samardzija will make his 2006 home debut tonight as the Irish (14-10) begin a three-game series against Big East foe Pittsburgh (11-12) at 6:05 p.m. at Frank Eck Stadium.

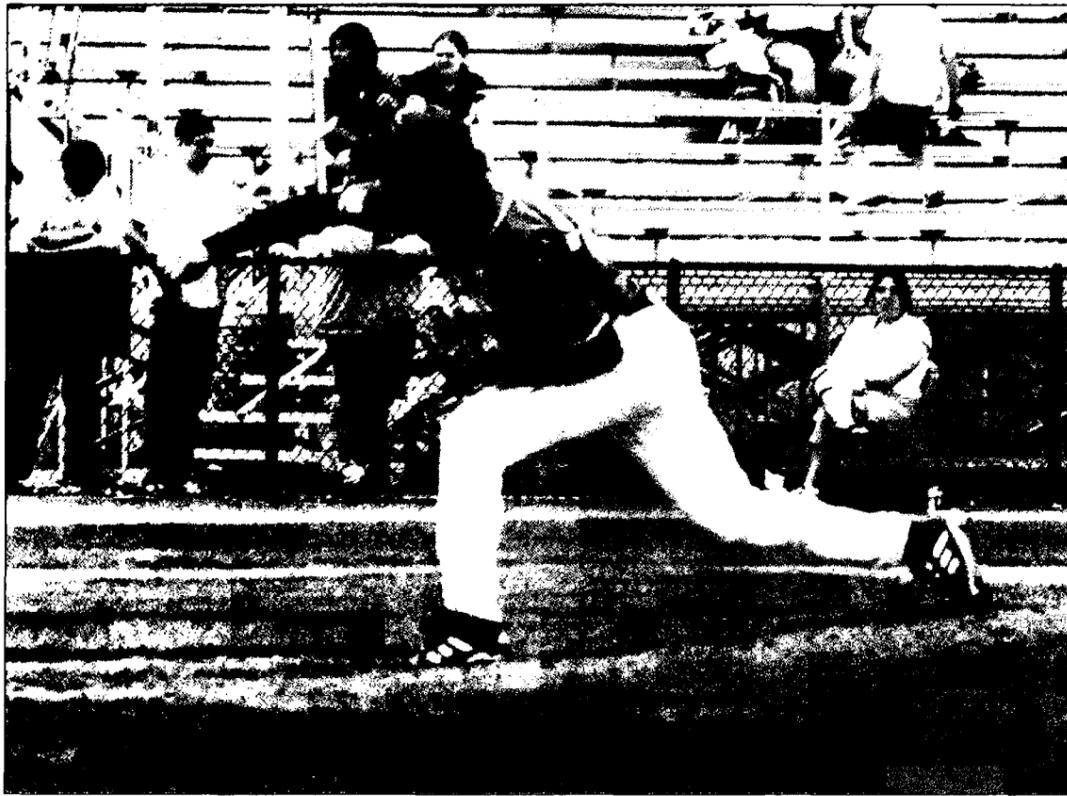
"It's going to be exciting — especially being a Big East game — coming home and getting that first start of the year," Samardzija said after Notre Dame's 2-0 victory over Western Michigan Wednesday. "We'll see, hopefully it'll be a good opener on Friday under the lights."

Samardzija enters the contest with a 2-1 record and a 3.72 ERA in five starts. He has struck out 10 and allowed 26 hits in 29 innings.

Samardzija said tonight's start will be important as the team starts to get deeper into its schedule.

"I'm just trying to take advantage of it every time we get out — bring the control around

see SHARK/page 25



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Irish ace Jeff Samardzija delivers a pitch against Connecticut in a 9-7 win on April 17, 2005. Samardzija will make his first home start of the season tonight at 6:05 p.m. against Pittsburgh.

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Aces look to avenge first defeat

Team hosts Eastern Michigan in first match after Vandy loss

By **DAN TAPETILLO**
Sports Writer

After suffering their first loss of the season to No. 11 Vanderbilt on Wednesday, No. 2 Notre Dame returns back home to face Eastern Michigan today at the Eck Tennis Pavilion at 2:30 pm.

The loss ended the teams 16 match winning streak.

"We are ready to rebound from the loss [against Vanderbilt] and have a great match," senior Kelly Nelson said. "We have been very successful this season so far, and we are motivated to finish out strong."

In their last match against the Commodores, the Irish began the match by sweeping the doubles point but failed to

see EAGLES/page 26

ND SOFTBALL

Doubleheaders mark opening of league play

Irish have won five of last seven games before Big East opener

By **DAN MURPHY**
Sports Writer

Notre Dame begins conference play this weekend with a pair of doubleheaders at Ivy Field.

The Irish will see a combination of strong defense and powerful hitting as they welcome Connecticut and Providence for two games each in the Big East's first weekend.

"Any time you play tough competition early on it prepares you for the conference," right-handed pitcher Kenya Fuemmeler said. "We know what we have will have to do beat teams later on in the year."

The Irish finished their pre-conference schedule at 14-10. Out of the 10 losses, only two

have been by more than one run, with three coming in extra innings.

Notre Dame has won five of its last seven games, with the only losses in the past two weeks coming in one-run games against No. 2 Texas and No. 7 Alabama.

"We are definitely ready to take on the Big East," catcher Mallorie Lenn said. "We plan on winning the conference this year."

The action begins on Saturday at noon in the first of two games against the Huskies. Connecticut (14-11) comes into Saturday's games having won six straight contests and eight of their last 10.

The Huskies have been getting it done on the mound, shutting out their opponents in four of the eight. On Wednesday, the squad defeated Holy Cross 11-0.

The Irish are still confident they will be able to take care

see BIG EAST/page 26

FOOTBALL

Pilgrims to honor Rockne

75th anniversary of coach's death will be marked with tribute

By **KEN FOWLER**
Sports Editor

At 10:48 a.m. today, a small section of the Flint Hills of Kansas will return to the quiet state that consumes it on most days of the year — and to the serenity it held every day until that minute 75 years ago.

More than 100 pilgrims are expected to surround a stone monument just outside of Bazaar, Kan. today and pause for a moment of silence at that time, marking the anniversary of the death of Notre Dame football coach Knute Rockne in one of the first commercial plane crashes in American aviation history on March 31, 1931.

"[It] is a tremendously solemn but yet very powerful anniversary in our nation's history, and I don't think that is an overstatement," 1984 Notre Dame alumnus Chuck Emma

Knute Rockne
Born March 4, 1888



- 1912 Third-team All-American
- 1913 Third-team All-American
- 1914 Graduates magna cum laude in chemistry
- 1914 Becomes assistant coach under Jess Harper
- 1918 Becomes head coach after Harper retires
- 1920 Rockne leads ND to second straight undefeated season
- 1924 Rockne-lead ND wins national championship at 10-0
- 1929 Notre Dame goes 9-0 to win national championship
- 1930 Notre Dame's 10-0 record earns Rockne second straight title
- 1931 Rockne killed in plane crash outside Bazaar, Kan.

Observer Graphic by MATT HUDSON

said via telephone from Kansas City, Mo. last night. "It's a very important moment in many different ways."

The political fallout from Rockne's crash forced the Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce — the predecessor to the Federal Aviation Administration — to release the results of aerospace accident investigations,

something that was not done until that point.

"People understand to be the death of the greatest football coach who ever lived, and that is true," Emma said. "But additionally, there are many different socio-political elements that come from Rockne's life and his death

see KNUTE/page 25

**SPORTS
AT A GLANCE**

MEN'S LACROSSE

Notre Dame vs. Dartmouth

Sunday, 12 p.m.

Irish enter game against Big Green after 11-5 win over Brown.

page 24

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish vs. Eastern Michigan

Friday, 2:30 p.m.

Aces look to get back on the winning track after 4-3 loss to Vandy.

page 24

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Notre Dame vs. Connecticut

Friday, 1 p.m.

No. 10 Irish enter game against Huskies with an 8-1 record.

page 23

SMC SOFTBALL

Saint Mary's vs. Adrian

Saturday, 1 p.m.

Belles enter game after a doubleheader split with Manchester.

page 23

ROWING

San Diego Classic at Mission Bay

Irish rowers will compete for the Jessop-Whitier Cup against the nation's top crews.

page 22

MEN'S GOLF

Augusta State Invitational

Notre Dame golfers face three top-20 opponents at the Champions Retreat Golf Club.

page 21